

November 3, 2020

To the Ontario Legislature:

My name is Fred Cramer, my mother Ruth Cramer was a resident of Orchard Villa LTCH owned by Southbridge Care Homes, in Pickering Ontario. She passed away on April 19, 2020 from complications of Covid-19 at the age of 90. I feel the home did not fulfill their duty to my mother, especially the last few weeks of her life. She suffered from dementia and was very lonely and afraid, I feel very strongly that she was not cared for. My mother had endured and overcame many hardships over her lifetime, she did not deserve to have her life end this way alone afraid and not cared for.

I feel Orchard Villa should be held accountable for the tragedy that happened to my mother. If Bill 218 passes it will be much more difficult to prove that Orchard Villa was grossly negligent and they lacked the proper preparation for the pandemic in the home. As per the military report on May 14, 2020 the home lacked infection control, standards of practice/quality of care concerns, supplies, communication staffing etc. Southbridge Care Homes and their lobbyists are only thinking of themselves and not the care of our loved one. The passing of Bill 218 will give other homes permission to be exempt from legislation for care in Long term care homes as they know they will not be held liable.

I do have a law suit pending against the owners of Southbridge Care homes I do not want to sue the front line workers such as nurses, psw's, support staff etc.

Each and every day myself my wife, sisters, children, nieces, nephews and grandchildren are still grieving the loss of my mother, especially because of the way her life ended. Without any accountability from Orchard Villa we all feel we have no closure. Going forward we do not want this to happen to any other family as this not acceptable.

If Bill 218 is not stopped, "For profit homes" will continue to prey on our vulnerable seniors and continue to make huge profits without "a care in the world" for our seniors. This needs to stop now.

Ontario can be better than this the time is now.

Thanking you for letting me voice my opinion

Fred Cramer