

September Virtual General Meeting

"The ROM's Queens, Goddesses and Women of Influence"



Meet some of the most fascinating and powerful women of history on this virtual journey through the ROM's collections. A snapshot of some remarkable mythical, political and artistic female figures—some you know and some you may learn about for the first time.



Wednesday, September 8, 2021 - 7:00 P.M.

Zoom Link will be emailed to club members.

Guests welcome. Email your request for a Zoom Link to cfuw.oshawa@gmail.com

CFUW Oshawa and District
cfuw.oshawa@gmail.com
www.cfuwoshawaanddistrict.com



Book Collection & Sharing

Collecting adult and youth reading books
(no textbooks or coffee table books), puzzles, CD's & DVD's
Sharing above items for a donation of \$2 - \$5 each

- Club members may invite one guest
- Remaining items will be donated to THE NEW FRIENDS BOOKSHOP (proceeds to youth and women's shelters)
- Bring a chair for a brief social
- Bring your own boxes or bags
- Covid-19 Protocols apply (facial mask, social distancing, hand sanitizing, contact info)



Thursday, September 9, 2021 - 2:00-3:30 P.M.

(Rain Date: September 10)

Kedron United Church Parking Lot
Ritson & Conlin, Oshawa—enter off Conlin
CFUW & Kedron U.C. Bookclub Members Welcome

CFUW Oshawa and District
cfuw.oshawa@gmail.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CATHERINE R.

Welcome back to another year of learning, advocating and hopefully, socializing.

We will start our general meetings on Zoom and will then just have to play it by ear, depending on our Church partner's policy. I see they are repaving the parking lot there. Yeah!

I look forward to seeing and working with you all over the coming months.

CFUW National has drafted a new Vision and Mission to help guide our work.

Vision: Women and girls are educated and empowered to make transformative change in the world.

Mission: Promote and enable women's fellowship, continuous learning and empowerment to achieve educational and economic equality and social justice.

Take care,

Catherine

Quote of the Month

"When life knocks you down, roll over and look at the stars"

CLUB EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

POSITION	2021-2022
President	Catherine R.
Vice-President	Janet N.
Past President	Donna H.
Treasurer	Hedy G.
Membership	Barb L.
Advocacy	Rotating Chair
Social	Karen D., Ruth F.
Program	Sheila S.
Publicity	Jone W.
Scholarship	Hedy G.
Newsletter	Jone W.
Executive Recording Secretary	Melanie K.
General Recording Secretary	Vacant ? rotating
Archives	JoAnne P.
Interest Groups	Vacant
Friendship	Maureen A.
Dec. Holiday Celebration	Vacant

Committees	Chairs	Members
Advocacy	Rotating chair	Janet N., Mary K., Hedy G., Melanie K., Donna H.
Membership	Barb L.	Janet N., Jane R., Lynda B., Janyce C.
Scholarship	Hedy G.	
Program	Sheila S.	Janet B., Carol T., Sheila L., Lina Z.
Webmaster	JoAnne P.	
Social	Karen D., Ruth F.	JoAnne T., Judy B.
Zoom Team	Donna H.	Jone W., Melanie K., Barb L., JoAnne P.

CFUW WEBSITES

Main website: www.cfuw.org

Ontario Council Website: www.cfuwontcouncil.org

The Ontario Council newsletter is available on-line on their website.

The CFUW Club Action newsletter is available via the sign-up link on their main website.

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MEMBERSHIP**BARBARA L.**

Membership dues remain at \$115 for this year. Please send a cheque payable to CFUW Oshawa and District to Hedy G. at 6 Glenelge Court, Bowmanville, ON L1C 4J1 before October 31st.

FRIENDSHIP**MAUREEN A.**

Significant news about a member (serious illness or injury or death of member, or death of her spouse or child) should be reported to Maureen A. who will advise all members through an email from Jone W. and send an appropriate card on our behalf.

Condolences to Sue S. on the death of her husband.

NEWSLETTER**JONE W.**

Only the last name initials of members are published in the newsletter.

You may refer to your roster for contact information.

Please submit all newsletter items to whitbywebsters@rogers.com **Items for the October newsletter should be received by Tuesday, September 28**

INTEREST GROUPS**MELANIE K.**

It is that time of year again to sign up for club interest groups. We may not be able to meet in person...just yet... but that hasn't stopped us this past year and it won't going forward.

We have a number of interest groups that have continued throughout the Pandemic. Please contact the interest group coordinators if you want to join a group or are looking for more information. You will find the contact information in the roster. Please remember you must be a member of the club to join an interest group. Groups should follow all Covid-19 guidelines to continue to stay healthy and safe.

Please share your ideas about other interest groups you'd like and we will help make it happen.

Bridge: Monday and Wednesday evening and Monday afternoon bridge groups have joined together to play on-line via Trickster. You may have already received an email from JoAnne P. inviting you to sign up for regular play on the first and third Mondays at 7:30pm. If you only want to sub, let her know that too.

Mystery Lovers Book Club 2: This group meets the last Monday of the month at 7pm.

It's a Mystery: This group meets the last Monday every other month at 7.30pm. Right now they are meeting during the day on Zoom at 2pm. Contact Mary K for further information.

Reading Group 1: This group meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 1:30pm. Contact Barb L.

Morning Coffee and Book Chat: This group meets the 1st Wednesday of the month at 10am to noon. Contact Melanie K.

Let's Do Lunch: Is moving to a new day which could change each time! Catherine R is the contact person. You are welcomed to bring a friend. Introduce them to the club.

Golf: Players meet every Friday at different area golf courses as long as the weather holds and the Durham Region Health regulations for Covid-19 allow. Contact Janet N. to find out where to meet.

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Walking Buddies: A new group. Introduce your fellow club members to all those new walking trails you have discovered over the past year. **We need someone to take the lead on this.** Contact Melanie K for more info. The 2nd Thursday of the month in the morning seems to be a good day. We will start October 14. Bring a friend and introduce them to the club.

“IT’S A MYSTERY”

MARY K.

Last Monday of the Month at 1:30 pm

MYSTERY LOVERS BOOK CLUB 2

JANET B.

Monday, September 27th 7:00 pm Zoom Meeting

Book selection: *AN UNWANTED GUEST* by Shari Lapena

New members welcome. Contact Janet B.

READING GROUP 1

BARBARA L.

Tuesday, September 21st 1:30 pm Location: Home of Barbara L.

Discussion leader: Sheila L.

Book Selection: *TRUTH BE TOLD: MY JOURNEY THROUGH LIFE AND THE LAW* by Beverley McLachlin

MORNING COFFEE AND BOOK CHAT

MELANIE K.

Wednesday, September 8th 10 am Location: TBA

Discussion leader: Diane H.

Book Selection: *THE KITCHEN FRONT* by Jennifer Ryan

GOLF

JANET N.

PLAYING on Fridays into the Fall at various golf courses.

CELEBRATING FAMOUS WOMEN

Cecilia Payne (1900-1979)

Who is she you may well ask, as she has never been given the recognition she deserves. Cecilia won a scholarship to Cambridge but was denied a degree because she was a woman. Angry, she went to the USA and became the first person ever to earn a PhD in astronomy from Radcliffe. She went on to become a full professor at Harvard and is credited with breaking the glass ceiling for women in science and astronomy at Harvard and inspiring generations of women to take up science. Cecilia Payne discovered what the universe and the sun are made of, and everything we know about variable stars is based on her work. Sadly, this brilliant woman’s accomplishments have been virtually ignored and often attributed to other male scientists.

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FEDERAL ELECTION NOTES**MELANIE K.**

The Federal Election has been called for September 20, with advance polls open on September 10 to Sept 13. This means that canvassers will be showing up at your door or your phone will be ringing with political parties looking for your vote.

The **CFUW Club Action Newsletter August 18 2021** has your back. They have prepared talking points on National Initiatives and other feminist issues so now you will be able to engage with these canvassers and let the parties know the issues you are concerned about. You can find the whole Club Action Newsletter on-line here: https://cfuwadmin.org/news_and_update/club-action-newsletter-august-18-2021/. Or see the attachment that will show you the talking points for Early Learning and Child Care, Climate Change and the Environment, Gender-Based Violence, Long Term Care, Indigenous Peoples' Rights, Pay Equity, Poverty Reduction and Homelessness, and Pharmacare. Lots to choose from. Share with your friends.

Your **Advocacy committee** also has their eye on the election. Alternatives to long term care institutions appear not to be on any party's agenda. You can help put it there. **Seniors for Social Action Ontario (SSAO)** <https://www.seniorsactionontario.com/> has put out an information sheet (see the attachment) that will help you pose those questions when the canvassers come calling. Let them know you want to age in place in your own home with more community supports or dare to dream and ask for alternatives to large institutions.

Look for more information from the advocacy group about alternatives to LTC over the coming club year. Join us in exploring this topic.

Appendix A:**Talking Points on CFUW's 5 National Initiatives & Other Feminist Issues****Early Learning & Child Care****Key message**

A Canada-wide system of early learning and child care that is accessible, affordable, high-quality, and inclusive that lasts beyond the government of the day is good for children, parents, caregivers, and educators as it creates jobs, promotes equality, alleviates poverty, shrinks the wage gap, and allows parents and caregivers to participate more fully in the workforce.

What is the issue?

- Canadian families need a high-quality, accessible, affordable, and inclusive not-for-profit early learning and child care system, developed in cooperation with all levels of government which provides nationally regulated, and subsidized child care. The benefits of such a system would be enormous, both to the quality of life of Canadians and to the economy.
- Currently, quality care is undermined by low wages, poor retention rates, and undervalued work for early childhood educators, while high child care costs make it especially difficult for low-income or single parent families to access affordable and high-quality care.

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Why Now?

- As bilateral child care agreements are struck across a number of provinces and territories, we need the next federal government to continue developing and implementing a well-funded and stable child care system that works for all.
- At only 0.4% of the GDP, Canada's annual spending on child care falls significantly short of UNICEF's international benchmark spending of 1% of a country's GDP.
- As Canada fights and recovers from COVID-19, the federal government must develop and fund targeted investments to address its disparate and disproportionate impacts on women.
 - Investing in child care yields one of the highest returns on investment that a government can receive. Significant investment in child care not only benefits the educational development of children, it will also create hundreds of thousands of jobs in the child care sector and facilitate increased labour force participation and employment among women in prime parenting years ([Centre for Future Work, 2020](#)).

Advantages for Canadians

- Economic studies have repeatedly shown that the multi-generational benefits of focused, accountable investments in child care outweigh the costs by at least two to one.
- Access to quality child care services promotes health, advances women's equality, reduces crime, addresses child and family poverty, and deepens community social inclusion.
- Twenty years after Quebec's child care program was introduced in 1996, 70,000 more mothers had entered the workforce, adding \$5.1 billion to Quebec's gross provincial income.

Questions

- What is your party's plan to develop an early learning and child care system that is high-quality, accessible, affordable, and inclusive for all?
- What specifically will you and your party do to make child care affordable? Accessible and inclusive of all children? Improve wages and working conditions for early childhood educators?
- How much money has your party budgeted to spend on early learning and child care?

Climate Change & the Environment

Key message

All levels of government have a responsibility to work together and develop action plans, based on science and social justice, to address Canada's role in climate change – an immediate and complex emergency with grave consequences including heatwaves, floods, fires, storms, extreme temperatures, food and water insecurity, climate refugees, and social conflict.

What is the issue?

- Climate change disproportionately impacts the [world's most vulnerable people](#) – women constitute the majority of the world's poor and are more dependent on resources threatened by climate change for their livelihood.
- The [International Panel on Climate Change \(IPCC\)](#) reports that between 1.5°C and 2°C of warming would be catastrophic for ecological systems and human health, forcing hundreds of millions of people into poverty by 2050.
 - Unless deep reductions in carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gas emissions occur in the coming decades, global warming of 2°C will be exceeded in the 21st century.

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Why Now?

After a summer of record-breaking heat and wildfires, Canada is on track to exceed the 2°C of warming target agreed to in the 2016 Paris Agreement by as early as 2030. Canada's rate of warming is about twice the global rate, with the North facing temperature increases three times the average global rate. It is imperative that all levels of government take concerted action to address the climate emergency before it is too late to prevent its most catastrophic impacts.

Advantages for Canadians

- Building a low-to-no-carbon society provides an opportunity to protect our people and the planet, encourage innovation, and boost our economy.
- Climate action can prevent innumerable deaths from air pollution, food insecurity, and extreme weather while creating jobs, improving biodiversity, and shifting behaviours to be more sustainable.
- Health co-benefits of reducing greenhouse gas emissions could be worth \$100 US per tonne of CO2 in high-income countries like Canada.

Questions

- How will your party tackle the climate emergency and meet the needs of those communities expected to be most impacted by climate change?
- Will your party commit to an all-party climate caucus to develop a legislated, accountable framework for Canadian government and private sector to meet emissions targets in line with the urgent timeline identified in the recent IPCC recommendations?
- Will your party implement a Carbon Tax, and if so, what kind?
- Will you and your party divest Canada from industries that are harming the environment and invest in sustainable options?
- Will your party seek Indigenous knowledge and stewardship to develop action plans that respect treaties, traditional use and access to the land?

Gender-Based Violence

Key message

Everyone should live free from violence – but gender-based violence remains pervasive in Canadian society and threatens gender equality. A comprehensive, intersectional, and well-funded National Action Plan on Violence Against Women & Gender-Based Violence will help bring about systemic change that increases the safety for ALL women, girls, and gender-diverse people in Canada.

What is the issue?

Unequal power relations, sexism, racism, colonial violence, and discriminatory laws all have a profound impact on the prevalence of gender-based violence (GBV) in Canada. Preventing and addressing GBV requires a broad spectrum of federal actions including: a housing strategy, poverty reduction strategy, and a strategy to combat the opioid epidemic, in order to address the root causes of violence and insecurity.

- [1 in 2 women](#) in Canada have experience at least one incidence of GBV since age 16
- 3,491 women & 2,724 children sleep in shelters [every night](#) because their home isn't safe
- Indigenous women are [killed at 7X](#) the rate of non-Indigenous women in Canada
- Less than [1%](#) of sexual assaults lead to conviction

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Why Now?

The COVID-19 pandemic deepened existing social, political, and economic inequalities in Canada. The UN has observed significant increases in GBV across the world in what is described as a “shadow pandemic”, with some regions in Canada experiencing between 20 to 30% increases. With social distancing and stay-at-home orders in place, survivors of abuse have less access to support services such as shelters or sexual assault centres, less contact with family or friend networks, and increased health, financial, and housing concerns.

Advantages for Canadians

Gender-based violence costs lives and money when left unaddressed. Approximately every six days, a woman is killed by her intimate partner in Canada. Taxpayers and all levels of government collectively spend \$7.4 Billion to deal with the aftermath of spousal violence alone. Exposure to violence can negatively affect children’s brain development and ability to learn while children who witness violence at home experience psychiatric disorders at twice the rate of those children from non-violent homes.

Questions

- What specific actions will you take to lower rates of gender-based violence in our riding and what will your party do to lower rates across Canada?
- Many GBV survivors do not report sexual assault and harassment for a variety of reasons – including women in the military, law enforcement, and government. How will you create a safer environment for reporting gender-based violence, promote justice for survivors, and hold perpetrators accountable?
- How will your party support the development and implementation of a National Action Plan on Violence against Women & Gender-based Violence that is comprehensive, intersectional, and well-funded?

Long-Term Care**Key message**

Seniors living in Canada’s long-term care (LTC) homes, and the nurses and personal support workers who care for them, deserve safety, dignity, and respect. There is an urgent need to implement national, evidence-based standards of care, increased funding tied to the provision of care, improved working conditions, increased staffing, proper protective equipment, and the overall public provision of high-quality and safe LTC.

What is the issue?

The COVID-19 pandemic revealed systemic and tragic deficiencies in Canada’s LTC sector – fragmented government policies, poor working conditions, staffing deficiencies, the extraction of profit, and an overall lack of quality-controlled care led to horrific, yet preventable, outcomes in LTC facilities across the country. These deficiencies resulted in high infection rates among LTC and staff, and contributed to thousands of preventable deaths.

- [1 in 10](#) COVID cases in Canada were among LTC residents
- There are no national standards that govern high-quality and safe LTC
- [69%](#) of all COVID deaths in Canada are linked to LTC homes
- Over 50% of LTC homes in Canada are [privately owned](#)

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Why Now?

The deficits in the LTC sector were exacerbated by the pandemic, but have been [known for decades](#). Staff and residents of LTC facilities have been neglected as a result of underfunding and understaffing. As “the conditions of work are also the conditions of care”, improving the working conditions, wages, and overall recognition of nurses and PSWs is crucial to solving the staffing crisis in LTC and improving the quality of life and care of LTC residents.

Advantages for Canadians

Safely ageing should not be a luxury that only a few can afford in Canada – and safely caring for our country’s most vulnerable should not be underpaid or undervalued. Through the establishment of national standards and the public provision of high-quality LTC, Canada’s most vulnerable can live in safety and dignity.

Questions

- It is estimated that 1 in 4 Canadians will be a senior by 2030. What actions will you take to ensure that Canada’s growing number of elders may live in safety, respect, and dignity?
- How do you plan to improve working conditions in LTC facilities and address the staffing crisis?
- Do you support the public provision of LTC? How do you view the roles of municipal, provincial, and federal governments in caring for our country’s most vulnerable?

Indigenous Peoples’ Rights

Key message

The federal government must act to fulfill the Calls to Action and Calls to Justice identified in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the National Inquiry on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

What is the issue?

Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples in Canada means recognizing how past and ongoing forms of colonialism experienced by First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples have significantly and intergenerationally impacted living conditions, the preservation of culture, and the enjoyment of human rights – and actively taking steps toward redress.

- Nearly 1 in 2 status First Nations children live in poverty (53% for those living on reserve and 41% for those living off reserve) ([Upstream, 2019](#)).
- Safe drinking water and sanitation is still [inaccessible](#) to dozens of Indigenous communities
- Although Indigenous women constitute [4%](#) of Canada’s female population, they represent 16% of all women murdered in Canada between 1980 and 2012.

Why Now?

As we mourn the [thousands of children](#) who have been found on the grounds of residential schools across Canada, all levels of government must work toward reconciliation by implementing the hundreds of recommendations identified in two major reports: the ninety-four Calls to Action in the Truth and Reconciliation Report and the 231 Calls to Justice from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

Questions

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- First Nations, Inuit, and Métis women experience some of the highest rates of poverty and violence while attaining the lowest levels of education. How will you address the root causes of inequity, poverty, and violence experienced by Indigenous women and girls?
- What specific actions will you take to implement the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls?
- How will you consult, accommodate, and obtain consent from Indigenous Peoples in relation to treaty rights, land rights, and environmental stewardship?

Pay Equity

Key message

Pay equity is not simply about women being paid less than men for the same work. It is about women's work being devalued, and women not being given the same opportunities for positions of leadership.

What is the issue?

- The gender wage gap is the average difference in earnings between women and men in the workplace. It is a widely recognized indicator of women's economic equality, and it exists to some extent in every country in the world.
- The pay gap disproportionately affects women of colour, Indigenous women, LGBTQ2+, immigrant women, and women with disabilities.
- Pay equity is the law and it remains a human rights issue that is vital to women's economic equality and to ending sexism in Canada.

Why Now?

- Canada is ranked as having the 8th highest gender wage gap out of a list of 43 countries examined by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), based on 2016 data.
- 74 cents: The average amount earned by full-time working women in Canada for every dollar earned by men, according to Statistics Canada (Census 2016).
- On average, it takes women 15.5 months to earn what a man earns in 12, according to the Ontario Equal Pay Coalition.

Advantages for Canadians

- We believe the empowerment of women is essential to dismantling the structural and societal issues that hinder our development as a community, both locally, and globally.
- When women are given equal pay, opportunities to be in positions of leadership, and the ability to live life without threats to their safety and well-being, positive advancements for all occur.

Questions

- What is the gender wage gap in our province?
- What will your party do to address the discriminatory pay gaps that are a violation of human rights?
- What actions will your party take to ensure that the recently enacted federal pay equity legislation is implemented?

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Poverty Reduction & Homelessness

Key message

Poverty is more than just inadequate income – it is food insecurity, inadequate housing, social exclusion, lack of access to education and transportation, poor health outcomes, among other hardships. In 2021, the 10.1% rate of poverty (last measured in 2019) is likely higher given the impacts of COVID-19 including high unemployment levels among women and racialized groups. Poverty and homelessness are strongly correlated, with [at least 235,000](#) Canadians experiencing homelessness in a given year. Poverty reduction, eradicating homelessness, and building a sustainable, inclusive society are all intrinsically linked.

What is the issue?

- 1 in 10 Canadians (at least 3.7 million) live in poverty, with women more likely than men to live in low-income households.
- Among women, those who face multiple structural and institutional barriers are [at higher risk](#) of poverty, such as Indigenous women, racialized women, women with disabilities, newcomer women, or those who are LGBTQ2S+. 30.4% of single mothers and their children are [considered](#) “low income”.
- Homelessness occurs through a [variety of reasons](#) including the lack of structural supports and inadequate planning for those experiencing poverty, unaffordable housing, job loss, fleeing violence, aging-out of foster care, discharged from correctional facilities or mental health facilities, among others.

Why Now?

Poverty is expensive – it is one of the largest burdens on the economic, health, social, and criminal systems in Canada. Homelessness alone is estimated to cost the Canadian economy over \$7 billion per year. As we fight and recover from COVID-19, significant investments and cohesive policy approaches to reducing poverty and homelessness must be the cornerstone of efforts in building a society that leaves no one behind.

Advantages for Canadians

Coordinated federal, territorial, provincial, and municipal strategies are needed to eradicate poverty and homelessness. Experts are calling for a universal basic income so those in Canada can afford the necessities of life in order to reduce poverty, financial insecurity, and homelessness. In the interim before such a program is implemented, raising the rates of disability benefits, employment insurance, Old Age Security, and the minimum wage are effective strategies to lift Canada’s most vulnerable out of precarity and poverty.

Questions

- What poverty reduction initiatives does your party plan to implement to fulfill Canada’s commitment to end poverty by 2030 in accordance with United Nations Sustainable Development Goal #1?
- How would you address the current level of homelessness in your riding? How will your party shift the focus from emergency services to preventative strategies to eradicate homelessness?

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- Does your party support a Basic Income Program? How should such a program be implemented?

Pharmacare

Key Message

All Canadians should have access to the medications they need. A universal, single-payer, public, comprehensive, accessible and portable national Pharmacare program will cut costs and lead to a healthier population.

What is the Issue?

- Canada is the only country in the world with a publicly funded healthcare system that does not also provide universal drug coverage, with the [third highest](#) drug prices among OECD countries. Twenty percent of Canadians have inadequate coverage to meet their needs. One in four households in Canada can't afford to fill their prescriptions.
- A universal, public Pharmacare program will help Canadians better manage their health, lead to reduced medication costs and allow for better monitoring of the effectiveness and safety of medications.
- Pharmacare will also reduce the burden on other parts of the healthcare system.

Why Now?

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the precarity of employer-paid health benefit plans and the [vulnerability](#) of Canadians' access to affordable prescription medication. Millions of Canadians require regular medication for chronic conditions, temporary health problems, and overall well-being. When people cannot afford their necessary medications, they are more likely to suffer from sudden and acute health issues that take them to the emergency room. Our healthcare system is not universal until it includes Pharmacare.

Advantages for Canadians

- Canadians will save between \$4 and \$11 billion with a national drug plan that has interprovincial cooperation in drug purchasing. With no plan, Canadians drug costs as a share of GDP have more than tripled since 1985.
- The disparity in drug costs, insurance coverage and drug availability will be eliminated. Today, prescription drug coverage is provided through a patchwork of 100 public and 100,000 private insurance plans. Many Canadians can't afford insurance or prescription drugs and do without, suffering poor health and requiring more expensive, taxpayer-funded medical services as a result.
- One in six hospitalizations could be avoided if prescription drugs were used appropriately.
- A universal, public Pharmacare Plan will allow for better monitoring of medications, support evidence-based drug coverage, and reduce the burden on other parts of the health care system.

Questions

- Will your party implement a universal, public, comprehensive, accessible, and portable Pharmacare program?
- Will your party ensure that federal and provincial governments work together effectively to implement universal, public Pharmacare?

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- Will your party ensure a comprehensive, evidence-based formulary, so that Canadians can access the medications they need to maintain and improve their health?
- The pandemic has shown the disadvantage to Canadians of relying on other countries to supply medical equipment and drugs, including vaccines. Does your party plan to boost medical research and investment in drug manufacturing in Canada?

SENIORS FOR SOCIAL ACTION ONTARIO (SSAO)

ACTION ALERT!

August 20, 2021

FEDERAL ELECTION

Federal Election Called For September 20, 2021

As you know a Federal election has been called for September 20, 2021. Advance polls open on September 10, 2021 to September 13, 2021 and will be open from 9 AM to 9 PM. What this means is that canvassers will likely be showing up at your door soon or you will be receiving calls from political parties.

How to Send a Message to the Political Parties

Trudeau just announced a \$9 billion investment to help increase the availability of even more institutional beds and pay PSWs more. His plan is to tamper with symptoms of the problem of mass institutionalizing people in predominantly for-profit institutions.

Alternatives to long term care institutions appear not to be on any party's agenda.

We need to help put them there.

When a canvasser calls or shows up at your door tell them your number one issue is what the Federal government plans to do to prevent institutionalization of older adults and people with disabilities in dangerous facilities.

How much will their party invest in in-home care and small, fully staffed, nonprofit neighborhood-based residential care in people's own communities?

Will they bring in a program of paid family caregivers?

Will they introduce a money follows the person program so that per diem funding allotted to institutions can follow people to the community where they can purchase their own services?

Ask if, like Denmark, their party will make the decision to shift funding away from institutions to in-home care and small, non-profit neighborhood-based residential services (i.e. staffed apartments, condos, supportive housing, co-ops and family homes in ordinary neighborhoods)?

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Will they end the policy of mass institutionalizing people?

Let them know that your vote depends on their party's commitment to more humane non-profit, community-based approaches to long term care for older adults and people with disabilities and to keeping them at home and in their own communities.

SSAO has developed policy papers on these topics to assist you:

How Denmark stopped institutionalizing people: https://d5bb3c6f-31a3-47ef-a85b5c06ab03f844.filesusr.com/ugd/50033d_d612afead4c041fcaa092cc240a8c141.pdf

Small community residences for people with dementia: https://d5bb3c6f-31a3-47efa85b-5c06ab03f844.filesusr.com/ugd/c73539_285588a00ef3436a92a165615914c395.pdf

A Paid Family Caregiver Program: https://d5bb3c6f-31a3-47ef-a85b5c06ab03f844.filesusr.com/ugd/c73539_be12f86a576746caafc417e70ff39249.pdf

A Program In Which Money Follows The Person: https://d5bb3c6f-31a3-47ef-a85b5c06ab03f844.filesusr.com/ugd/c73539_1e45ff030fad4e2ea6f5e3acc992ca94.pdf

Envisioning a New Future for Vulnerable Elderly Citizens: https://d5bb3c6f-31a347ef-a85b-5c06ab03f844.filesusr.com/ugd/c73539_afc15f189c694c5aade4bc026fd430d2.pdf

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Queen's University report on the unsustainability of continuing to fund institutions in Canada:

Please see Page 4 -

<https://www.queensu.ca/sps/sites/webpublish.queensu.ca.spswww/files/files/Publications/Ageing%20Well%20Report%20-%20November%202020.pdf>

The London School of Economics report on the need for deinstitutionalization:

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/cpec/assets/documents/CPEC-CovidDesinstitutionalisation.pdf>