



**1. What is your party's commitment to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Coverage for Seniors Benefit?**

The Alberta Liberals are fully committed to maintaining funding for the Alberta Seniors' Benefit and have no plans to reduce financial support for that valuable program. On the contrary, we have committed to expanding and improving programs that help make life more affordable for Albertans.

**2. What are your party's plans to improve access to safe and affordable, revenue-neutral, assisted-living facilities?**

Our party understands the need for new spaces and facilities. We understand how important it is to adequately fund assisted-living facilities to both ensure quality of care and to prevent spillover of problems into other areas of the healthcare system.

We support providing the needed funding for new assisted living spaces. We also believe these spaces should be government or non-profit facilities.

**3. What are your party's plans to enhance the availability of resources to provide health care for seniors in Alberta? (i.e., geriatricians, virtual care)**

Alberta Liberals would work to expand the role of geriatricians and other specialists in our primary care system. We would work with seniors and healthcare providers to identify best practices for expanding virtual care in a way that balances efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and convenience with quality of care.

**4. How would you make aging in place and/or Home Care a more accessible and viable solution for our senior population?**

We would invest another \$150 million over 4 years into home care and assisted living. Many Albertans would be better served by long-term care and home care instead of taking up acute care beds. Both are significantly less costly. Albertans will see the immediate benefits.

**5. How do you ensure the federal money provided for health care is used to improve public accessible health and not to benefit private health care?**



The Alberta Liberal Party is committed to strengthening our public healthcare system. That is our promise to you. We do not support the investment of federal health transfer, or healthcare spending in general, towards a two-tiered healthcare system.

**6. Specify essential programs and identify the funding your party will put in place to support all seniors in Alberta.**

In terms of health supports for seniors, the Alberta Liberals will target continuing and preventative care to drive down skyrocketing costs. Our continuing care plan includes a commitment to build new long-term care beds over the next four years. Non-profit, faith-based and private companies are currently able to build these beds for half the cost. We will take advantage of this opportunity to save Albertans money.

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We will focus on a proactive healthcare strategy. This includes boosting community care. We will also redirect patients and resources into long-term care and home care. More acute care spaces will be freed up for priority patients.

The Alberta Liberals will also commission a preventative health care task force. This commission will evaluate preventative health care strategies that help reduce long-term costs without jeopardizing outcomes or access. We will initially invest \$100 million towards expanding preventative care. We will also boost funding for mental health initiatives by \$600 million annually.

**7. What is your party's position to ensure that there are appropriate programs (tax and wellness initiatives) in place for seniors so they can continue to maintain an active and affordable lifestyle in retirement?'**

The Alberta Liberals believe that preventative health and wellness measures pay huge dividends both in terms of maintaining and encouraging a healthier population and reducing healthcare costs. The idea of a seniors' fitness tax credit has merit and is certainly worth exploring as part of the preventative health care task force that we'd commission.

**8. With an ever-changing and growing senior demographic, how does your party view the role of the Alberta Office of the Seniors' Advocate now, and how do you see it evolving to meet the needs of seniors in Alberta in the future?**

We believe the Office of the Senior Advocate must be reinstated. The Alberta Liberals believe that the role of the Seniors' Advocate is to provide information to seniors on programs, services and benefits that are available to them. This should not be limited to government-sponsored items alone but should encompass the full breadth of programs and services available to seniors – including things like housing options, consumer and fraud protection, and items of a social or recreational nature.

The office should really serve as a one-stop shop that is able to respond to or provide advice on any questions that seniors might have. The office should also be available to help seniors complete forms or applications for programs and services and assist with appeals or representing seniors in their dealings with program officials. The office should also proactively speak out and provide public commentary on issues of importance to seniors and represent them whenever any legislative or program changes affecting seniors are under consideration by government.

**9. Would your government use Section 19 of the AIMCo Act to direct AIMCo to make certain types of investments using Teachers' pension plan assets?**

Absolutely not. Under no circumstances would we support such a move. We oppose political interference in all pension activity and would seek to give teachers more control over their pensions.

**10. Would your government support clients of AIMCo, including ATRF, having the option to choose asset managers other than AIMCo?**

Yes. We support greater control and autonomy for workers and retirees when it comes to their pension plans. We would seek to depoliticize pension management in Alberta.

**11. Do you support the transition of Albertans contributing to an Alberta Pension Plan (APP) versus the current Canadian Pension Plan (CPP) and if so, why?**



We strongly oppose any moves toward an Alberta Pension Plan. Not only is such a change opposed by the vast majority of Albertans, but it also ignores the strengths and advantages of the CPP including its sustainability for decades to come.

**12. Does your party have any other policy positions that you feel would be of interest to Alberta seniors?**

The Alberta Liberals are also committed to:

- Creating a dedicated Ministry for Seniors Services
- Doing more to keep senior spouses living together, including in long-term care facilities.
- Ensuring same-sex partners in senior homes enjoy the same rights and privileges as opposite-sex partners.