

IMPORTANT NOTICE

January 25, 2016

Dear Personal Support Worker,

As a valued personal support worker (PSW) who has applied to or has registered with the Ontario PSW Registry, we are writing to inform you about a relevant development.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has ended its funding for the Ontario PSW Registry, which has been operating within the Ontario Community Support Association. This means the final date you can reach the Registry will be February 29th 2016.

At this time, it is our understanding that the Ministry is considering a number of options related to ensuring a safe and competent PSW workforce. If you have questions about the Ministry's decision and/or its evolving home and community care policies, you may contact them directly at 416-314-5518 or 1-866-532-3161 (Toll-free).

In keeping with our commitment to safeguard your privacy, all personal information that identifies who you are (for example: name, address, phone number, email address and documents with your name on them) will be removed from the database, and only remaining non-identifiable information about the workforce retained when the Registry shuts down.

If you would like additional information, please read the *PSW Frequently Asked Questions* sheet which accompanies this letter (it will be updated at www.pswregistry.org as required). Should you have additional queries, you may contact us until the closure date and thereafter the Ministry.

We are proud of the work done to pioneer this groundbreaking Registry program as approximately 35,000 PSWs have voluntarily registered. PSWs are the backbone of home and community care, and we support and recommend further government investment into the PSW workforce to ensure that Ontarians receive the care they need, in the communities where they choose to be.

We want to thank you for being part of the Registry and wish you well with your future endeavours.

Sincerely,

The Ontario PSW Registry