

## Ontario's commitment to seniors and home care is evident in their 2012 Budget

Mississauga, Ontario, March 28, 2012 - The Canadian Home Care Association (CHCA) applauds the commitment to seniors and care for people at home in the 2012-2013 Budget released by the Government of Ontario. Specific measures to support the shift in care to the home and community include:

- \$512 million per year for the next three years to better support those seniors and other Ontarians who could benefit from care provided in the community.
- Development of a Seniors Strategy that includes increased access to home care and improved care coordination.
- A Healthy Homes Renovation Tax Credit to help seniors adapt their homes to meet their needs as they age and allowing them to live at home and independently for as long as possible.

The home care sector makes an important contribution to the health care systems across the country and to the health and wellbeing of Canadians. Evidence has shown that the provision of services in the home and community can reduce wait times for acute hospital beds, effectively support frail and vulnerable seniors to remain independent and safe at home, proactively support individuals with chronic conditions and provide choices for end-of-life care.

The CHCA is pleased that the importance of home care and the vital role of family caregivers have been acknowledged in Ontario's budget. CHCA will continue to work with all stakeholders to advance home care as an important component of an improved health care system that is responsive to all Canadians.

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### **About the Canadian Home Care Association**

The Canadian Home Care Association (CHCA) is a not-for-profit membership association dedicated to ensuring the availability of accessible, responsive home care and community supports to enable people to stay in their homes with safety, dignity and quality of life. Members of the Association include organizations and individuals from publicly funded home care programs, not-for-profit and proprietary service agencies, consumers, researchers, educators and others with an interest in home care. Through the support of the Association members who share a commitment to excellence, knowledge transfer and continuous improvement, CHCA serves as the national voice of home care and the access point for information and knowledge for home care across Canada.

For more information, contact:

Nadine Henningsen

Executive Director

Ph: 905 361-3277

Email: [nhenningsen@cdnhomecare.ca](mailto:nhenningsen@cdnhomecare.ca)

Twitter: [@CdnHomeCare](https://twitter.com/CdnHomeCare)