

HE-DS-1

Ministry of Health  
and Long-Term Care

Ministère de la Santé  
et des Soins de longue durée



Health System Accountability and  
Performance Division  
Performance Improvement and  
Compliance Branch  
Toronto Service Area Office

Division de la responsabilisation et de la  
performance du système de santé  
Direction de l'amélioration de la performance  
et de la conformité  
Bureau régional de services de Toronto

55 St. Clair Avenue West, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M4V 2Y7  
Telephone: (416) 327-7461  
Fax: (416) 327-7603

55, avenue St. Clair ouest, 8<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto ON M4V 2Y7  
Téléphone : (416) 327-7461  
Télécopieur : (416) 327-7603

DATE: May 7, 2009  
MEMORANDUM TO: Long-Term Care Home Administrators  
FROM: Tim Burns  
Director  
Performance Improvement and Compliance Branch  
POSTED TO: Itchomes.net  
RE: 24/7 Nursing Requirements Confirmed

Regulations under the *Nursing Homes Act*, the *Homes for Aged and Rest Homes Act* and the *Charitable Institutions Act* clearly require that each home have at least one registered nurse who is a member of the regular nursing staff on duty and present in the home at all times.

This requirement will also be continued by the *Long-Term Care Homes Act (2007)* when it is proclaimed.

All homes are expected to meet this requirement. Compliance advisors have been applying the standard as consistently as possible when inspecting homes and will continue to issue unmet in the event it is not being met.

In order to limit any potential for confusion in the field, and to further improve consistency and fairness in enforcement, I am writing to confirm that the Ministry's memo of January 9, 2006 on the subject of 24/7 RN coverage, which was intended to provide flexibility to homes in the initial transition phase, is being withdrawn. The consolidated Long-Term Care Homes Program Manual which is posted on Itchomes.net is hereby amended accordingly.

Thanks for your cooperation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Burns

c: Donna Rubin, CEO, OANHSS  
Gilbert Heffern, A/Executive Director, OLTCA  
SAO Managers  
Compliance Advisors

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	
COPY TO:	FOR:
Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee
CAO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Corporate Services	Council
Environment, Transportation and Planning Services	
Employee and Business Services	May 28/09 G.C.
Finance	
Health Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> File MOH <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Human Services	
Peel Living	

REFERRAL TO \_\_\_\_\_  
RECOMMENDED \_\_\_\_\_  
DIRECTION REQUIRED \_\_\_\_\_  
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED