



# Health Starts at Home

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## Championing Home & Community Care – It's Up to All of Us

**Prepared for: CHNAC Conference  
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# Agenda

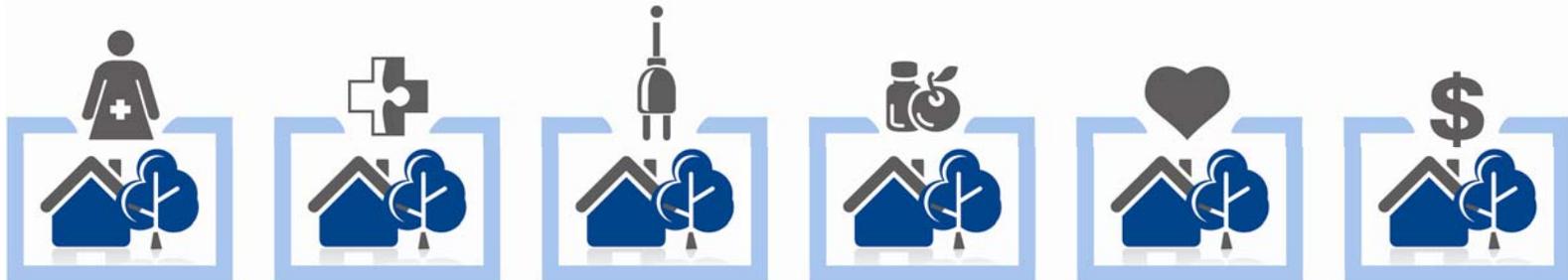
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## 1. Background:

- VON Canada
- Home & Community Care in Canada

## 2. Health Starts at Home: VON's Vision

## 3. Your Role





# VON Canada

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- Canada's largest national not for profit home and community care organization
- 13,000 staff and volunteers
- 52 sites in 1,200 communities
- 75 different programs and services (paid and charitable)
- 1 million clients/year
- 3 million visits/year
- Active in policy, research, and leadership

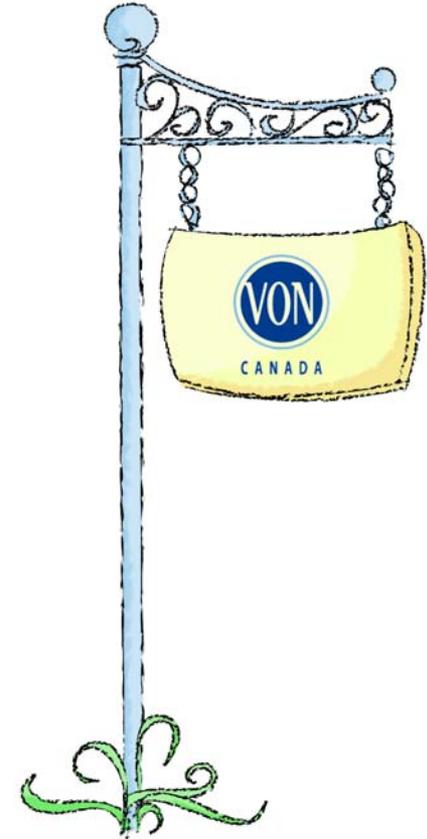


*Since 1897*  
*Touching Lives Since 1897*

# Home and Community Care in Canada

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- **Balance of care is shifting. Why?**
  - **Increase in demand for H&CC**
    - Aging population
    - Re-structuring of health care system
    - Advancements in technology
    - Consumer demand
- **Resources have not followed demand. No national legislation governing H&CC.**
- **Increase in demand + insufficient funding = excessive rationing of care**  **consequences for Canadians, providers and the health care system.**





# Why You Should Care....

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## Impacts of Current System hold consequences for:

- **Clients:** live “at risk” at home; spend unnecessary time in hospitals; admitted into health care institutions too early (e.g. LTC)
- **Family & Friend Caregivers:** over-reliance; financial, health and emotional “costs”
- **Providers:** not enough resources to provide quality, comprehensive care; working conditions
- **Health Care System:** over-reliance on institutions; threatens the sustainability of the health care system





# We Can and We Must Do Better!

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**VON Canada has developed a vision that identifies challenges, opportunities and **solutions** so we can move forward:**

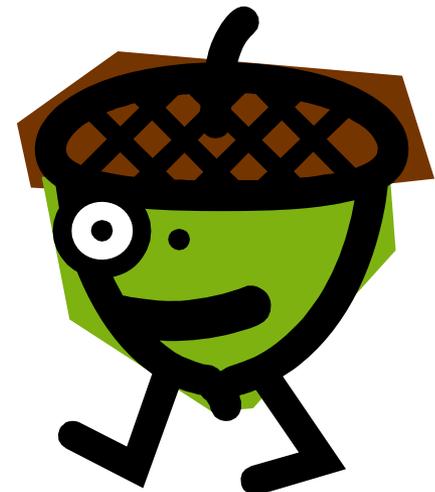
**Health Starts at Home**



# Our Vision in a Nutshell

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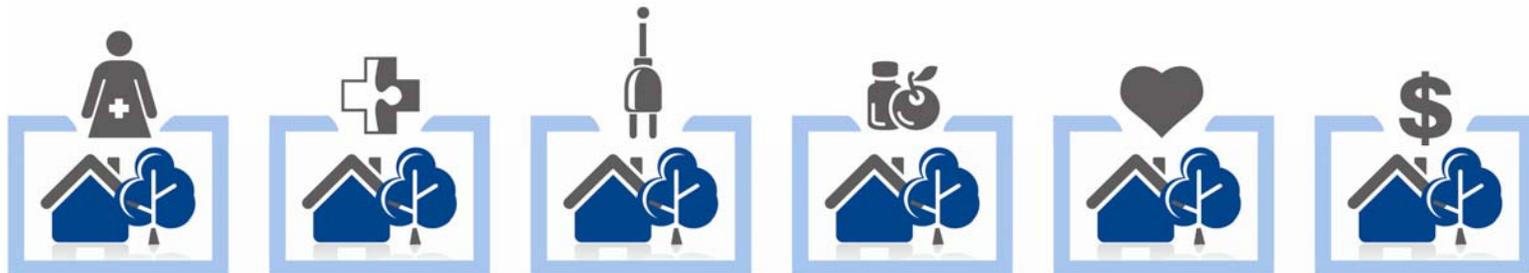
All Canadians to have **equitable access to comprehensive** home and community care.



# Health Starts at Home

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- We identified 6 key areas:
  - Health Human Resources (HHR)
  - Integration of Care & Services
  - Information Communication Technology (ICT)
  - Chronic Disease Prevention & Management (CDPM)
  - Caregiving
  - Investing in Home & Community Care
- Recommendations directed *primarily* at governments and health and social leaders.



# Recommendations

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**HHR** – paid and unpaid; compensation; working conditions; training; matching HHR force with the needs of clients

**Integration** – evaluate models; develop policies, support integrated planning & delivery (e.g. integration grants)

**ICT** – EHRs; clinical systems for home; technology for clients, caregivers & providers

# Recommendations

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- **CDPM:** multi-sectoral; enhanced role for H&CC; target “at risk”; provide choice to caregivers and clients
- **Caregiving:** supports, services; personal assessment; education; financial security; awareness campaign
- **Investing:** nat’l. approach; develop F/P/T working group; double nat’l. investment



# Decision Time

**Increase demand for home and community care is inevitable.**

**Do we want to get crushed by the wave or ride the crest?**

**What role can you play – as a provider, possible client or caregiver, as a Canadian?**

# Your Role

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## Start a conversation:

- Talk to friends, neighbours, colleagues

## Build on opportunities:

- Raise issue in a meeting; seek out integration opportunities

## Create new opportunities:

write an op-ed; talk at local events, write a letter





# Thanks

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## Questions

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