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From: TT <9thermidor@ca.inter.net>
Sent: June 11, 2020 6:22 AM
To: Standing Committee on the Legislative Assembly
Cc: Rasheed, Kaleed; Thanigasalam, Vijay; Berns-McGown-QP, Rima; Coteau-CO, Michael; Hassan-QP, Faisal; Kanapathi, Logan; McDonell, Jim; Mitas, Christina; Oosterhoff, Sam; Singh-QP, Sara; Skelly, Donna; Elliott, Christine; Ivana.Yelich@ontario.ca
Subject: Bill 175
Attachments: 15 Ontario LTC homes with the highest number of deaths.docx
Categories: Green category, Red category

To: Clerk and Members of Standing Committee on the Legislative Assembly, Queen's Park , Toronto ON

Re: Bill 175 (Connecting People to Home and Community Care Act, 2020)

Massive ongoing cuts in funding for Health Care in Ontario and privatization by this government have been well documented by the Ontario Health Coalition.

<https://www.ontariohealthcoalition.ca/index.php/update-mounting-health-care-cuts/>

Here is what it leads to:

Family reeling as senior dies of malnutrition, not COVID-19, inside long-term care home

Chris Glover CBC News June 9, 2020

Pietro Bruccoleri died late last month at an embattled Ontario long-term care home where 23 seniors have succumbed to COVID-19, but it wasn't the virus that killed him — it was exhaustion caused by malnutrition.

Now his family is wracked with grief over his loss, and wondering how the conditions inside Woodbridge Vista Care Community [operated by Sienna Senior Living] in Vaughan could have gotten bad enough for this to happen.

Family members say when they rushed to Bruccoleri's bedside on May 29, they found him lying in a sweltering room without any air conditioning.

"We did not expect the neglect," said his eldest daughter, Rina Di Salvo, 55.

"We're so disgusted and heartbroken," said his youngest daughter, Mary Bruccoleri, 47.

Bruccoleri's family told CBC News the 82-year-old was suffering from advanced dementia, and so he was moved into the long-term care home just north of Toronto a year ago.

Relatives say that prior to the pandemic, they had no complaints about his care.

But in May, Bruccoleri was moved out of his room because nearby residents tested positive for COVID-19.

"We feel that ever since my dad moved to another room, he was so abandoned and everything just went downhill from there," said Mary Bruccoleri.

[A coroner's report listed Bruccoleri's cause of death as "inanition," which means "exhaustion caused by lack of nourishment."](#)

Bruccoleri's family isn't the only one sounding the alarm about conditions inside the facility.

Lucia Fracassi's mother, Carmela, died at Woodbridge Vista on May 25. She had also tested negative for COVID-19.

When Fracassi was allowed into her mom's room to say goodbye, she was "shocked" to see her frail condition, she told CBC News.

The room was so hot that Fracassi and her husband quickly tried to put damp clothes on her mother to cool her down.

"We were wilting, I can't imagine her," said Fracassi.

Fracassi's husband, Frank Nardone, said the room was "filthy."

"Neglect, dehydration, and a broken heart, that's what she passed of," he said.

They have yet to see a coroner's report listing her official cause of death.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/ontario-long-term-care-death-1.5604030?fbclid=IwAR1VlzQPclLOiZO-yK6GWggCdhCWf-jh5wHvXCEtHHSgd3Hswc2nCp3bqw4>

And it leads to 100s of deaths (residents and staff) in Long Term Care Homes, primarily in for profit ones (see attachment).

Over 80% of deaths from the coronavirus pandemic in Ontario occurred in LTC homes.

In spite of this appalling loss of life in LTC during this pandemic, this government continues on its disastrous and outrageous cuts and privatization in LTC and health care funding in general.

Bill 175 will:

1. repeal the existing home and community care law and transfers almost all of its key elements to regulation which can be changed by the Ministers of this government in Cabinet without ever going to a vote in the Legislature.
2. dismantle all remaining public governance and control of home care and proposes to hand it off to provider companies, including for-profit companies, that do not have public governance and accountability.
3. not provide for improvements to access care, equity, home care assessments, quality of care and staffing shortages, and nothing that will stop the major problem of missed visits that risk people's safety.
4. allow for numerous provisions that would expand privatization not only of home care, but also potentially of parts of hospital and long-term care.
5. fragment care to a vast array of providers who would contract, sub-contract and run home care in different ways in different regions with very few public protections. It does not "integrate" home and community care.

This Bill 175 is dangerous and terrible policy at the expense of all people in Ontario which will only benefits private interests (e.g. Chartwell, Sienna, The Responsive Group (Rykka Care Centres), Primacare

Living Solutions, etc.) seeking to increase their market share and their profit margins and it does not serve the public interest.

Any honest observant caring person including those people who experienced the death of their mother, father, grandmother, grandfather or other relative can see where the problem rests in Ontario's LTC homes.

In the view of elder advocate and lawyer Jane Meadus [staff lawyer at Advocacy Centre for the Elderly], it really comes down to profit.

Meadus has been specializing in long-term care issues for 25 years. She says that when the Long-Term Care Homes Act came into law in 2010, there was an expectation that in the following 15 years, the older homes would all upgrade to meet modern standards, and while many non-profit homes have done so, many for-profit homes have not.

"They would have to use some of their profits to rebuild," she said. "They're able to keep their homes occupied at a high rate ... and so there isn't any particular impetus for them to build because they fill their beds anyway."

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/health/covid-19-coronavirus-long-term-care-homes-ontario-1.5604009>

Bill 175 should be withdrawn.

It is not a "solution" to the problems in LTC in Ontario. In fact it will continue the disastrous course of privatization begun in earnest by former PC Premier Michael D. Harris who is currently the chair of the Board of Chartwell, the largest operator in the Canadian seniors living sector.

<https://investors.chartwell.com/company-profile/>

<https://investors.chartwell.com/English/corporate-overview/management-directors/default.aspx>

How many more will die in this pandemic and the next?

George Turner, 237 Delaware Ave., Toronto ON M6H 2T7

15 Ontario LTC homes with the highest number of deaths

Click the column headings to reorganize the table

LTC home	Resident deaths	Profit status	Total beds	Standard	Death rate
Orchard Villa	70	For-profit	233	C	30.04%
Camilla Care Community	67	For-profit	236	C	28.39%
Carlingview Manor	61	For-profit	303	C	20.13%
Downsview Long Term Care Centre	59	For-profit	252	C	23.41%
Altamont Care Community	52	For-profit	159	C	32.70%
Forest Heights	51	For-profit	240	C	21.25%
Isabel and Arthur Meighen Manor	48	Non-profit	168	New	28.57%
Hawthorne Place Care Centre	47	For-profit	269	C	17.47%
Madonna Care Community	44	For-profit	160	New	27.50%
Eatonville Care Centre	42	For-profit	247	C	17.00%
Seven Oaks	41	Municipal	249	C	16.47%
Extendicare Guildwood	39	For-profit	169	C	23.08%
Mon Sheong Home for the Aged	33	Non-profit	105	A/New	31.43%
River Glen Haven Nursing Home	32	For-profit	119	C	26.89%

LTC home	Resident deaths	Profit status	Total beds	Standard	Death rate
Chartwell Ballycliffe Long Term Care Residence	32	For-profit	100	C	32.00%

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/health/covid-19-coronavirus-long-term-care-homes-ontario-1.5604009>