

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between
Niagara Transit (NT)

And
Regional Municipality of Niagara – Seniors Services

Effective Date:

1. Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes a mutual understanding between Niagara Transit (NT) and Seniors Services to support the provision of transportation services by NT in the event of an emergency evacuation or relocation involving one or more of the Region's long-term care (LTC) homes. Niagara Transit will serve as the secondary provider. The Region of Niagara will maintain Switzer Carty as the primary emergency evacuation provider.

2. Background

Under the Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021, LTC homes are required to maintain an emergency plan that includes arrangements for the safe evacuation and transportation of residents. This MOU supports the Region's compliance with legislative requirements and ensures coordination during emergencies.

Niagara Region operates seven municipal long-term care homes, located at:

1. Linhaven – 403 Ontario Street, St. Catharines, ON
2. Meadows of Dorchester – 6623 Kalar Road, Niagara Falls, ON
3. Gilmore Lodge – 60 King Street, Fort Erie, ON
4. Northland Pointe – 2 Fielden Avenue, Port Colborne, ON
5. Rapelje Lodge – 277 Plymouth Road, Welland, ON
6. Woodlands of Sunset – 920 Pelham Street, Welland, ON
7. Deer Park Villa and Suites – 150 Central Avenue, Grimsby, ON

3. Scope of Services

- NT agrees to make reasonable efforts to provide accessible transportation (e.g., buses with wheelchair lifts) for emergency evacuation or relocation of LTC residents, when requested by Seniors Services.
- Transportation services will be limited to emergency situations only, including but not limited to:
 - Fire, flood, structural failure
 - Extended power outage
 - Environmental emergencies (e.g., extreme weather)

4. Roles and Responsibilities

Niagara Transit will:

- Respond to transportation requests from Seniors Services or designated incident commander, subject to vehicle and staffing availability.
- Provide operators and vehicles as able, prioritizing accessible units when required.
- Ensure coordination with the Region's Emergency Operations Centre (if activated).

Seniors Services will:

- Maintain an up-to-date emergency transportation request protocol.
- Provide staff supervision during all transports; NT will not provide medical supervision.
- Ensure receiving facilities or destinations are ready to accept residents.
- Communicate requests clearly and provide estimated number of residents, equipment, and timelines.
- Incremental costs relating to operators, fuel and maintenance would be reviewed and funded by the Senior Services department.

5. Review

- This MOU takes effect on the date signed.

- It may be amended at any time by mutual written consent.

Signatories

For Niagara Transit

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

For Niagara Region Seniors Services

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____