

**39th Parliament 59 Elizabeth II Legislative Assembly of Ontario;
Select Committee on Mental Health and Addictions:**

Dec. 02, 2009

Mrs. Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of Ontario and Minister of Health: *“I’m just wondering how we deal with the revolving-door issues that we seem to hear about with so many people; They go into the hospital, they may or may not be kept on a form 1; if they are, then they’re released after 72 hours. They get sicker, a family member brings them back in, and multiple admissions to hospital—or visits to hospital; maybe not admissions...”*

(Transcript of Committee Hearing, Page 5 of 24)

Dr. Peter Turner, Psychiatrist: *“...In 15 minutes it’s a bit hard to say everything, but it’s a unique program. There’s nothing else really like it [Bethany] in the Province, or in Canada for that matter, that I’ve seen. We have fairly intense psychiatric care and supervision with such large amounts of clients with such a low re-admission rate. (Not a revolving door) We’re really saving hospital beds, in a sense, in that Region, and looking after patients who otherwise would be frequent flyers in emergency rooms, in patient services and outpatients in the hospital. It’s a tremendously cost-efficient program. It’s hard to say how much it actually saves but it could be in the millions.”*

(Transcript of Committee Hearing, page 27 of 32)

Dr. Helena Jaczek, Federal MP Markham-Stouffville, *“...The latest paper is called Treatment Delayed-Liberty Denied. The lead author is a law professor at UWO, Robert Solomon, and co-author, Dr. Richard O’Reilly. It’s been recently published in the Canadian Bar Review. As an aside, I might just mention that this latest study examined the plight of patients who because of Ontario law could not be treated. They could not, therefore get well enough to be released. Examples in this paper are of people being detained without treatment for five, and two [and] at 20 and one at 25—not months, but years; detained 25 years because they couldn’t be treated. At \$600 per day in hospital, or \$219,000 per year of wasted money or \$4.38 million for 20 years, that’s a lot of taxpayers’ money not to treat people and to deny them their liberty. This paper that we wrote in Ontario could not have been written in British Columbia or most other provinces in this country or most other countries because they would treat people in these circumstances and they would be discharged.”* (Transcript of Committee Hearing, page 10 of 24)