

MEDIA STATEMENT**Ontario Hospital Association Welcomes Health Care Investments Announced Today in 2023 Ontario Budget**

“On behalf of Ontario’s hospitals, the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) welcomes the investments announced today for hospitals and the wider health care system in the 2023 Ontario Budget. These investments will play an important role in continued stabilization of hospitals as the province migrates out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over the past three years, hospitals and other health care providers have done everything they can to maintain access to care in the face of COVID-19 – a challenge that is without parallel in Ontario’s history. Hospitals are grateful to have had a strong financial partner in the Ontario government throughout this period and appreciate the continued investments in the health of Ontarians.

Hospitals continue to experience serious pressures caused by the combination of high demand for care, health human resources shortages, and insufficient capacity in other parts of the system. The hospital sector welcomes commitments made today to strengthen health human resources, increase capacity across the continuum of care, particularly in home care, and to improve access to care for children and youth.

The OHA looks forward to continuing to work closely with the Government of Ontario, Ministry of Health, and Ontario Health in the months ahead to collectively maintain stability, preserve access to all hospital services, and ensure that patients and families will have continued access to the highest quality of care, close to home.”

- Anthony Dale President and CEO, Ontario Hospital Association