

Long-term-care wait expected to get longer

By Stephanie Hounsell
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

A year's wait to get into a long-term care facility and the possibility of being placed far from home has some seniors worried and regional councillors expressing frustration.

The topic was on the table at Tuesday's regional health and social services committee.

A staff report said hospitals want to discharge patients who are going to a long-term-care (LTC) home as soon as room is available to free up hospital beds — but that can lead to a stressful situation for the seniors and their families.

"Those waiting in hospital are being told that if they do not take the available LTC bed they will be charged up to \$700 per day," the report states. "Seniors are then forced to move to LTC homes that are not their choice and commonly a long distance from their loved ones."

Sometimes, the report states, their spouses can't drive anymore and can't easily visit them at the facility.

If a senior in the community needs urgent admission, it's the same situation. They must take the first bed available, no matter where it is within the catchment area of the Mississauga-Halton Community Care Access Centre (CCAC), the report states. That means a Milton senior could be placed in a home in Mississauga or even south Etobicoke.

Once there they can transfer, but that can involve a wait of over two years since they're no longer a priority, the report states.

An initiative by the Province and Local Health Integration Networks is seeking to address this situation, but it's too soon to tell if it's helping.

For seniors not designated as "urgent," the wait for placement can be more than a year to get into one of the three homes owned and operated by Halton Region (Allendale in Milton, Post Inn Village in Oakville and Creek Way Village in Burlington); they're able to choose which home they go to.

The admission process is co-ordinated by CCACs and Local Health Integration Networks.

Adelina Urbanski, commissioner of social and community services, said the issue of LTC home delays and the fact seniors who need care urgently can't decide where they end up is an increasing one.

Milton Councillor Colin Best said the lack of LTC home beds is affecting our already-burdened hospitals.

"A number of people who are in critical care in the hospital should be in long-term care," he told fellow committee members.

In Milton, the situation is made worse by renovations at Allendale, which has led to a temporary reduction in admissions in order to have 25 empty beds.

Burlington Councillor Rick Goldring gave the example of

• see MEETING on page A20

Bill's
AUTO BODY
(ROYAL ATLANTIC) INC.

Complete collision repair and refinishing services

155 Nipissing Rd., Milton (905) 878-2721

MILTON TOYOTA

THEY'VE GOTTA GO!

THE 09 TOYOTAS ARE COMING SO THE 08s GOTTA GO...
WITH PURCHASE FINANCING AS LOW AS 0.9%!

08 RAV4 1.9% Purchase APR* for 36 months	MSRP* WAS \$27,400 NOW \$26,050	LEASE FOR \$299* @ 4.9% APR PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS WITH \$4,573 DOWN. FREIGHT AND P.D.E. INCLUDED	HWY 7.7L/100 KM (37 MPG)† CITY 10.1L/100 KM (28 MPG)†	
08 FJ Cruiser 0.9% Purchase APR* for 36 months	\$2000 GAS CARD OR CASHBACK EQUIVALENT*	LEASE FOR \$309** @ 3.9% APR PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS WITH \$5,717 DOWN. FREIGHT AND P.D.E. INCLUDED WHEN YOU APPLY THE \$2,000 CASHBACK	MSRP* STARTING FROM \$29,725 HWY 11.1L/100 KM (25 MPG)† CITY 14.5L/100 KM (19 MPG)†	
08 Sienna CE 0.9% Purchase APR* for 36 months	\$1000 GAS CARD OR CASHBACK EQUIVALENT*	LEASE FOR \$339** @ 3.9% APR PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS WITH \$5,805 DOWN. FREIGHT AND P.D.E. INCLUDED WHEN YOU APPLY THE \$1,000 CASHBACK	MSRP* STARTING FROM \$29,400 HWY 8.1L/100 KM (35 MPG)† CITY 11.7L/100 KM (24 MPG)†	
08 Highlander 0.9% Purchase APR* for 36 months	MSRP* WAS \$36,900 NOW \$34,900	LEASE FOR \$418* @ 3.9% APR PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS WITH \$6,679 DOWN. FREIGHT AND P.D.E. INCLUDED	HWY 8.8L/100 KM (32 MPG)† CITY 12.3L/100 KM (23 MPG)†	
08 Tundra Double Cab V8 4x4	\$2000 GAS CARD OR CASHBACK EQUIVALENT*	1.9% PURCHASE APR* FOR 60 MONTHS	MSRP* \$38,320 HWY 11.9L/100 KM (28 MPG)† CITY 16.8L/100 KM (17 MPG)†	

NO SECURITY DEPOSIT ON 2008 LEASES.

*11 Limited time lease and finance offers available from Toyota Financial Services on approved credit. License, registration, PPSA, insurance, applicable fees and taxes are extra. MSRP of a new 2008 Sienna (Model ZK30CAA), 2008 RAV4 (Model BD33VPA), 2008 Highlander (Model ES41AAA), 2008 FJ Cruiser (Model BU11FMA) and 2008 Tundra 4x4 (Model BV541TB) is \$29,400/\$26,050/\$34,900/\$29,725/\$38,320 plus freight and P.D.E. of \$1,440/\$1,440/\$1,440/\$1,440/\$1,440. Tax for fuel conservation is \$75 for Highlander and \$400 for FJ Cruiser. †0.9%/1.9%/0.9%/0.9%/1.9% finance APR equals \$29/\$746/\$383/\$570 per month for 36/36/36/36/60 months. Cost of borrowing is \$444/\$806/\$488/\$443/\$1,880 for a total obligation of \$29,844/\$26,856/\$35,368/\$30,168/\$40,200. *4.9%/3.9% lease APR for 48/48 months on a new 2008 RAV4 (Model BD33VPA) and 2008 Highlander (Model ES41AAA). Monthly payment is \$299/\$418 with a \$4,573/\$6,679 down payment or trade equivalent, and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$18,926/\$26,744. Based on a maximum of 96,000 KMS. Additional KM charge of \$10/15 for excess kilometres if applicable. † Gas card/cashback equivalent offers valid on new and unregistered eligible in-stock 2008 Sienna, 2008 FJ Cruiser and 2008 Tundra 4x4 purchased/leased, registered and delivered between September 3 and September 30, 2008. Offers will be awarded either in the form of pre-paid gas card or cashback equivalent and is the choice of the customer. The values of the pre-paid gas card or cashback equivalent are \$1,000/\$2,000/\$2,000. Pre-paid gas cards will be mailed to the customer within 60 days of delivery. Cashback offers take place at time of delivery and will apply after taxes have been charged on the full amount of negotiated price. † 3.9%/3.9% lease APR for 48/48 months on a new 2008 Sienna (Model ZK30CAA) and 2008 FJ Cruiser (Model BU11FMA). When you apply the \$1,000/\$2,000 cashback equivalent offer, monthly payment is \$339/\$309 with a \$5,805/\$5,717 down payment or trade equivalent, and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$22,077/\$20,550. Based on a maximum of 96,000 KMS. Additional KM charge of \$10/15 for excess kilometres if applicable. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Offers valid between September 3 and September 30, 2008 and are subject to change without notice. Please see your participating Toyota Dealer for full details. † These estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. The actual fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. Refer to the Government of Canada publication EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide. All rights are reserved.

MILTON TOYOTA
400 STEELES AVENUE, MILTON
Toll Free: 1-800-617-4025
Fax: (905) 875-1516
info@miltontoyota.com
MyTOYOTAPlace.COM

Foreign-trained but can't find a job in your field?

If you're a foreign-trained professional or business person looking for a job, improve your English and Canadian job search skills with...

Enhanced Language Training for Internationally Educated Professionals and Business People

8-week programs are FREE to qualified applicants and take place in Burlington.

Next course starts September 22

For more information, call 905-333-3499, ext. 264 or visit www.thecentre.on.ca

The Centre
Skills Development & Training

The Centre is a participating agency of Skills International

[Skills International.ca](http://www.skillsinternational.ca)
Connecting with global skills

This program is funded by
Citizenship and Immigration Canada / Citoyenneté et Immigration Canada