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ACCA Team Commentary

We are now just over one month away from our [IQ Conference](#), happening October 24 & 25 in Red Deer, Alberta. There is still time to [register](#) and join us for rich networking opportunities, learning from a world-class program of speakers, and celebrating achievements and innovations in Continuing Care! IQ 2019 is yours to enjoy; we hope to see you there! **Early-bird savings apply until October 4.**

Other initiatives we look forward to sharing with you in the coming weeks include our Annual General Meeting, happening November 21 in Edmonton and featuring Minister of Health Tyler Shandro, as well as new Board Member announcements. The AGM is followed by our Annual Corporate Membership Appreciation Reception. We also continue to have great discussions with key government leaders and stakeholders as part of our ongoing Government Relations Strategy. An MLA Information Reception is currently being organized for early December which will provide a great opportunity to continue dialogue about solutions that can further enrich the quality of life and wellness of the thousands of Albertans receiving care.

Heather Aggus, Director of Communications

Public Policy

Alberta Collaborative, Leadership for Person-Centred Living (C, L4PCL) - Learning Forum: ACCA's Director of Policy and Research participated in the Learning Forum held at Wing Kei Crescent Heights on September 12, along with representatives from various Albertan Continuing Care operators. Discussions included the need to coordinate advocacy efforts and messaging and increase collaboration among organizations within the CC sector. Also discussed was the need for the evolution of Alberta's CC models, particularly Supportive Living; Dementia programming, and the benefits of utilizing best practices from various models; as well as optimizing Human Resources. Members of the Collaborative committed to attempting to

Save the Date: ACCA AGM & Membership Appreciation Reception

Join us on November 21 in Edmonton for our Annual General Meeting featuring Minister of Health Tyler Shandro. After the AGM, sponsored by Rexall Health Solutions, please stay for our Corporate Membership Appreciation Reception sponsored by Pharmicare Pharmacy! Complete Details coming soon.



Inaugural Report on the Future of LTC in Canada

Each year, the National Institute on Ageing (NIA) identifies a key policy challenge to address through expert research, broad engagement, and actionable reports. This year, the NIA is launching a three-part policy series that examines the current system of home and

participate in various industry events, including [IQ 2019](#) and the Research Institute for Aging's [Walk With Me Event](#).

CARP National Conversation on Preventative Health and Aging - Education Series: On September 16, a full-day event included presentations by various health sector experts on preventative health and healthy living strategies in aging. These included Dr. Dion Neame, speaking on "Why preventative health matters", Dr. John Muscedere focusing on avoiding frailty, Dr. Marianne Ngure speaking on "Shingles Prevention for Older Adults" as well as talks on physical wellbeing, dementia care and caregiving. The importance of vaccination in older adults was highlighted as was the necessity of maintaining community connections in maintaining health and wellbeing.

Member Value and Engagement

IQ 2019 Conference: Catch the Wave! The final details of the Conference Program are being finalized and we are confident that this year's inspirational speakers and topics will have all of us feeling truly inspired and **ready to celebrate and embrace the opportunity** of the "incoming wave" to which our aging population in Canada is often referred. **JOIN US! October 24 & 25 in Red Deer at the Cambridge Hotel & Conference Centre. [Click here to register!](#)**



ACCA Executive Director Recruitment: The Board is continuing its efforts to recruit a new ED for the Association - one whose background, knowledge, skills and abilities will enable them to thrive in this pivotal role and provide strong, proven leadership for the ACCA, our Board and all our valued members. While the search process has taken longer than initially anticipated, the Board remains committed to ensuring that we hire the best person for the position. In this regard, please be advised that the Board's Search Committee will be interviewing additional short-listed candidates on September 27 from which we are hopeful that the successful applicant will be identified. In the meantime, ACCA, its dedicated staff and your Board remain very active towards building new relationships with government, the various ministries and their staff, engaging in consultations and collaborations with multiple continuing care system stakeholders (including AHS and Alberta Health), and preparing and making submissions to various government initiatives and undertakings.

community, and of care delivered for older Canadians in designated buildings such as nursing homes. The inaugural report, *Enabling the Future Provision of Long-Term Care in Canada* by Dr. Samir Sinha has been released [and is available here](#).

Save the Date: Edmonton Seniors' Housing Forum

The goal of the Forum is to educate participants about the range of housing options and community resources available for older adults and to guide individuals in planning appropriate future housing for themselves and/or significant others. The Forum takes place September 28 in Edmonton. [Click here](#) for information.

Complimentary Webinar Re: Mental Health of Seniors

On October 9, the Mental Health Commission of Canada team is hosting a complimentary webinar in collaboration with Dr. Keri-Leigh Cassidy, Professor of Geriatric Psychiatry at Dalhousie University and the Founder of the Fountain of Health Initiative for Optimal Aging. The purpose of the webinar is to have an impactful discussion around the best practices for mental health promotion in Canada's seniors population as well as health care professionals. [Click here to register](#).

Community Engagement

ACCA's Director of Marketing & Communications was pleased to attend a screening of "Cracked: New Light on Dementia", presented by the Alzheimer Society of Calgary and Dementia Network Calgary. The film is an innovative research-based film that challenges the stigma associated with dementia, inspires alternative ways of thinking about dementia, and encourages everyone to take part in making this a better world for people living with dementia.



ACCA attended the grand opening of [Park Place's Benevolence Care Centre](#) on September 17. Located on the grounds of Villa Marguerite, the LTC facility comprises 99 suites, adding to over 230 Supportive Living suites at the adjacent Villa Marguerite. The facility was built with the support of the 2015

Alberta Government's ASLI Program. Special guests included Honourable Tyler Shandro, Minister of Health; Edmonton-Riverview MLA Lori Sigurdson; and Grey Nuns whose group were the original inhabitants of Villa Marguerite. Al Jina, owner of Park Place Seniors Living, announced several new developments under construction by the organization, as well as the introduction of the Butterfly Care model through Copper Sky Seniors Community in Spruce Grove, AB.

[Vision 2030](#) for Seniors Services Symposium is taking place November 12 - 14 in Edmonton presented by the Alberta Association on Gerontology, with support from the Government of Alberta.

Institute for Continuing Care Education & Research Networking Dinner

ICCER is hosting a networking event on October 7 with speakers Dr. Jim Silvius and Dr. Cheryl Sadowski. The session will include a review of medication-related problems in seniors and practical approaches to improve prescribing and medication use practices. [Click here for details.](#)

Contact Us!

Share your comments online at www.ab-cca.ca or email heather.aggus@ab-cca.ca or any ACCA team member at any time!

Regularly check the team blog for updates on strategic meetings also.

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