



News Release

*For immediate release*

## IMPROVING ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY LONG-TERM CARE SERVICES FOR FRANCOPHONES

*Standing Committee on General Government considering legislation that includes an amendment to the French Language Services Act*

AURORA, ON, May 17, 2021 – Today, Entité 4 will be presenting to the Standing Committee on General Government regarding Bill 276, *Supporting Recovery and Competitiveness Act*. Schedule 9 of Bill 276 would expand eligibility for designation under the *French Language Services Act* to include municipally run long-term care homes.

“Expanding eligibility for designation to municipally run long-term care homes signals to the Francophone community the enduring commitment of the Government and service providers towards Francophone seniors,” says Yves Lévesque, Board Chair.

Long-term care residents are among the most vulnerable members of our society. A vulnerability which is further amplified among Ontario’s Francophone population as the ability to speak a second language often deteriorates with age.

“There is a significant need for high-quality linguistically and culturally appropriate long-term care for Francophones,” adds Lisa Gotell, Executive Director. “Allowing municipally run long-term care home to become designated under the *French Language Services Act* recognizes their commitment to ensuring the sustainability of French language services over time.”

“Entité 4 welcomes the proposed amendment to the *French Language Services Act*,” continues Mr. Lévesque. “By enabling more service providers to achieve designation, we are helping to build a continuum of care to support Francophones throughout their lifetime.”

With a mandate to improve access to French Language Health Services, Entité 4 provides guidance and support to health service providers throughout the designation process. Entité 4 facilitates community engagement and provides innovative advice on planning, organizing and integrating French Language Health Services. Entité 4 works with local, regional and provincial partners, throughout the Central, Central East and North Simcoe Muskoka regions, to build and sustain health care services for Ontario’s official language minority population.

- 30 -

Media contact:

Christine Morrison, Communications and Community Liaison Officer  
Entité 4  
Phone: 905-726-8882  
c.morrison@entite4.ca