

Addressing the Needs of Canada's Aging Population

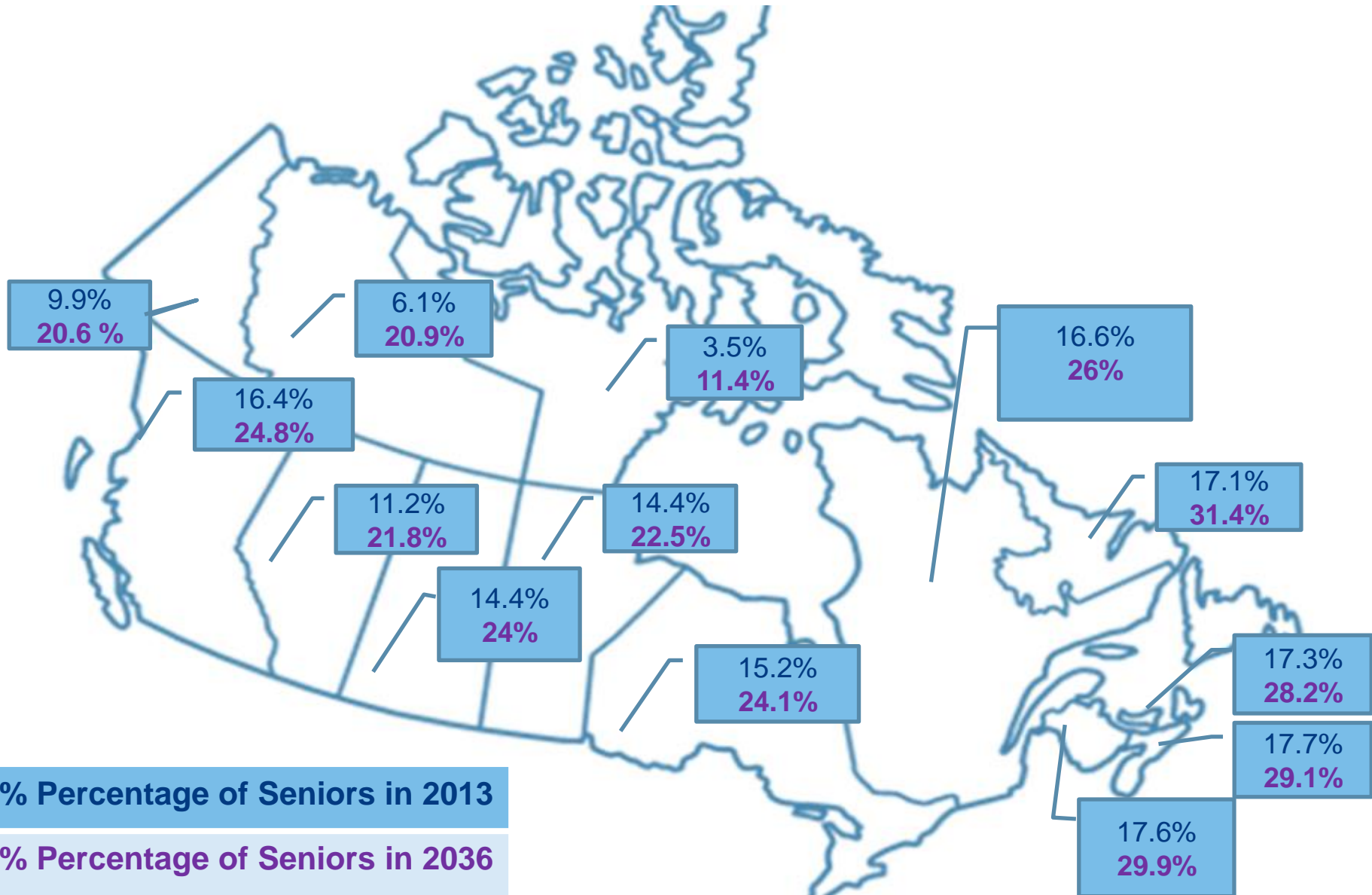
Canadian Medical Association

**National Pensioners Federation
71st Annual Convention – Oct. 2, 2015**

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- Conflict of Interest: None

A major success story – with implications



What these figures don't tell us...

- The 85+ year old group will quadruple!
- What does this mean for the health care system?
 - For example, consider the rates of hospitalization for congestive heart failure:
 - 387 per 100,000 population for those age 65 to 74;
 - 2,240 per 100,000 population for those age 85 and older;

What these figures don't tell us... (con't)

- Per person spending for seniors increases with age:
 - \$6,368 for those age 65 to 69;
 - \$8,545 for those 70 to 74;
 - \$11,692 for those 75 to 79;
 - \$21,054 for those 80 and older.

(CIHI Health Expenditures, 2012)

Our health care system has not adapted to the successful aging of Canadians

- Hospital-centric system:
 - Limited support for home care and caregivers.
 - Not a true community care system.

Our health care system has not adapted to the successful aging of Canadians (con't)

- Hospitals have become the default setting for care.
- Hospitals are also the most expensive places to provide care:
 - Hospital: \$1,000.00 per day
 - Long-term care: \$ 130.00 per day
 - Home care: \$ 55.00 per day

How does this affect Canadians in real time?

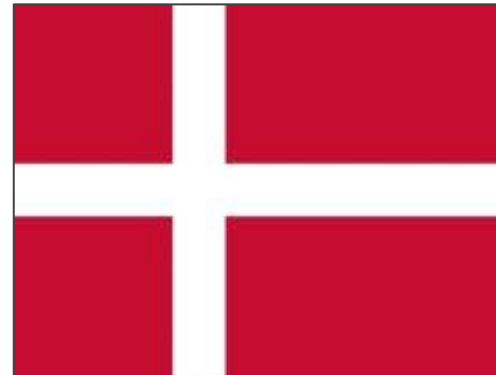
- Alternative Level of Care (ALC) crisis:
 - 15% of hospital beds are ALC
 - 3 million ALC bed days per year cost \$2.6 billion (wasted)
 - Hospital bed gridlock
 - Impacts on access to care and wait times for Canadian of all ages

Better seniors care means better care for everyone

- Seniors care accounts for almost 50% of health care budgets
- This impacts funding available to other areas of health care
 - This will impact access to health care for Canadians of all ages
 - This will impact persons in the workforce who also have to provide care
 - 37% of the work force is taking care of a relative (Stats Can)

What can we learn from Denmark?

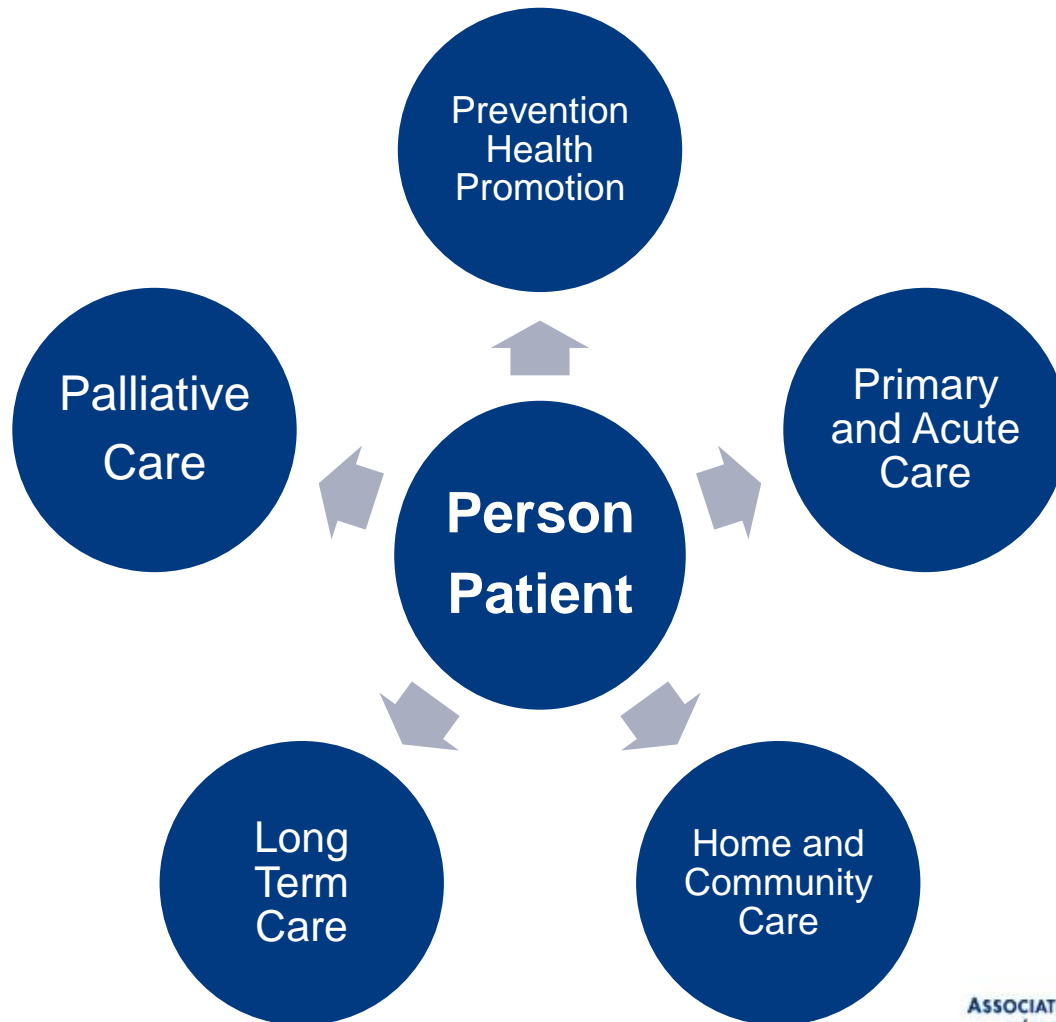
- **Spending on home care:**
 - Canada: 0.24% of our GDP
 - Denmark: 1.16% of GDP (**5X higher**)
- **Spending on long-term care:**
 - Similar in Canada & Denmark: almost a full percentage point



Better seniors care means better care for everyone

- Basic math tells us our current model is not sustainable.
- If we want to save universal health care we have to change the way we provide care to seniors:
 - more coordinated;
 - less wasteful;
 - less costly settings;
 - A more community centered health care system;
 - built around the needs of seniors not around the needs of institutions.

We need a community-based system built around the seniors and their families



A Policy Framework to Guide a National Seniors Strategy for Canada

August 2015

- wellness and prevention;
- primary care;
- home care and community support;
- acute and specialty care;
- long-term care;
- palliative care.

Canadians want a national seniors strategy

A Nanos poll commissioned by the CMA in key ridings demonstrated:

- Only 23% of respondents thought Ottawa was ready for the future health care needs of our aging population.
- 87% supported the need for a national seniors strategy.
- Almost 6 in 10 said they would switch parties if their current political party failed to make seniors a priority in the next federal election campaign.



**DON'T
LEAVE SENIORS
OUT IN
THE COLD.**

Whether it's a lack of investments in long-term care facilities or home care, Canada's seniors are not getting the care they deserve – not even close. What's going to happen in the next 15 years if we don't have a plan? We need a national strategy for seniors – right now.

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- ▶ Join the over **25,000** Canadians who have added their voice to CMA's campaign!

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See what the federal parties are planning with respect to health care and ask questions

- Go to www.demandaplan.ca
 - Look at the Promise Tracker
- Go to the 'Take Action' tab
 - Select 'Write to your MP'



CMA's desired outcomes...

- Commitment to a national seniors strategy;
- First Ministers' Meeting held early in new mandate;
- Implementation of national seniors strategy by 2019.

Discussion questions

- What does improving seniors care mean to you?
- What's working in your community? What's not working?
- What can your organization do?

