

Taylor, Laura

From: Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Sent: November 4, 2020 8:25 AM
To: Standing Committee on Justice Policy
Cc: Teng, Deborah
Subject: Webform submission: Submission of material 24976

Submitted on Wed, 11/04/2020 - 08:15

Application ID: 24976

Submitted values are:

Bill or item of business: **Bill 218, Supporting Ontario's Recovery and Municipal Elections Act, 2020**

Choose a topic

Do you know the bill title or business (e.g., pre-budget consultations) you'd like to speak or submit material about?

Yes

Choose an application

Which application would you like to submit?

Submit material only

Add your information

Are you submitting material as an individual or on behalf of an organization?

I am submitting material as an individual

Full name

Ms. Sue Longmuir

Email address

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Paste submission

The family of the late Felice Antonio Biamonte are submitting this letter to the Justice Policy Committee so we may have an opportunity to share our feelings and story. We believe that Bill 218 attempts to absolve Lundy Manor (Oxford Living) and other long term care homes of liability on the basis of negligence.

Our father resided at Lundy Manor on Lundy's Lane in Niagara Falls, Ontario until his passing of Covid 19 on Friday, April 10, 2020. Our father until that time was a healthy, 94 year old capable of taking care of himself in all aspects physically and mentally.

We the Biamonte family, do not want to be deprived of an investigation of Lundy Manor to determine what we

believe was gross negligence on their part in providing protection for our father and therefore making them culpable.

Protective measures were clearly outlined by the government of Ontario. Our father, Felice Antontio Biamonte, died from Covid 19 which he contracted because of Lundy Manor not adhering to government guidelines thus causing contamination and the spread of Covid 19.

Our father's death has deprived us of our loved one and since he is unable to speak for himself, we the family are advocating on his behalf.

The following are only some examples of that we would like to provide to support our claim

- On January 31, 2020, the government of Ontario released guidelines and general advice specific to long term care homes. Following this date, Lundy Manor did not incorporate these into their care. Therefore, our father did not benefit from the guidelines.
- The government updated their guidelines February 11, 2020 and Lundy Manor still did not adhere. Once again, our father did not benefit from this.
- The government released a memo March 9, 2020 issuing a guidance to actively screen all visitors and residents. At this time, Lundy Manor did not adhere to the guidance. Once again, our father did not benefit from the guidelines..
- On March 11, 2020 an official pandemic was announced. What policies and guidelines did Lundy Manor have for a disaster and pandemic and were these adhered to?
- March 12, 2020 a basketball team performed for residents indoors. Government guidelines i.e. masks, hand sanitizing and social distancing were not adhered to.
- March 17, 2020 the government declared a state of emergency, ordering closure of all bars and restaurants. Lundy Manor as of March 26, 2020 continued to have residents eating meals in the dining room without social distancing, also, Lundy Manor continued to maintain social recreational activities such as card games
- April 5, 2020, Greg Fortier, Active Director of Lundy Manor, was quoted in a reference to the dining room, "As close as possible for social distancing". As close as possible does not mean social distancing. All residents should have had meals provided in their rooms weeks before.
- Doug Ford announced publicly that he was appalled at the poor judgement taken when allowing a 'Pub Night' at Lundy Manor
- Families have complained for many years that there is only one elevator at Lundy Manor. In 2018, it was over 2 months before the elevator was back in operation. On another occasion in 2019, the Director, Greg Fortier insisted that the elevator was safe for residents, although the elevator would not stop at floor level allowing those with wheel chairs, walkers, canes and others to gain access. There was no staff member stationed at the elevator to assist residents when our then, 93 year old father returned home in the evening. These statements are to hilitate that although families and residents have continually expressed concerns, at a time of crisis, such as a pandemic, Lundy Manor took no action nor has action ever been taken. Are residents to share the elevator with staff during a pandemic?? Presently, residents are allowed to leave the building for medical appointments. They are accessing the same elevator as staff.

Our coming forward is to ensure that current and future residents receive the level of quality care that they deserve and are entitled. We hope that these examples highlighted aid in describing Lundy Manor's complete disregard of government/health guidelines that we are aware of.

It is important for us to advise that existing residents and a past staff member whom prefer to remain anonymous for fear of repercussions, confided in us and provided some of the information.

Yours sincerely,
Angela Biamonte
Joey (Biamonte) Cardamone

Sue (Biamonte) Longmuir