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Report To: Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board

From: Paul Myre, Chief (A) Paramedic Services

Date: February 25, 2021

Re: Community Paramedicine for Long Term Care (CPLTC) Update

- Issue Report

Background

As presented in the <u>Community Paramedicine for Long Term Care (CPLTC) – Issue Report</u> approved by the Board in January, the DSB is one of 29 Paramedic Service delivery agents that were invited to submit a draft budget and implementation plan. The Ministry of Long Term-Care set the notional funding allocation of up to \$250,000 quarterly or up to \$1,000,000 annually, based on the 2019 long-term care waitlist for the Manitoulin and Sudbury census divisions of 65 individuals.

In a <u>letter</u> dated February 17, 2021, Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long Term-Care provided the DSB with approval of up to \$3,250,000 in one-time funding for a four-year transfer payment agreement in the following fiscal years:

2020-21: up to \$250,000 2021-22: up to \$1,000,000 2022-23: up to \$1,000,000 2023-24: up to \$1,000,000

This funding is provided to support seniors who are on the provincial long-term care waitlist, or will soon be eligible for long-term care, by providing them with Community Paramedicine services in their own homes.

Staff are excited to receive this 100% funding from the Ministry of Long Term Care and work has commenced to deliver on the implementation plan that clearly articulated milestones.

Community Paramedicine for Long Term Care (CPLTC)

The Long-Term Care sector is faced with increasing capacity pressures. As of August 2020, the wait list to access a bed had more than 38,000 people on it. The goal of the CPLTC framework is to help address system capacity issues by supporting individuals to safely stay in their own homes for as long as possible, while also providing "peace of mind" for caregivers. It will do this through preventive and responsive care, such as home visits and remote patient monitoring.

This Community Paramedicine program will focus exclusively on seniors in three categories of eligibility:

- Those on the waitlist for long-term care
- Those who have been assessed as eligible for long-term care by an Ontario Health Care Coordinator (but not yet on the waitlist); and,
- Those who are soon to be eligible for long-term care.

The CPTLC is program is based on four guiding principles:

- 1. **Accessible**: 24/7 access to Community Paramedicine services for non-emergency procedures in their own home and health system navigation support.
- 2. **Responsive**: Prompt, flexible, proactive, and patient-centred response to changing circumstances or medical conditions and if necessary, connection to the right health care provider at the right time in order to avoid escalation and crisis.
- 3. **Proactive**: Systematic, routine-based remote or home monitoring to prevent emergency incidents or escalation in medical conditions.
- 4. **Safe**: Certain diagnostic procedures and treatments can be provided at home and if required, under appropriate medical oversight.

Conclusion

Staff are recommending that the Board authorize the CAO to proceed with the implementation of the Community Paramedicine for Long Term Care within the established framework and funding allocated by the Ministry of Long-Term Care.