



Liberals move forward to deliver better care for seniors

The COVID-19 pandemic has been devastating for our seniors, their families, and for the hardworking people who care for them. This pandemic has shown us that the conditions of work become the conditions of care. Canadians and their families deserve to feel confident in the care seniors receive, and our frontline heroes deserve to be supported for their tireless efforts.

When the pandemic began, the Liberal government took immediate action to support seniors including by putting up to \$875 in the pockets of eligible seniors. We also moved quickly to support the long-term care system, providing PPE and contract tracing support, deploying the Canadian Armed Forces, funding direct assistance through the Canadian Red Cross when requested by the provinces and territories, and providing emergency wage boosts to essential workers, including Personal Support Workers in long-term care.

A re-elected Liberal government will work collaboratively with provinces and territories, respecting their jurisdiction, to continue supporting seniors with an investment of \$9 billion over 5 years, to:

- Raise wages for personal support workers, including a guaranteed minimum wage of at least \$25 per hour;
- Train up to 50,000 new personal support workers;
- Double the Home Accessibility Tax Credit, which will provide up to an additional \$1,500 to help seniors stay in their homes longer by making them more accessible;

- Improve the quality and availability of long-term care home beds;
- Continue to implement strict infection prevention and control measures, including through more provincial and territorial facility inspections for long-term care homes; and
- Develop a Safe Long Term Care Act collaboratively to ensure that seniors are guaranteed the care they deserve, no matter where they live.

Guaranteed wages for personal support workers in long-term care homes

From the very beginning, personal support workers and healthcare workers have been the heroes on the frontlines of the response to COVID-19. They worked tirelessly to keep us all safe.

During the pandemic, the Liberal government provided \$3 billion in emergency funding, through the provinces and territories, to top-up the wages of essential workers. A re-elected Liberal government will continue to work with the provinces and territories and build on their work over the past year, to ensure personal support workers receive a wage of at least \$25 per hour.

50,000 new personal support workers

Canada is experiencing a shortage of personal support workers - a situation worsened by the pandemic. Delivering improved care for seniors in Canada requires a stable and well-trained workforce, especially as our population ages.

A re-elected Liberal government will build on the \$38.5 million already invested to train 4,000 new personal support worker interns, by investing an additional \$500 million to train up to 50,000 personal support workers. This funding will be delivered in collaboration with the provinces and territories and will build on the work they have done in the past year to train more personal support workers.

Helping seniors stay in their homes longer

Many seniors and their families look forward to aging well in their own homes. A re-elected Liberal government will double the Home Accessibility Tax Credit from \$10,000 to \$20,000, improving safety and accessibility, and helping seniors stay in their homes longer.

With up to an additional \$1,500 back in their pockets, seniors and their families will be able to make home improvements to live safely at home as they age, like installing a guardrail to prevent falls, or widening a door frame to improve mobility.

\$3 billion for better infrastructure

The safety and quality of care depends on the safety of the facilities our seniors call home. A re-elected Liberal government will dedicate \$3 billion in funding for the provinces and territories to address the quality and capacity of long-term care homes.

Strict infection prevention and control measures

The Liberal government introduced the \$1 billion Safe Long-term Care Fund in the 2020 Fall Economic Statement to support the development of national long-term care standards and to provide immediate funding for infection prevention and control measures. The Liberal government has already reached agreements with Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, the Northwest Territories, Yukon, and British Columbia to fund better supports for seniors.

A re-elected Liberal government will continue to work with the provinces and territories to ensure strict infection prevention and control measures are in place so that Canadians and their families can feel confident in the care they receive, no matter where they live.

Safe Long-Term Care Act

A re-elected Liberal government will work with provinces and territories to introduce the Safe Long-term Care Act to ensure that standards of care are upheld across the country.