



Alzheimer's Society of Manitoba Priorities 2023

- **Improved housing options for seniors, including those living with dementia.**
 - **Additional financial supports for care partners.**
 - **Improved home care supports.**
 - **Strategies for building more dementia-friendly communities.**
 - **Improved supports to navigate the healthcare system.**
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- **Improved housing options for seniors, including those living with dementia.**

We have committed to improving housing options for seniors, with focus on more “home-like” settings that are less institutional, while improving care with more nurse practitioners.

Our seniors’ policies largely revolve around prevention. We want to keep seniors in their homes for longer so they can continue to live independently and with dignity. We want to reduce admissions into long term care facilities and instead, provide supports and retrofits to seniors and people living with dementia so they can continue living in an environment that is familiar to them, and in cases, with their families.

To address improvements to housing, Manitoba Liberals have announced the creation of a “Safe at Home” strategy which provides grants of up to \$15,000 for seniors to retrofit their homes and enhance accessibility. In addition, we will ensure that all Manitobans over the age of 70 will receive an assessment through public health as to what their long-term needs are so that we can improve and standardize a quality of care for all Manitobans as they get older.

The impacts of dementia have been especially challenging for many Manitobans and their families. For far too long, Manitoba’s system of supports for seniors has been patchwork at best, and difficult to navigate for seniors and their families looking for help.

The recent news about the Protection for Persons in Care Office shows just how neglected seniors’ issues in Manitoba have been under successive NDP and PC governments and that seniors and issues such as dementia simply have not been a priority, nor taken seriously under either of the two parties’ governments.

A Manitoba Liberal government will strengthen accountability over the pressing issues facing seniors which have been overlooked for far too long. We will do so by first strengthening oversight. Manitoba Liberals will work to implement an independent office of a Manitoba’s Seniors’ Advocate. This independent office, will work similar to the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth, where they will be empowered to investigate, advocate, and provide solutions for government on all issues that affect seniors.

- **Additional financial supports for care partners.**

Manitoba Liberals are offering progressive, evidence-based income tax cuts as well as a provincial guaranteed minimum income for seniors aged 60 and up.

- **Improved home care supports.**

We will improve pay and benefits for people working in home care to attract more workers and ensure homecare provides the care people need.

- **Strategies for building more dementia-friendly communities.**

As we build 1,000 units of new housing, preserve existing housing and work to renovate existing spaces, we will ensure that dementia-friendly design is incorporated into communities.

- **Improved supports to navigate the healthcare system.**

The healthcare system can be difficult to navigate. We are committed to improving electronic records and working to make care you need easier to get, especially by making sure that every Manitoban has a personal doctor or nurse practitioner at a clinic with wraparound care, who can help provide you with guidance.

If seniors or people with dementia are admitted to long-term care, we want to ensure that residents receive access to a sufficient level of quality care that all Manitobans deserve. We will improve staffing ratios to 4.1 hours of direct care (up from 3.8 hours currently) per resident, per day. Through extensive consultations with healthcare leaders, it was stressed that long term care residents are healthier when they can access medical care regularly.