

AGM Motion: Provincial Dementia Action Plan

WHEREAS the level of dementia is expected to increase significantly and represents one of the biggest health challenges for British Columbia; and

WHEREAS the levels and severity of dementia are also increasing rapidly in residential care, with over 60% of seniors having some form of dementia in such care settings; and

WHEREAS the provincial government in November 2012 released a two-year Dementia Action Plan focusing on several priorities with various initiatives including: Support Prevention and Early Intervention; Ensure Quality Person-Centred Dementia Care; and Strengthen System Capacity and Accountability; and

WHEREAS organizations such as the Canadian Medical Association and the Canadian Alliance for Long Term Care, including BCCPA, have advocated for a national dementia strategy and that the federal government has also committed to developing such a strategy; and

WHEREAS a new coordinated strategy and provincial dementia action plan are required for British Columbia the BCCPA recommends:

- That the provincial government, as originally intended commit to develop and implement a separate three-year Provincial Dementia Action Plan, which focuses on various priorities such as increasing public awareness and early recognition of dementia including programs such as First Link; improving quality of care for people with dementia in residential care homes as well as improving palliative and end of life care and increasing system supports; as well as the adoption of best practices in dementia including increased access to dementia training for care providers.
- Along with increasing public awareness and focusing on various dementia priorities, any new provincial dementia plan should include tangible initiatives and measurable outcomes as well as align, where possible, with any national dementia strategy.