

April 1, 2021

**Re: Long-Term Care under the Canada Health Act**

Dear *Val van den Broek*,

I am writing on behalf of the CFUW/UWC White Rock/Surrey, an affiliate of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) that works to improve the status of women and to promote human rights, public education, social justice and peace in Canada and abroad.

We are calling on you to urge the federal, provincial, territorial, and Indigenous governments of Canada to create universal, accessible, regulated, respectful, and quality long-term care for the immediate and growing needs of elderly and vulnerable persons in Canada by placing long term care under the Canada Health Act.

On September 23, 2020, the Speech from the Throne highlighted the following:

"The greatest tragedies of this pandemic are the lives lost in long-term care homes. Elders deserve to be safe, respected, and live in dignity ... The federal government will take any action it can to support seniors while working alongside the provinces and territories.

The Government will also work with the provinces and territories:

- to set new, national standards for long-term care so that seniors get the best support possible;
- and take additional action to help people stay in their homes longer."

We implore you to regulate for-profit Long Term Care homes and follow through with actions outlined in the above mentioned agenda. It is clear that national standards, increased funding directly tied to providing client care, increased staffing, proper protective equipment, and clear protocols on isolating those who are sick, is the solution.

We ask that you ensure your party is committed to protecting the rights, health, and safety of elderly persons and the vulnerable in Canada.

We would be pleased to meet to discuss this letter and our concerns.

Yours sincerely,



Anne Lowe

Chair, Advocacy Committee CGUW/UWC White Rock/Surrey

anne99low@gmail.com