



STAFF REPORT INFORMATION ONLY

Recommended 2009 Operating Budget, Long-Term Care Homes and Services Division

Date:	February 6, 2009
To:	Advisory Committee on Long-Term Care Homes and Services
From:	General Manager, Long-Term Care Homes and Services
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

The Long-Term Care Homes and Services Division has a strong commitment to integrated quality management and to the consistent provision of high quality and safe care, service and environments that address residents' and clients' needs for security, safety, dignity, comfort and satisfaction, while continuously implementing innovations and efficiencies. The division's high standards provide a qualitative comparator in the long-term care system and have indirectly served to positively influence overall system quality. Our system of public accountability and public vigilance are crucial elements in maintaining consumer confidence.

As noted in the December 15, 2008 report entitled "Long-Term Care System Challenges and Opportunities for the City of Toronto", the division is currently faced with a number of key challenges, including a changing long-term care environment; the introduction of new legislation; provincial funding limitations and a growing demand for long-term care.

This report summarizes key facts related to the recommended 2009 operating budget. The recommended 2009 gross expenditure of \$213.5 million is a 2.9 percent increase over the 2008 approved operating budget. This includes a projected increase in provincial subsidy of \$5.2 million (4.4 percent) and a municipal net increase of \$0.764 million (1.8 percent). Staffing levels are recommended to increase from 2,167 FTEs to 2,218 FTEs, primarily related to an increase in registered nursing staff that is fully funded by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

COMMENTS

The recommended 2009 gross expenditure budget of \$213.5 million is an increase of 2.9 percent over the 2008 approved operating budget, primarily due the impact of annualized COLA and fringe benefit cost increases, non-labour inflationary increases and an increase in resident acuity funding. The recommended budget also provides for the development of new supportive housing in priority neighbourhood(s), contingent upon approval(s) from Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) and continued funding for the new programs funded by the LHINs in 2008, namely the Wesburn Manor Alzheimer's Adult Day Program and supportive housing at 55 Bleecker Street. The recommended 2009 operating budget is partially offset by the reversal of leap day and family day costs, as well as continued efficiencies and reductions totalling \$1.149 million.

Reduction strategies adopted in this budget to mitigate cost pressures include a one-time draw from the Stabilization Reserve Fund, which will deplete the fund and result in a pressure in 2010 (\$0.152 million), an expanded return to work program for injured workers (\$0.60 million net savings) and the restructuring of Adult Day Program services, including the new Adult Day Program at Wesburn Manor, operated in collaboration with Etobicoke Services for Seniors and the merger of the Seven Oaks with Bendale Acres Adult Day programs, resulting in net savings (\$0.88 million). The recommended budget also includes other realignment of resources and the implementation of permanent cost containment measures (\$0.217 million net savings).

The 2009 recommended operating budget recognizes current economic realities, while allowing the division to continue to provide high quality care and services for residents and clients, and to actively participate in an effective continuum of care through alliances with other healthcare and community organizations. The recommended operating budget reflects the division's continuing commitment to quality, safety and effective resource utilization through a continuous quality improvement approach.

Innovative initiatives and strategies will continue to be employed to maximize the benefits of all available resources. The division will continue to explore ways to both enhance care and service and reduce costs.

A presentation of the 2009 recommended operating budget will be made at the meeting of Advisory Committee on Long-Term Care Homes and Services scheduled for Friday, February 27, 2009.

CONTACT

Marina Campagna, Manager, Financial Services
Long-Term Care Homes and Services
Tel: (416) 392-8908; Fax: (416) 392-4180; E-mail: mcampagn@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Sandra Pitters
General Manager, Long-Term Care Homes and Services