

MOTION

No. 100

Calling on Government to Publicly Fund Shingles Vaccinations for Seniors on PEI

Trish Altass gives notice that she will move, seconded by Ole Hammarlund, the following Motion:

WHEREAS A shingles infection can be very serious, especially for those over the age of 60 or those who have a compromised immune system;

AND WHEREAS the PEI Chief Public Health Officer recommends a shingles vaccine for all Islanders 60-70 years of age;

AND WHEREAS currently a vaccine for shingles is not publicly funded on PEI;

AND WHEREAS the cost of a shingles vaccine is between \$200 and \$240 which is cost prohibitive for many Island seniors;

AND WHEREAS as we deal with a global pandemic, ensuring that our seniors are kept healthy is imperative;

AND WHEREAS publicly funded access to a shingles vaccine could protect our Island seniors from serious complications associated with shingles or potential COVID-19 outbreaks;

AND WHEREAS Shingrix is currently the most effective shingles vaccines available in Canada;

AND WHEREAS Shingrix has been shown to reduce the risk of getting shingles and post-herpetic neuralgia (a type of severe pain that lasts months to years after shingles) by more than 90%;

AND WHEREAS a reduction in the number of shingles patients will reduce the long-term costs to the health system, and likely offset the initial cost of vaccinations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urges Government to publicly fund the Shingrix vaccine to Islanders 60-70 years of age.

Signed by: Trish Altass

Signed by: Ole Hammarlund

Date: November 17, 2020