



# Long Term Care Review

## FACT SHEET

### BACKGROUND

- The population of Alberta is increasing and aging, as is the rest of Canada's population.
- Currently, people over 65 years of age represent 9.8% of Alberta's population. This number is projected to increase to 14.5% by the year 2016.
- We must plan and prepare Alberta's health system so it may respond to the changing needs of the population.
- Long range planning is necessary to ensure that our long term care system is consistent throughout the province, and that it is able to meet the needs of Albertans into the new millenium.
- The Alberta government is committed to working in partnership with Albertans to plan for the future.

### TO DATE

In November 1997, Health Minister Halvar Jonson called for a review of long term care services in the province. The Long Term Care Policy Advisory Committee is guiding the review. Jonson asked the committee to:

- address short term pressure points and issues in the continuing care system
- develop long term strategies to address the impact of the aging population on Alberta's health system

The Long Term Care Policy Advisory Committee is chaired by Dave Broda, MLA, Redwater, and vice-chaired by Karen Kryczka, MLA, Calgary-West, and includes a variety of individuals with expertise in the following areas: seniors, physicians, health authorities, consumers, and the long term care, home care and housing sectors.

For the first, short term part of the review, the Long Term Care Policy Advisory Committee set about to develop recommendations on four priority policy issues within the long term care system in Alberta:

- home care
- policies of health support programs
- drug strategies
- accommodation policy

#### *Membership of Policy Advisory Committee, Long Term Care Review*

**Dave Broda**  
MLA, Redwater  
Chair, Long Term Care Policy Advisory Committee

**Karen Kryczka**  
MLA, Calgary West  
Vice-Chair, Long Term Care Policy Advisory Committee  
Chair, Seniors' Advisiroy Council for Alberta

**Carl Bond**  
President,  
Alberta Long Term Care Association

**Evelyn Buckley**  
Chair,  
Bethany Care Society Board, Calgary

**Mary Engelmann**  
Past President,  
Alberta Association of Gerontology

**Jean Graham**  
Chair, David Thompson Regional Health Authority Board; Chair, Provincial Health Authorities of Alberta; Chair, Canadian Health Care Association

**Dr. Peter McCracken**  
Past Divisional Director,  
Geriatric Medicine, University of Alberta

**Paulette Patterson**  
Public representative,  
Former business woman and former manager of senior citizens' lodge

**Doug Schindeler**  
Retired CEO,  
Lethbridge Regional Hospital

**Michael Senych**  
Mayor, Village of Thorhild

## Vision of Aging for Albertans in the 21st Century

Our vision for aging in the 21st century is a society where all Albertans:

- are treated with respect and dignity
- have access to information which allows them to make responsible choices regarding their health and well-being
- can achieve quality living, supported as needed by relatives, friends and community networks, and by responsive services and settings

### Guiding Principles to Help the Health System Respond to an Aging Population

#### Wellness and Prevention

##### The system should:

- support healthy aging for all Albertans
- emphasize promotion of health and prevention of illness, injury and disease
- help Albertans to cope effectively with chronic conditions and function to the best of their abilities

#### Client Centered

##### The system should:

- endeavor to understand and meet client and family needs, work in partnership with clients, and ensure client choice where possible
- acknowledge the client's right to dignity and self-determination
- have reasonable access to a variety of affordable services and have their needs met in a flexible, timely and responsive manner
- respect the client's right to privacy of space and person
- recognize and respond to the physical, psychological, spiritual and social aspects of health

#### Information

##### The system should:

- provide clients with access to information required to make informed choices and decisions regarding care and services

- ensure confidentiality of personal information, however, allow appropriate sharing of information to support the highest quality of services and best possible outcomes

#### Individual and Shared Responsibility

##### The system should:

- encourage independence by assisting Albertans to reach their greatest potential, recognizing that clients and families have the primary responsibility for their own health
- should recognize the concept of interdependence and facilitate collaboration between Albertans, community and government

#### Effectiveness and Efficiency

##### The system should:

- make decisions based, as much as possible, on the values of the consumer, on evidence provided through research, evaluation and technology assessment, and available resources

#### Intersectoral Approach

##### The system:

- recognizes by working together, Albertans, government, regional and provincial authorities, non-government organizations, and the voluntary and private sector all have an active role in contributing to the health of Albertans

### TO COME

The Long Term Care Policy Advisory Committee will develop long term policies and strategies to allow the health system to best respond to the aging population. The committee will deliver its recommendations to the Minister of Health by November 1999.

The committee has developed a questionnaire to help gather information from interested groups and individuals. The questionnaire asks interested groups and individuals to provide a briefing that focuses on four areas:

- healthy aging, including health promotion, disease and injury prevention and primary health care, with particular emphasis given to strategies that will help Albertans cope effectively with chronic conditions and prevent disabilities
- acute care and acute geriatric care, with particular emphasis on changes to respond to an aging population
- community support and care, including home care for the 21st century
- supportive living and services, including supportive housing and continuing care centres, such as nursing homes and auxiliary hospitals

### During 1999, the Long Term Care Policy Advisory Committee will:

- ask provincial organizations and the public to respond to the questionnaire in writing by the end of February 1999
- consult with experts recognized as leaders in the health system in Alberta, Canada and other parts of the world. Between January and March 1999, these experts will be invited to present papers on the same areas outlined in the questionnaire
- consult with the public via Community Health Councils in January and February 1999 on the areas outlined in the questionnaire

Following these consultations, the Long Term Care Policy Advisory Committee will develop their final report, as well as a multi-year plan for continuing care service needs in Alberta, and present both documents to the Minister of Health by November 1999.

#### ***For more information, contact:***

Dave Broda, MLA  
Chair, Policy Advisory Committee  
Long Term Care Review  
Edmonton area: 415-0955  
Toll-free outside Edmonton area: 310-000, then enter 415-0955



Or visit Alberta Health's Internet site at <http://www.health.gov.ab.ca/key/keylong.html>

Please feel free to copy and distribute this fact sheet as needed. Or for more copies, please call 427-7164.

## CONSULTING WITH THE PUBLIC

The Long Term Care Policy Advisory Committee will seek input from the public, via Community Health Councils, at the following meetings:

### Chinook Regional Health Authority #1

February 2, 1999; 7 pm to 10 pm  
Heritage Inn, Taber

February 9, 1999; 7 pm to 10 pm  
Lethbridge Lodge, Lethbridge

February 16, 1999; 7 pm to 10 pm  
Super 8 Motel, Cardston

### Palliser Regional Health Authority #2

February 9, 1999; 2 pm to 4 pm  
Golden Age Club, Bow Island

February 9, 1999; 7 pm to 9 pm  
Southview School, Medicine Hat

February 10, 1999; 2 pm to 4 pm  
Community Hall, Empress

February 10, 1999; 7 pm to 9 pm  
Oyen-Assumption School Gym

February 17, 1999; 2 pm to 4 pm  
Prairie Pioneers or Heritage Inn, Brooks

February 17, 1999; 7 pm to 9 pm  
Heritage Inn, Brooks

### Headwaters Regional Health Authority #3

February 4, 1999; 7 pm to 10 pm  
General Hospital, Claresholm

February 18, 1999; 7:30 pm to 10:30 pm  
Community Hall, Millarville

### Calgary Regional Health Authority #4

January 23, 1999; 9 am to 12 noon  
St. Mary's Catholic Church, Cochrane  
Who: Cochrane, Airdrie, MD of Rockyview

January 25, 1999; 2 pm to 5 pm  
Kerby Centre, Calgary  
Who: Calgary ethno-cultural groups

February 3, 1999; 3 pm to 6 pm  
Calgary Indian Friendship Centre, Calgary  
Who: Calgary Aboriginal Community

February 6, 1999; 9 am to 12 noon  
Varsity Community Association, Calgary  
Who: Calgary general public

### Regional Health Authority #5

January 21, 1999; (two meetings)  
10 am to 1 pm, and 7 pm to 10 pm  
Old Court House, Three Hills

January 22, 1999; (two meetings)  
1 pm to 4 pm, and 7 pm to 10 pm  
Seniors' Centre, Didsbury

### David Thompson Regional Health Authority #6

January 11, 1999; 9 am to 12 noon  
Provincial Building, Red Deer

February 8, 1999; 7 pm to 10 pm  
Westerner Exhibition Building, Red Deer

February 10, 1999; 7 pm to 10 pm  
Westerner Exhibition Building, Red Deer

### East Central Regional Health Authority #7

January 7, 1999; 7 pm to 10 pm  
Agricultural Society Building, Stettler

January 14, 1999; 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm  
Recreation Centre, Alliance

February 2, 1999; 1 pm to 4:30 pm  
Seniors' Centre, Strome

February 3, 1999; 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm  
Rosehaven Care Centre, Camrose

February 4, 1999; 1 pm to 4:30 pm  
FCSS, Tofield

February 8, 1999; 1 pm to 4:30 pm  
Seniors Citizens' Drop-In Centre, Vermilion

February 9, 1999; 1 pm to 4:30 pm  
Prairie Rose Drop-In Centre, Wainwright

February 10, 1999; 1 pm to 4:30 pm  
Senior Citizen Drop-In Centre, Provost

### Capital Health Authority #10

February 6, 1999; 9 am to 2 pm  
Providence Renewal Centre, Edmonton

### Peace Health Region #14

January 27, 1999; 2 pm  
Star Centre, Manning

February 3, 1999; 3 pm  
Drop Inn Centre, Peace River

February 8, 1999; 7 pm  
Golden Age Centre, McLennan

February 9, 1999; 7 pm  
Log Inn, Fahler

### Keeweenok Lakes Regional Health Authority #15

February 11, 1999; 7 pm to 10 pm  
Seniors Centre, Kinuso

### Northern Lights Regional Health Authority #16

January 11, 1999; 12 noon to 2 pm; Conklin

January 11, 1999; 7 pm to 9 pm; Anzac

January 12, 1999; 1 pm to 3 pm; Janvier

January 13, 1999; 10 am to 12 noon  
Ft. McMurray, Who: senior citizens

January 13, 1999; 3 pm to 5 pm  
Ft. McMurray, Who: health care professionals

January 13, 1999; 7 pm to 9 pm  
Ft. McMurray, Who: general public

January 15, 1999; Time: TBA  
Fort Chipewyn  
Who: Nunee Health Authority

Sessions will also be held in the following regions. For more information on locations, dates and times, please contact your regional health authority.

### Westview Regional Health Authority #8

### Crossroads Regional Health Authority #9

### Aspen Regional Health Authority #11

### Lakeland Regional Health Authority #12

### Mistahia Regional Health Authority #13

### Northwestern Regional Health Authority #17