

Ontario Helping More Seniors Stay Healthy, Active and Independent

Enhanced Access to Physiotherapy for South East Seniors

NEWS

March 17, 2014

As part of reforms to physiotherapy services, Ontario is expanding access to clinic-based physiotherapy for seniors and eligible patients in the South East.

The province is providing \$3.2 Million to support the addition of the following 11 new publicly-funded physiotherapy clinics in the South East and two existing, including:

- Blaser's Family Physiotherapy Centre, Kingston
- Brighton Sport and Wellness Centre, Quinte West
- Limestone Physiotherapy, Kingston
- Movewell Rehabilitation Services, Gananoque
- Napanee Physiotherapy, Napanee
- Perth Physiotherapy, Perth
- PhysioNorth, Bancroft
- Physiotherapy Kingston and Spinal Rehab Centre, Kingston
- Quinte and District Rehab, Belleville
- Quinte Physiotherapy Clinic
- Seaway Physiotherapy Centre, Prescott
- Sydenham RehabWell Clinic, Sydenham
- Trenton Physiotherapy, Trenton

This new funding will provide access to physiotherapy services for more than 6,100 individuals in the South East region.

Previously, seniors in many communities across Ontario did not have access to publicly funded clinic-based physiotherapy and waiting lists for in-home physiotherapy were too long.

Now, clinic-based physiotherapy is being offered to 90,000 additional Ontarians in more communities as part of the government's plan to increase access to physiotherapy, exercise and fall prevention classes across the province.

In addition, the province is providing funding to Community Care Access Centres to provide in-home physiotherapy to 60,000 more individuals and eliminate waiting lists.

Helping seniors stay healthy and active supports the government's [Action Plan for Health Care](#) and its commitment to provide the right care, at the right time, in the right place. It is also part of the government's economic plan that is creating jobs for today and tomorrow by focusing on Ontario's greatest strengths - its people and strategic partnerships.

QUOTES

“This is an important investment for our community because more physiotherapy services will mean more people in the South East will get the help they need to recover better from surgery, illness or injury.”

— John Gerretsen, MPP, Kingston and the Islands

“It used to be that seniors in many communities in Ontario had no access to publicly funded physiotherapy. With the addition of these clinics, our government is helping more seniors and patients across the province stay healthy, active and independent in their homes.”

— Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

“The government’s plan will improve the availability of publicly-funded physiotherapy and is an important step forward in strengthening Ontario’s health care system. The Ontario Physiotherapy Association has advocated a long time for these reforms and we are fully supportive.”

— Amanda Smart, President, Ontario Physiotherapy Association

“This additional investment by the province will mean greater access to physiotherapy clinics for residents across the South East and, most importantly for the South East rural communities that were previously under serviced.”

— Paul Huras, CEO, South East LHIN

QUICK FACTS

- Ontario is investing \$156 million annually to support enhanced access to physiotherapy, and exercise and fall prevention services to more than 200,000 additional seniors and eligible patients.
- Eligibility for publicly funded physiotherapy has not changed. This service is available to seniors, youth aged 19 and younger, Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) recipients, and patients in need of physiotherapy treatment following surgery that required an overnight stay at the hospital.
- There is no set limit on physiotherapy services. Patients will receive as many physiotherapy sessions as determined to be necessary by their physiotherapist in order for them to recover.

LEARN MORE

More ways the government is helping seniors to stay [healthy, active and independent](#). Find [publicly funded physiotherapy clinics in your area](#).

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