



ACCA 2025 Annual Conference Theme

Moving Forward: Aligning & Strengthening Alberta's Continuing Care System

Innovation serves as the cornerstone for progress, while ingenuity fuels the creative problem-solving needed to navigate the evolving landscape. As Alberta undergoes a system transformation, this conference provides an opportunity to learn together, share insights, and embrace new approaches to care delivery.

This theme focuses on practical strategies to address critical challenges such as workforce shortages, care complexity, and system inefficiencies while embracing innovative approaches where they add value. As Alberta launches the new Continuing Care Agency, this conference emphasizes the need for tangible solutions that align with the sector's transformation. It provides a platform to move beyond discussions of change and focus on real outcomes that strengthen Alberta's continuing care system.

The conference also highlights the importance of data and interoperability in creating a more integrated system. Collaborative efforts will be essential to overcoming barriers, ensuring the sector remains adaptable and responsive to the evolving needs of Albertans. By learning from local and global innovations, Alberta's sector can remain adaptable and responsive, ensuring it is equipped with the necessary resources—such as technology, infrastructure, and workforce development—to effectively meet the evolving needs of care delivery and support ongoing system transformation.

Key Elements of the Theme

1. Leading Through Actionable Innovation

- Showcases practical, proven solutions, including examples of AI, robotics, and other technologies that are already reshaping care delivery.
- Provides actionable steps for leaders to implement innovative models tailored to Alberta's unique context.
- Encourages creative problem-solving and highlights early successes in Alberta's continuing care transformation.

2. Strengthening Integration Across the Care Continuum

- Focuses on reducing system fragmentation and creating seamless pathways between home and community care, supportive living, long-term care, and palliative care.
- Promotes interoperability by addressing data sharing and collaboration challenges, ensuring care is efficient and resident-centered.
- Offers examples of integrated care models that demonstrate measurable outcomes.

3. Learning from Local and Global Successes

- Highlights insights from Alberta's early adopters of the new agency's framework and care delivery models.
- Shares best practices from other jurisdictions to inform strategies for improving care quality and system efficiency in Alberta.
- Encourages cross-sector and cross-border collaboration to foster knowledge-sharing and innovation.

4. Workforce Wellness and Sustainability

- Addresses the pressing issue of workforce shortages and burnout with actionable strategies to retain, support, and develop the workforce.
- Explores ways to embed wellness into organizational culture as a long-term priority.
- Shares leadership development initiatives and workforce resilience practices.

5. Policy and Regulatory Alignment

- Examines how policies and regulations can evolve to support the objectives of the new Continuing Care Agency.
- Identifies barriers within current frameworks and opportunities to align regulations with the sector's needs.
- Provides updates on recent legislative changes and their implications for continuing care.

6. Assessing Readiness and Building Capacity

- Encourages organizations to evaluate their readiness for adopting new practices and innovations.
- Provides tools and frameworks for assessing leadership, infrastructure, and cultural preparedness.
- Offers guidance on building capacity for sustainable transformation.

7. Sustaining System Change

- Focuses on embedding solutions into organizational practices to ensure long-term sustainability.
- Highlights examples of organizations that have successfully transitioned from pilot projects to enduring system changes.
- Encourages knowledge translation and the sharing of best practices to foster sector-wide improvement.

Alignment with 2024 Conference Evaluation Feedback

The proposed theme directly addresses the key takeaways from the 2024 conference evaluation:

1. Actionable Innovation:

- Respondents sought practical solutions and early successes, particularly in implementing emerging technologies.

2. Integration and Collaboration:

- Many attendees highlighted the importance of reducing fragmentation and improving system integration, particularly as Alberta's new Continuing Care Agency takes shape.

3. Workforce Support:

- Workforce wellness and retention were significant concerns, with attendees requesting concrete strategies to address burnout and improve workforce sustainability.

4. Policy Clarity:

- Clearer guidance on policy and regulatory alignment was a top priority for attendees, who wanted actionable insights into facilitating innovation within regulatory frameworks.

5. Knowledge Sharing:

- Participants expressed a strong interest in learning from successful care models both locally and globally, particularly those relevant to Alberta's context.