

# Improving Care. Every Day.

Our national, multi-year mission to renew and reimagine seniors' care in Canada.

## Extendicare's Commitment to Improving Care

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a tragedy on a global scale, and for those with a loved one in long-term care, a distressing personal experience. The separation and worry have been extremely difficult, and you have had to put your trust and faith in our homes.

The pandemic exposed weaknesses in our health-care system that have been there for many years and laid bare the challenges that have burdened the long-term care sector for decades.

Fortunately, we are now seeing policy changes and financial support from government that will enable a fundamental renewal of long-term care. At Extendicare, we are embracing this opportunity to learn from the crisis to build a better future for seniors' care.

**Our Mission: To help people live better by renewing and reimagining how we provide care to seniors in Canada.**

**We have embarked on a new, multi-year national plan to improve care, every day, across every home we operate. We are focused on five key areas for improvement. We will:**

### **1 IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THOSE WE CARE FOR**

- **Eliminate multi-unit bedrooms.** Every one of our residents deserves increased privacy to enhance their quality of life. There will be no more than two residents per room in any home, regardless of the home's age. All new long-term care homes are being constructed to modern design standards, with one person per bedroom.
- **Increase the number of full-time positions on our care teams,** providing our team members with greater stability and our residents with more consistency in their caregivers. To allow for more full-time positions, we have introduced a new, dedicated weekend shift for those team members who prefer this option. During the last year, Extendicare added more than 1,000 new frontline caregivers to our long-term care homes to enhance the quality of care for residents.
- **Improve and add to our clinical capabilities,** including through partnerships with hospitals, like The Ottawa Hospital, and our other health-care partners.

### **2 SUPPORT THE SUCCESS OF OUR TEAM MEMBERS**

- **Improve infection and prevention control,** including by supporting more of our team members to receive specialized training in advanced IPAC practices through IPAC Canada's endorsed Certificate in Infection Control (CIC).
- **Offer paid time off** over and above regular sick leave, exceeding government requirements and collective bargaining obligations. This was put in place shortly after the pandemic started.
- **Launch a peer-nominated Care Champion Program,** open to all of our long-term care team members to celebrate the hard work, dedication and passion of our incredible teams who go above and beyond for their residents and communities.

### 3 ENGAGE RESIDENTS AND FAMILIES AS PARTNERS IN CARE AND ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE

- **Improve communication and engagement with residents and families.** We are working hard to redesign the standard of materials you receive, with the clear expectation that all residents and their families are kept informed through regular newsletters, home and corporate-level communications and activities, monthly townhalls and regular family and resident council meetings.
- **These efforts to improve resident and family interactions** will be informed by the feedback we receive from you at [partnersincare@extendicare.com](mailto:partnersincare@extendicare.com) and from the Family, Resident and Client Satisfaction Surveys, with the next one scheduled for the Fall of 2021.

### 4 REPLACE OR UPGRADE OLDER LONG-TERM CARE HOMES

- **Replace every older home in our network across the country.** Starting with nine recently announced projects in Ontario, we are investing \$500 million to construct new homes to modern design standards.
- **Upgrade or enhance our homes, regardless of age,** to ensure that IT capacity does not stand in the way of connections with loved ones. We are actively working to upgrade Wi-Fi at every home in our network.

- **Make improvements in our existing buildings** to improve air conditioning and upgrade furniture that can be easily wiped down and sanitized to better maintain infection prevention and control.
- **Work with government partners in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba** to enable us to renew homes in those provinces. We remain ready to invest in building new homes to modern standards with any province that is ready to partner with us.

### 5 INCREASE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- **Access to real-time information about your loved one's care environment is important.** Vaccination rates among residents and team members are available to families and the broader public.
- **Operate with increased openness and transparency,** steadily increasing access to quality information about each home in our network, published openly to enable our outcomes to be compared to other operators.
- **Remove barriers to vaccination for our team members and provide resources nation-wide,** through educational sessions, virtual townhalls with trusted leaders and experts, translating support materials into 20 languages, paid time off and travel expenses to attend vaccination clinics and more.



**EXTENDICARE**<sup>®</sup>  
... helping people live better

Stay updated on our progress as we move ahead with our plans for a stronger seniors' care system in Canada at [www.extendicare.com/ImprovingCare](http://www.extendicare.com/ImprovingCare)

Our efforts will be made stronger by working in partnership with our communities. Share your feedback and ideas with us: [partnersincare@extendicare.com](mailto:partnersincare@extendicare.com)