

Sunshine Coast Alliance

For Seniors' Care Co-op:

Questions for public all-candidates forum

Oct 2020

Opening question: What would you say COVID has taught us about the way seniors are viewed and treated in Canada?

- **Profit / Not for profit:**

How do you see the differences between private, provincial, non-profit, and co-operative seniors' care?

Given the recent and future challenges imposed by COVID 19, how would your government support and integrate the not-for-profit sector (including co-operative organizations) into a plan for improving seniors' care on the Sunshine Coast and in British Columbia?

How would you regulate private-sector care providers to ensure that profits don't undermine the quality of patient care?

- **Community partnerships:**

How would your government engage First Nations communities, other community partners, seniors, caregivers and labour groups (care workers) in creating a plan to deliver improved care for seniors here on the Coast and in the whole province?

What is your government's plan to increase affordable seniors housing on the Coast? How would you support the above-mentioned stakeholders in converting unused available land and buildings for this purpose?

How would your government support increasing the affordable family housing supply here on the Coast, in order to attract the health care workers that are needed to care for our increasing senior population?

- **Support for aging in place and family caregivers**

The majority of seniors prefer to age "in place", in their own homes or living with their adult children. What strategies would your government implement to support caring for these seniors in their community, making it possible for them to stay out of institutional care facilities?

Given the huge cost savings to our medical system provided by families caring for elders in their homes (nearly 3 in 10 Canadians contribute this way, sometimes for years on end) what will your government do to support these families? Federal benefits are presently only available for limited times, in cases of critical illness. What will you do to mitigate the burden on these families?