

Today's News - Tuesday, April 3, 2018

From: Todays News (OPO) <todays.news@ontario.ca>
To: Todays News (OPO) <todays.news@ontario.ca>
Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2018 11:50:09 -0400

Today's News Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Ontario is taking steps to ensure that people are better able to look after their loved ones with new funding that supports caregivers and makes it easier for seniors to continue living at home. Premier Wynne was joined by Cristina Martins, MPP Davenport, at the Davenport-Perth Neighbourhood and Community Health Centre to celebrate National Family Caregiver Day. The Premier discussed how Ontario is supporting seniors who choose to stay in the comfort of their homes, as well as the three million people across the province who provide care for family and friends. As announced in the 2018 Budget, Ontario will introduce the Seniors' Healthy Home Program starting in 2019. This program will provide up to \$750 per year for eligible households led by seniors 75 and over to help them offset the costs of living independently. The Budget is also supporting seniors and caregivers by:

- Investing an additional \$650 million over the next three years to improve home and community care services and deliver more consistent care around the province. This includes \$180 million for more personal support hours, more nursing and therapy visits and respite care
- Providing \$6.5 million in funding to establish the Ontario Caregiver Organization, a resource for caregivers that will make it easier for them to access a range of services and information
- Expanding OHIP+ to make prescription drugs free for people 65 and over.

To improve care for people who can no longer live independently, we are also:

- Investing \$300 million over three years in new funding for long-term care homes, starting with \$50 million in 2018–19
- Adding 30,000 beds over the next ten years — on top of the 30,000 we are redeveloping.

[Share on Facebook](#)
[Share on Twitter](#)

Our government's plan to build a stronger, healthier Ontario includes **historic new investments in health care**, including free **medications for everyone under 25 and over 65 through OHIP+**, providing free **tuition to over 210,000 students** and on-the-job learning opportunities to help land a great job, helping 100,000 kids access quality, licensed child care and making it more affordable for families, making everyday life more affordable by **reducing electricity costs by 25 per cent** on average through our Fair Hydro Plan, and taking action to **make housing more affordable** for homebuyers and renters through our Fair Housing Plan.