



Our File: 2015-91

FEB 27 2015

Ms. Susan Eng
VP Advocacy
CARP
30 Jefferson Avenue
TORONTO ON M6K 1Y4

Dear Ms. Eng:

Thank you for your January 15, 2015 letter regarding the importance of sprinkler systems in long-term care facilities. I appreciate your concerns and am pleased to provide you with the following information about long-term care facilities in Saskatchewan.

There are 156 Special Care Homes throughout Saskatchewan. A recent scan has identified that 149 of these homes have fire sprinkler systems installed. Four of the seven homes without sprinklers are in various stages of replacement and will have fire sprinklers installed upon completion. Work is underway for sprinkler retrofits at the remaining three facilities.

The 2014-15 provincial budget provided \$23.3 million in funding for life safety, emergency and infrastructure projects. This funding includes \$19.08 million funding allocated to health regions to address infrastructure priorities such as: fire alarm systems, fire protection sprinkler systems, standby generators, OH&S items, roof/window replacements and other structural work. In addition to the regional allocations, targeted funding is being provided in 2014-15 to address sprinkler retrofits at the three facilities lacking sprinkler systems.

Again, thank you for your letter. I appreciate your interest in long-term care facilities and the safety and well-being of seniors across Canada.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dustin Duncan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dustin Duncan
Minister of Health