



SENIORS ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ALBERTA

Consultation with Seniors and Seniors' Service Providers

Vegreville area, including Lamont,
Myrnam and Two Hills

June 2008



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VISION

To increase the recognition of seniors as one of Alberta's most valuable resources.

MISSION

Consult with seniors and seniors' organizations to make recommendations and provide advice to the Minister of Seniors and Community Supports regarding their work.

VALUES

The Seniors Advisory Council for Alberta, as a communication link between the Government of Alberta and our senior citizens, represents them with integrity, accountability and respect. Through collaboration, the council strives to assist seniors to live life to the fullest.

Executive Summary

The Seniors Advisory Council for Alberta provides a communication link between seniors' organizations, seniors and the Government of Alberta. Members of the council consult with Alberta's seniors, seniors' service providers and seniors' organizations to:

- learn about innovative services and community programs that are meeting needs;
- gather ideas, information and feedback on challenges; and
- provide advice to the Minister of Seniors and Community Supports on legislation and policies affecting seniors and the funding and coordination of programs and services for seniors.

The council's quarterly meeting in Vegreville on June 16 and 17, 2008, included:

- tours of nine seniors' facilities in the region; and
- a public consultation with seniors and representatives of seniors' centres, agencies, other service providers and elected officials from the area.

Facilities Tour

The facilities tour focused on obtaining local information related to:

- what is working well;
- the facilities' links with the community;
- the challenges or barriers service providers would like resolved; and
- feedback for the council and the Government of Alberta.

Local service providers take pride in their efforts to recognize, hire and train staff to meet the needs of care facility residents, and in programs to meet seniors' recreation and health needs. There were many examples of good linkages with health services, and seniors' facilities and agencies received good community support.

At the same time, most facilities face two major challenges: difficulty in recruiting staff and attracting volunteers: and a need to update and expand facilities to meet the needs of residents and accommodate increased demand for seniors' housing. Seniors in communities face challenges in keeping up with the increasing costs of living in Alberta.

Service providers called for increased financial support for seniors, such as increased benefits, lower thresholds for programs, subsidies for utilities and elimination of education taxes. They also called for more flexibility in facility funding.



Public Consultation

The Seniors Advisory Council for Alberta invited seniors, local elected officials and representatives of seniors' clubs, advocacy groups and service providers to a public consultation session during the evening of June 16, 2008.

The group applauded the availability of housing options offering different levels of care, from lodges to Alzheimer's care and access to supportive services, including home care, seniors' centres and Family and Community Support Services. Generally, there is a great deal of pride in the commitment to, and availability of, services to help people live and age as independently as possible in their own communities.

At the same time, participants identified several challenges, including access to transportation; the need to expand and renovate existing housing as

well as provide more housing, especially affordable housing; and concern about the impact of Alberta's rising cost of living on seniors. Staff shortages, difficulty in finding volunteers, and challenges related to providing specialty services were also noted.

Potential solutions to the challenges focused on partnerships between the provincial government and local municipal, housing and health authorities. Participants emphasized the importance of working with local seniors groups to gather input on solutions. They also suggested the provincial government fund transportation and housing programs and provide income assistance to seniors in the form of oil and gas, utilities and property tax rebates.



Introduction

The Seniors Advisory Council for Alberta provides a communication link between seniors' organizations, seniors and the Government of Alberta. Members of the council consult with Alberta's seniors, seniors' service providers and seniors' organizations to:

- learn about innovative services and community programs that are meeting needs;
- gather ideas, information and feedback on challenges; and
- provide advice to the Minister of Seniors and Community Supports on legislation and policies affecting seniors and the funding and coordination of programs and services for seniors.

The Seniors Advisory Council for Alberta holds its quarterly council meeting in different locations throughout the province. As the council gathers information through these meetings, it hears about concerns shared by seniors and service providers, as well as challenges and solutions unique to certain areas. This allows council members to identify emerging issues in various regions, enhances their knowledge of best practices, and refines the council's effectiveness as a communication link.

The council's quarterly meeting in Vegreville on June 16 and 17, 2008, included:

- tours of nine seniors' facilities in the region, and
- a public consultation with seniors and representatives of seniors centres, agencies, service providers and elected officials from the area.

Alberta's seniors and their organizations recognize the council as a valuable information resource and means of conveying their ideas and views to the Minister of Alberta Seniors and Community Supports and other ministries. In addition, organizations that have found solutions to challenges can share their successes with others through the council.

This report will be shared with the Minister, MLAs from the region and all consultation and tour participants. It will also assist the council in developing its 2008-09 *Annual Report*.



Tour of Seniors' Facilities

On June 17, 2008, in conjunction with their quarterly meeting in Vegreville, members of the council broke into five groups to tour nine seniors' centres and housing facilities in Vegreville, Myrnam, Lamont and Two Hills. They visited:

- Vegreville Long Term Care Centre
- Homestead Lodge (Vegreville)
- Vegreville Manor
- Vegreville Senior Citizens Sunshine Club
- Eagle View Villa (Myrnam)
- Eagle View Lodge (Myrnam)
- Lamont Health Centre Continuing Care
- Two Hills Community Health Care Centre Continuing Care and Stroke Rehabilitation
- Hillside Lodge (Two Hills)

Purpose of the Facilities Tour

The facilities tour allowed council members to gather information on local challenges affecting seniors and seniors' organizations, and to hear the solutions they have developed or propose. The focus was on obtaining information related to

- what is working well;
- the facilities' links with the community;
- the challenges or barriers service providers would like resolved; and
- feedback for the council and the Government of Alberta.

Findings

THINGS THAT ARE WORKING WELL

Staff

- The facility is training health care aides.
- Multi-tasking by staff works well.
- High staff morale due to recognition programs and interdisciplinary team approach.
- A social worker conducts discharge planning, an excellent addition to staff.
- Overall facility maintenance and staff interaction with patients and residents.
- Staff attitude and outlook are very good.

Programs

- Seniors' centres activity and recreation events.
- Programs that provide optical, dental and special needs assistance for those who qualify work well.
- Recreation program is valuable to seniors.
- Residents of one facility enjoy the healthy options provided by having a salad bar service at noon, as well as a very active recreation program throughout the year.

Linkages

- Good rapport with home care.
- Residents of one Alzheimer's care facility are able to remain within their community, near family and friends. In addition, medical services, including a clinic and x-ray and laboratory facilities, are located on-site, and a pharmacy is nearby.
- Telehealth is used for diagnostic purposes as well as for continuing education for staff.

Funding

- Seniors' grants, such as those provided by the Wildrose Foundation, Community Facility Enhancement Program and New Horizons for Seniors, support capital and operating expenditures at seniors' centres.
- One facility received funding within the last few years to update and expand the lodge, expanding one wing, the dining room and the solarium.

Approach

- Many facilities use the Eden Alternative Philosophy of Care, which orients care to the needs of the residents, rather than the institution. For example, in one facility, cottage-style units have kitchens, dining rooms and living rooms for small groups of residents and pet therapy is provided. Staff are responsible for meal preparation and laundry services for residents in their wings. Physiotherapy is now delivered by the therapist going to each resident.

LINKS WITH THE COMMUNITY

Community Support

- Facilities are well-supported in the community. For example, at one facility, grade 12 summer students provide assistance to the residents. The community also supports programs through family donations and an annual run and walk fundraiser.
- At another facility, volunteers and residents work together to make cabbage rolls, pyrogies and other traditional foods to support the cultural heritage of many residents.

Health Services

- An Alzheimer care facility is attached to a lodge and linked to local health service providers.

Academic

- Residents are part of a University of Alberta study on the effects of the Eden Alternative Philosophy on mood.

CHALLENGES AND BARRIERS

Staffing

- There is high staff turnover due to wages.
- Facilities face challenges in recruiting staff. In one case, a facility of 60 beds is only able to open 50 due to staff shortages. In another, staff shortages have led to bed closures.
- It is difficult to recruit younger staff, and current staff is nearing retirement age.
- There is difficulty attracting staff to rural Alberta.
- One facility noted challenges in getting staff to adjust to the Eden Philosophy, and continues to work with them to help them become comfortable with their new duty assignments.
- Registered nurses and licensed practical nurses have been moving to Edmonton, for a "better life."
- It takes too long to get foreign workers approved.
- People coming into long-term care are much older, because they stay in their homes longer. They have more medical and physical needs, therefore the facility requires more staff with more training and experience.

Facilities

- In the stroke rehabilitation program in Two Hills, occupational therapy space is cramped. The facility also needs landscaping upgrading to provide wheelchair accessibility for residents.
- Another facility cited a need to expand – there is always a waiting list.
- In one facility, the corridors are narrow and there is a need for more double occupancy rooms. In another, built in the 1960s, hallways and rooms are small and bathroom facilities awkward.

Volunteers

- It is difficult to recruit volunteers, and current volunteers are aging.
- Recruiting volunteers is difficult because they are either seniors or young mothers.

Funding

- Facilities are not block funded.
- Funding for services and staff is a challenge for one facility that needs a full-time social services person and an occupational therapist.

Access to Services

- It is a challenge to get services to provide the level of care needed by long-term care residents, especially those with behaviour issues. There are not enough professional people to help. Although the facility management is responsible for staffing, the health region is responsible for professional staffing.

Income

- Seniors have concerns about rent and medication costs. Those costs are high for some residents.

CHALLENGES FACING SENIORS IN THE COMMUNITY

Income

- Seniors should not have to pay any education tax.
- Pensions and supplements should be higher to keep up with increases in the cost of living.
- Increased cost of utilities is hard for seniors to keep up with.

Housing

- There is a shortage of seniors housing—lodges, self-contained units and designated assisted living.
- There is a need for more living spaces for seniors, both generally and in specialized programs, such as stroke rehabilitation.
- The large Mennonite population in the area would like its own lodge.

Staffing

- Hospital is experiencing a shortage in nursing staff.

Transportation

- Seniors need transportation for medical appointments.

SOLUTIONS

Income

- Reimburse seniors more for school taxes, or eliminate the tax for seniors.
- Increase pension and supplement amounts as well as other program thresholds.
- Provide seniors with subsidies for utilities.

Funding

- There needs to be flexibility with envelope funds (i.e. FCSS). There is concern that at the end of the year, funds will be taken away. There also needs to be more funding and greater flexibility on how funds can be allocated.
- There needs to be a process that takes into account the economic and social environment of Alberta, as well as the need for more flexibility with the formula. For example the increase in cost of living for seniors when the economy is booming.

Staffing

- One foundation pays for training of health care aides if they stay with the foundation for a year after completion. They also are recruiting staff in the Philippines.

Working with Council Members and MLAs in the Future

- Staff at one facility would like to see the new minister stay in the portfolio long enough to understand issues and work to address them.
- One facility offered to provide examples of best practices in long term care.
- One facility suggested collaboration with the council and the MLA to access grants that can assist via the Municipal Sustainability Initiative.
- Staff at one facility were not aware the Seniors Advisory Council for Alberta existed. They were encouraged to discuss needs with their local MLA and to access existing funding programs.



Public Consultation Session

The Seniors Advisory Council for Alberta invited seniors, local elected officials and representatives of seniors' clubs, advocacy groups and service providers to a public consultation session during the evening of June 16, 2008. Attendees were divided into working groups to explore issues and solutions affecting seniors.

Appendix A (p. 15) provides a list of organizations represented at the consultation session.

Purpose of the Consultation Session

The working groups addressed five questions:

- What areas of programs and services for seniors are working well?
- What are the areas of concern or challenge related to programs and services for seniors?
- From the challenges presented, which are the most important to be addressed?
- What are some suggested solutions for addressing the challenges and areas of concern identified? Who should take the lead and/or ultimately pay for these solutions?
- If you found yourself in an elevator with the Minister and she were to invite you to comment on a course of action to effectively address seniors' issues today, what would you suggest?

These questions allowed the Seniors Advisory Council for Alberta to gather information on what is working well, current concerns or challenges and existing or potential solutions to those challenges.

Findings

The following is a summary of discussions at the facilitated sessions.

“Allowing people to age in their communities is important in our area.”

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR SENIORS THAT ARE WORKING WELL

Housing

- The availability of housing options including lodges, designated assisted living, long-term care, seniors apartments, Alzheimer's care.
- The lodges are well run by management and staff, they provide a nutritious diet.
- Supportive housing which helps seniors maintain their independence.

Health Care

- Home care provides many advantages for seniors.
- Clients are seen by a chronic disease management team, which helps control chronic disease.
- Local housing foundation provides homecare within facilities like lodges. They also combine medical care, one pharmacy provides medication to all the lodges.
- Medical clinics are attached to two foundation lodges, partnered with East Central RHA.
- RHA flu shot program provides a good opportunity to consult with seniors.
- Outreach programs are well-coordinated with mental health services in Vegreville.

Support Services

- Seniors have access to good support services, such as seniors' centres, homecare and FCSS.
- FCSS offices provide excellent programs and help seniors; for example completing forms.
- Seniors clubs provide many activities.
- Seniors organizations reach out to community to include others, this is supported by good communication.
- Meals on Wheels.
- Volunteer-based programs.
- Assistance for special needs including Aids to Daily Living.
- Recreation programs.

Transportation

- Program transportation works well.
- The Transportation Services Society (Vegreville) subsidizes cab fares and operates a handi-van.
- Royal Canadian Legion service officers take veterans to appointments.

MOST IMPORTANT CHALLENGES

Each working group was asked to create a list of challenges seniors, seniors' service providers and seniors' organizations face, and then to select the top three. The groups selected transportation and housing challenges most frequently, followed by concern about the challenges created by Alberta's rising cost of living. The following is a list of all "top three" concerns selected.

Transportation

- Group and individual transportation is not affordable or accessible.
- Each area has different services.
- Facilities lack vans, many municipalities lack cabs and public transportation.
- Costs for volunteers, such as insurance and fuel, are rising to the point where there are fewer volunteers.
- There is a need for uniform services across municipalities—counties and municipal districts.

Housing

- Resources for expansion and renovation of seniors housing. Some seniors housing is outdated, with small rooms, and lodges have been unable to renovate. This is particularly important given the ever-increasing number of seniors and the need to prepare for the expectations of the next generation of seniors for larger rooms, more recreation activities, etc.
- There is a need for more affordable housing.
- There is a need for more housing of all types, although specific mention was made of designated assisted living, dementia care facilities and appropriate housing for senior couples.
- Seniors need to be housed in the most appropriate facilities.
- Housing should be provided within seniors' own communities.

Cost of living to maintain own home

- Income thresholds for programs are too low and are not increasing with the cost of living.
- Fees in facilities are also a challenge for many seniors.

Programs for fitness and wellness

- There is a need for programs in the community.

Senior abuse

- Issues related to financial abuse and family control are a particular concern.

Human resources – staffing shortage

- Staff shortages are affecting the number of beds that can be open in long-term care.
- Lack of training for staff, and lack of medical and nursing staff, are concerns.

Access to specialty services

- Services could include rehabilitation, psycho-geriatrics and social services. Access to these services could be obtained both in facilities and in the community.

OTHER CHALLENGES

Funding

- Lodge Assistance Program grant funding is insufficient, and is causing rents to increase.
- FCSS has a strict budget that does not allow carry-over of funds.
- Utility costs for seniors' centres are increasing.

Volunteers

- Volunteer replacement is difficult, and the average age of volunteers has increased. Younger people are not stepping forward to volunteer.

“The days of volunteers are gone.”

Health Care

- Many medical needs cannot be met locally. Trips to Edmonton or other larger centres are costly and not available. There is no subsidy for these trips.
- Access to and costs of medical services and medications is a challenge.

Income

- Low income seniors living in lodges are to have \$265 left after paying accommodation fees. This is not enough to cover other costs, such as prescriptions, hair cuts, recreational activities, etc.
- Seniors should not have to pay school taxes.

“We want people to have the ability to live independently and with dignity in a variety of settings. Coordinate services to support this vision for seniors.”

Services

- Seniors need supports to age in the right place.
- There is a lack of day programs and activities, and individuals bear the cost when transportation is needed.
- More support for family care-givers is needed.
- Many families live far from where the senior lives and are unable to provide support.
- Seniors need access to mental health and social work services.

Information

- Complicated application forms for programs and services are hard for seniors to fill out.
- Agencies must find a way to get seniors to attend information sessions and to receive the needed information.
- Lack of information on regulations and accountability.
- There is a lack of communication of information.
- Seniors lack awareness of programs that are available.
- Automated phone systems should be replaced with real people.
- Freedom of information requirements make it difficult for third parties trying to help seniors.
- Better integration of services between ministries needed for seniors.

Other

- Memory impairment among seniors is a challenge.
- Seniors are vulnerable to telemarketing manipulation.

“Think about creating LTC facilities where not everything in the facility is dedicated to long-term care.”

- Smoking in government housing is an issue.

SOLUTIONS

Each working group developed potential solutions to their top challenges and determined who should take the lead and bear the costs of those solutions.

Challenge	Solution	Lead/Pays
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Municipality
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drivers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Government grant, user fees
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specialized transportation services 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage partnerships with other corporations, agencies and organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fund-raising; form society; access to casino revenues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Businesses come to seniors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No clear direction given
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage youth to volunteer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No clear direction given
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Insurance issues need to be approached with a “volunteer drivers package” that may be universal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minister responsible for transportation, municipal governments and transportation agencies
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pass on information to other communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No clear direction given
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bring specialist to the seniors – fly in where possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Government/taxpayers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pool medical appointments to decrease individual travel needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alberta Health and Wellness. Not a large cost
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Renovations to enlarge rooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No clear direction given
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More rooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No clear direction given
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More resources – designate provincial funding, so that it goes where it is supposed to go 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community leads/Government of Alberta pays
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create aging in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ health/housing ▪ Partnering of government and private industry
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bring additional services to facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No clear direction given
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Join lodges with apartments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Government
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Life leases 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More development 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Designated funding as identified by community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community leads/three levels of government pay

Challenge	Solution	Lead/Pays
Cost of living	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage personal letters to government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community leaders who work with seniors
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate seniors to educate the legislators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community leaders who work with seniors
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tie seniors benefits to cost of living increases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal and provincial governments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oil/gas/tax rebates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial government
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase federal pension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seniors lead/ federal and provincial governments pay
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase LAP grant 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilities rebates 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-regulate utilities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Property tax grant 		
Fitness/wellness programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floor curling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active living programs – University of Alberta, rural areas
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better education video Walking program video 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health promotion through regional health authorities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hire recreation/healthy living individual in each area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FCSS Government health promotion/ prevention
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combine intergenerational activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools/clubs
Seniors abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FCSS have information – need to get it out.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness of what can happen 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnerships (community policing, financial institutions) 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manager awareness 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff awareness 	

Challenge	Solution	Lead/Pays
Human resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin training students to be personal care attendants, much like trades training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministers of Seniors and Community Supports, Health and Education
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff incentives Local education More benefits for staff Value employees Staff recognition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boards and managers lead/ government pays
Access to specialty services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring specialist to seniors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government/taxpayers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-term: taxpayer pays 80 per cent of education, therefore practitioner should spend set number of years in rural hospital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taxpayers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory practicum for all health service departments should include a rural component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government: Education and Health
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring specialist to town on a given day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No clear direction given
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need more resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health authority
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use retired specialists or traveling service specialists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taxpayers

Appendix A: Participants at the June 2008 Consultation Session

Representatives of the following organizations participated in the June 16, 2008 public consultation session in Vegreville:

MUNICIPALITIES

- Village of Andrew
- Village of Chipman
- Lamont County
- Town of Lamont
- Village of Mannville
- County of Minburn No. 27
- Town of Mundare
- Village of Ranfurly
- Village of Ryley
- Town of Tofield
- County of Vermilion River

HOUSING PROVIDERS

- Village of Chipman Seniors Foundation
- Eagle Hill Foundation
- Eventide Homes
- Holden Lodge
- County of Lamont Foundation
- Lloydminster Regional Housing Authority
- Vegreville Seniors Housing
- Vermilion and District Housing Foundation

HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

- AKASU Palliative Care Society
- East Central Regional Health Authority
- Continuing Care, Two Hills Health Centre
- County of Lamont Foundation
- Lamont Health Care Centre
- S.A.G.E. Rehabilitation Unit, Two Hills Health Centre
- Vegreville Long Term Care Centre
- Vegreville Home Care – East Central Health Authority
- Viking Extencicare

SERVICE PROVIDERS

- Alberta Seniors and Community Supports
- Andrew FCSS
- Mannville-Minburn-Innisfree FCSS and Yellowhead Community Support Society
- Tofield FCSS
- Vegreville and District FCSS
- Vegreville Transportation Service Society
- County of Vermilion River FCSS

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

- Alberta Council on Aging
- Alberta Seniors Association
- Ranfurly Seniors Club
- Royal Canadian Legion Branch 39 (Vegreville)
- Royal Canadian Legion, Ladies Auxiliary – Vegreville
- Senior Citizen Golden Centre of Lavoy
- Senior Citizens Sunshine Club of Vegreville
- Vegreville Senior Centre Club
- Vegreville Centennial Library
- Vegreville RCMP Detachment

Appendix B: Council Members

The Seniors Advisory Council for Alberta is a government appointed body chaired by a Member of the Legislative Assembly appointed by the Premier. Other members, appointed by Order-in-Council, include representatives from the six regions of the province and one representative each from the Alberta Medical Association and Alberta universities. This regional structure, developed by the Seniors Advisory Council for Alberta in 1997 and modified in 2005 and 2007, maximizes the resources of the council and optimizes the location of the council members.

At the time of the consultation, the members of the council were:

George VanderBurg

MLA Whitecourt – Ste. Anne, Chair

Diana Anderson

Elk Point, representing the North East Region

Rosemarie Biggs

Sherwood Park, representing the Edmonton and Area Region

Diane Caleffi

Calgary, representing the Calgary and Area Region

Jean Dreger

Calgary, representing the Calgary and Area Region

Clyde Elford

Calgary, representing the Calgary and Area Region

Dr. Bill Forbes

Stony Plain, representing the Edmonton and Area Region

Beverly Homeniuk

Willingdon, representing the Edmonton and Area Region

Laurie Lyckman

Carmangay, representing the South Region

Leonard Olson

High Prairie, representing the North West Region

Dawn Parent

Lacombe, representing the Central Region

Harjit S. Rai, *Calgary, representing the Calgary and Area Region*



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