

Providing End-of-Life Care in BC

How under-used residential care capacity can help meet the need for increased end-of-life care for older adults in BC

A Growing Issue



30,000

In British Columbia over 30,000 people die annually. 50% of these people are seniors over the age of 80.

Inappropriate Care Setting



53%

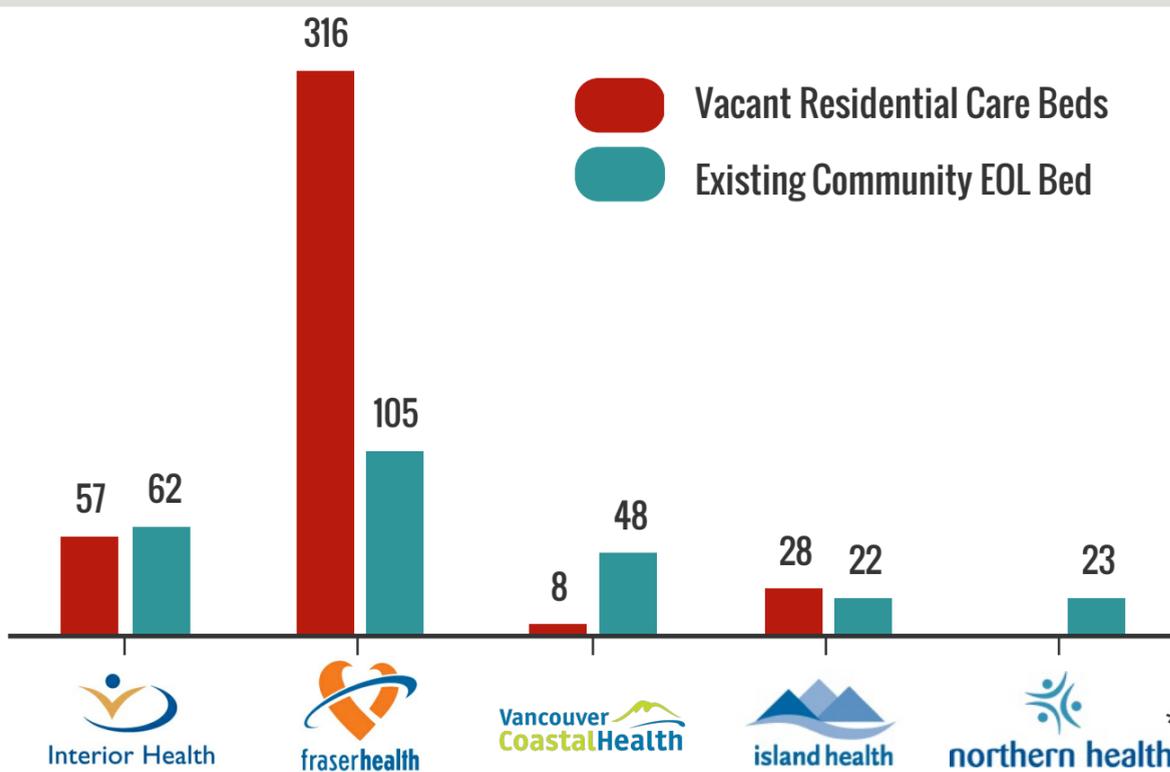
While most British Columbians would prefer to die at home or in the community, 53% of adults die in hospital every year, including 48% of seniors over the age of 80.

Lack of Access



30%

Only 30% of British Columbians have access to high-quality palliative-hospice care at end of life.



* no data on vacant beds for Northern Health

Sources: Vacant Beds from BCCPA Vacant Beds Survey (July 2015); Community EOL beds from Ministry of Health Facilities Report (March 2015).

The BC Government intends to

Double

the number of end-of-life (EOL) beds in BC by 2020.

This means that BC needs

375

additional end-of-life beds distributed across all five health regions.

Excess Capacity

400 VACANT BEDS

There are over 1,800 private-pay residential care beds in British Columbia. In 2015, the BC Care Providers Association (BCCPA) found that 409 of these private-pay residential care beds were vacant.

Experts in Care



24 months

With an average length of stay of 24 months, much of the care provided in residential care is End-of-Life Care. 41% of seniors over the age of 80 pass away in extended care.

Solution

In order to facilitate the expansion of End-of-Life Care in BC, the BCCPA supports transitioning

100 - 150

under-used residential care beds to end-of-life beds for older adults.

Better Outcomes



Increased access to high-quality End-of-Life Care for Older Adults.



Reduction in unnecessary Hospitalizations in the final days of life.



Lower cost to government to increase EOL capacity as physical infrastructure already exists.



Better utilization of current physical capacity.