

## Continuing Care in Alberta: Regional Health Authority and Operator Discussion Session

### Northern Lights Health Region

**Date:** July 6, 2005

**Location:** Fort McMurray

**Attendees:** Northern Lights Health Region, Mackenzie Housing and Management Board, Wood Buffalo Housing and Development Corporation

#### Key Themes:

- Standards should be flexible.
- Standards should foster innovation and creativity in meeting resident needs.
- Remember the individual who is receiving care.
- Standards should set a vision for continuing care. Objectives on how to realize the vision should be included in the standards.
- Difficulty in recruiting, training and retaining staff, particularly in Northern Alberta.
- The proposed standards are a good start.
- More funding for long-term care.
- Increase awareness and support for seniors' care.
- Communication and education will help Albertans understand how continuing care works and build confidence in the system.
- The proposed standards are understandable and attainable.
- The health and housing parts of continuing care need to work together to meet the medical and social needs of residents.
- Standards need to be clear about who is responsible for what and how this responsibility will be evaluated.