



January 21, 2021

Ontario's Long-Term Care COVID-19 Commission  
24<sup>th</sup> Floor, 700 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M5G 1Z6

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to brief you on the updates to the Ontario Long Term Care Clinicians' Medical Director Course, which is the preeminent curriculum in Canada for both new and experienced Long-Term Care (LTC) Medical Directors, who are focused on enhancing the care and quality for life of LTC residents.

The Public Inquiry into the Safety and Security of Residents in the Long-Term Care Homes System (2018) recommended that: "Licensees should amend their contracts with medical directors to require them to complete:

- the training under section 76(7) of the Long-Term Care Homes Act (2007); and
- the Ontario Long Term Care Clinicians' Medical Director Course within two years of assuming the role of medical director."

However, as previously recommended, The Ontario Long Term Care Clinicians (OLTCC) strongly advocate for the Medical Director Course becoming mandatory for all LTC Medical Directors at time of engagement, to ensure the best possible understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the Medical Director and the opportunities for Medical Directors to support the best possible care for residents. Areas covered in the course include: *Legislation and regulation, Compliance, Residents' rights, capacity and consent, Documentation, Medical Director contracts, Medical staff management, Ethics, Safety and Risk Management, Infection Prevention and Control, the RAI-MDS system, Performance Indicators, Leadership, Working in Teams, and Resident and Family Centered Care.*

The Course was developed by the OLTCC and is constantly updated, as is the "living" Medical Director Manual, to stay relevant with legislation, regulation and realities in the LTC sector. The Course is offered at cost and access to the "living" Manual is free with OLTCC membership. The Course is certified by the College of Family Physicians of Canada for up to 48 Mainpro+ credits.

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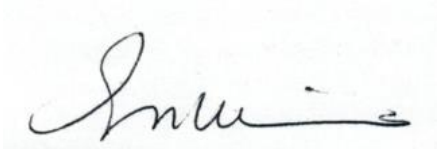
To encourage enrolment and develop a LTC workforce, which is as informed as possible, the Medical Director Course has been designed in two parts: a full course for Medical Directors and a second tier of relevant content for attending physicians, Nurse Practitioners, or those considering a LTC practice. Course peer discussions are led by experienced Medical Directors who have also trained as facilitators.

- Reported benefits of taking the course include improvements in:
  - Physician knowledge, confidence in leading administrative processes, and role satisfaction
  - Providing input in decision making and issue resolution in the facility.
  - The DOC/DON's observed positive changes in Medical Directors' approaches towards care quality, role performance, awareness of legislation and engagement in processes

Due to the pandemic, the Course is presently being offered virtually with an interactive program. Our winter Course offering is already at full participation, but we will be offering a Spring session starting in April 2021. We are actively promoting the Course with LTC homes and other stakeholders.

We would welcome your support in mandating the OLTCC Medical Director Course be taken by all Medical Directors at the time they are engaged by an LTC home. Thank you for your consideration and If you have any questions or require further information, I would be happy to provide it to you.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Williams', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Evelyn Williams, MD, CCFP (COE), FCFP, MHSc  
Chair, Ontario LTC Clinicians Medical Director Curriculum Committee