



To: Bruce County Council

From: Seniors for Social Action Ontario & Council on Aging Grey Bruce

Subject: NEED TO REDIRECT FUNDING TO IN-HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE

Date: May 25, 2023

This past month the Council of the Town of Stratford took an important step in supporting its elder citizens. It decided to write to the Ontario Ministries of Health and Long Term Care urging them to redirect funding from long-term care institutions to in-home and community-based care which is where elders and people with disabilities want to be.

Stratford Council voted to support sending this letter and also voted to approach the Association of Municipalities of Ontario to support this effort, and it took the additional step of beginning to form a coalition of municipal councils across the province to lobby the Ontario government to change direction, and support funding to keep elders and people with disabilities at home and in their own communities.

This article outlines the actions taken by Stratford -

https://www.stratfordbeaconherald.com/news/local-news/stratford-to-lead-push-for-more-home-care-funding-from-the-province?fbclid=IwAR3RsoScxoEFX1uZSImf-fvfCvrTuTQJciFDPzz3CwzB_NRk0Od1GVvuJzY

“With Williams’ endorsement, council voted unanimously to have the city write such a letter to the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

Later in the meeting, Coun. Taylor Briscoe asked whether the Mayor Martin Ritsma and city CAO Joan Thomson would also consider engaging with other Ontario municipalities in the interest of forming a coalition on this issue. To that, Thomson said staff would also send the letter to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario in hopes of gaining the endorsement of all 444 municipalities in Ontario.”

We urge Bruce County Council to take the same action and demonstrate that this county is truly an age friendly community through this action.