

To: Warden and Members of County Council

From: Director of Woodingford Lodge

Long-Term Care Homes Committee of Management

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Terms of Reference for a Committee of Management for Woodingford Lodge as attached to Report No. WDFL 2021-01 be approved;
2. And further, that the Council of the County of Oxford be designated as the Committee of Management for Woodingford Lodge to fulfill the requirement under Subsection 132 (1) of the Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- Long-term care throughout Ontario has come to the forefront of Provincial concern in recent years
- COVID has put a spotlight on Long-Term Care in Ontario
- Recent Ministry of Long-Term Care inspections across the province have raised the profile of legislative compliance
 - Provincial legislation requires that the Council of a municipality establishing and maintaining a municipal long-term care home must appoint a Committee of Management to provide governance oversight of the management of the home
- With a focus on continuous quality improvement, the Director of Woodingford Lodge and Chief Administrative Officer identified the need to establish a Committee of Management

Implementation Points

With Council adoption of the recommendation in this report, staff will provide regular updates to permit the Committee of Management to fulfill its obligations.

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts associated with adoption of this report.







Communications

Required submissions to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care will be provided in accordance with the legislation and service agreement requirements.

This report and the Committee of Management Terms of Reference will be shared with key internal stakeholders including Woodingford Lodge's Medical Director, the President of the Residents Council, and Oxford County Senior Management Team.

Staff will also share this report and attached Terms of Reference with other municipal long-term care home operators for their generosity in sharing their expertise and documents with us as we work through the process of establishing a Committee of Management.

Strategic Plan (2020-2022)

					
WORKS WELL TOGETHER	WELL CONNECTED	SHAPES THE FUTURE	INFORMS & ENGAGES	PERFORMS & DELIVERS	POSITIVE IMPACT
1.ii.		3.iii.		5.ii.	

DISCUSSION

Background

Ontario's Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007, which came into force July 1, 2010, requires that the Council of a municipality establishing and maintaining a municipal home must appoint a Committee of Management to oversee the management of the home.

The Act states that:

"132 (1) The council of a municipality establishing and maintaining a municipal home or the councils of the municipalities establishing and maintaining a joint home shall appoint from among the members of the council or councils, as the case may be, a committee of management for the municipal home or joint home. 2007, c. 8, s. 132 (1)."

Further to The Act, Ontario Regulation 79/10 states that:

"284. A committee of management appointed under section 132 of the Act shall,
a) in the case of a municipal home, be composed of not fewer than three members; and

- b) *in the case of a joint home, be composed of not fewer than two members of the council of each of the municipalities maintaining and operating the joint home. O. Reg. 79/10, s. 284."*

Oxford County currently has an internal staff professional advisory committee, which meets quarterly to advise on elements of the LTCHA. Although not formally a Committee of Management, it ensures ongoing compliance with the Act and preparation for regular Ministry Resident Quality Inspections.

Comments

Strengthening Quality and Accountability for Patients

Since the Long-Term Care Homes Act came into force, considerable provisions were added through Strengthening Quality and Accountability for Patients Act 2017 – Bill 160. The Act prescribes rigorous requirements to support the safety and wellbeing of Long-Term Care residents through more stringent compliance and enhanced enforcement options. As a result, there are now stricter accountabilities.

Safety and Security of Residents in the Long-Term Care Homes System

In July 2019, The Honourable Eileen E. Gillese, Commissioner of the Public Inquiry into the Safety and Security of Residents in the Long-term Care Homes System released her report to the public. While the Inquiry was prompted by specific offences, the results of the investigation provide system-wide recommendations, concluding the LTC system was strained, but not broken. The regulatory regime that governs the long-term care system, together with those who work in it, provide a solid foundation on which to address the systemic issues identified in the Inquiry.

Long-Term Care and COVID-19

COVID-19 has put a spotlight on many aspects of healthcare in Ontario, including long-term care, and the management of long-term care homes. To Oxford County's credit, the dedicated staff at our three long-term care homes continue to uphold the safety and wellbeing of staff, residents, and visitors to provide for compassionate and respectful resident-centered care.

Other Municipal Long-Term Care Home Operators

Staff consulted with other municipal long-term care home operators in Ontario and found a mix of those with a Committee of Management in place and those working to establish one.

Continuous Improvement

Woodingford Lodge staff have a strong track record of regulatory compliance and addressing feedback from Resident Quality Inspections. Discussions between the Director of Woodingford Lodge and Chief Administrative Officer (both who are relatively new in their roles) revealed the opportunity to establish a Committee of Management as required by The Long-Term Care Homes Act. As such, staff developed the draft Terms of Reference attached to this report (Attachment 1).

Interestingly, staff did not find reference to the Committee of Management in the MOLTC inspection protocols guide, thus it has not been identified during routine inspections and cited as an omission.

Training opportunities are available (at a cost) for Council and staff, designed specifically for long-term care Committee of Management members that provides insight into the current LTC environment and an understanding of the Provincial Government's expectations for the sector. Staff will bring opportunities forward to the Committee of Management as they arise.

Role of the Committee

The role of the Committee of Management is to provide governance oversight of the management of our long-term care homes. The Committee of Management is broadly responsible for ensuring that the home:

- Is in compliance with applicable legislation;
- Meets the requirements of the funding from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care;
- Maintains appropriate service standards for the residents; and
- Provides oversight of finance, audits, and general operations.

Conclusions

Woodingford Lodge is an exceptional place to live and work. Establishing a Committee of Management will not only provide for governance oversight, it will also provide a vehicle for sharing the successes that come with Woodingford's commitment to diversity, integrity, compassion, adaptability, knowledge, professionalism, innovation, and respect.

SIGNATURES

Report Author:

Original signed by

Dennis Guy
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Departmental Approval:

Original signed by

Mark Dager
Director of Woodingford Lodge

Approved for submission:

Original signed by

Michael Duben, B.A., LL.B.
Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT

Attachment No. 1 – Committee of Management for Woodingford Lodge Terms of Reference,
April 28, 2021