

March 7, 2022

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Honourable Adrian Dix
Minister of Health

Mr. Doug Cochrane
Chair
Interior Health Authority

Ms. Susan Brown
President and CEO
Interior Health Authority

Martin Johansen
Okanagan Similkameen
Regional Health District Chair

Dr. Shallen Letwin
Vice-President, Clinical
Operations, IH South

Mr. Peter Steele
South Okanagan Similkameen
Medial Foundation
Board Chair

Dear Minister Dix, Chairs, CEO's

Re: Comprehensive Review of McKinney Place Residential Care Facility, Oliver, BC

At the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic, McKinney Place Residential Care Facility reported 78 total cases, 55 being residents and 23 staff, resulting in 17 resident deaths. These deaths can be largely attributed to the antiquated design of the facility. The building does not allow for good infection control, proper care or livability of the residents with four bed wards, access to only one bathroom containing only a toilet and basin, plus a communal dining area that also functions as an activity area, nursing station and their living room.

The Town of Oliver requests that a review be undertaken as soon as possible of McKinney Place Residential Care Facility that encompasses the present and future needs of the facility and the communities involved, up-to-date practices and designs of such types of facilities, and a cost benefit analysis for renovating the present building.

Understanding that this 1970 built building alternatives to renovations could include a new facility being built on the South Okanagan General Hospital site. Benefits to a new building could result in the repurposing of the present building into a Primary Care building housing the Public Health Unit, Home Care Nursing, Long Term Care Nursing Assessment, Home Support, Medical Doctor Offices together with examination rooms, etc., teaching areas which could be utilized for prenatal classes and immunization clinics.

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Regardless, of what alternatives are presented or adopted as a result of the review or study of McKinney Place Residential Care Facility, it is imperative that in the interim changes be made to the present structure to ensure a safer and better space for the residents. The changes may result in loss of bed capacity but due to the often-slow movement to the plan, budget and construct or reconfigure the facility, they are necessary.

The Town of Oliver submitted the attached resolution to UBCM that was referred to the Executive Committee for consideration. The Executive Committee reviewed and amended and have now forwarded to the appropriate order of government or organization.

Thank you for your consideration, and look forward to discussing this urgent need in Oliver.

Yours truly,



Martin Johansen
Mayor

Attachments

cc Council
Ms. Trimmer-Balhsen





Long Term Care Homes COVID-19

Year: 2021

Number: NR47

Sponsor: Oliver

Whereas long term care services are for people who can no longer be cared for in their own homes or in an assisted living residence in a protective and supportive environment; And whereas the significant coronavirus death rate of long-term care residents is attributed to residing in facilities with shared roomsspaces, inadequate ventilation systems, limited access to isolation rooms, and limited supports for residents with dementia or complex cognitive and physical needs at the expense of their health safety, privacy and dignity in their end of life care: Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Government of BC put a moratorium on the construction of new long term care facilities that do not offer single rooms which will support and care for residents to ensure that the spread of COVID-19, flu like viruses and other diseases are minimized; And be it further resolved that current long term care facilities be renovated to accommodate patient care in single rooms.

Convention Decision

Not Considered - Automatic Referral to Executive

[Home](#) > [Convention & Resolutions](#) > [Resolutions](#) > [Resolutions Database](#)
> Long Term Care Homes COVID-19

2021 NR47 Long Term Care Homes – COVID-19

Whereas long term care services are for people who can no longer be cared for in their own homes or in an assisted living residence in a protective and supportive environment;

And whereas the significant coronavirus death rate of long-term care residents is attributed to residing in facilities with shared rooms/spaces, inadequate ventilation systems, limited access to isolation rooms, and limited supports for residents with dementia or complex cognitive and physical needs at the expense of their health safety, privacy and dignity in their end of life care:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Government of BC ~~put a moratorium on the construction of new long term care facilities that do not offer single rooms~~ **build all new long term care facilities with single room options**, which will support and care for residents to ensure that the spread of COVID-19, flu like viruses and other diseases are minimized;

And be it further resolved that current long term care facilities be renovated to accommodate patient care in single rooms.

CONVENTION DECISION: NOT CONSIDERED - AUTOMATIC REFERRAL TO EXECUTIVE

EXECUTIVE DECISION: ENDORSED AS AMENDED