

Seniors' Advisory Council of Nova Scotia Priorities

2016 – 2017

1. **Patient Centered Health Care**

- Provide input and monitor the Nova Scotia Seniors' Pharmacare Program to ensure sustainability, efficacy, fairness and equitable access to a wide range of medications
- Provide input to the 2017 Continuing Care Strategy including patient care providing a balanced system which addresses the needs of both institutional and home care and ensure both are adequately resourced
- Monitor the Dementia Strategy Year 2
- Provide input to the Integrated Palliative Care Strategy
- Provide advice on reforming the access to medical specialists/priority surgery systems to ensure it meets wait time benchmarks

2. **Developing Age Friendly Communities (Aging in Place)**

- Monitor and follow up on the Department of Seniors Action Plan for an Aging Population which includes some of the following:
 - > Access to affordable, accessible transportation
 - > Access to housing appropriate to need including affordable and supportive housing and assisted living services including input to Housing Nova Scotia plans to establish new program options for affordable home ownership
 - > Access to programs which will enable older adults to live active and healthier lives

3. **Support for caregivers**

- Financial support for family/friends caregivers, workplace leave protection and respite care for heavy caregivers.

4. **Facilitate the participation of seniors in Nova Scotia's Economic Recovery**

- Recognize older adults as entrepreneurs and increase workplace participation by improving workplaces
- Gather input and determine how older adults can contribute to the goals of the Report of the Nova Scotia Commission on Building a New Economy
- Advise on social enterprise / volunteerism support such as time banking

5. **Financial and Pension Security in Retirement**

- Enhancement of CPP to provide Nova Scotians with the greatest income security in retirement
- Monitor pension and benefit plans to ensure government does not make unilateral changes without the explicit consent of affected stakeholders