

Friday, March 5th, 2015

This letter is to clarify some of the misconceptions about funding for Long Term Care (LTC) facilities.

Long Term Care is regulated and funded through the provincial government and all facilities (whether they are classified as municipal, not-for-profit or private) are subject to follow the same regulations. Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) evaluates those requiring care and places them on an admission list based on priority. LTC facilities cannot pick and choose who they would like in their homes.

LTC facilities are classified as either A, B, or C buildings. The classification is based on the age of the building and the types of rooms (private, semi-private, basic, ward). Private homes cannot choose to only offer private rooms. They are required (by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care) to have a 40/60 split (basic/private). The Golden Manor has approximately 40 private rooms, 100 basic beds and 36 semi-private. The rates for these rooms are also set by the MOH and are the same for every LTC facility in the province.

All LTC homes in the province also receive the same 'per resident' funding from the MOHLTC, which was \$162.84 per day/resident in 2014. Funding is also based on the (CMI) Case Mix Index which is the "Resident medical assessment indicator" and indicates the care a resident requires. The average in Ontario is 0.99 and the Golden Manor is at 0.95. Funding is reduced when (CMI) is low, indicating that the resident requirements are lower in that facility.

Occupancy rate also impacts funding. When the occupancy rate falls below 97% funding is then reduced. The Golden Manor's occupancy rate last year averaged around 95%, so they would not have been funded for the beds that were empty.

Given that all LTC facilities in the province with same mandate Ministry of Health and have to follow the same regulations, the question remains, why did the Golden Manor cost taxpayers \$3.37M in 2014? Over the last four years, the taxpayers have subsidized the Manor by over \$10M. In terms of providing care to the aged, the Golden Manor has one of the highest financial losses in the province. The TTA is only requesting that the Golden Manor budget be reviewed in order to bring it in line with other facilities. For the full version of this article, please visit our website: www.timminstaxpayer.com.

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Timmins Taxpayers' Association