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Wednesday, February 14, 2018

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CEO Commentary

A benefit of membership with ACCA means having a voice at the federal table through our being on the Executive of the Canadian Association of Long Term Care. Last week, CALTC Members, including myself, met with key stakeholders in Ottawa as part of our second Lobby Day on Parliament Hill. We offered three strategic priorities in response to increasing demands on the health care system resulting from a rapidly aging population:



- Allow care providers to access federal infrastructure funding in order to modernize ageing care homes across Canada;
- Invest in a new standardized digital data collection system which would allow the federal government to better compare province by province outcomes and quality of care;
- In partnership with the sector, develop a new pan-Canadian health human resources plan to meet a critical shortage of front line care workers.

While each province has its own challenges, such as varying Accommodation Fees ([click here](#) for a updated provincial comparison chart), there is much more that we have in common. This is also true of Continuing Care ownership type and stream (home care, supportive living, or long term care). Raising awareness and engaging in the conversations that matter so that Albertans receive the best quality of care and enhanced wellness possible will continue to guide our activities.

ACCA's Greatest Strength: Our Members!

Tammy Leach, Chief Executive Officer

Public Policy

ACCA Workshop: Strengthening Supportive Living in Alberta

On March 27 at the Sheraton Red Deer, from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm, we invite Members providing Supportive Living Services to Albertans to join us for an interactive workshop. Open to key clinical staff, care leaders and seniors leaders of organizations that provide or support the provision of care and/or services to supportive living residents and their families. We hope you can join us! Register by March 16 by contacting debra.brunner@ab-cca.ca.

Good News for Seniors!

Alberta Health is providing Mental Health Commission of Canada training free of charge. The training can be taken and accessed by anyone. Information on the seminars, being coordinated by the Canadian Mental Health Association Alberta Division, can be [accessed here](#).



CALTC Lobby Day: [Click here](#) for the Press Release also available on the ACCA website. (Pictured: Tammy and Fed. Minister of Health Pettipas Taylor).

Meeting with Minister Hoffman's staff: On January 31, ACCA met with Minister Hoffman's Chief of Staff and Special Advisor, Health Policy, to discuss opportunities for collaboration in educating the public on Continuing Care, opportunities

for established providers to partner with aboriginal communities, and ACCA's endorsement to Bill 22: Family and Resident Council Act. The Minister's focus is on care close to home, utilization of vacant capacity (ie: lodges) to increase Continuing Care capacity, and Campus of Care that allows couples to stay together.

Trudeau in Edmonton Town Hall: ACCA Communications Manager attended the Trudeau Town Hall held in Edmonton on February 1. A question posed from the audience concerned wait times and the Government's plans to improve upon these. PM Trudeau acknowledged the importance of community and seniors wanting to age-in-place, as well as the need for investing in home care and appropriate community supports.

Member Value & Engagement

ACCA in the News: In response to the ACCA article "Putting Our Seniors First Requires a Diverse Continuing Care Industry" published on February 6 in the Calgary Herald, ACCA CEO Tammy Leach was interviewed by Danielle Smith from Global News Radio 770 CHQR. The recording is also available in the Members' Section of the website. To quote a member: "Excellent job of answering the questions in a simple to understand way. Thoroughly enjoyed this and wished we could get this out to more of the general public so they could see it's not as complicated a problem as they think."

Watch for continued ACCA media presence in the days to come as we are working to address other recent misleading articles.

ACCA Retains McLennan Ross: In response to an impasse between a Continuing Care organization and AUPE in negotiating their Essential Service Agreement, ACCA has retained McLennan Ross to seek intervenor status on behalf of Alberta's Continuing Care Industry. We will keep members informed on the progress and outcomes through the Members' Section of the website.

Community Engagement

Careers in Care!

Members, we encourage you to submit your career opportunities via the website. The form is easy to fill out and a benefit of membership.

WCB Employer Fact Sheet

[Click here](#) for an updated WCB Employer Fact Sheet - Reporting Payroll. The update reflects the removal of the cap on Maximum Insurable Earnings.

February is National Heart Month!

The Canadian Home Care Association is supporting Carers Canada - a national coalition championing the well-being of carers in Canada - on their awareness campaign in support of carers of persons with heart failure.

Learn more about the recently released landmark study, Carers of Persons with Heart Failure - a Four Nation Study, which shares the experiences of caregivers in Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States by [clicking here](#).

Contact Us At Any Time!

Share your comments at any time!

Check the CEO Blog in the Members' Section of the

We are working on our Website to enhance the experience of the public and have added a tab on "[About Continuing Care](#)". Here, an individual can find helpful links, statistics, information on Continuing Care, as well as Available Homes. Members, please send us any information on homes you would like highlighted in this area!

There are lots of great events and initiatives happening within our community and among our Members.



All Seniors Care Retirement Residences across Canada held their week-long 9th Annual All Seniors Games last week. ACCA joined the opening ceremonies at the St. Albert retirement residence. On hand to kick-off the games was Her Worship, Mayor Cathy Heron of St. Albert, St. Albert MLA Marie Renaud, many volunteers and kids from the local Lois E. Hole Elementary School.

website to provide feedback on upcoming strategic meetings including the Quarterly Deputy Minister's Meeting happening in March. Contact Heather if you haven't received a login email yet.

heather.aggus@ab-cca.ca.

Happy Valentine's Day!



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