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ACCA calls on all parties to act on continuing care

A dramatic increase in our senior’s population is coming and Alberta needs to prepare.

Alberta political parties have announced the number of long-term care spaces they would build but have remained quiet on how they would support other aspects of continuing care.

“We can no longer look the other way when it comes to healthy aging and being able to provide the highest quality of care for our seniors and individuals who require care and supports,” said Tammy Leach, CEO for Alberta Continuing Care Association (ACCA). “To do so could have potentially disastrous consequences.”

The recent announcement of Mountain View Seniors Housing, a non-profit organization committed to enhancing the lives of seniors in the community since 1960, that they will terminate their contracts with Alberta Health Services due to inadequate government funding demonstrates the need to invest in continuing care. The government needs to look at the state of the continuing care industry in order to prevent other facilities across Alberta from closing.

Creative partnerships and collaborations between government and independent, faith-based and non-profit organizations, alongside their public counterparts, contributes to the financial sustainability of the continuing care industry. They also prevent couples being separated by providing various levels of care, allowing seniors to stay together despite their different care needs.

Currently, Alberta seniors are supported by different levels of care as they age, based on their needs. This spectrum, or continuum of care, includes homecare, supportive living and long-term care. The various levels allow seniors to stay in their homes and communities longer, rather than requiring them to age in a hospital setting once they are unable to care for themselves.

All care providers are held to the same government-set standards and accountabilities and have the goal of providing Albertans excellent care and support in the community or in loving and comfortable homes.

About the Alberta Continuing Care Association

The ACCA provides a unified voice of our Members in championing for quality of life, quality of care and enhanced wellness for all Albertans requiring Continuing Care; this is Our Mission. Representing owners and operators of home care, supportive living and long-term care, whether private, non-profit and/or faith based, our diversity allows us to best understand and communicate the issues that impact people in this vital industry of Continuing Care. Members provide care and services for nearly 14,000 long term care (LTC) and designated supportive living (DSL) individuals and nearly 5.5 million hours of Home Care to Albertans.

To set up and interview or speak with someone regarding the importance of continuing care in Alberta, contact: