

# **Open Letter to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario**

**October 17, 2025**

Dear Premier Ford,

We are a group of families deeply concerned about the physical and emotional safety, security and wellbeing of our loved ones who are residents of supportive living homes managed by Central West Specialized Developmental Services (CWSDS), a registered charity and Transfer Payment Agreement holder with the Ontario Ministry of Children, Family and Community Services.

On September 30<sup>th</sup> CWSDS CEO Patricia Kyle arbitrarily began moving all residents from their homes in the community to one location at 53 Bond Street, Oakville, Ontario. Residents at 53 Bond Street received strangers into their homes without notice. Overnight, all our loved ones found themselves shoe-horned into an overcrowded setting living with people they do not know without choice. They are in a situation at risk where they may have support staff that they do not trust, nor feel safe with or understood by given many of their unique non-verbal ways of communicating. The severe safety concerns and risk continue to increase and evolve with every passing day demanding the need for an urgent intervention.

Our family members who reside in these homes have developmental disabilities and significant communication barriers. Amid a labour dispute between CWSDS and OPSEU Local 249, sadly, neither CWSDS management or Board has given us any confidence that they have the best interests of our loved ones as their #1 priority at this time. In the event of a strike or a lock-out, CWSDS management plans to replace regular staff with ill- trained, unfamiliar temporary agency workers.

Premier Ford, we need your help. In the early days of the Covid pandemic, you said “We have a duty to protect and care for the most vulnerable in our society. Our seniors and people with disabilities are most at risk...”

Today, our loved ones, who represent the most vulnerable members of society, are at risk under these conditions. We ask for your help in having our loved ones immediately returned to the familiar surroundings and daily routines of their respective homes with staff who know how to best support them resulting from years of relationships.

They are asking and we are voicing for them that they just want to go home. Premier, please help ensure that they are safe and secure immediately.

Sincerely,

Concerned Families of CWDS Residents

**Signatories:**

Christine Burnett  
Rabia Khedr  
Sheree Burnett  
Wendy Kramer

Anne Rhodes  
Mary Rhodes  
Angel Petropanagos  
Gabriela Watson  
Jan Beddoe  
Des Beddoe  
Cherly MacDonald  
Brad MacDonald  
Reynelda O'Toole  
Rene Spani  
Mary Leigh  
Karen Tousignant  
Michaela Burnett