

Enabling a Promising Future for Continuing Care in Alberta

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COVID-19 Has Shifted Our Perspectives

91% of Canadians of all ages, and almost **100%** of Canadians 65 years of age and older report that they plan on supporting themselves to live safely and independently in their own home as long as possible.

Enabling the Future Provision of Long-Term Care in Canada



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September, 2019

NATIONAL SENIORS STRATEGY



INDEPENDENT, PRODUCTIVE & ENGAGED CITIZENS

Enables older Canadians to remain independent, productive and engaged members of our communities.



HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIVES

Supports Canadians to lead healthy and active lives for as long as possible.



CARE CLOSER TO HOME

Provides person-centered, high quality, integrated care as close to home as possible by providers who have the knowledge and skills to care for them.



SUPPORT FOR CAREGIVERS

Acknowledges and support the family and friends of older Canadians who provide unpaid care for their loved ones.

THE FOUR PILLARS SUPPORTING A NATIONAL SENIORS STRATEGY

ACCESS

EQUITY

CHOICE

VALUE

QUALITY

THE FIVE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING A NATIONAL SENIORS STRATEGY

The Future CoSt of Long-Term Care in Canada

Bonnie-Jeanne MacDonald, PhD, FSA, ACIA, National Institute on Ageing, Ryerson University
 Michael Wolfson, PhD, FCAHS, University of Ottawa
 John P. Hirdes, PhD, FCAHS, School of Public Health and Health Systems, University of Waterloo



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Re - Defining *Long-Term Care*

Figure 1: NIA Visual of the Components Inherent to the International Provision of Long-Term Care (LTC)



Why Long-Term Care Matters

- It is the **LARGEST** form of hands-on care that is **NOT** covered under the *Canada Health Act*.
- Coverage levels, qualifying criteria, and design standards vary significantly across provinces and territories.
- There is a growing value of these services to meet the *long-term care* needs of an ageing population effectively and sustainably.
- The current demand for long-term care services is already unprecedented and is only expected to grow as the population ages.
- The system has been plagued by longstanding systemic vulnerabilities when it comes to its health human resources and physical design and redevelopment approaches.

How Possible is it to Age in the *Right* Place?

A 2015 national survey of 2,008 found that **63%** of respondents said their family was not in a good position (financially or otherwise) to care for older family members if they needed long-term health care, and it worried them greatly (Ipsos Public Affairs, 2015).



Over **430,000** Canadians
currently have unmet
home care needs,
while **40,000** are
on nursing home
wait lists.

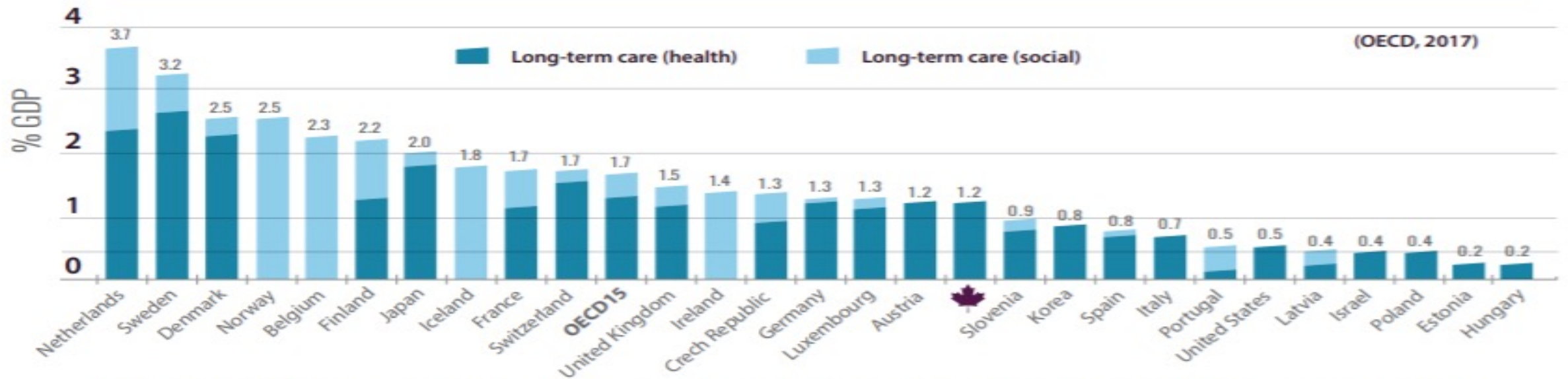


(Gilmour, 2018b)



Comparing Canada to Other OECD Nations, Canada Spends less on Average of its GDP on the Provision of Long-Term Care

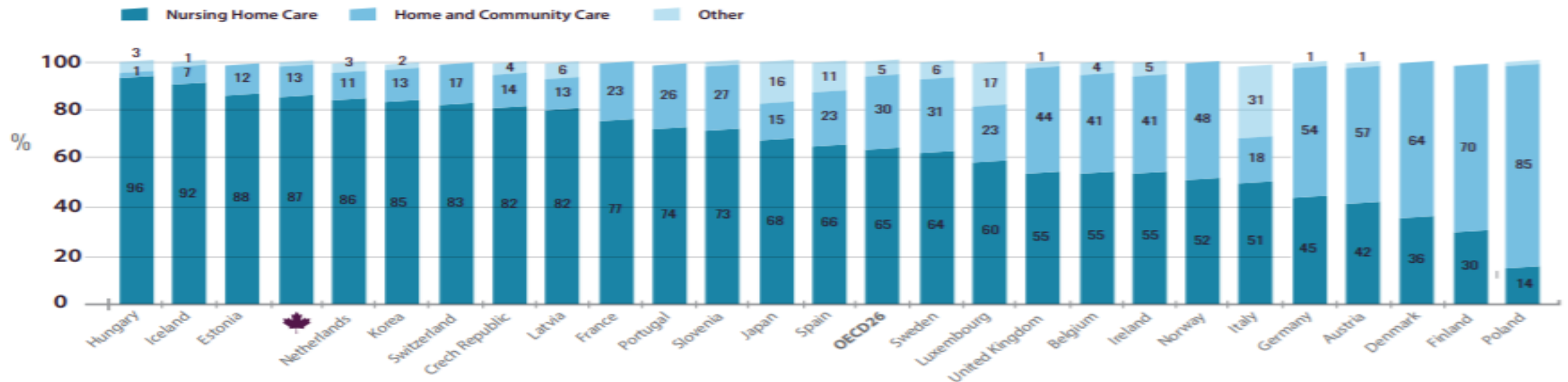
Figure 2: Long-Term Care Expenditure (health and social components) by Government and Compulsory Insurance Schemes, as a Share of GDP, 2015 (or nearest year) Across OECD Nations



Note: The OECD average only includes the 15 countries that report health and social LTC. Source: OECD Health Statistics 2017.

Comparing Canada to Other OECD Nations, Canada Spends far Less on Home and Community Care than on Nursing Home Care

Figure 3: Government and Compulsory Insurance Spending on LTC (health) by Mode of Provision, 2015 (or nearest year) Across OECD Nations



Note: "Other" includes LTC day cases and outpatient LTC. Source: OECD Health Statistics 2017.

(Adapted from OECD, 2017)

Between 2019 and 2050, the cost of public care in nursing homes and private homes will more than triple, growing from **\$22 billion to \$71 billion** annually (in constant 2019 dollars).



Between 2019 and 2050, there will be approximately **30%** fewer close family members available to provide unpaid care.





Figure 7: A Conceptual Framework Supporting Future Long-Term Care Provision

A Conceptual Framework Supporting Future Long-Term Care Provision in Canada





We Have Choices and Options...

- Waiting in Hospital to Go Elsewhere (ALC) Costs ~ **\$750/Day**
- Long-Term Care (LTC) Costs ~ **\$200/Day**
- Home Care for an LTC Equivalent Person Costs ~ **\$103/Day**
- Denmark avoided building any new LTC beds over two decades, and actually saw the closure of thousands of hospital beds, by strategically investing more in its home and community care services.
- The Ontario government committed to at least an annual 5% increase in the Home and Community Care Budget from 2011 to 2018. Investment increases in home care became inflationary from 2018-2022 while plans were announced to build 30,000 new LTC beds with negative consequences.

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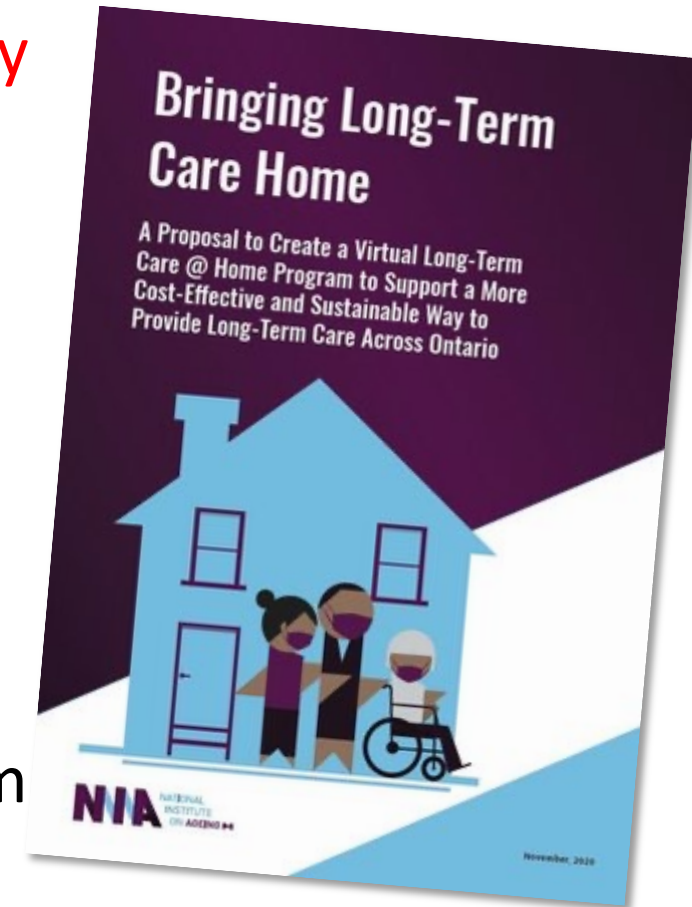
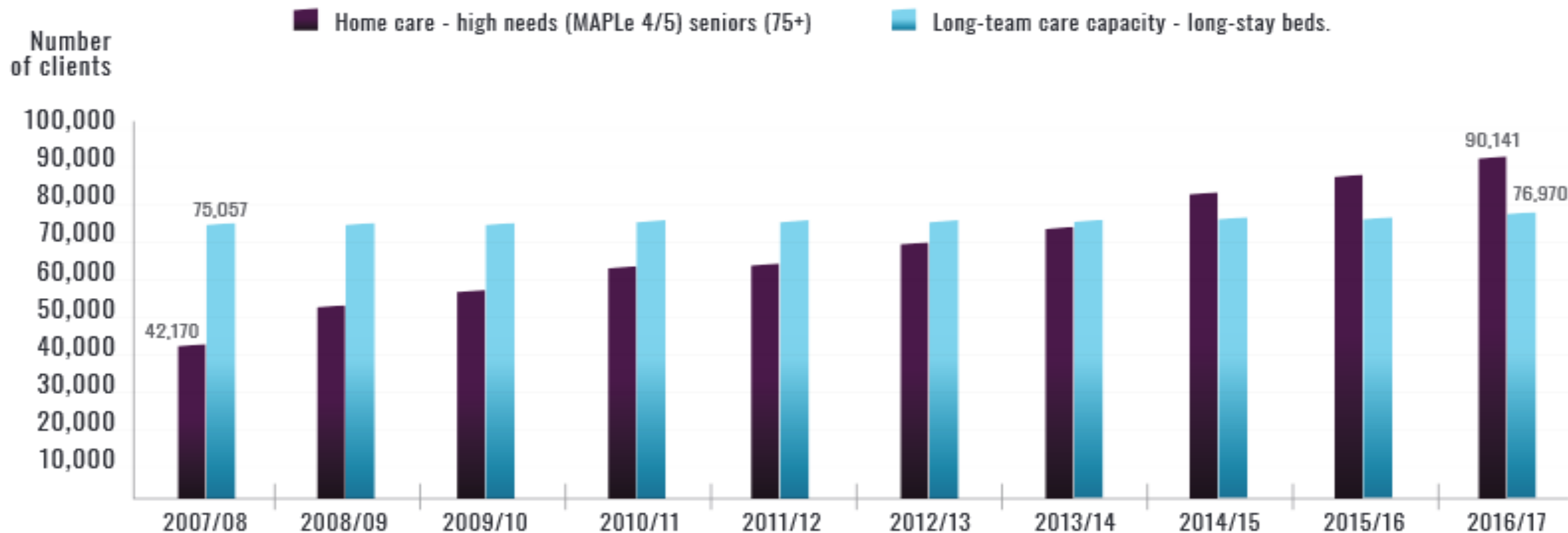


Figure 3: High-Needs Older Ontarians (75+) Cared for with In-Home Care versus existing LTC Capacity between 2007-08 to 2016-17⁷



*The number of LTC long-stay beds shown are for april of every FY shown, from monthly LTCH System Reports

What's in Store for Continuing Care in Alberta?



What's in Store for Long-Term Care in Alberta?

- A Conversation Needs to begin at the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Levels to Determine how should we approach the future provision of Long-Term Care and how best to enable Ageing-in-the-Right-Place
 - National LTC Standards, and proposed National Ageing at Home Benefit could be strong enablers
- While long-neglected, the Community Support and Home Care Sectors are more aligned than ever with what older people want and will demand moving forward and require greater attention and investment
- Promoting Ageing Well will be one of the best things we can do to help many avoid the need for long-term care in future.

Thank You

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