



John Aldag

Member of Parliament

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Every senior in Canada deserves to age in dignity, safety, and comfort, regardless of where they live. Last year, the Government of Canada announced an investment of close to \$200 billion over ten years in our public healthcare systems across the country, which includes \$5.4 billion for tailored bilateral agreements with provinces and territories on “Aging with Dignity”.

The Honourable Mark Holland, the Canadian Minister of Health, and the Honourable Adrian Dix, the Minister of Health of British Columbia, announced a bilateral agreement to invest \$733 million over the next five years to help British Columbians age with dignity, closer to home, through improved access to home and community care and long-term care. This funding will complement the \$1.2 billion bilateral agreement between Canada and British Columbia announced in October 2023.

Federal funding will support British Columbia’s five-year action plan to improve health care for seniors in three areas:

- **Expanding home and community care services** – the plan will continue to expand and integrate home and community care services for seniors with complex medical conditions and frailty to better meet their needs and help reduce pressures on hospitals and emergency departments
- **Improving the availability of palliative and end-of-life care** – the plan will increase access to palliative and end-of-life care for people outside hospital settings, enabling them to have these supports in their home, hospice, or community settings
- **Improving the quality of long-term care services by:**
 - Improving dementia care through the implementation of evidence-based practices, standardized education, and monitoring tools
 - Strengthening the appropriateness, safety, and quality of long-term care by enabling consistent, appropriate standards of care and oversight of long-term care services
 - Supporting aging in place through connecting frail seniors in their homes to a new outreach program through long-term care providing support and respite care
 - Supporting the delivery of excellent long-term care through improved long-term care experience for residents, by hiring and training diverse, skilled staff, and enhancing working conditions in long-term care facilities

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Progress on these initiatives and broader commitments will be measured against targets that British Columbia will publicly report on annually.

Through this new agreement and the Working Together agreement of October 2023, British Columbia will improve how health information is collected, shared, used, and reported to Canadians; streamline foreign credential recognition for internationally educated health professionals; facilitate the mobility of key health professionals within Canada; and fulfill shared responsibilities to uphold the *Canada Health Act* to protect Canadians' access to health care that is based on need, not ability to pay.

British Columbia and the federal government will continue working together to improve access to health services and deliver results for seniors across the province.

[Working together to improve health care in Canada: Overview - Canada.ca](#)



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