



Formerly Special Services at Home Passport Provincial Coalition (SSAHPC)

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May 23, 2023

Hon. Michael Parsa
Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services (MCCSS)
7th Flr, 438 University Ave.
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Dear Minister Parsa:

Congratulations on your recent appointment as the new Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services. We want to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves. People for Personalized Funding (PFPF) is a family-led, grassroots, provincial organization that longs for a society where *all* people can live ordinary lives in their own homes and contribute to the life of their neighbourhoods and communities.

Since 1982, PFPF, previously known as the Special Services at Home Provincial Coalition (SSAHPC), has worked with and for people living with disabilities to leverage their resources to have rich, meaningful, everyday lives. Guided by our beliefs about inclusion, self-determination, choice and control, and rights and freedoms for all citizens, we continue to promote the importance of personalized funding models, so that people who require supports to live and contribute in their natural neighbourhoods and communities are able to do so with tailored, flexible supports that are responsive to their unique, changing needs. Over many years, we have learned from our family members that their personalized funding was instrumental in making a good life in community happen.

Over time, as there have been shifts in key Ministry personnel, we continue to strive for clear and ongoing communication, in the hopes that, through partnership and dialogue, we will be able to collaborate to provide adequate support for people and families in Ontario and ensure that policy reflects the lived experiences and current needs of this equity-deserving population.

Most recently, we have urged your Ministry for additional review of Passport and Special Services at Home funding, so that increases are equitable and provide for the \$3 per hour increase afforded to direct support workers across the sector. As the Ministry continues to engage in a Cost Study and seeks to implement the developmental services reform plan outlined in Journey to Belonging: Choice and Inclusion, we want to confirm our willingness to provide input and share the experiences and insights of people and families across the province who depend on direct funding and eagerly await an adequate funding model, in order to support their lives as full citizens.

Sincerely,

Alison Ouellette and Susann Palmiere,
Co-Chairs of People for Personalized Funding

Cc:

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