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# ACCA COMMUNIQUÉ

ALBERTA CONTINUING CARE ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

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## ACCA Executive Director Commentary



It's true what they say, March is certainly coming in like a lion! I don't mean in the sense of unpleasant wintry weather, but in that there has been a great flurry of activity in recent weeks for Continuing Care in Alberta. My learning about the challenges and opportunities facing the industry has been at an accelerated pace with the Minister's Forum held in February ([click here for a summary of the Forum](#)), the release of the Ernst & Young Alberta

Health Services Review, and the commencement of the Continuing Care Legislative Review all informing our activities. I have appreciated getting to better know you, our valued members, your individual organizations and the issues you are facing so that I, and your ACCA team, can best represent you in these, and other meetings with key stakeholders.

I hope that you will join us on March 20 in Calgary for the next Membership Meeting where we will be joined by MLA Richard Gotfried and David O'Brien of AHS who will be speaking to these important initiatives. The meeting will also be a great opportunity to network with your peers and hear further what ACCA has strategically planned for the coming months. Kindly RSVP to [heather.aggus@ab-cca.ca](mailto:heather.aggus@ab-cca.ca).

Wayne Morishita, Executive Director

## Membership Meeting

Our next Membership Meeting is Friday, March 20, at AgeCare Skypointe's Auditorium in Calgary. 179 Skyview Cir NE, Calgary (approximately 15 minute drive from YYC); 8:00 am to 12:00 noon with breakfast provided. Please contact [heather.aggus@ab-cca.ca](mailto:heather.aggus@ab-cca.ca) to register by March 13. Graciously sponsored by Rexall Health Solutions!

## CARNA-Employer Liaison Group

CARNA (College and Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta) is creating the CARNA-Employer Liaison Group to work with Alberta's health system nurse employers to support effective nursing regulation and safe, ethical nursing care for Albertans. They are establishing liaison group panels for acute care, primary care, and continuing care.

## Public Policy

**Alberta Budget 2020:** ACCA was invited to attend the embargoed Budget 2020 Lockup on February 27. During question period, ACCA Executive Director Wayne Morishita posed the following question to Hon. Premier Kenney: *We appreciate and are encouraged by the accessibility of the Ministers and the due consideration that they have given to the input of our members. The Government had committed that capital would be made available for continuing care and I am pleased to see in the budget that \$164 million is included over the next three years for a new and improved Alberta Supportive Living Initiative. Could you elaborate further on the new and improved ASLI?* The Premier deferred to Lorna Rosen, the Deputy Minister, who stated that the first phase will be non-capital but subsequent phases will have capital.

ACCA is preparing a response to Budget 2020 which we will share in the coming days.

**AHS Review:** ACCA Board Chair Jennifer McCue was interviewed by Global News following the release of the Ernst & Young AHS Review. Highlights of the interview [are available here](#). ACCA will continue to emphasize in our communications that all care providers, regardless of ownership type, are held to the same standards and accountabilities and that type has no bearing on resident and family satisfaction. A mix of public and independent, non-profit and faith-based care providers leads to innovation and a sustainable, person-centred industry for Albertans.

**LTC Funding, Recoveries, and Accountabilities:** ACCA would like to advise the membership that we are preparing an immediate response to the Memo operators received last week from Alberta Health Services regarding LTC Funding, Recoveries and Accountabilities. We view this as a critical issue to our Membership and the industry as a whole.

**Closing the Gaps: Advancing Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery for Older Adults:** ACCA is pleased to have supported this latest version of the Canadian Red Cross (CRC)/National Institute on Ageing (NIA) White Paper. The impact of disasters on the health and wellbeing of older adults in Canada is significant, with older adults often negatively impacted the most and facing the greatest barriers to recovery following an emergency or disaster. In May 2019, an expert policy roundtable on emergency and disaster preparedness for older adults was

CARNA [is seeking from the Membership 4 representatives](#) for the Continuing Care liaison group panel. Please reach out to Heather with your interest in this exciting endeavour of being a partner in safe patient care! [heather.aggus@abcca.ca](mailto:heather.aggus@abcca.ca)

## Law on Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID): Updates

On February 24, the Honourable David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health, and the Honourable Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, announced the introduction of Bill C-7, which proposes changes to Canada's Criminal Code provisions on MAID. The Bill is in its first reading and the proposed amendments would become law once they have gone through the legislative process in Parliament and received Royal Assent.

The Bill would remove the requirement for a person's natural death to be reasonably foreseeable in order to be eligible for MAID, exclude eligibility for individuals suffering solely from mental illness, expand data collection

hosted in Toronto, ON, that led to the development of 26 evidence-informed action-oriented recommendations targeted around six disaster/emergency management domains: (1) Individuals and Unpaid Caregivers; (2) Community-Based Services and Programs; (3) Health Care Providers and Emergency Response Personnel; (4) Care Institutions and Organizations; (5) Legislation and Policy; (6) Research.

This work will be published and disseminated to the public in the Spring and ACCA is proud to have both endorsed the work, and to being able to share it with you once available.

through the federal monitoring regime, introduce a two-track approach to procedural safeguards, and allow waiver of final consent for eligible persons whose natural death is reasonably foreseeable and who may lose capacity to consent before MAID can be provided.

[Click here for the Bill.](#)

## Member Value and Engagement

***IQ 2020 Exciting Announcements!*** Thank you for your support and patience as we are in the process of finalizing the dates for our annual Inspiring Quality 2020 Conference! We have taken into consideration your feedback, in terms of ideas for program improvement, venue, maximizing value to tradeshow participants, and other comments, which has caused a slight delay in this year's announcement. We are confident that IQ 2020 will provide the excitement, engagement and learning opportunities you have come to expect and we are very excited to share the 2020 Dates and Location with you soon. Stay tuned!

## Webinar - free for ICCER Members

We are pleased to share this link on ICCER's follow-up webinar about sexuality in Continuing Care. Happening Wednesday, March 18, from 10:00 - 11:00 am, the webinar will include a panel discussion to build knowledge, comfort, and skill with talking about resident sexual expression as panelists share their insights around this important aspect of resident life. [Click here to register.](#)

## Community Engagement

***Congratulations Brenda Stafford Foundation on your Clifton House Groundbreaking!***



The Brenda Stafford Foundation was excited to break ground on construction of Clifton House on February 28. (Groundbreaking pictured below). The BSF and their

employees, residents and families of Clifton Manor were joined by local community leaders and members to celebrate this milestone groundbreaking event. Students from neighbouring

## Contact Us!

Share your comments online at [www.ab-cca.ca](http://www.ab-cca.ca) or email [heather.aggus@ab-cca.ca](mailto:heather.aggus@ab-cca.ca) or any ACCA team member at any time! Regularly check the team blog for updates on strategic meetings also.

Jack James High School were present to turn soil on the new site, where they will continue to join in life-enriching and purposeful intergenerational programming with senior residents including art therapy, horticulture and more. How wonderful! [Please click here](#) for the press release.

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