

**Minister of
Seniors Affairs**

6th Floor
400 University Avenue
Toronto ON M7A 2R9
Tel.: (416) 314-9710
Fax: (416) 325-4787

**Ministre des Affaires
des personnes âgées**

6^e étage
400, avenue University
Toronto ON M7A 2R9
Tél.: (416) 314-9710
Téléc.: (416) 325-4787



March 6, 2017

Debra Cooper Burger, Chair
Catharine Gapp, CEO
Ontario Association of Non-Profit Homes & Services for Seniors (OANHSS)
7050 Weston Road, Suit 700
Woodbridge, ON L4L 8G7

Dear Ms. Burger & Ms. Gapp:

As you are no doubt aware, Premier Kathleen Wynne announced last week that Ontario is lowering electricity bills by 25 percent on average for all residential customers as part of a significant system restructuring that will provide considerable relief to Ontarians, address long-standing policy challenges and ensure greater fairness.

Starting this summer, Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan would provide households with this 25 percent break, the largest cut to electricity rates in the history of Ontario. In addition, as part of this plan, rate increases over the next four years would be held to the rate of inflation for everyone.

Our government recognizes the importance of retirement home communities as essential components of senior living. That's why we are so pleased to confirm that this reduction will apply to retirement homes in the province. This rate reduction and cost certainty will allow homes to build on the high-quality services and support to seniors already in place.

Electricity is an essential part of our daily life. This announcement is our commitment that the relief will be substantial, that the measures will go to everyone, and that the relief will be lasting because it is built on real change – that bills won't jump back up in a couple of months or years. We have taken the appropriate action to create a more fair, affordable electricity system.

We hope that you will take this opportunity to share this good news with your members.

Sincerely,

Dipika Damerla
Minister of Seniors Affairs

Glenn Thibeault
Minister of Energy