

2017-24 (October 17, 2017)

NATIONAL POSITIVE AGING AND SENIORS STRATEGY

WHEREAS seniors (age 65 and over) represent the fastest growing segment of the population increasing from 8% (1.75 million - 1971) to 16% (5.8 million – 2016), to 24% (10 million - 2036).

WHEREAS, unlike New Zealand and Ireland which have National Positive Ageing Strategies, Canada has no official vision or strategic plan for addressing the profound implications of these demographic changes.

WHEREAS Canadian seniors have contributed and will continue to contribute substantially to the progress of Canadian society.

WHEREAS most provinces and territories have varied action plans for seniors.

WHEREAS many jurisdictional levels and ministries have responsibilities and decision-making authority that impact the quality of life of seniors.

WHEREAS in 2017 the Standing Committee on National Finance recommended that the federal government, in collaboration with stakeholders, develop a national seniors strategy, and the Special Senate Committee on Aging (2009) outlined many components of such a strategy.

WHEREAS over 50 organizations including associations of physicians, nurses, social workers, pensioners, retirees, labour, and civil society support *An Evidence-informed National Seniors Strategy for Canada*.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada, in partnership with provinces, territories, First Nations, Metis, Inuit, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and other relevant stakeholders, to develop a comprehensive National Positive Aging and Seniors Strategy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the strategy focus on quality of life dimensions such as physical (including dental)/ emotional/ mental health, family, financial well-being, safety, personal development, age-appropriate shelter, access to affordable services, neighbourhood walkability, transportation, physical activity, nutrition, health care, caregiver support as well as social, political and intellectual engagement.

(270 words)

Senior Liberals' Commission – Ontario Section

Contact: ericyoung@telus.net

Endorsed by: Senior Liberals' Commission, Manitoba Section

SLC Ottawa West-Nepean Club

Davenport EDA, Mississauga–Erin Mills EDA,

Thunder Bay Superior North EDA, Ottawa West-Nepean EDA,

Orleans, Hastings EDA, Lennox and Addington EDA, Essex EDA.

Reference: [SLC Ontario Policy Paper “National Positive Aging and Seniors Strategy”](#) October 17, 2017