

Table 1: Overview of Options for Consideration from Sustainability and Innovation White Papers

Funding and Financing of Continuing Care

- Ensuring that funding for care providers better accounts acuity and complexity of clients in care, as well adhering to the core principles of timeliness, sustainability, equity and transparency.
- Moving towards a funding model that separates the bodies that fund, allocate funds and regulate care homes from those that operate care homes.
- Development of funding models that accurately factor in increases to operating costs including wages, inflation, overhead as well as other areas such as increasing levels of acuity.
- Increasing stability in the sector through policies such as Managing Changing Need and ensuring a fair and equitable return on the cost of capital.
- Exempting property taxes for residential care homes to allow non-government operators to recoup capital operating expenses.
- Review of new funding models such as activity and outcome based funding, social finance and vouchers in continuing care as well as new financing approaches such as long term care insurance and co-payments.

New Care Models

- Explore new delivery models such as the Continuing Care Hub to reduce acute care congestion and ER visits as well as better care for frail elderly and seniors with chronic conditions and dementia.
- The development of new continuing care models in which residential care homes could provide home support services to seniors and/or be integrated as part of age friendly communities.
- Development of new care models such as Green House care homes and specific models of care for dementia (i.e. Butterfly Care Homes and Dementia Villages).
- Establishing a dementia friendly program, in which a specific designation could be provided to care homes that have made specific redesign changes to accommodate residents with dementia and/or where specific dementia training has been provided to staff.
- Better utilize the existing excess capacity in the continuing care sector to increase capacity with respect to end-of-life (EOL) care.
- Adoption of new palliative care models including, where necessary, providing funding to improve the integration between long-term and end-of-life care.

Dementia and use of technology

- Advancement of a National Dementia Strategy / Declaration with federal participation.
- Use of technology and the existing residential care infrastructure to facilitate seniors ageing in place and/or reducing social isolation of seniors.
- Adoption of new electronic information systems, including electronic health records and telehealth that facilitate the sharing of resident information across the continuing care system.
- Adoption of new technologies that improve the safety of seniors particularly through new monitoring and surveillance systems.

Seniors Safety and Health Promotion

- Advancement of a collaborative Provincial Seniors Safety Strategy focusing on specific issues including falls prevention, resident-on-resident aggression, reducing adverse drug events, suicide prevention, elder abuse and/or safety within home and community care.
- A joint federal-provincial fund to improve the safety of residents and health care workers including funding to install ceiling lifts and other retrofits to residential care homes across Canada.
- Development of a National Seniors Health Promotion Strategy to promote seniors physical and mental well-being, including for the frail elderly.