



Moving Towards an Integrated Healthy Aging Community-Based Service System for Older Adults in Alberta

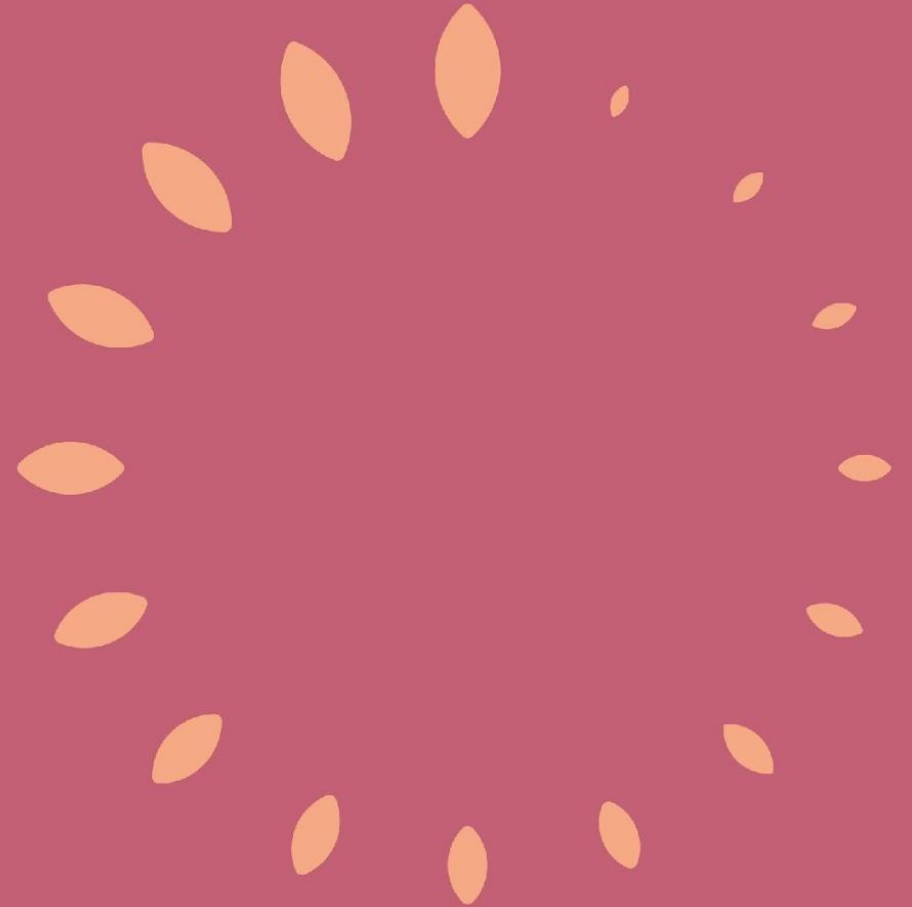
May 4, 2022

Karen McDonald
Chair, Community Leadership Council

Land Acknowledgement

In the spirit of our journey to promote reconciliation, we would like to honour the truth of the shared history and acknowledge the many First Nations, Métis and Inuit who have lived in and cared for these lands for generations.

We are grateful for the traditional Knowledge Keepers and Elders who are still with us today and those who have gone before us.



Healthy Aging Alberta

A network of community allies for older adults

What needs does this initiative address?

Growing senior demographic



Lack of provincial coordination



Not seen as a formal sector



Desire to age in place



Inability to operate at systems and policy level



Origins and Going Forward



Sector Engagement Project



HEALTHY AGING
CORE Collaborative Online Resources & Education
ALBERTA



COVID-19

Ministry of
Community
and Social
Services



Ministry of Seniors and Housing

Vision for the Future

Together we can develop a coordinated sector respected throughout the broader seniors' system of care that empowers every older adult to age how they choose and improves health and social outcomes.



Principles that Unite Us



Collaborative



Flexible and Dynamic



Community Driven



Seniors Centric



Diverse and Inclusive



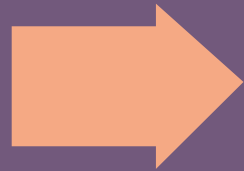
Action Oriented

The Approach

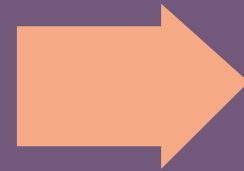
By **building a network** that connects the sector's organizations, we have the ability to have a greater impact on the lives of **all Albertans**.



Sector coordination and broader network weaving



Cross-sectoral collaboration on priority areas



Services for older adults are better resourced and enhanced

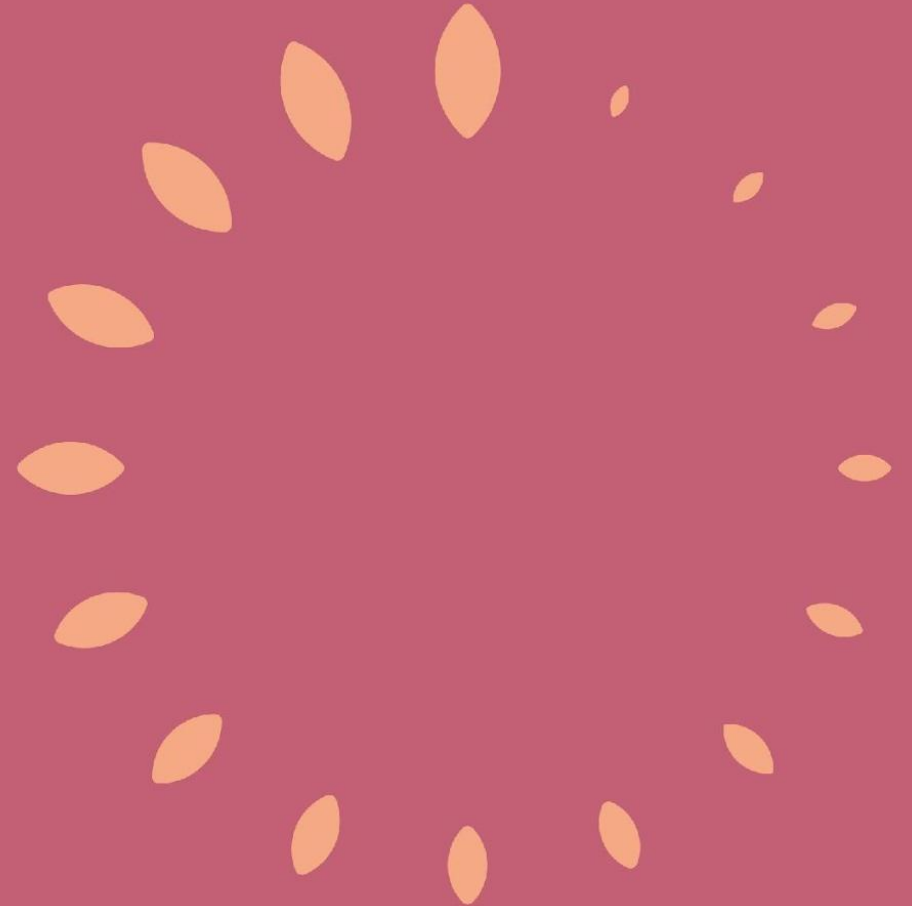
Continuing to Serve Seniors During the Pandemic Event & Report

Community Conversation Event

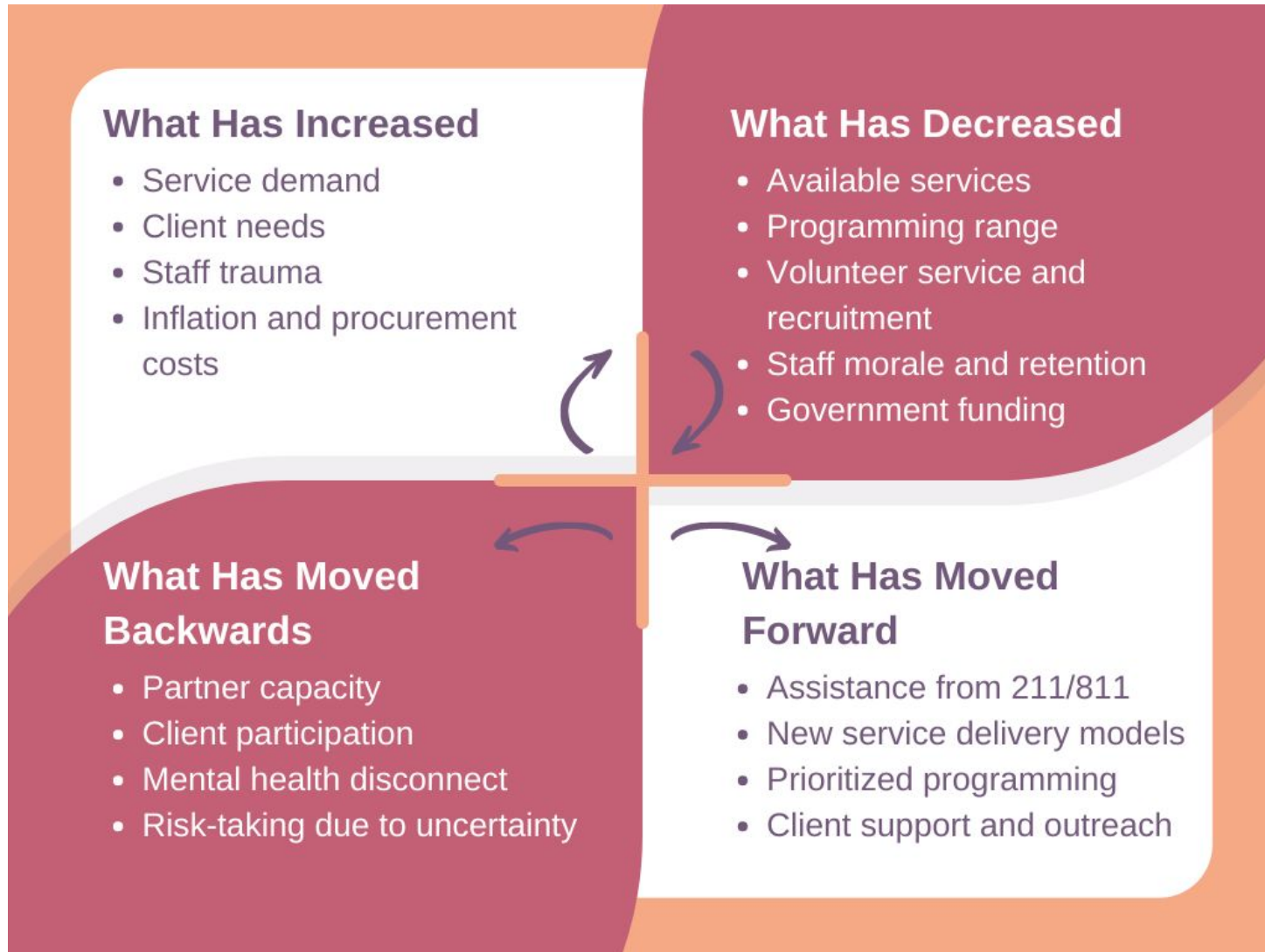
- 53 participants including CBSS organizations, government, health, and academia

Sector Capacity Survey

- 106 respondents
- 100% response rate
- Questions on organizational operations, funding, and service provision



Current State of the Sector



Service providers conveyed that their current work is:

- **Complex**
- **Challenging**
- **Exhausting**
- **Frustrating**
- **Inspiring**
- **Rewarding**

Issues and Gaps

ISSUES

affecting older adults



Complexities of Aging



Health and Well Being



Mental Health



Addictions



Connection and Participation



Service Navigation



Housing



Transportation

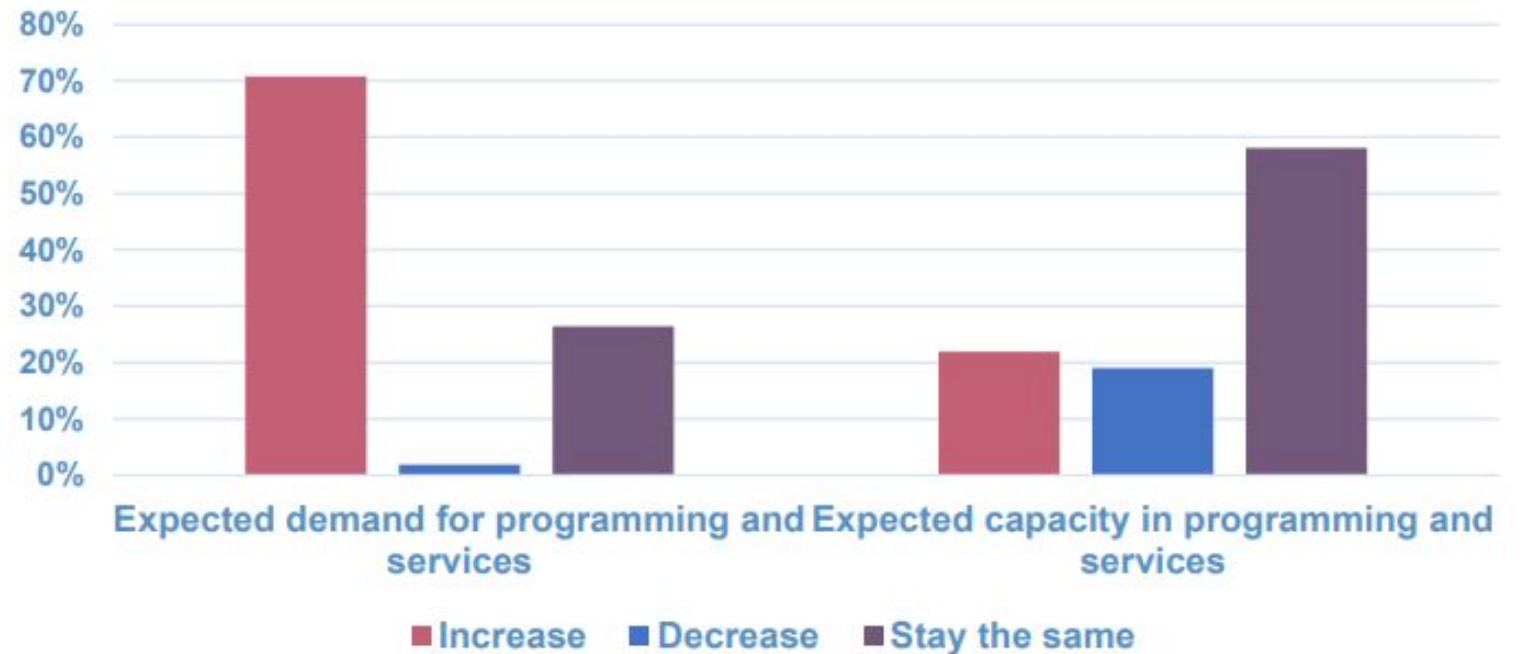


Finances



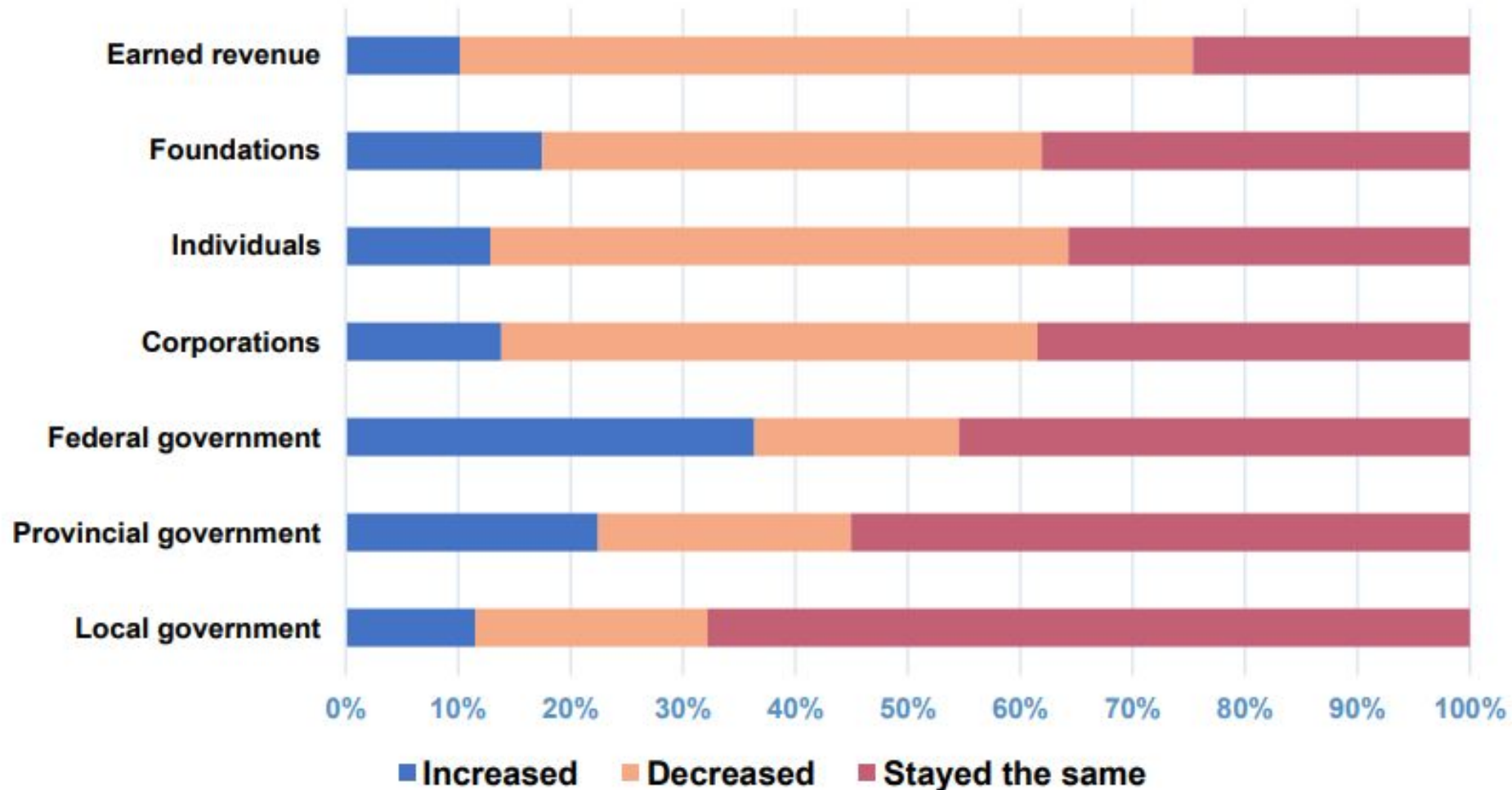
Technology

Anticipated Change in Demand versus Capacity Over the Next 3-6 Months



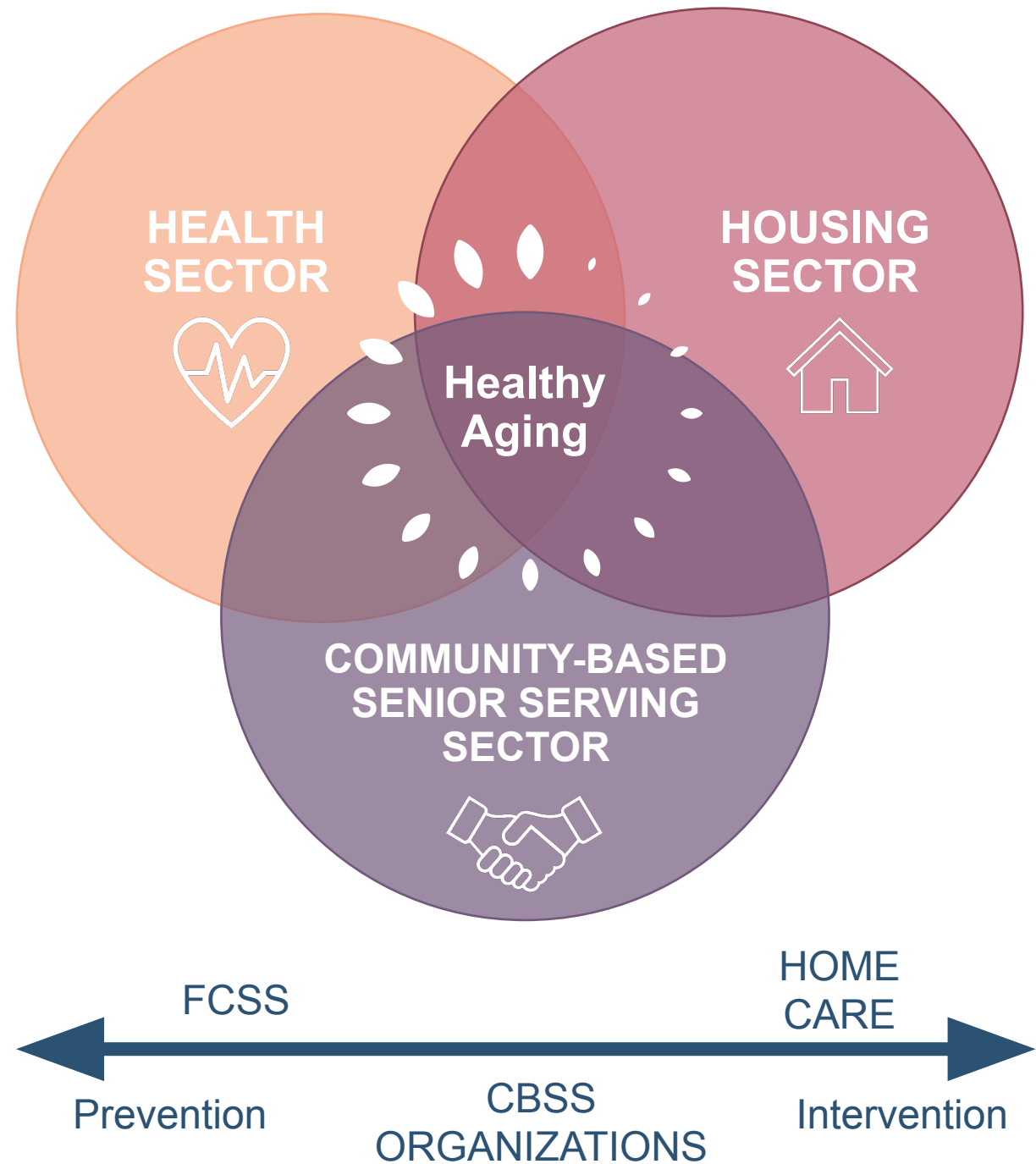
Funding Issues and Gaps

Changes in Sources of Funding or Revenue in 2021



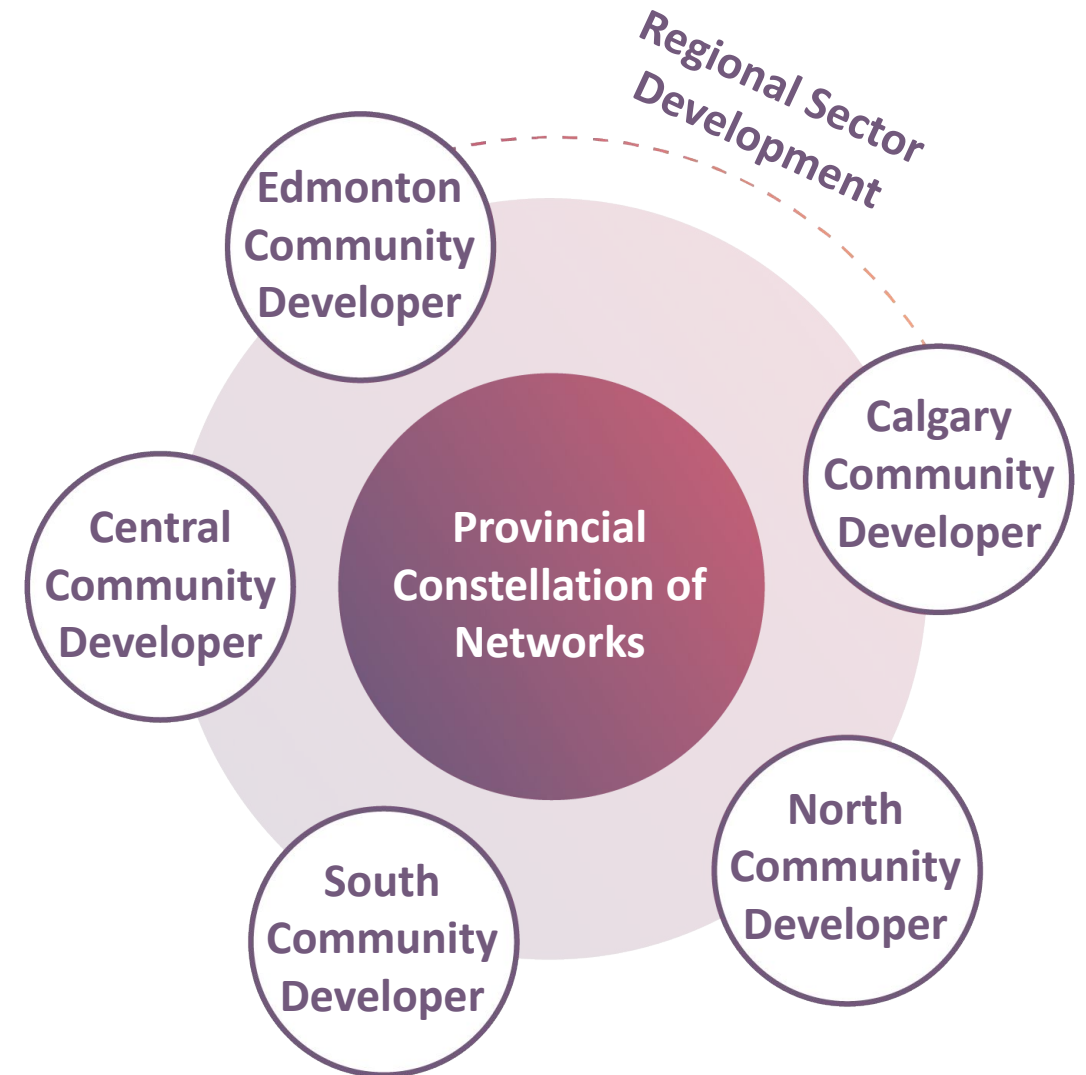
Strategic Objectives

- 1 Establish and coordinate the community-based senior-serving sector in Alberta



Strategic Objectives

2 Provide a provincially-coordinated learning and collaboration network



Professional Collaboration Groups on CORE



Alberta Age-Friendly Discussion Group

The Age-Friendly Discussion Group shares information, resources and promising practices for creating age-friendly environments.



Caregivers

The purpose of this group is to connect community-based senior serving professionals, volunteers, and allied and partners from all across Alberta who encounter caregivers in their work with resources...



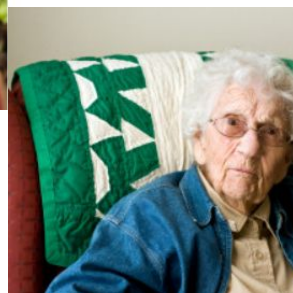
Falls Prevention

This group's primary purpose is to raise awareness on the issues of falls for older adults, as well as preventative measures for 55+. This group hopes to educate service providers on the issue of...



Food Security

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the challenges older adults on fixed incomes have in accessing food and nutrition. This working group is focused on developing solutions to the barriers related...



Home Supports

This group is focused on developing solutions to the barriers involved in providing in-home supports in a safe manner during the pandemic.

62 members

“I work in the seniors sector and see CORE as a major convener of this work.”

– CORE Member

With 18 groups and counting, there are many opportunities to network!



CORE Group Spotlight

Interview with our Group Leads!



- **Meaningful connections**
- **Knowledge hub for sharing**
- **Building the sector together**

CORE Frailty Series

5 participating groups

77 survey respondents



- **97%** of participants indicated the session was useful to their work supporting seniors
- **90%** of participants feel empowered to participate in collaborative work to address systemic issues
- **89%** of participants feel like they belong to the CBSS sector network in Alberta

Strategic Objectives

- 3 Address unmet needs through a community development approach



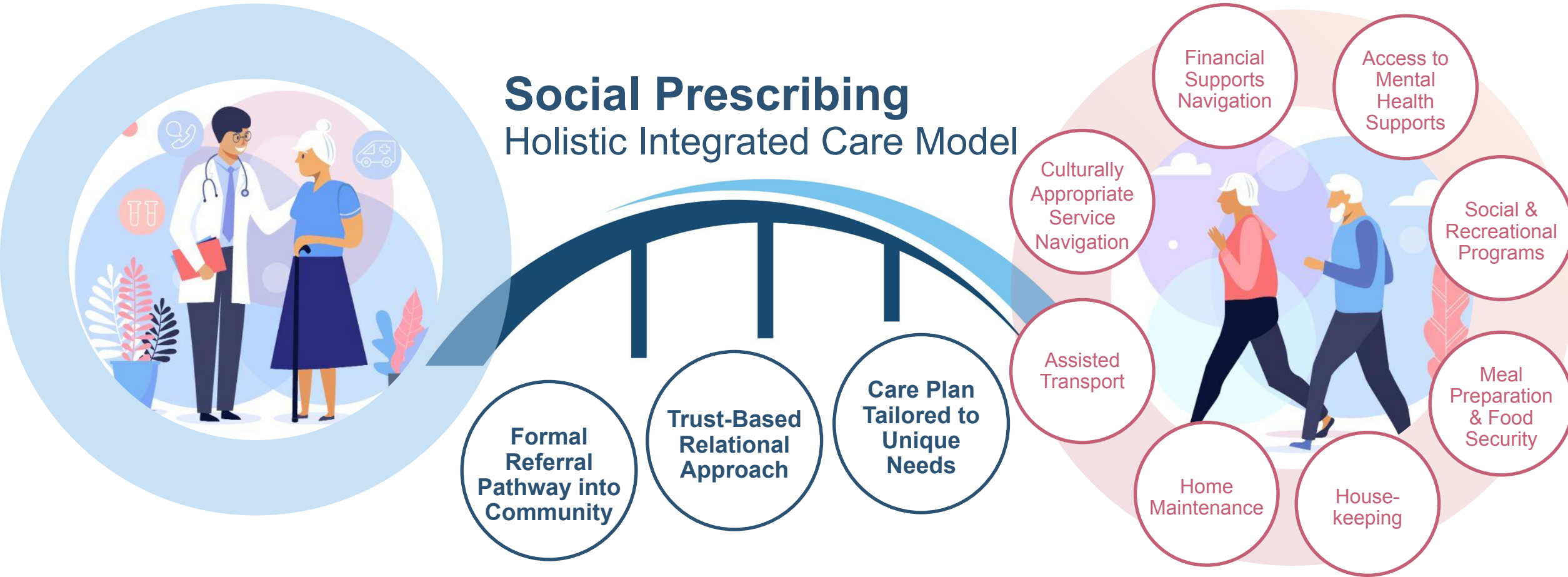
Primary Care

(and other healthcare providers)

Aging in Community

Non-Medical Supports

Social Prescribing Holistic Integrated Care Model



Healthy Aging Alberta

Foundational to facilitating investment into and coordination provincially

Strategic Objectives

- 4 Advocate for appropriate and coordinated investment in the sector through explore sustainable resourcing options provincially and regionally

COMMUNITY-BASED
SENIOR SERVING
SECTOR



Healthy Aging Framework

The Framework is a way of organizing the work of diverse organizations across varied contexts serving a deeply diverse population.



- Physical Environment
- Physical and Mental Health
- Social Support
- Personal Wellbeing
- Safety and Security
- Social Environment & Engagement

- Programs and services that organizations provide

- Specific things that take place as part of a program or service

- Things we think will change for individuals as a result of the work that we're doing

- Things we think will change more generally as a result of the work that we are doing

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

2024

**Sector
Engagement
Project**

What We Heard
Report

Phase 1: Foundations of Building a Sector

- Pandemic Response
- Interim Leadership Council
- CORE Alberta

Phase 2: Forming the Sector & Developing a Framework

- Community Activation Sessions
- Sector Systems Mapping
- Healthy Aging Framework
- Collaborative Leadership/Governance Model

Phase 3: Implementing a Framework

- Regional Pilot Projects
- Service Opportunities

**Phase 4:
Unified Voice
Coordinated Action**

Initiative Road Map

Please Meet Us in Person!

Join other professionals and systems partners during the upcoming dates:

May 26 – Edmonton

May 31 – Central Alberta

June 2 – Calgary

June 14 – Virtual

June 16 – Northern Alberta

June 23 – Southern Alberta


HEALTHY AGING REGIONAL GATHERINGS

*Transforming the future
of healthy aging together*

COMING TO YOUR REGION!







“I believe we are stronger together and that some of the issues many of us are trying to tackle should have a shared voice across the province.”

Get Involved as Sector Allies

- Collaborate as sector partners
- Join us with public policy and advocacy work
- Become a CORE member
- Sign up for the newsletter
- Stay in touch!

healthyaging@calgaryunitedway.org



Thank you!

**Healthy
Aging
Alberta**

