

## MOTION

No. 11

### **Calling on the Department of Health and Wellness to support PEI seniors to age in place**

Trish Altass gives notice that she will move, seconded by Peter Bevan-Baker, the following Motion:

**WHEREAS** public homecare services on PEI are strong and effective but lack the funding and resources necessary to provide these services to all Islanders who need them;

**AND WHEREAS** the 2018 Department of Health and Wellness *Promoting Wellness, Preserving Health* report recommends implementing policies and practices that support individuals to age-in-place in their home and communities;

**AND WHEREAS** the *Promoting Wellness, Preserving Health* report heard from Island seniors that cost was often an issue in accessing homecare as well as other age-in-place supports;

**AND WHEREAS** unpaid caregivers to seniors play a vital role in keeping seniors in their community and deserve and need supports to continue to provide care that aids our seniors and our communities;

**AND WHEREAS** keeping seniors in their homes and communities is the fiscally responsible approach;

**AND WHEREAS** a 2017 report by the Conference Board of Canada stated that PEI was the province facing the greatest challenge when it comes to long-term care demand by 2035;

**AND WHEREAS** effective homecare, like the current COACH program on PEI, can reduce the burden on long-term care bed demand and increase the quality of life of our seniors;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Legislative Assembly urge Government to expand funding for public homecare services on PEI, such as the Caring for Older Adults in the Community and at Home (COACH) program, and to provide evidence-based programs that help keep seniors in their homes longer;

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Legislative Assembly urge Government to create a seniors care benefit for caregivers of seniors on PEI.

Signed by: Trish Altass

Signed by: Peter Bevan-Baker

Date: 26 February 2021