

## Palliative and Home Care

WHEREAS thousands of Canadians suffer unnecessarily each year because they have no access to palliative care, which unduly increases the use of emergency healthcare<sup>1</sup>;

AND WHEREAS palliative care improves the quality of life of patients and families;

AND WHEREAS publicly funded and administered health care is increasingly under pressure to cut services<sup>2</sup>;

AND WHEREAS delivery of long-term care, home care, mental health services and comprehensive pharmaceutical and wellness programs is neither universal nor consistent in its quality and support across Canada, with only 15% having access to quality palliative care<sup>3</sup>;

AND WHEREAS national Pharmacare, the sale of marijuana, and less demand for acute care will result in savings that can be redirected to home and palliative care;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Federal Liberal Government craft new, fully cost accounted legislation to implement, in cooperation with the Provinces and Territories, national programs in home and palliative care that are universal and accountable and complementary to the Canada Health Act<sup>4</sup>;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal Liberal Government establish, implement and enforce measurable Standards of Quality Care through legislation to ensure compliance;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such standards include integration of palliative care across all sectors of the health care continuum not just at end of the patient care; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal Liberal Government make innovation in healthcare delivery a priority, with consideration given to the successful Canadian cooperatives model and to the most successful European nations<sup>5</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> Church, E. (2016). Canadians lack proper access to palliative care, study finds. The Globe and Mail. Retrieved from <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/canadians-lack-proper-access-to-palliative-care-study-finds/article28122378/>; Blackwell, T. (2015). Last month of life costs health-care system \$14k on average: report. The National Post. Retrieved from <http://news.nationalpost.com/news/canada/last-month-of-life-costs-health-care-system-14k-on-average-report>

<sup>2</sup> Stunden Bower, S. and Campanella, D. (2013). From Bad to Worse: Residential elder care in Alberta. Parkland Institute. Retrieved [http://www.parklandinstitute.ca/from\\_bad\\_to\\_worse\\_residential\\_elder\\_care\\_in\\_alberta](http://www.parklandinstitute.ca/from_bad_to_worse_residential_elder_care_in_alberta)

<sup>3</sup> See note 1; Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association Inc. (2012). CLHIA Report On Long-Term Care Policy: Improving The Accessibility, Quality And Sustainability Of Long-Term Care In Canada Retrieved from [https://www.clhia.ca/domino/html/clhia/CLHIA\\_LP4W\\_LND\\_Webstation.nsf/resources/Content\\_PDFs/\\$file/LTC\\_Policy\\_Paper.pdf](https://www.clhia.ca/domino/html/clhia/CLHIA_LP4W_LND_Webstation.nsf/resources/Content_PDFs/$file/LTC_Policy_Paper.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Parliamentary Committee on Palliative and Compassionate Care. (2011). Not to be Forgotten: Care of Vulnerable Canadians. Retrieved from <http://pcpcc-cpspsc.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/ReportEN.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Baxter, R. et al. (2014). How is the positive deviance approach applied within healthcare organizations: A systematic review of methods used. BMC Health Services Research. 14 (Supp 2), 7. Retrieved from <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6963/14/S2/P7>; Girard, J. (2014). Better health and social care: How are co-ops and mutual boosting innovation and access worldwide: An international survey of co-ops and mutual at work in the health and social care sector. Montreal: LPS Productions. Retrieved from [http://www.ica-ap.coop/sites/all/themes/ica\\_theme/ica\\_images/International-survey-co\\_op-and-mutual-Health-and-social-care-CMHSC-14.pdf](http://www.ica-ap.coop/sites/all/themes/ica_theme/ica_images/International-survey-co_op-and-mutual-Health-and-social-care-CMHSC-14.pdf); Canadian Co-operative Association. (2011). Co-operatives: Building blocks for an innovative economy. Retrieved from [http://www.coopscanada.coop/assets/firefly/files/files/CDI\\_Renewal\\_Proposal\\_FINAL\\_EN.pdf](http://www.coopscanada.coop/assets/firefly/files/files/CDI_Renewal_Proposal_FINAL_EN.pdf)

## **Drugs and Addiction as a Healthcare Issue**

WHEREAS drug use and abuse has far reaching implications on society;

WHEREAS the traditional societal response to misuse of drugs has been traditionally addressed through justice and criminal enforcement measures;

WHEREAS emerging evidence points to the need to take a wider approach that considers not only current laws and societal attitudes, but also the impacts such laws and attitudes have had and continue to have on the most vulnerable members of society<sup>6</sup>;

WHEREAS substance abuse has been shown to be a significant drain on Canada's economy through its direct impact on the healthcare and criminal justice systems<sup>7</sup>;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Federal Liberal Government undertake a broad policy framework that underpins the need for appropriate regulation of access to recreational and prescription drugs reflective of current evidence and research, increased access to treatment and rehabilitation, reformed criminal justice responses that enshrine treatment and rehabilitation as an operating principle, and clear differentiation between responsibilities at the Federal, Provincial and Municipal levels of government relative to the impacts of drug use on society;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal Liberal Government include in said policy framework the legalization of marijuana, harm-reduction programs that provide non-judgmental portals to treatment, healthcare spending that addresses underlying issues that contribute to addiction and criminalization, and reforms in prison healthcare that mitigates the role-conflict between security and inmate health.

---

<sup>6</sup> Canadian Drug Policy Coalition. (2012). Changing the Frame: A New Approach to Drug Policy in Canada. Canadian Drug Policy Coalition. Retrieved from <http://drugpolicy.ca/solutions/publications/changingtheframe/>

<sup>7</sup> Rehm, J. et al. (2006). The Costs of Substance Abuse in Canada 2002. Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse. Retrieved from <http://www.ccsa.ca/Resource%20Library/ccsa-011332-2006.pdf>

## Geothermal Subsidies

WHEREAS one of the Prime Minister's mandate to the Minister of Natural Resources is to "explore opportunities to enhance existing tax measures to generate more clean technology investments, and engage with provinces and territories to make Canada the world's most competitive tax jurisdiction for investments in the research, development, and manufacturing of clean technology"<sup>8</sup>; and

AND WHEREAS that have stymied Canadian development as compared to Wind and Solar projects; and

AND WHEREAS Geothermal does not have access to the Canadian Exploration Expense (CEE) and Canadian Development Expense (CDE) programs and so does not have the same geoscience insurance against failed exploration ("dry wells") that the Natural Gas industry does; and

AND WHEREAS the Canada Revenue Agency allows mineral exploration, as well as oil and gas companies the use of flow through shares (FTS) to mitigate risk and raise start-up capital but Geothermal developments are currently not included;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the above tax programs be modified so that Geothermal can compete with other green technologies on an equal footing through the inclusion of Geothermal in the CDE, CEE, and FTS programs. With those three amendments to the tax code, Geothermal can become the powerful industry that Canada requires.<sup>9</sup>

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the cap be removed on the size of geothermal plants to allow a scaling up of geothermal industry.<sup>10</sup>

---

<sup>8</sup> <http://pm.gc.ca/eng/minister-natural-resources-mandate-letter>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/mining-materials/taxation/mining-taxation-regime/8892>

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.cangea.ca>

## **Energy Transition Training**

WHEREAS Canada has committed to help keep global warming “well below” two degrees Celsius at the 2015 Paris Climate Conference;

AND WHEREAS this goal has led the Government of Canada to take a leadership role with provinces and territories to put a price on carbon and reduce carbon emissions;

AND WHEREAS the petroleum industry is a significant contributor to carbon emissions and petroleum products are non-renewable resources;

AND WHEREAS Provincial and Territorial Action to reduce carbon emissions may result in a transition to an alternative energy based economy;

AND WHEREAS the petroleum industry is a significant employer in certain regions of Canada;

AND WHEREAS many of the workers in these industries are highly skilled and with retraining could be a great asset to a nascent alternative energy economy;

BE IT RESOLVED that if an energy transition leads to job losses then the Liberal Government will commit to introduce grants for retraining programs for those affected;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these training programs utilize the capacity of local universities and colleges, and that this training will be provided, if possible, where the workers currently reside in an attempt to foster stability in their communities.

## **Economic Infrastructure for Rural Communities**

WHEREAS lack of access to basic economic infrastructure such as identification cards, high-speed internet services and banking services is a barrier to an individual's full participation in the modern Canadian economy;

AND WHEREAS remote rural communities and remote indigenous populations are more likely to have difficulty accessing such services because of lack of proximity to necessary infrastructure provided by banks and government offices with the power to issue identification cards;

AND WHEREAS Canada Post currently has infrastructure in place to serve rural and remote communities throughout Canada;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the federal government instruct Canada Post to partner with financial institutions, provincial governments and telecommunication providers to become a single point of contact in remote communities to provide identification cards, banking services and other necessary economic infrastructure in communities who would otherwise not have access to such services;

AND BE IT RESOLVED THAT Canada Post commit to providing banking and identification services and high-speed internet through any postal outlet where no such services are publicly offered within a maximum 50 km radius and to maintain a level of service quality consistent with the responsibility for conducting financial services transactions and the handling of sensitive documents.