

# Urban Vs Rural Workforce Challenges *Tim Orr* Director, Residential Services



2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Continuing Care Collaborative – January 2018



### Vancouver Island Care Sites

- Contracted
- CC Beds = 3624
- AL Beds = 979
- Home support = 1.5m hours

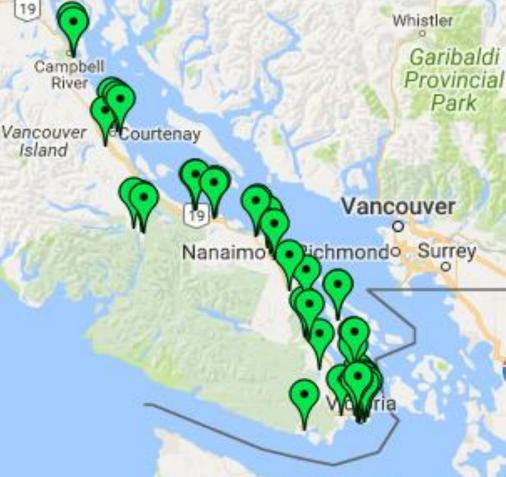
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Tofino

**Island Health O&O** 

- CC Beds = 1712
- Home Support = 1.1m hours





### **The Perfect Storm**

- 1. Growing/aging population.
- 2. Increasing acuity and frailty of clients
- 3. An aging workforce
- 4. Injuries and Sick time
- 5. Collective Agreement Challenges
  - Wage and benefit differentials between sectors
  - Frequent movement between job postings



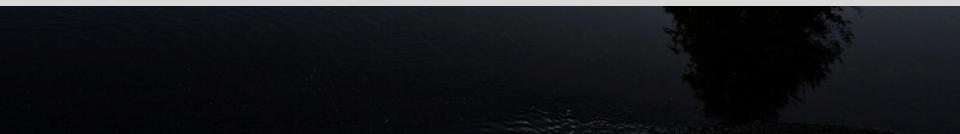
### **The Perfect Storm**

- 6. Increased utilization of HCAs in Acute Care
- 7. ESL challenges for some qualified candidates
- 8. Competition between public and private sector
- 9. Increasing care hours in residential
- 10. Increasing demand for Child Care Workers
- 11. Work "ethic" of Gen X, Y, and Millennial
- 12. Cost / availability of housing





#### **Urban Vs. Rural Challenges**



## **Urban Challenges**

Working for multiple employers

- working 2 regular jobs
- On multiple casual lists
- Significant employee churn within and between employers
- Cost of housing





# **Rural Challenges**

- Small applicant pools
- Limited local training
- Collective agreement barriers to flexible workforce
- New hires will not relocate for casual work
- Partners unable to find work
- Housing availability





## Strategies

- Increase training seats over all
- Promote community care as a career choice.
- Local training in smaller communities
- Attract Aboriginals to training opportunities
- Offer programs in High School



## Strategies

- HCC Care delivery model changes
- Regularize Relief (more relief pool regular jobs)
- Address Collective Agreement language:
  - decrease churn
  - create more attractive schedules
  - create a single more flexible workforce in small communities
  - Wage gap between facilities and community

