Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility

Ministère des Services aux aînés et de l'Accessibilité



Minister

Ministre

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November 22, 2022

Mr. Alex Roussakis President, Board of Directors The Council on Aging of Ottawa

Dear Mr. Roussakis:

Thank you for your email in support of the Seniors Home Safety Tax Credit and Ontario Renovates programs. I appreciate you taking the time to write and advocate on behalf of Ontario's seniors and their safety, especially as we recognize National Fall Prevention Month during November.

As Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, I am committed to supporting the delivery of programs and services that positively impact the daily lives of Ontario's seniors and promote improved health and well-being. We are constantly working to ensure supports are in place to keep seniors fit, active, healthy and socially connected in their community.

As you know, to help with renovations and make homes safer and more accessible, our government introduced the <u>Seniors' Home Safety Tax Credit</u> for the 2021 tax year and the credit has been extended for the 2022 tax year. The credit is worth 25% of up to \$10,000 in eligible expenses for a senior's principal residence in Ontario (the maximum credit is \$2,500).

We continue to review income tax credit programs on an ongoing basis and consider changes within the context of the needs of all Ontarians, as well as the province's funding priorities and existing financial constraints.

Our government also supports the Home and Vehicle Modification Program, administered by the March of Dimes Canada (MODC), which provides funding for eligible adults and children to make modifications to their homes and vehicles to help them continue living in their homes, avoid job loss, and participate in their communities. Further details about the program and eligibility are available through the MODC website at:

https://www.marchofdimes.ca/en-ca/programs/am/hvmp/Pages/modchvmp.aspx.

More details about tax credits, benefits and government pensions available for seniors in Ontario are available at: https://www.ontario.ca/page/seniors-manage-your-finances.

Additional information about all of the resources available for seniors in Ontario, including tax credits, health, caregiving, housing, transportation and staying safe is available in our Guide to Programs and Services for Seniors which can be viewed or downloaded at: https://www.ontario.ca/document/guide-programs-and-services-seniors.

As the Ontario Renovates program falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, I am also sharing your correspondence with my Cabinet colleague, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, for his consideration.

Thank you again for writing. Your perspective helps to guide our government as we continue to work to develop and improve policies.

Please accept my best wishes.

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Sincerely,

Honourable Raymond Cho

Minister for Seniors and Accessibility

c: The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing