



National Pensioners Federation

Policies

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National Pensioners Federation: Our Policies

ENVIRONMENT POLICIES

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2019

19.1.1 CANADIAN OIL REFINING

Policy: That the NPF calls upon the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ministry of International Trade to keep Canadian business in Canada. Canadian oil should be refined in Canada by Canadian companies.

Unifor Area Retired Workers Council, Toronto & USCO

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2018

18.1.1 PROTECTING CANADIAN WATERS

Policy: National Pensioners Federation call upon our Provincial and Federal Governments to recognize our right to a healthy environment and to recognize that access to water is a fundamental and inalienable right for all Canadians and to discontinue the selling of our water to foreign interests.

Submitted by: Unifor Toronto Area Retired Workers Council

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2016

16.1.1 OVERHAUL CANADA'S ENVIRONMENT ASSESSMENT

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the federal government to start new public reviews of all pipelines and overhaul Canada's environmental assessment processes.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2015

15.1.1 TOWARDS A JUST TRANSITION

Policy: That the NPF urge all levels of government to take all possible action to transition our economy to run on clean, renewable energy and that a "just transition" be offered to all workers whose jobs are affected by this transition.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2014

14.1.1 SUPPORT FOR "IDLE NO MORE"

Policy: That the NPF encourage its members to support (where possible) "Idle No More" organizers to further their environmental protection and indigenous rights activities.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2013

13.1.1 ENERGY CONSERVATION AND RETROFIT

Policy: That the NPF actively lobby (provincially and federally) for funding for improved energy conservation and green energy retrofit programmes which include a “Pay as You Save” (PAYS) programme.

13.1.2 UN CONVENTION ON DROUGHT

Policy: That the NPF call upon the federal government to reinstate Canada’s commitment to the United Nations Convention on Drought.

13.1.3 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FROM RAIL ACCIDENTS

Policy: That the federal government immediately put in place and enforce strict regulations to protect Canadians and the environment from rail accidents.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2012

12.1.1 TRANSPORTATION OF NUCLEAR AND TOXIC WASTES

Policy: That the NPF urge the Canadian and USA governments and the Ministers of the Environment to ban the transport of nuclear and toxic waste through the Great Lakes.

12.1.2 NO NEW PIPELINES

Policy: That the NPF adds its voice in favour of the environment and against any increased construction of pipelines for bitumen and gas.

12.1.3 PROTECT THE GREAT LAKES ECOSYSTEM

Policy: That the NPF demands that the provincial and federal Ministers of the Environment ensure that the ecosystem of the Great Lakes is protected.

12.1.4 BAN “FRACKING”

Policy: That the Canadian and provincial governments ban the practice of “fracking”.

12.1.5 THE CRITICAL ISSUE OF SOIL AND LAND REGENERATION

Policy: That the NPF urge support for local and organic farmers and education for all levels of government regarding the critical issue of soil and land regeneration.

FINANCE AND INCOME POLICIES

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2025

25.5.1 INCOME SECURITY FOR SENIORS – CPP/OAS/GIS

Policy - Request the federal government to address income insecurity by increasing the OAS and GIS to keep pace with rising costs such as heating, hydro and food.

AND: Urge the government to increase the Old Age benefit for those aged 65 to 74 to help many Canadians pay for essentials and to keep pace with the increase given to those aged 75 and older, which was enacted in 2022.

AND: Urge the government to allow working seniors to keep more of their paycheque by increasing their CPP amount by 10% for those over age 65.

Vancouver Retired Teachers Association

25.5.2 LEVEL OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR SENIORS

Policy - Lobby the Federal government to conduct policy analysis to determine the actual level of financial support seniors require to meet their needs.

Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of BC

25.5.5 Make the Treatment of RRSP/RRIFS on Death Fairer for Single Seniors

Policy - Encourage the Federal government to allow a tax-deferred rollover by a single senior to a beneficiary of choice such that the proceeds are paid out, and taxable to that beneficiary, over a maximum of ten years.

AND: Should the beneficiary die before the end of the ten years, the balance would be fully taxable in the year of death of that beneficiary.

Single Seniors for Tax Fairness

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2023

23.2.1 GUARANTEED INCOME SUPPLEMENT [GIS] INCREASE

Policy - Continue to press the Federal government to increase substantially the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS).

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of BC (COSCO BC)

23.2.2 CALL FOR FAIRER TAX STRUCTURE

Policy - Call upon the Minister of Finance, the Prime Minister of Canada, and all levels of Government to put in place a fairer system for taxing individuals.

Submitted by: Unifor Toronto Area Retired Workers Council

23.2.3 HIGH COST OF LIVING

Policy - Call upon other Seniors' Organizations and allies to participate in Days of Action, to address the social, political, and economic inequalities that are occurring in our society due to the high cost of living.

Submitted by: Unifor Local 707 Retired Workers Chapter

23.2.4 INCREASE THE CPP/QPP DEATH BENEFIT

Policy - Lobby the Federal Government (CPP/QPP) and the Quebec Government to raise the Death Benefit from \$2,500 to \$5,000, to make it non-taxable, and

To lobby all Retiree Organizations to organize a national campaign in favour of an increased, non-taxable death benefit.

Submitted by: Unifor Local 62 Retired Workers Chapter

23.2.5 OAS EQUITY FOR ALL SENIORS

Policy - Push the Federal Government to revise the OAS augmentation of 10% for all seniors, and

Join with CURC and the Bloc Quebecois and other community groups to endorse Bill C 319 presented to the government in May 2023 to amend the Old Age Security pension so that people between the ages of 65 and 74 will also benefit from the 10% increase already granted to people of 75 and over.

Submitted by: Congress of Union Retirees of Canada

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2021

21.2.1 CANADIAN OLD AGE SECURITY PENSION (OAS) FOR AGE 65+

Policy - That the national pensioners federation call on the federal government to take immediate action to institute a lump sum payment and a permanent increase in Old Age Security (OAS), so that all current seniors 65 and over, can receive much needed financial assistance: and

That the National Pensioners Federation call on federal government to take immediate action to increase the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), to improve the lives of many low-income seniors; and

That the National Pensioners Federation ask for the support of all group of seniors and all organizations of retirees to organize a national campaign to fight and to obtain equality for all seniors in Canada and to ensure that this government doesn't create a two-class system of our seniors based on age.

Submitted by: Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC)

21.2.2 INCREASE TO CANADA PENSION PLAN (CPP) SURVIVOR BENEFIT

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation continue to advocate for and call on the Federal Minister of Finance and all Provincial Finance Ministers to support a significant increase to the Canada Pension Plan Survivor Benefit.

Submitted by: Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC)

21.2.5 & 21.2.6 (COMBINED) ELIMINATE MANDATORY RRIF WITHDRAWALS

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation call upon the federal government to eliminate the mandatory withdrawal from Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF) to protect the financial security of our seniors, and

That the National Pensioners Federation call upon the federal government to improve the financial security of our seniors by removing the mandatory withdrawal of funds from RRIF accounts.

21.2.7 OLD AGE SECURITY INCREASE

Policy - That the NPF urge the federal government to allocate the funds to all seniors from the age of 65, for the one-time payment, as well as the increase in Old Age Security payments.

Submitted by: NPF Executive

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2019

19.2.1 GRANDPARENTS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Policy - The government monetarily help those seniors that are raising grandchildren without assistance.

Submitted by: Club #690 – The Winchester Golden Years, Winchester & USCO

19.2.2 TAXING THE TAX CALCULATIONS

Policy - We call on the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Governments to immediately stop taxing tax.

Submitted by: Club #945 – Britt Byng Inlet and Community Senior Citizen Club, Britt & USCO

19.2.3 CPP & OAS INCREASE ON LOW FIXED INCOMES

Policy - The government increase the amount of CPP, OAS and other monies so that the people who are on fixed incomes and the working poor can live in their homes comfortably.

Submitted by: Club #690 – The Winchester Golden Years, Winchester & USCO

19.2.4 INCOME SECURITY

Policy -That NPF request the federal government to increase the Pension Income amount (line 314 on the CRA form) deduction from \$2000.00 to \$5000.00

Submitted by: SSAI AGM 2019

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2018

18.2.1 BILL C 27 INCOME SECURITY

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation call on the Government of Canada to withdraw Bill C-27, an Act to amend the Pension Benefit Standards Act, 1985.

18.2.2 OLD AGE SECURITY (OAS)

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation call on the federal government to increase the Old Age Security to \$2,000 a month.

Submitted by: COSCO of BC

18.2.3 INCREASING INCOME LEVELS FOR SENIORS

Policy - That National Pensioners Federation lobby the Federal Government to bring the income level of seniors up to at least the Poverty Line.

Submitted by: SSAI, Saskatchewan Seniors Association Incorporated

18.2.4 TAX AVOIDANCE THRU TAX HAVENS

Policy - That the NPF urge the Canadian Government to stop tolerating and facilitating the use of tax havens to legally avoid taxes and to reverse the policies that make it legal to avoid taxes through tax havens and to provide the resources required to enforce compliance.

Submitted by: Unifor Local 200 Retired Workers Chapter

18.2.5 PHOENIX PAYROLL SYSTEM

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) work with the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) the Canadian Labour Congress and Federations of Labour in their demands and actions to get fairness and respect for Federal Government workers who have suffered negative impacts of the Phoenix pay system.

Submitted by: BC Forum (BC Federation of Retired Union Members)

18.2.6 PHOENIX SYSTEM FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Policy - That The National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal Government to shut down the Phoenix Payroll system, and let accounts handle the government payroll.

Submitted by: Club #1341 – Douro Township Seniors, Peterborough

18.2.7 MATCH OAS TO MINIMUM WAGE INCREASES

Policy - That The National Pensioners Federation bring to the attention of the Federal Government that the increase to the Old Age Pension should at least match the percentage increase made to the minimum wage. *Submitted by: Club #1269 – Parry Sound Seniors, Parry Sound Phoenix*

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2017

17.2.1 DEATH TAX EXEMPTION

Policy - That the Government exempts taxes owing to anyone who passes away after age of 65.

17.2.2 CANADA REVENUE AGENCY

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Canada Revenue Agency to rectify the injustices that taxpayers face regarding their inability to claim significant medical expenses because they may not have income in a specific category.

17.2.3 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR SENIORS

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal Government to create a Consumer Price Index for Seniors, revamping the list of items included in the 'basket of items' used in the calculation of the Consumer Price Index and to give extra weight in the calculations to essentials like food, electricity, heat, etc.

17.2.4 SEPARATE SURVIVORS BENEFITS

Policy - That Survivor benefits are not combined with Canada Pension Plan at 60 to reduce the overall benefits but that both benefits are maintained.

Submitted by: USCO

17.2.5 AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation engage the Federal and Provincial governments for affordable childcare program to increase the number of low-cost spaces at a cost of no more than \$15 per day,

And - that these spaces be universally created across our country so that all provinces have a chance for safety and affordability in all cities throughout Canada, and And - that these spaces be offered in safe government regulated facilities for the wellbeing of our children and grandchildren.

17.2.6 POSTAL BANKING

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation call upon our Prime Minister, the Federal Government, and Canada Post Corporation to establish a task force to determine how to deliver new financial products and new services through the Post Office, and

That the National Pensioners Federation urge the national government to establish a publicly-owned postal banks.

17.2.7 TAXING SENIORS' HEALTH BENEFITS

Policy - that the National Pensioners' Federation oppose the Federal Government's proposed Taxation of Seniors' Health Benefits.

17.2.8 MINIMUM INCOME

Policy - that the National Pensioners Federation call upon the Prime Minister along with the Federal and Provincial Governments to establish a Guaranteed Annual Income scale for the benefit of all citizens,

And - that the scale of benefits be such that it would reduce the income gap through annual guaranteed income and lift all Canadians out of poverty.

17.2.9 EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation highlight the unfairness of the present compensation paid to CEO's and other corporate executives while workers experience wage and pension stagnation.

17.2.10 Bill C-27

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) continue to work with the Canadian Labour Congress, the Congress of Union Retirees of Canada, the BC Retired Teachers Association, our allies and union affiliates to oppose Bill C-27, an act to amend the Pensions Benefits Standards Act

And - that the NPF continue to educate members and the public on the dangers of Bill C-27.

17.2.11 CPP and OAS

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation urge the government to increase the amount of CPP, OAS, and other monies so that people who are on fixed income and low income families or the disabled can live in their homes comfortably.

17.2.12 NOTIFICATION OF INCOME SUPPORTS

Policy - that the National Pensioners' Federation urge the Federal and Provincial Governments to collaborate in producing and distributing with the T4A slips an information sheet outlining the following:

- income supports available, such as the Guaranteed Income Supplement, Medical Plan Premium Assistance, Shelter Aid for Elderly Residents, etc.,
- household income required to be eligible for such income support, e.g., under \$42,000 (contact information to obtain application forms for such income support.)

17.2.13 CAREGIVERS TAX CREDIT REFUND

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal Government to make the new combined Caregiver Tax Credit refundable.

17.2.14 DEFINED BENEFITS

Policy - That the Prime Minister keep his promise made to the National Association of Federal Retirees in writing that defined benefit plans which have already been paid for by employees and pensioners should not be retroactively changed.

17.2.15 (UPHOLDING) DEFINED BENEFITS

Policy - That the NPF work with all senior groups, pension and social justice organizations to carry out campaigns to ensure that Federal and Provincial Governments enact legislation that will prohibit both public and private sector employers from making any change to defined benefit pensions which do not enhance such plans, and - That the NPF work to move forward with a suitable representation on October 1st (United Nations Day of the Older Person) for Canadians around the pending pension crisis.

17.2.16 CPP INDEXING

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation urge the federal government to index senior pensions to the cost of living, inflation rate, only in the positive.

17.2.17 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR SENIORS

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal Government to create a Consumer Price Index for Seniors, revamping the list of items included in the 'basket of items' used in the calculation of the Consumer Price Index and to give extra weight in the calculations to essentials like food, electricity, heat, etc.

Submitted by: OLD AGE PENSIONERS ORGANIZATION OF B C and COSCO

17.2.18 CANADA REVENUE AGENCY INCOME

Policy - that the National Pensioners Federation urge the Canada Revenue Agency to rectify the injustices that taxpayers face regarding their inability to claim significant medical expenses because they may not have income in a specific category. Submitted by: COUNCIL OF SENIOR CITIZENS ORGANIZATIONS of BC

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2016

16.2.1 VESTING OF BENEFITS

Policy - That the NPF call upon the federal government to introduce legislation which will consider retired workers' benefits packages to be vested similar to the vesting of pension benefits.

16.2.2. PRIVATIZATION OF CANADA'S ASSETS

Policy - That the NPF call upon the Federal Government and all federal political parties to reject the idea of selling off our current assets in order to fund future ones.

16.2.3 POSTAL BANKING

Policy - That the NPF call upon the federal government to work toward re-establishing a publicly owned and operated basic banking service program accessible to all.

16.2.4 THE BANK OF CANADA

Policy - That the NPF urge The House of Commons (Government) to resolve to return to the use of The Bank of Canada to fund the nation's infrastructures and establish and control a new monetary policy that meets the needs of Canada and Canadians.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2015

15.2.1 CPI ASSESSMENT

Policy- That the NPF call upon all levels of government, the Department of Labour, and Statistics Canada to take a hard look at the "fixed basket of commodities" used to determine the Consumer Price Index and to use more realistic goods and service items to come up with a Consumer Price Index which is fairer to all persons and that cost of living increases be a true reflection of price increases.

15.2.2 EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS ACT 2000

Policy - That the NPF call upon the federal and provincial Ministers of Labour and the federal and provincial governments to work together to amend the Employment Standards Act 2000 and its regulations to protect employees in situations where a new owner has taken over a company.

15.2.3 NATIONAL JOBS STRATEGY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Policy - That the NPF urge the federal government to deliver a National Jobs Strategy to deal with unemployment and underemployment amongst Canada's young workers with deliberate labour market action plans that will allow young people to find full-time, meaningful work.

15.2.4 REPEAL BILL C-51

Policy - That the NPF demand that the federal government repeal Bill C-51 immediately.

15.2.5 TAX REMITS AND OAS AND GIS

Policy - That the NPF urge the Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA) to attach a very visible notice to the Old Age Security (OAS) T4A form stating very clearly the necessity to file an income tax return to be eligible for the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) and other eligibility requirements for the GIS benefit and that GIS recipients receive a notice informing them of their right to also apply for provincial or territorial benefits.

15.2.6 VETERANS' DISABILITY APPLICATIONS

Policy - That the NPF ask the federal government to increase the number of trained direct service employees to more effectively deal with veterans' disability applications and in a more timely manner.

15.2.7 INCREASE PER-PERSON SUBSIDY

Policy - That the NPF support the provincial government of British Columbia in its quest to have the federal government increase the per-person subsidy substantially and urge the federal government to enter into meaningful discussions with the B.C. government on this issue.

15.2.8 TAX-FREE HYDRO BILLS

Policy - That the NPF urge governments to eliminate the sales tax on hydro bills for seniors.

15.2.9 REDUCE CROSS-BORDER EXEMPTIONS

Policy - That the NPF request the federal Minister of Finance to urge that the cross-border tax exemptions be reduced to encourage Canadians to shop at home.

15.2.10 KEEP MANUFACTURING IN CANADA

Policy - That the NPF call upon all levels of government to work together to maintain our existing manufacturing base and to put incentives in place to encourage business to remain in Canada.

15.2.11 INVESTING IN PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Policy - That the NPF call upon all levels of government to work together to create good full time jobs by investing now in public infrastructure.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2014

14.2.1 ACCESS TO LEGAL AID

Policy - That the provincial and federal Ministers of Justice consider a provision of free legal services for those earning under a certain income and offer a reasonable sliding scale for those with greater need.

14.2.2 SECURE FUNDING FOR A NEW HEALTH ACCORD

Policy - That the federal, provincial and territorial governments be urged to negotiate a new Health Accord that protects, transforms and strengthens our National Health Care System to include adequate and stable financial resources (including at least a 6% escalator), as well as national seniors' health care plan and a national pharmaceutical strategy that will improve health outcomes for Canadians.

14.2.3 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ASSESSMENT

Policy - That the Canadian and provincial governments' Departments of Labour plus Statistics Canada take a hard look at "the fixed basket of commodities" used to determine the Consumer Price Index and use more realistic goods and services items to come up with a CPI fairer to all Canadians.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2013

13.2.1 LIVING WAGE INCREASES

Policy - That the NPF call upon provincial governments and opposition parties to immediately establish a living hourly wage and provide (annually) increases to minimum wage limits which will keep up with inflation.

13.2.2 COST OF LIVING INCREASES FOR SENIORS CONVENTION

Policy - That the increases in OAS, CPP and GIS be adjusted so as to more accurately keep up with the actual cost of living.

13.2.3 OAS AND GIS INCREASES

Policy - That the OAS and GIS be increased significantly to provide for those who have never entered the workforce.

13.2.4 SENIOR INCOME SUPPLEMENTS FREE FROM INCOME TAX

Policy - That the NPF lobby the federal government to exempt CPP, QPP, OAS and CPP benefits from income tax.

13.2.5 STUDENT AID

Policy - That the NPF call on all provincial governments in Canada, through the Minister of Education, to extend financial aid beyond secondary schools to the public college and university levels up to at least the first undergraduate degree for all deserving students.

13.2.6 THE DANGERS OF PAYDAY LOAN OUTLETS

Policy - That the NPF oppose the emergence of payday loans and cash advance companies and take steps to inform retirees of the dangers associated with the payday/cash advance system.

13.3.7 ACCESS TO OFFICIAL TAX FORMS

Policy - That the official tax forms provided by the Canadian Revenue Agency be available at post offices and other locales for easier access to citizens.

13.2.8 RRIF WITHDRAWALS

Policy - That the federal government treat RRIF withdrawals, up to the amount required by law, in a similar manner as capital gains, with only half of the withdrawal being subject to tax until such time as the economy no longer requires government control at the record low interest rate levels evident over the past five years.

13.2.9 NON-TAXABLE DEATH BENEFIT

Policy - That the NPF urge the federal government to make the CPP lump sum death benefit non-taxable.

13.2.10 MINIMUM WAGE EQUIVALENT FOR SENIORS

Policy - That the NPF urge governments (provincial and federal) to devise a system whereby no senior's income would drop below what they would make if they were working a 40 hours week at minimum wage.

13.2.11 STOP TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR CROSS BORDER SHOPPERS

Policy - That the NPF oppose the increased tax exemptions for cross-border shoppers and send a letter to the federal Minister of Finance advising that at this time of store closings, layoffs, and stores moving to the United States, that his increase is totally irresponsible and will lead to further unemployment in Canada.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2012

12.2.1 INCREASE OAS AND COST OF LIVING

Policy - That the NPF urge the federation government to increase Old Age Security by no less than 30% and tie future benefits to the cost of living index.

12.2.2 INCREASE THE GUARANTEED INCOME

Policy - That the NPF urge the federal government to increase the Guaranteed Income Supplement by no less than 16% in order to give seniors and others on fixed income a decent standard of living and thus raise them above the poverty level.

12.2.3 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ON CHANGES TO OLD AGE SECURITY

Policy - That the NPF urge the federal government to institute public dialogue and consultation prior to any changes to the status quo Old Age Security benefits.

12.2.4 LIVING WAGE

Policy - That the NPF call upon governments to amend all labour legislation which refers to “minimum wage” and replace that wording with “living wage”.

12.2.5 STREAMLINING THE NEW HORIZONS FUNDING

Policy - That the NPF request those persons in charge of the New Horizons grant applications to speed up the process of requests for grants in order that the clubs approved for funding can rely on the estimates given them by suppliers.

12.2.6 TAXING CROSS-BORDER SHOPPING

Policy - That the NPF oppose the increase in tax exemptions for cross-border shoppers.

12.2.7 INCREASING THE CURRENT MAXIMUM DEATH BENEFIT

Policy - That the federal government and Health Canada take immediate steps to increase the current maximum death benefit of \$2500 to a maximum of \$5000 income tax exempt benefit to enable the family of a deceased cover much of the funeral and other related expenses.

12.2.8 HELP FOR LOW INCOME SENIORS

Policy - That the NPF urge governments to help, financially, low income seniors so they may live with dignity.

12.2.9 HEALTHCARE PREMIUMS AS A TAX DEDUCTION

Policy - That the NPF urge the federal government to allow seniors to claim all premiums for health care services as a tax deduction.

12.2.10 GST EXEMPTION

Policy - That the NPF urge the federal government to remove the Goods and Services Tax (GST) from over-the-counter medications.

12.2.11 THE TOBIN TAX

Policy - That the NPF urge the government of Canada to support the Tobin Tax (a tax on foreign exchange transactions).

12.2.12 TAXING THE WEALTHY AND CORPORATIONS

Policy - That the federal and provincial governments increase all forms of taxation on wealthy Canadians and that they increase corporate taxes as well.

12.2.13 TAX-FREE FUNERALS

Policy - That all federal taxes be removed from seniors' funeral expenses

12.2.14 ON PENSION FUNDS AND PRIVATE EQUITY CORPS

Policy - That pension funds not be used to finance private equity corporations.

12.2.15 IMPROVED HOME CARE

Policy - That the NPF and its members call on the federal and provincial governments to cooperate, improve, and implement the following programme so as to improve home care for seniors:

- a. provide and improve restive relief for voluntary caregivers;
- b. provide paid leave for family caregivers when necessary;
- c. provide sufficient home support through federal and/or provincial funding agreements; and d. financially support current volunteer programmes and encourage the establishment of new volunteer programmes which have seniors helping seniors with minor home repair programmes, non-medical health promotional programmes and visitations, companionship, and social excursion programmes.

12.2.16 HELP FOR LOW INCOME SENIORS

Policy - That the NPF urge governments to help, financially, low income seniors so they may live with dignity.

HEALTH POLICIES

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2025

25.3.1 National Pharmacare Program

Policy - Strongly recommend that all information collected about the safety and efficacy of drugs by any agency designated to assess this as part of a new National Pharmacare system be publicly available and accessible to all Canadians.

AND: Request that a pan-Canadian agency be established to assess adverse reactions and to monitor impacts of polypharmacy and inappropriate prescribing.

AND: Develop a national prescription drug formulary and then working with all stakeholders to move swiftly towards a universal, publicly delivered, accessible (with no co-pays), affordable and independent national pharmacare system.

Nova Scotia Federation of Seniors

25.3.2 Dental Care CDCP

Policy - Urge the current government to support the adjustment of guidelines and procedures for the Canadian Dental Care Program (CDCP) that makes CDCP available to Canadians as part of the universal health care system without restrictions on those who have purchased private dental insurance prior to the enactment of the CDCP.

Submitted by: Nova Scotia Federation of Seniors

25.3.3 Strengthen and Preserve the Canada Health Act

Policy - Call upon the Federal Government to strengthen the Canada Health Act and ensure that Provinces account for the use of federal transfer funds.

Submitted by: Unifor Toronto Area Retired Workers Area Council

25.3.5 Safe Long Term Care Act

Policy - Call on the Government of Canada to follow through on their commitment to improve the quality, safety, equity and availability of Long-term Care (LTC) services across Canada and to develop a Safe LTC Act.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of BC

25.3.6 Access to CDCP for those with Inadequate Private Plans

Policy - Urge the Government of Canada to expand access to the Canada Dental Care Plan (CDCP) for those Canadians who are eligible for private insurance plans through employer/pension plans but unable to access affordable dental care.

Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of BC.

25.3.8 National Caregiver Strategy

Policy - Call on the Government of Canada to develop the National Caregiver Strategy recommended by the Canadian Centre for Caregiving Excellence with five key areas of action: Improving supports and

services for caregivers; supporting caregivers in the workforce; supporting care recipients; building a sustainable care provider workforce; and leadership and recognition.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of BC.

25.3.9 Long Term Care Standards

Policy - Work with its affiliates, and compatriots in the health care sector to call on the Federal Government to make the Safe Long-Term Care Act mandatory and enforceable, ensuring seniors across the country get the care they deserve, by:

- Establishing enforceable national standards, including a minimum of 4.5 hours of direct care per resident daily.
- Creating a workforce strategy to address precarious employment, ensure fair compensation and attract skilled caregivers.
- Ensuring accountability by tying federal funding to compliance with the Act, and transparency on key metrics such as staffing levels and quality of care.
- Phasing out for-profit LTC homes and private staffing agencies

AND: Lobby the federal government to penalize provinces who violate Health Care Accord

Submitted by: BC FORUM

25.3.10 Emergency Resolution - on Pharmacare

Policy - Call on the Federal Government to take immediate steps to implement Pharmacare across Canada as a priority action.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2023

23.3.1 FOOD BANKS

Policy - Call upon all levels of Government to put poverty reduction in their agendas and enact policies that will help to build economic and social resilience and ensure the right to food for all individuals.

Submitted by: Unifor Toronto Area Retired Workers Council

23.3.2 UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE BENEFITS UNDER ATTACK

Policy - Call upon other Seniors' Organizations and allies, to fight against the privatization of our universal publicly funded healthcare system and call for a National Day of Action to support universal Healthcare.

Submitted by: Unifor Retired Workers Council Executive

23.3.3 HEARING AIDS AS A MEDICAL DEVICE

Policy - Urge the federal government to have audiology equipment and hearing loss treatment recognized as a necessary medical treatment fully funded under the Canada Health Act.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of BC (COSCO BC)

23.3.4 NEW LONG-TERM CARE STANDARDS AND SERVICES

Policy - Hold the federal government to account for its commitment to improving the provision of long-term care services across Canada, and

Hold the federal government to account for working collaboratively with the provincial governments on a plan to ensure implementation of the new long-term care standards and report progress on the plan to the public.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of BC (COSCO BC)

23.3.5 THE NEED FOR A NATIONAL INQUIRY INTO COVID-19 AND TO TRANSFORM LONG-TERM CARE IN CANADA

Policy - Urge the federal government to;

- a) Establish a National Inquiry into our governments' response to, and the impacts of, the Covid-19 pandemic on the lives of residents of long-term care in Canada,
- b) Incorporate the lessons learned from this Inquiry into the development of the new federal Safe Long-term Care Act, dated March 1, 2023.

Submitted by: NPF Health Committee, Kathleen Jamieson

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2021

21.3.1 IMPLEMENT A UNIVERSAL DENTAL COVERAGE

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal Government to recognize that oral health is a critical component of overall good health. In doing so, the National Pensioners will push the Federal Government to implement a universal dental coverage system that will eliminate out-of-pocket spending and monthly payments to private dental insurance companies for basic dental care: and

That the National Pensioners Federation and Congress of Union Retirees of Canada, other groups of Seniors and Retirees organizations need to continue to lobby the Federal Government to introduce Canada wide Universal Dental care program for all.

Submitted by: Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC)

21.3.2 IMPLEMENT A UNIVERSAL PHARMACARE SYSTEM

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation continue the campaign with the Congress of Union Retirees of Canada and other seniors and retirees' organizations who are calling for a universal pharmacare program, and

That the National Pensioners Federation push the federal government to institute a pharmacare system that is universal, comprehensive, accessible, and public. It will have a clear timeline for implementation, in order the make drugs more affordable and accessible to all seniors and retirees, and

That the National Pensioners Federation call on the federal government to begin the process to implement universal drug coverage under the Canada Health Act and that the federal government increase funding to provinces and territories by at least 5.2% per year as part of the health transfer program.

Submitted by: Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC)

21.3.3 IMPLEMENTATION OF AMENDED PATENTED MEDICINES REGULATIONS AND PMPRB GUIDELINES

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation call upon the federal government to delay no further on the implementation of the amended patented medicines regulations and Patented Medicines Prices Review Board guidelines which are issued pursuant to subsection 96(4) of the Patent Act.

Submitted by: Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC)

21.3.4 & 21.3.5 & 21.3.9 (COMBINED) LONG TERM CARE REFORM

Policy - That the federal government should put an end to for-profit long-term care homes and bring long-term care under the Canada Health Act and make it federally regulated, and

CONDITIONS OF CARE - LONG TERM CARE

That the National Pensioners' Federation urge:

1. That the federal government collaborate with the provinces and territories to develop national standards for long-term care that provide for relational care of four hours of care per resident per day, that support a well-paid, full-time work force, that support in-house provision of dietary, cleaning and laundry services and minimize contracting out, that address building design, and that these standards be funded with federal funding tied to accountability by the provinces to adhere to regulations, regular unannounced inspections, and enforcement, and
2. That the provinces and territories support family and resident councils at the local, regional, and provincial level to provide direct feedback to the provincial ministers of health regarding conditions of long-term care that need to be addressed; and
3. That principles of care be developed to respect the basic human rights of older adults whose residence is a long-term care facility; and
4. That representative of organized seniors' groups and family/resident councils be directly involved in these developments, and

IMPROVING LONG-TERM CARE IN CANADA

That the National Pensioners Federation [NPF] calls for a nation-wide transformation of long-term care by incorporating the following essential steps:

- A. Long-term must be brought into the public system and regulated under the Canada Health Act.
- B. Provide dedicated and conditional funding for long-term care through the Canada Health Transfer.
- C. Remove private for-profit businesses from the long-term care sector.
- D. Implement evidence-based national standards of care that are tied to funding, including a minimum four [4] hours of daily care per resident.
- E. Raise wages and benefits, including paid sick leave, for long-term care workers to properly recognize the value of their work.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2019

19.3.1 SAFEGUARD CANADIAN DRUG SUPPLY

Policy - The NPF asks the federal government to address the situation to ensure the drug supply in Canada is safeguarded and manufacturers do more to limit exports.

Submitted by: Club # 99 – Paris Seniors Club, Paris & USCO

19.3.2 SINGLE TIER NATIONAL PHARMA CARE

Policy - That we encourage the federal government to follow the advice of the Parliamentary Budget Office.

Submitted by: Club #1459 - Harmony Hill Seniors, Fort Erie & USCO

19.3.3 SUICIDE PREVENTION

Policy - The NPF calls upon all levels of government, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Labour, and the Canadian Mental Health Association to advocate for awareness and

suicide prevention programs in all educational facilities and workplaces.
Submitted by: Club #197 - Unifor Area Retired Workers Council, Toronto & USCO

19.3.4 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Policy - That the NPF calls upon the Minister of Health and all levels of Government to cease the practice of changing the clocks for daylight saving time.

Submitted by: Club #197 - Unifor Area Retired Workers Council, Toronto & USCO

19.3.5 FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR SENIOR'S/ NATIONAL SENIORS STRATEGY

Policy - That NPF request that the federal government immediately create a Canadian Seniors Strategy that will:

- 1) establish national standards of care for seniors wherever they may live in Canada and,
- 2) create a Ministry for Seniors with dedicated resources for planning, coordinating federal programs and services for seniors, conducting research on gaps and needs, monitoring progress, and ensuring transparent and accountable reporting to Canadian seniors in all the Ministry's activities.

19.3.6 DENTAL CARE

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation call upon the Federal Government to initiate discussions with the dental profession and others to establish a Dental program modeled after Medicare.

Submitted by: Unifor Local 222 Retired Workers Chapter

19.3.7 UNIVERSAL PUBLIC DENTAL CARE

Policy - That the National Pensioner's Federation (NPF) call upon the Government of Canada to take the necessary steps to establish a universal public dental care program so that all Canadians have access to medically necessary dental care; and

That the NPF work with the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC), the Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC), the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) and other allies to lobby the Government of Canada to establish a universal public dental plan.

Submitted by: British Columbia Federation of Retired Union Members

19.3.8 PHARMACEUTICAL CORPORATIONS' SECRET KICKBACKS TO PHARMACIES

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) follow up on the letter regarding pharmacy drug sales kickbacks that it sent on March 21, 2019 to the Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, and the response letter to the NPF from the Strategic Policy Branch Health Canada, to ensure that the federal government continues to work with the provinces and territories as an active member of the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) to combine the governments' collective buying power to set the price point for many generic drugs as well as to negotiate lower prices on brand names for all public plans, and

That the NPF's message to the federal government should continue to be that the governments should be doing all that they can to prevent pharmacy drug sales kickbacks.

Submitted by: British Columbia Federation of Retired Union Members

19.3.9 IMPLEMENT NATIONAL PHARMACARE PLAN

Policy - That the National Pensioner's Federation (NPF) strongly urge that the Federal Government implement a National Pharmacare Plan and

That the NPF actively encourage its members to identify and vote for those candidates in the 2019 federal election who will commit to implementing a single-payer National Pharmacare Plan.

Submitted by: British Columbia Federation

19.3.10 NATIONAL PHARMA CARE

Policy - That the National Pensioners' Federation strongly urges that the Federal Government ensures that a National Pharmacare Program is in place by the next budget year.

Submitted by: British Columbia Old Age Pensioners' Organization

19.3.11 MEDICAL CANNABIS

Policy - That the National Pensioners' Federation urges the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Governments to encourage more independent research, not cannabis companies who stand to make a profit, and to provide the medical profession more information so that they can properly prescribe cannabis to their patients if they believe it will be helpful - just as they prescribe other drugs.

Submitted by: British Columbia Old Age Pensioners' Organization

19.3.12 ADDICTION AND OPIOIDS

Policy - That the National Pensioners' Federation urges the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Governments to treat the addiction and/or the use of drugs/opioids as a medical condition and not as a criminal act, and;

That the National Pensioners' Federation urges the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Governments to ensure that there are sufficient medical treatment resources available to treat addiction.

Submitted by: British Columbia Old Age Pensioners' Organization

19.3.13 FOOD LABELING

Policy - That the National Pensioners' Federation urges the Federal Government to ensure our foods are clearly marked with the country of origin e.g. "Product of Japan, Packaged for a company in Canada".

Submitted by: British Columbia Old Age Pensioners' Organization

19.3.14 UNIVERSAL DENTAL CARE

Policy- That through NPF call on the Government of Canada to take the necessary steps to establish a universal dental care program so that all Canadians have access to medically necessary dental care.

Submitted by: SSAI AGM 2019

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2018

18.3.1 MEDICINAL CANNABIS

Policy: That NPF demand the Canadian government mandate the Health Products and Food Branch (HPFB) of Health Canada to take steps towards clinical review and approval of the use of medicinal cannabis as a positive alternative to current pharmaceutical drugs, And - That the NPF along with Health Canada recognize and promote the use of medicinal cannabis.

Submitted by: Unifor local 1973 Retired Workers Chapter

18.3.2 MEDICINAL CANNABIS TAX EXEMPTION

Policy: That the NPF urge the government of Canada to treat medicinal cannabis in a similar fashion as prescriptions and remove the HST taxes.

18.3.3 EYEGASSES FOR SENIORS

Policy: That National Pensioners Federation lobby the Federal Government to provide free eyeglasses for seniors whose income is below the Poverty Line.

Submitted by: Saskatchewan Seniors Association Incorporated

18.3.9 PHARMACARE EXCLUSIONS

Policy: that the National Pensioners Federation go on record against any exclusions, and

That the NPF continue to fight for a truly Universal Pharmacare Plan for every Canadian. *Submitted by: Club #407 – Unifor Local 444 Retirees, Windsor*

18.3.10 NATIONAL PHARMACARE COVERAGE FOR PEOPLE WITH EXPENSIVE, CHRONIC ILLNESSES

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation propose to the federal government that the government establish as a key part of National Pharmacare an Appeal Board composed of independent, highly qualified medical and other experts. (The purpose of the Appeal Board would be to assess in a timely way the refusal by government officials administering National Pharmacare of out-of-hospital coverage for an individual requiring an expensive prescription drug recommended by physicians for treatment of a chronic life-threatening illness.)

Submitted by: NPF Health Committee

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2017

17.3.1 NATIONAL PUBLIC DRUG PLAN

Policy: that the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) continue to demand that the Federal Government pass legislation to provide a National Public Drug Plan (Universal Pharmacare program), and

That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) write directly to Canadian Minister of Health, Dr. Jane Philpott, requesting she take a positive stance towards promoting a National Public Drug Plan and advocate for such a plan to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health Study on the Development of a National Pharmacare Program.

17.3.2 NATIONAL PHARMACARE PROGRAM

Policy: that the National Pensioners' Federation urges the Federal Government to enter into meaningful discussions with the Provinces to provide a National Pharmacare Program so that all Canadians have equal access to prescription drugs at a reduced cost.

Submitted by: OLD AGE PENSIONERS ORGANIZATION of BC

17.3.3 PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY OVERSIGHT

Policy: That the federal and provincial governments advocate on behalf of the public by exposing (where found) the pharmaceutical industry's exploitation of the sick to contrive higher drug costs.

17.3.4 RESIDENTIAL CARE AND ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES

Policy: That the National Pensioners' Federation urge the Federal and Provincial Governments to carefully monitor this situation to be sure the safety, security and well-being of residents of these Residential Care Complex is maintained; and

That the National Pensioners' Federation urge the Federal and Provincial Governments to carefully monitor the residents of these Residential Care Complex with regard to staffing levels to ensure that those levels are maintained with the goal to provide all residents dignity, respect and well-being, and that British Columbia Standards are enforced; and

That the National Pensioners' Federation urges the Federal and Provincial Governments to retain public possession and ownership of all care facilities in the province and to block any future foreign investment or influence by private sector interests wishing to purchase or invest, to any degree, in the ownership or control of said facilities.

Submitted by: Old Age Pensioners Organization of BC

17.3.5 HOME CARE

Policy: That the National Pensioners' Federation urge both the Federal and Provincial Governments to expand funding to 'at home' personal health care.

Submitted by: Old Age Pensioners Organization of BC

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2016

16.3.1 VITAMIN D

Policy: That the National Pensioners' Federation urge the Federal Government to require Vitamin D testing as recommended by the Vitamin D Council and informed MD's when conditions such as with diabetes, hypertension, rickets, cancer, cardiovascular disease, asthma, cognitive impairment in the elderly, depression, colorectal cancer, multiple sclerosis, and lupus are identified, helping to prevent disease conditions and consequences to patients, families and cost to the healthcare system.

16.3.2 GMO LABELING

Policy: That the National Pensioners' Federation urge the Federal Government to require Genetically Modified Organism labeling on all GMO products being sold in Canada.

Section: Additional policies

16.3.3 TAINTED BLOOD

Policy: That the NPF call upon the Government of Canada to refuse to issue or approve any license to Canadian Plasma Resources or any other private, for-profit, donor-paid blood products company to operate in Canada; and implement legislation which ensures that no for-profit, donor-paid clinics will be allowed to operate in Canada.

16.3.4 PAID PLASMA & PRIVATE BLOOD COLLECTION CLINICS

Policy: That the NPF and its clubs work with interested groups to meet with all levels of government to ensure that the recommendations of the Krever Commission report are adhered to and no paid plasma and private blood clinics are allowed to operate in Canada.

16.3.5 IMPROVEMENTS TO LEVEL OF SERVICE TO SENIORS LIVING IN CARE HOMES

Policy: That the NPF urge the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to fund residential care homes to a level sufficient to provide recommended standards of individual care hours that will reduce the need for over-medication and that this care be culturally sensitive.

16.3.6 DENTAL HEALTH COVERAGE

Policy: That the NPF urge the Canadian, provincial, and territorial governments to fund dental services, particularly for those low-income Canadians without any dental coverage.

16.3.7 RENEWAL OF CANADA’S PUBLIC MEDICARE SYSTEM

Policy: That the NPF Convention 2016 affirms our demands on the Liberal government of Canada to support and renew Canada’s public Medicare system: Pharmacare – Create a national public drug program to ensure equal access to life-saving medication, and – Ensure sufficient stable Federal and Provincial funding to provide high- quality acute care, home care, and long-term care services; and – Develop a Seniors Strategy to increase the care of our aging population; and – Protect and enforce the Canada Health Act, ensuring health care remains public for the public good; and that the National Pensioners Federation and affiliates continue to advocate and mobilize our members and communities for a renewed Health Accord and to hold federal, provincial, and territorial ministers accountable to their constituencies in the year ahead to renew our public health services.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2015

15.3.1 UNIVERSAL PROGRAMME OF HOME SUPPORT AND HOME CARE

Policy: That the NPF support a Universal Programme of Home Support and Home Care based on need, available seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day, for seniors and that this policy should become part of any election platform and further that the NPF urge the federal government to make implementation of this policy a priority.

15.3.2 SUPERIOR QUALITY FOR THE CFIA

Policy: That the NPF urge Agriculture Canada to require the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to give Canadians assurance that they are receiving meat products which have passed through a federal inspection programme that is equal or superior to that given to meat products destined for the United States of America or elsewhere.

15.3.3 SAFETY INFORMATION FOR THE CANADIAN CONSUMER

Policy: That the NPF contact Health Canada and the Canadian government to ensure that they adhere to their own stated principles to ensure steps are taken to provide Canadian consumers with more timely and transparent information regarding the safety of imported medicines and that the government of Canada enact legislation to give it the authority to demand recalls and/or to ban the sale of medicines that might potentially be harmful to consumers.

15.3.4 RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

Policy: That the NPF strongly urge that all local, provincial, territorial, and federal health authorities (including medical and dental colleges) endorse and support the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology’s ongoing research and education in the public interest.

15.3.5 RE-INSTATE THE CANADA HEALTH COUNCIL

Policy: That the NPF urge the federal government to reinstate the Canada Health Council to continue to monitor and implement a Canada Health Accord.

15.3.6 PUBLIC NOT-FOR-PROFIT LONG-TERM CARE

Policy: That the NPF support universal and fair access to public not-for-profit long term care and work with other seniors' organizations to achieve this.

15.3.7 OPPOSING THE TPP

Policy: That the NPF communicate our opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership which would make the Canadian Pharmacare programme more costly, and that we call upon the federal government to discontinue the discussion on all parts of the Trans-Pacific Partnership immediately.

15.3.8 IMPARTIALITY OF THE CFIA

Policy: That the federal government recognizes the need to have qualified federal meat inspectors routinely and consistently carry out inspections to ensure that there is an impartial buffer between the meat product processor and the consumer, thereby giving emphasis to food health safety as opposed to a potential profit motive.

15.3.9 ENSURING A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

Policy: That the NPF demand that the federal government provide improved measures to fully ensure a healthy environment for all present and future Canadians.

15.3.10 LONG-TERM CARE

Policy: That the NPF lobby all levels of government to achieve adequate long-term care for seniors and work with other organizations to achieve this objective.

15.3.11 10 YEAR HEALTH ACCORD

Policy: That the federal government work with the provinces and territories on a new 10- year Health Accord that includes stable, predictable, and long-term funding that grows at least 6% per year.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2014

14.3.1 TRANSPARENCY IN TRADE DEALS

Policy: That the federal government open the doors to all the secret meetings, allow citizen input into all trade deals and allow parliament to be involved in debating the issues.

14.3.2 TRANSPARENCY IN FREE TRADE TALKS

Policy: That we demand accountability to the citizens of Canada on free trade talks and public hearings in issues which have lasting effects on living standards.

14.3.3 SECURE FUNDING FOR A NEW HEALTH ACCORD

Policy: That the federal, provincial and territorial governments be urged to negotiate a new Health Accord that protects, transforms and strengthens our National Health Care System to include adequate and stable financial resources (including at least a 6% escalator), as well as national seniors' health care plan and a national pharmaceutical strategy that will improve health outcomes for Canadians.

14.3.4 RESTORE HEALTHCARE FUNDING

Policy: That the federal, provincial and territorial governments act immediately to restore funding and safe staffing levels in the health care sector.

14.3.5 REASONABLE TRANSFER FEES

Policy: That the Canadian government adopt as a principle that charges for transferring medical and/or dental records be limited to the actual cost of postage or courier service

14.3.6 PRIORITIZE HEALTH AND WELLNESS FOR SENIORS

Policy: That the federal, provincial and territorial governments make health and wellness programmes for seniors and retirees a priority and provide tax incentives for seniors and retirees who participate in health and wellness programmes.

14.3.7 PRIMARY HEALTH CARE MODEL

Policy: That the federal, provincial and territorial governments support and promote the “Primary Health Care Model” of health care delivery throughout the country.

14.3.8 PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY OVERSIGHT

Policy: That the federal and provincial governments advocate on behalf of the public by exposing (where found) the pharmaceutical industry’s exploitation of the sick to contrive higher drug costs.

14.3.9 NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG STRATEGY

Policy: That the federal, provincial and territorial governments establish a publicly administered body to implement standards, accreditation, regulation and supervisions of care in long term care and personal care facilities and that the publicly administered body report to the public.

14.3.10 LONG-TERM CARE OVERSIGHT

Policy: That the federal, provincial and territorial governments establish a publicly administered body to implement standards, accreditation, regulation and supervisions of care in long term care and personal care facilities and that the publicly administered body report to the public.

14.3.11 HEALTH SERVICES IN CETA

Policy: That the Government of Canada negotiate a new exemption to the Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (CETA) that reads: “Nothing in the Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement be construed to apply to measures adopted or maintained by a party with respect to health care, health services or health insurance.” and further that the Government of Canada remove all matters related to pharmaceutical patents from the CETA and from all future trade and investments agreements.

14.3.12 ELEMENTS FOR A NEW CANADIAN HEALTH ACCORD

Policy: That the Canadian government commit to a re-negotiated Canada Health Accord which includes a continuing care plan that integrates home, facility based long-term respite and palliative care, dental health, dental care, a universal public drug plan and stable funding.

14.3.13 DIRECT-TO-CONSUMER ADVERTISING

Policy: That the federal government ban the direct-to-consumer advertising of pharmaceuticals.

14.3.14 DEMENTIA BUDDY PROGRAMME

Policy: That the federal, provincial and territorial governments encourage development and implementation of the “Dementia Buddy Programme” in medical school curricula and approval for the first year medical students’ participation in this programme across Canada.

14.3.15 BUILDING A COALITION FOR A NEW CANADIAN HEALTH ACCORD

Policy: That the NPF ask other seniors organizations and individuals to join us in declaring our commitment to use all democratic means before us to ensure that a Canadian Health Accord is implemented in accordance with the principles noted in the policy noted above.

14.3.16 ADEQUATE HOSPITAL FUNDING

Policy: That provincial Ministers of Health cease using the same global lump sum approach as in the 1960s to hospital budgets and move to a model which allows a hospital to run efficiently and without a need to charge for parking fees.

14.3.17 2014 HEALTH CARE ACCORD

Policy: That the NPF call upon the federal government to stand up for health care and negotiate a new 2014 Health Care Accord.

14.3.18 PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY FOR VULNERABLE SENIOR CARE

Policy: That the federal and provincial governments require increased public accountability and transparency from all those entrusted with the lives of vulnerable seniors while those seniors are “in care”.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2013

13.3.1 RESTORE NATIONAL HEALTH CARE PROVISIONS

Policy: That the NPF urge the federal government to rethink its plans to curtail (or cease funding) health categories presently allocated to the provinces and rescind those parts of any planned legislation detrimental to the overall existing National Health Care provisions.

13.3.2 NEGOTIATING A UNIVERSAL DRUG PLAN

Policy: That the NPF call upon all of its members to speak with one voice demanding that the federal, provincial, and territorial governments negotiate a universal drug plan.

13.3.3 COORDINATION OF SENIOR HEALTHCARE

Policy: That the NPF support a more wide-ranging and better coordinated systems of home and community care for seniors which can help seniors to live independent and healthy lives in their own homes and communities; and, further, that the NPF lobby for increased access to home and community care services – especially home care and primary care (physician) services for seniors with complex health needs.

13.3.4 DRUG SHORTAGES AND PHARMACEUTICAL STOCKPILES

Policy: That concrete steps be taken by the federal government to ensure that doctors and pharmacists are not left scrambling for the appropriate drugs to treat their patients and, further, that there should be a mandatory reporting of impending drug shortages to Health Canada; that the federal government's pharmaceutical stockpiles include more drugs deemed essential to health care; that the federal government establish contingency plans whereby provinces and territories could share supplies across the country and restock from alternate international suppliers if a shortage occurs; and that supply contracts for all essential drugs be made with a minimum of two suppliers.

13.3.5 ELEMENTS OF AN INTEGRATED SENIOR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Policy: That the NPF policy in respect to integrated care includes support for an integrated public system which will deliver a seamless continuum of care for seniors which includes:

- (a) The facilitation of policies, procedures, and funding which will allow seniors to age in place.
- (b) Provision of a single and highly coordinated administrative structure with integrated information systems consistent throughout the health authorities.
- (c) Provision of an integrated full range of health, community, and social services commensurate with the diversity of needs of an older population, including addressing preventive health care needs.
- (d) Establishment of a "one stop" programme for seniors and their loved ones when a need arises.
- (e) Establishment of a universal system of 7/24 home support based on need and which will empower individuals to live independently in their homes with dignity and for as long as possible.
- (f) Provision of care that is more than medical in nature and realizing that there are many other services that are critical to allowing seniors to stay in their own homes and community, including such services as assistance with laundry, transportation, cooking, socializing and home cleaning and maintenance.
- (g) That the NPF urge the federal and provincial governments to retain and improve the Medicare system and prevent private clinics from charging user fees.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2012

12.3.1 HOME CARE FOR SENIORS

Policy: That the NPF and its members call on the federal and provincial governments to cooperate, improve, and implement the following programme so as to improve home care for seniors:

- a. provide and improve restive relief for voluntary caregivers;
- b. provide paid leave for family caregivers when necessary;
- c. provide sufficient home support through federal and/or provincial funding agreements; and
- d. financially support current volunteer programmes and encourage the establishment of new volunteer programmes which have seniors helping seniors with minor home repair programmes, non-medical health promotional programmes and visitations, companionship, and social excursion programmes.

12.3.2 THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE

Policy: That the NPF demand the government implementation of all recommendations of the Royal Commission on the future of Healthcare in Canada, chaired by the Honourable Roy Romanow. (Convention 2012)

12.3.3 GROUP HEALTH CENTRES

Policy: That the NPF advocate and support the establishment of Group Health Centres using the Sault Ste. Marie Group Health Centre as a model.

12.3.4 GUIDELINES FOR PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS

Policy: That the NPF urge the federal government to develop guidelines for the use and administration of psychotropic drugs based on best practices and sound research.

12.3.5 FEDERAL ANTI-SMOKING EDUCATION

Policy: That the NPF call on all levels of government to initiate educational programmes that will discourage and prevent youth from starting to smoke.

12.3.6 FEDERAL CANCER FUNDING

Policy: That the NPF call on all levels of the federal government to pledge resources to efforts to find a cure for cancer within the next ten years.

12.3.7 EYE CARE COVERAGE

Policy: That the NPF urge provincial governments to support regular eyesight examinations for all seniors by a qualified doctor or optometrist and further that the NPF urge the federal government to include eye care coverage for all seniors under the Canada Health Act.

12.3.8 PHYSICIAN CARE FOR SENIORS

Policy: That the NPF petition Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons to promote family practice physicians to:

- A. Maintain an updated and accurate listing of physicians who are accepting new patients; and
- B. Encourage family physicians to accept complex cases and ensure responsible continuity for the care of seniors, especially those with multiple and complex needs.

12.3.9 WAGE ALLOWANCE FOR LIVE-IN HOME CARE WORKERS

Policy: That the NPF urge both the federal and provincial governments to provide live-in home care and home support workers with a wage allowance which would enable those workers to remain at home to care for seriously disabled or frail elderly relatives in need of extended care.

12.3.10 ENDING PROVINCIAL MEDICAL PREMIUMS

Policy: That the NPF call on those provincial governments which still charge medical premiums to seniors to eliminate those premiums.

12.3.11 NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR HOME CARE AND PALLIATIVE CARE

Policy: That the lobby efforts of the NPF include pressing for the implementation of national standards for home care and palliative care and ensure adequate hours of care are provided to those in need, permanently eliminating the competitive bidding process, and moving to a public delivery system with accountability standards that allow seniors to live in their homes as long as possible and with dignity.

12.3.12 HEALTH CARE PRINCIPLES

Policy: That the NPF call on the members of this federation to support strongly the protection of all five principles of health care legislation:

- a. Universality
- b. Accessibility
- c. Portability
- d. Comprehensiveness
- e. Public Administration

12.3.13 NATIONAL PHARMACARE PROGRAMME

Policy: That the NPF urge the federal government to support the immediate allocation of funding to establish a National Pharmacare Programme.

12.3.14 BRAND-NAME DRUGS AND CETA

Policy: That the federal government ensures that the European Union's condition that extends the exclusivity of "brand name" drugs an additional three years is removed from the "Commercial Economic Trade Agreement".

NPF OPERATIONAL POLICIES

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2019

19.5.1 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Policy: That the Constitution be amended in the following sections:

- Section 1. Point 12 to read; “federation meetings” includes a biennial meeting of members or a special meeting of members; Special Federation meeting includes a meeting of any class or classes of members and a special meeting of all members entitled to vote at a biennial meeting of members;
- Section 10 first paragraph to read: “Notice of the time and place of the biennial convention and any other meeting of members shall be given to each member entitled to vote at the meeting by the following means:”
- Section 12 Point 1 to read: “Proposed amendments to the Constitution and/or Bylaws must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the National Pensioners Federation at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the biennial Convention.”
- Section 16 to read “Proposals Nominating Directors at Biennial Members’ Meetings – The nomination and election of Executive officers shall take place at the biennial convention. Delegates in good standing will elect the Executive offices.” Page | 7
- Section 17 title to read “Cost of Publishing Proposals for Biennial Members’ Meetings.”
- Section 18 Section 4 to read: “The biennial convention shall be held in September or October.”
- Section 18 Section 5 to read: “At least four (4) months’ notice will be given to all affiliates of the date, time and location of the biennial Convention.”
- Sections 18 have its three subsections relabeled as 1, 2 and 3
- Section 21 to read: “The quorum of the Biennial Members Convention shall be one third of registered delegates. “Meetings of the National Pensioners Federation shall be governed by rules of order adopted at the biennial Conventions. Where the National Pensioners Federation rules of order are silent on an issue, Roberts Rules of Order shall prevail.”
- Section 22 Point 2 to read: “Affiliate groups shall be entitled to designate five (5) voting delegates to the biennial convention”
- Sections 22 Point 3 to read: “Individual affiliated clubs in good standing shall be entitled to have two (2) delegates attend the biennial Convention.”
- Section 23 Point 1 to read: “Elections for membership on the National Pensioners Federation Executive shall be conducted at the biennial convention.”

- Section 27 to read: “Term of Office of Directors – The Executive members shall be elected for a two-year term. For those Executive members whose term expires in 2020 shall have that term extended to the Convention in 2021.”
- Section 33 amend the opening paragraphs to read: “The Executive shall be delegates to the biennial convention by virtue of office. “The Executive shall carry on the business of the organization between biennial conventions”

19.5.2 MEMBERSHIP BY-LAWS AMENDMENT

Policy: That any associate member wishing to have delegate status at the NPF annual conference must also be a paid up individual member in good standing, and;

That this requirement be incorporated in the NPF by-laws.

Submitted by: Chris White

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2017

17.4.1 NATIONAL SENIORS STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation lobby the Federal Government and the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development to support the development and implementation of a national seniors strategy for Canada.

Submitted by: COSCO

17.4.2 NPF FUNDING PROPOSAL

Policy - that the executive of the National Pensioners Federation strike a task force whose mandate is to immediately research and recommend ways to ethically fund-raise in order to support all National Pensioners Federation activities.

Submitted by: COSCO

17.4.3 NPF FUNDING PROPOSAL

Policy: That the executive of the National Pensioners Federation strike a task force whose mandate is to immediately research and recommend ways to ethically fundraise in order to support all National Pensioners Federation activities.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of BC

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2016

16.4.1 DEDICATED SENIORS' MINISTRIES

Policy -That the National Pensioners' Federation encourages the Federal Government and the Provincial Governments to create a specific Ministry and a Minister dedicated to the concerns of seniors. (Note: Ontario upgraded Seniors Secretariat to Ministry for Seniors January

<http://www.seniors.gov.on.ca/en/about/>)

16.4.2 NEED FOR MINISTER FOR SENIORS

Policy - That the NPF urge the federal government and provincial governments to appoint a Minister for Seniors.

16.4.3 NPF VISIBLE MINORITIES VIEWPOINT

Policy - That the NPF consider all the issues faced by older adults in Canada with a “Visible Minority” lens, and that the Board of NPF submit an annual report to its members highlighting the issues and steps taken by NPF with the appropriate authorities to address them.

16.4.4 NPF MEMBERSHIP PROPOSAL

Policy - That the NPF Executive focus on special efforts to enlist multicultural senior-serving organizations and service agencies as members of NPF, and that such efforts be concentrated on population centre’s such as Metro Vancouver, Greater Toronto, Montreal, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, and Halifax.

16.4.5 INCLUSION OF MULTICULTURAL ISSUES

Policy - That the NPF Executive invite experts on issues of the day affecting multicultural older adults to offer solutions and come up with the necessary recommendations to the NPF for further action.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2015

15.4.1 SUPPORT FOR THE “TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION REPORT”

Policy - That the NPF go on record as supporting the general principles in the “Truth and Reconciliation Report” and urge our federal government to take action on the recommendations contained in that report.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2014

14.4.1 SENIORS CONFERENCE IN OTTAWA

Policy - That the NPF approach and drive seniors of all walks of society and like-minded seniors’ organizations to hold a conference in Ottawa to plan and act on the many concerns of seniors.

14.4.2 RECOGNIZING SENIORS ON OCTOBER 1ST

Policy - That the federal government live up to its responsibility for all of its citizens and recognize the sacrifices of seniors, retirees, our veterans, and members of the public services and further that the NPF, our allies, and all good citizens recognize October 1, 2014 and on October 1, 2015 have a mobilization of seniors in large numbers to let the government know seniors matter and vote to make changes for the betterment of all citizens October 15, 2015.

14.4.3 INQUIRY INTO MURDERED AND MISSING ABORIGINAL WOMEN

Policy - That the Canadian government launches a full and open inquiry into crimes against aboriginal women and prosecute to the fullest extent of the law those who have committed such crimes.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2013

13.2.4 MOBILIZING FOR A DAY OF PROTEST

Policy - That the NPF and all other seniors’ organizations mobilize to make the “International Day of Older Persons” (October 1) an annual day of protest to cutbacks that affect our seniors and all Canadians in our communities.

HOUSING POLICIES

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2023

23.5.1 MULTIGENERATIONAL HOME RENOVATION TAX CREDIT AMENDMENT

Policy: Urge the Federal government to amend the “Multigenerational Home Renovation Tax Credit” to include new-build homes as well as renovated homes.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens’ Organizations of BC (COSCO BC)

23.5.2 HOUSING IS A RIGHT

Policy: Ensure the National Housing Strategy policy has an action plan with timelines that focus on the right to adequate housing especially as it pertains to our senior citizens in Canada, funding the non-profit, co-operative and social housing needed to augment the supply of affordable, adequate and accessible housing, and

Ensure a consistent definition of ‘affordable housing’ based on household income-and not on market rent.

Submitted by: NPF Housing Committee, Barb Mikulec

23.5.3 STABLE HOUSING POLICIES

Policy: Encourage all governments to use the measures of the Rapid Housing Initiative policy to make every effort to serve seniors as a priority group when offering housing to those in core need of housing such as vulnerable individuals including families, seniors and indigenous people, and

Encourage all sectors of governments to recognize senior homelessness affects many seniors over the age of 55 who may be impacted by a shortened life expectancy with inadequate housing.

Submitted by: NPF Housing Committee, Barb Mikulec

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2018

18.5.1 THE TRAFFIC IN SENIORS’ CARE

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation lobby the Governments of Saskatchewan and Canada to stop or at least slow down the privatization of seniors’ care.

Submitted by: Saskatchewan Seniors Association Incorporated

18.5.10 IMPACT ON SENIORS OF MIXED TENANCY HOUSING

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Governments to provide rent-g geared to-income housing dedicated for seniors as part of affordable housing strategies and not allocate suites in the same building for tenants who may have serious behavioral issues.

Submitted by: COSCO of BC

18.5.9 RESPITE CARE

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation request the Provincial and Federal Governments to fund more respite care.

Submitted by: Club #407 – Unifor Local 444 Retirees, Windsor

18.5.8 HOME CARE AND STANDARDIZATION

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation actively urge and lobby the federal government to have the Canada Health Act cover home care service including respite care, And - That this includes a standardization for home care to provide an adequate number of hours to ensure proper care for our Seniors.

Submitted by: Club #407 – Unifor Local 444 Retirees, Windsor

18.5.7 FOREIGN CONTROL OF RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) urge the Federal Government to request a full review within the Investment Canada Act of the sale of Retirement Concepts, to Anbang Insurance, and

That the NPF call on the Federal Government to implement a moratorium on contracting out/contract flipping in the broader residential care sector

Submitted by: BC Forum (BC Federation of Retired Union Members)

18.5.6 EXPENSE DEFERRAL ACCOUNT

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the federal government to set aside funds to create a Homeowners Expense Deferral Account program to allow senior homeowners with low or moderate income to use their home equity to offset unexpected costs such as repairs to a roof or furnace, and

That the deferred amount becomes due upon the sale of the property, death, or voluntary repayment, and

That total deferrals be allowed up to 75% of the equity of their home, and be charged simple interest.

Submitted by: COSCO of BC

18.5.5 COOP HOUSING SUPPORT

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation encourage the federal government to offer land trust or lease extensions to help co-ops invest in rehabilitation and maintenance of aging structures and construction of new ones.

Submitted by: COSCO of BC

18.5.4 TEMPORARY HOUSING PROGRAMS

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the federal/provincial governments to conduct research and share findings on successful models for addressing homelessness among seniors, including Temporary Housing Programs in the transition back to permanent housing.

Submitted by: COSCO of BC

18.5.3 ANNUAL RENTERS' REBATE PROGRAM

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the federal government to ensure the speedy implementation of the National Housing Strategy portable annual renters' rebate program.

Submitted by: COSCO of BC

18.5.2 RENT BANKS

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal government to work with provincial and municipal governments to set up "Rent Banks" for renters in crisis.

Submitted by: COSCO of BC

18.5.1 THE TRAFFIC IN SENIORS' CARE

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation lobby the Governments of Saskatchewan and Canada to stop or at least slow down the privatization of seniors' care.

Submitted by: Saskatchewan Seniors Association Incorporated

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2017

17.5.1 SENIORS HOUSING

Policy; That the National Pensioners Federation lobby the Federal Government to provide funding for additional housing and the maintenance of that project.

Submitted by: Saskatchewan Seniors Association Incorporated

17.5.2 NATIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY

Policy: That the federal government secure the future of affordable housing through a dedicated funding program to protect the existing stock of 600,000 social housing units; And - That the NPF support the development of a National Housing Strategy that includes incentives to preserve and expand rental housing and co-operative housing, at a cost not to exceed 30% of income, for moderate income earners; and

That the NPF urge the Federal government to review the mandate of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to determine how a National Housing Strategy can deliver housing projects with accountability and specific timelines for completion; and

That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) urge all levels of government in partnership to address the serious housing crisis which is due to long-term underinvestment in affordable housing; and

That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) work with our allies to lobby the federal government and all other levels of government to pass into law provisions for a federal housing strategy and provisions for adequate and affordable housing for all Canadians.

Submitted by: BC Federation of Retired Union Members (BC Forum) And Congress of Union Retirees of Canada

17.5.3 RESIDENTIAL CARE AND ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES

Policy: that the National Pensioners' Federation urge the Federal and Provincial Governments to carefully monitor this situation to be sure the safety, security and well-being of residents of these Residential Care Complex is maintained; and

That the National Pensioners' Federation urge the Federal and Provincial Governments to carefully monitor the residents of these Residential Care Complex with regard to staffing levels to ensure that those levels are maintained with the goal to provide all residents dignity, respect and well-being, and that British Columbia Standards are enforced; and

That the National Pensioners' Federation urges the Federal and Provincial Governments to retain public possession and ownership of all care facilities in the province and to block any future foreign investment or influence by private sector interests wishing to purchase or invest, to any degree, in the ownership or control of said facilities.

Submitted by: Old Age Pensioners Organization of BC

17.5.4 CAREGIVER SUPPORT

Policy: That the National Pensioners' Federation urges the Federal and Provincial Governments to enable a means-tested allowance, whether through an Employment Insurance or other medium, to be paid directly to these informal caregivers to allow them to care for family members without the stress of financial hardship.

Submitted by: Old Age Pensioners Organization of BC

17.5.5 HOME CARE

Policy: That the National Pensioners' Federation urge both the Federal and Provincial Governments to expand funding to 'at home' personal health care.

Submitted by: Old Age Pensioners Organization of BC

17.5.6 DIRECT FUNDING TO COUNTER HOMELESSNESS

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal Government to increase direct funding for affordable housing programs, to invest in targeted programs to house homeless people.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of BC

17.5.7 AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUNDING & GUIDELINES

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation call on the federal government to work with the territorial and provincial governments and their municipal counterparts to provide funding and guidelines for the immediate construction of affordable (that is 30% of family income) rental housing in areas of the country with the most pressing need; and

That the National Pensioners Federation call on the federal government to work with said groups to develop a plan for affordable housing provisions and roll out that plan across the country; and

That the National Pensioners Federation call on the federal government to insist that territories and provincial governments set guidelines in place and organizations staffed to enforce those guidelines to protect the interests of tenants and landlords.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of BC

17.5.8 EQUITABLE COMPENSATION FOR HOME-OWNERS

Policy: That the NPF urge the federal government of Canada to amend the housing laws so that fair and equitable compensation is provided to manufactured home owners who are required to leave their home as a result of the sale or development of property.

17.5.9 WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPLEMENT RENT CONTROLS

Policy: That the NPF work with other national and provincial seniors/retirees' organizations and other allies to lobby federal, provincial and territorial governments to implement rent controls in provinces and territories where there are currently none in place.

17.5.10 INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE CARCINOGEN EXPOSURE

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation call upon the Minister of Labour and the Minister of Health, if deaths are determined to be due to carcinogens in the workplace, to ensure that those deaths are recorded and investigated.

That legislation be put in place to banish all materials or sources of carcinogen exposure from the workplace.

Submitted by: Toronto Area Retired Workers Council

17.5.11 NATIONAL DEMENTIA PLAN

Policy : That the National Pensioners Federation urge the federal government to establish a National Dementia Plan.

Submitted by: USCO

17.5.12 ALZHEIMER AND DEMENTIA

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation Convention 2017 encourage Provincial and Federal Governments to increase research funding to find a cure.

17.5.13 NATIONAL DEMENTIA PLAN

Policy: That National Pensioners Federation (NPF) work with our allies to demand that the Federal Government develop a national dementia plan which will focus on: – Increasing funding for research into all aspects of dementia – Promoting earlier diagnosis and intervention – Strengthening the integration of primary, home and community care – Enhancing skills and training of the dementia workforce – Recognizing the needs and improving supports for caregivers

Submitted by: BC Federation of Retired Union Members (BC FORUM)

17.5.14 NATIONAL PUBLIC DRUG PLAN

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) continue to demand that the Federal Government pass legislation to provide a National Public Drug Plan (Universal Pharmacare program), and

That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) write directly to Canadian Minister of Health, Dr. Jane Philpott, requesting she take a positive stance towards promoting a National Public Drug Plan and advocate for such a plan to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health Study on the Development of a National Pharmacare Program.

Submitted by: BC Federation of Retired Union Members (BC FORUM) and Congress of Union Retirees of Canada

17.5.15 NATIONAL PHARMACARE PROGRAM

Policy : that the National Pensioners' Federation urges the Federal Government to enter into meaningful discussions with the Provinces to provide a National Pharmacare Program so that all Canadians have equal access to prescription drugs at a reduced cost.

Submitted by: Old Age Pensioners Organization of BC

17.5.16 HOSPITAL PARKING FEES

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation call on all levels of Government to stop charging parking fees at Canadian Hospitals, and work with other organizations such as Unifor Retirees, Senior Citizens in each province, the Council of Canadians, and others to reach this effort for free parking at hospitals.

Submitted by: USCO

17.5.17 ELIMINATE PARKING FEES AT CANADA'S HOSPITALS

Policy : That the National Pensioners Federation call on all levels of Government to stop charging parking fees at Canadian Hospitals and work with other organizations such as senior citizens in each

province, the Council of Canadians and others to reach this effort for free parking at hospitals.
Submitted by: UNIFOR Local 542 Ajax, Oshawa and Peterborough Area Council

17.5.18 SENIORS HOUSING

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation lobby the Federal Government to provide funding for additional housing and the maintenance of that housing.

Submitted by: Saskatchewan Seniors Association Incorporated

17.5.19 NATIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY

Policy: That the federal government secure the future of affordable housing through a dedicated funding program to protect the existing stock of 600,000 social housing units; and

That the NPF support the development of a National Housing Strategy that includes incentives to preserve and expand rental housing and co-operative housing, at a cost not to exceed 30% of income, for moderate income earners; and

That the NPF urge the Federal government to review the mandate of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to determine how a National Housing Strategy can deliver housing projects with accountability and specific timelines for completion; and

That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) urge all levels of government in partnership to address the serious housing crisis which is due to long-term underinvestment in affordable housing; and

That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) work with our allies to lobby the federal government and all other levels of government to pass into law provisions for a federal housing strategy and provisions for adequate and affordable housing for all Canadians.

Submitted by: BC Federation of Retired Union Members (BC Forum) And Congress of Union Retirees of Canada

17.5.20 DIRECT FUNDING TO COUNTER HOMELESSNESS

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal Government to increase direct funding for affordable housing programs, to invest in targeted programs to house homeless people.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of BC

2015

15.5.1 EQUITABLE COMPENSATION FOR HOME-OWNERS

Policy: That the NPF urge the federal government of Canada to amend the housing laws so that fair and equitable compensation is provided to manufactured home owners who are required to leave their home as a result of the sale or development of property.

15.5.2 UNIVERSAL PROGRAMME OF HOME SUPPORT AND HOME CARE

Policy: That the NPF support a Universal Programme of Home Support and Home Care based on need, available seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day, for seniors and that this policy should become part of any election platform and further that the NPF urge the federal government to make implementation of this policy a priority.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2014

14.5.1 FIRE SAFETY IN SENIOR RESIDENCES

Policy: That the federal, provincial, and territorial governments accelerate plans to ensure that all seniors' residences are equipped with the necessary systems and adequate staff in order to provide an efficient and timely evacuation and that any residences constructed in the future have a method of closing off sections of a building when fire occurs (e.g. a fire wall) as well as adequate staff on duty (especially during the evening hours) to assist in a speedy evacuation.

14.5.2 FINANCIAL OPTIONS TO STAY IN THE HOME

Policy: That the federal and provincial governments assist with financial options to allow seniors to be able to afford to stay in their residences.

14.5.3 WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPLEMENT RENT CONTROLS

Policy: That the NPF work with other national and provincial seniors/retirees' organizations and other allies to lobby federal, provincial and territorial governments to implement rent controls in provinces and territories where there are currently none in place.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2012

12.5.1 AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR SENIORS

Policy: That the NPF lobby the federal government and all other levels of government to pass into law provisions for a federal housing policy and provisions for adequate and affordable housing for all Canadian seniors.

12.5.2 FIRE SAFETY IN SENIOR RESIDENCES

Policy: That the federal, provincial, and territorial governments accelerate plans to ensure that all seniors' residences are equipped with the necessary systems and adequate staff in order to provide an efficient and timely evacuation and that any residences constructed in the future have a method of closing off sections of a building when fire occurs (e.g. a fire wall) as well as adequate staff on duty (especially during the evening hours) to assist in a speedy evacuation.

12.5.3 CAR TAIL LIGHTS

Policy: That the federal government make it mandatory that car manufacturers ensure that car tail lights are always lit.

12.5.4 AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR SENIORS

Policy: That the NPF lobby the federal government and all other levels of government to pass into law provisions for a federal housing policy and provisions for adequate and affordable housing for all Canadian seniors.

PENSION POLICIES

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2025

25.4.1 Protect Bill C-228

Policy - The National Pensioners Federation shall work with its affiliates, to ensure Bill C-228, known as the Pension Protection Act, is never repealed.

AND: Continue to be in opposition of any province or territorial withdrawal from CPP in favour of a provincial or territorial regulated pension plan.

Submitted by: BC FORUM

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2023

23.6.1 THE FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITY OF COMPANIES WITH SINGLE EMPLOYER DEFINED BENEFIT TO PENSION PLANS SHOULD BE CLARIFIED TO LIMIT DIVIDENDS, SHARE BUYBACKS, ETC. IF PENSION IS UNDERFUNDED

Policy - Advocate to ensure regulations make clear that the company's fiduciary responsibility to the pension plan and pensioner includes that the plan should be fully funded before company cash/assets are permitted to leave the company as dividends, share buybacks, executive bonuses, etc.

Submitted by: Canadian Federation of Pensioners

23.6.2 INFORMED CONSENT FOR PENSION CHANGES

Policy - Advocate for the requirement that informed consent be obtained from pensioners and plan members before any change to their pension plan be implemented that could adversely impact their future financial security.

Submitted by: Canadian Federation of Pensioners

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2021

21.6.1 BANKRUPTCY PROTECTION OF PENSION AND BENEFITS FOR FORMER WORKERS AND RETIREES

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation urge the federal government to amend the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (BIA) and the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA) as follows;

- To extend super-priority to any unfunded pension liability, placing pensioner ahead of creditors to be paid if a company goes bankrupt; and
- That employers shall maintain group insurance programs that provide benefits to or in respect of its employees or former employees and
- That the National Pensioners Federation urge the federal government of Canada to enforce a requirement for companies to continually maintain their pension liabilities fully funded.

Submitted by: Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC)

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2019

19.6.1 PRIVATE COMPANIES AND EMPLOYEES' PENSION RIGHTS

Policy - That the National Pensioners' Federation urges that the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Governments enact legislation requiring that pension funds must be paid into a Trust on a monthly basis and;

That when a company declares bankruptcy, employee pensions must be paid in full prior to any other funds being paid from the assets of the company.

Submitted by: British Columbia Old Age Pensioners' Organization

19.6.2 BILL C-27 "AN ACT TO AMEND THE PENSION BENEFITS STANDARDS ACT, 1985

Policy - That the National Pensioners' Federation urgently requests that the Federal Government withdraw Bill C-27 "An Act to amend the Pension Benefit Standards Act, 1985" immediately.

Submitted by: British Columbia Old Age Pensioners' Organization

19.6.3 END PENSION THEFT

Policy - That we call on the federal government to provide legislation protecting the retirement security of hardworking Canadians by amending federal bankruptcy laws so that workers' pensions and health benefits are given the same consideration as banks, investors or parent companies during proceedings under the companies Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA); and

That the National Pensioners Federation call on the Federal Government to level the playing field for Canadian workers during CCAA proceedings so that workers' pensions and health benefits are given the same consideration as secured creditors.

Submitted by: Unifor Local 222 Retired Workers Chapter

19.6.4 CANADA'S SENIORS POVERTY LINE

Policy - That the NPF support the McMaster initiative and call for the renewal of seniors' poverty line indicators based on the level of education, health status, geographic region, clothing, housing, food security and social inclusion provide a portrait of poverty closer to reality, and;

The NPF call on and coordinate with older adults and caregivers advocacy organizations to raise this issue at the various levels of government and in poverty studies to develop more relevant, valid, and reliable poverty indicators.

19.6.5 PROTECTION FOR PRIVATE DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation reaffirm its position that pensions should be 100% protected.

- That the National Pensioners Federation work with its' partners to make extending super-priority to unfunded pension liabilities in the case of insolvency and full pension insurance priority election issues.
- That the National Pensioners Federation call on the other Canadian pension regulators to implement pension insurance programs that cover 100% of any pension loss.
- That the National Pensioners Federation acknowledge that absent full pension protection, 100% solvency funding of pensions is the only alternative to protect pensioners.

Submitted by: The Canadian Federation of Pensioners

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2018

18.6.1 PROTECTION FOR PRIVATE DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation call on the federal government to extend super-priority to the unfunded pension liability in insolvency, and

That the National Pensioners Federation call on the Canadian pension regulators to implement pension insurance programs that cover 100% of any pension loss.

Submitted by: The Canadian Federation of Pensioners

18.6.3 PENSIONS AND BANKRUPTCY

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation continue the campaign to pressure the Canadian Government to immediately amend Canadian Bankruptcy Laws to ensure that when corporations file for bankruptcy protection shareholders, banks, creditors and corporate executives are not placed ahead of employees in respect to their rights of any wages, separation payments, bonuses, pensions and benefits, and

That the National Pensioners Federation keep apprised of the status of Private Members' Bill C-384, an Act to amend the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act and the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, and inform its member associations of such status to enable pressure be put on the Canadian Government to enact it into law.

Submitted by: BC Forum (BC Federation of Retired Union Members)

18.6.4 BANKRUPTCY PROTECTION

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation call on the Government of Canada to fix bankruptcy laws so our employee's pension and health benefits are given the same priority as secured creditors to stop employers from putting shareholders, banks, and creditors ahead of their employees when they file for bankruptcy protection.

Submitted by: COSCO of BC

18.6.5 EXPAND THE POWERS OF THE FINANCIAL SERVICES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Policy: That the National Pensioner's Federation calls upon the Ontario Government to ensure that the Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario has the following regulatory powers:

- To block or place conditions on company takeovers, bankruptcy and insolvency process that are deemed to put pension plans at risk;
- Ensure that any pension plan is funded at 100% prior to paying any secured creditors;
- Ensure that payment to workers of any termination, severance pay and health benefits owing prior to paying any secured creditors;
- Ensure prevention of companies from stopping the payment of any retirement benefits during any proceedings under bankruptcy and insolvency processes;
- Powers to issue punitive fines on company directors and executives in cases of clear wrongdoing; and
- Ability to claw back directors and executives bonuses after a company pension plan or plans collapse, and

That the N.P.F. develop an action plan to facilitate the above.

Submitted by: Unifor Local 222

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2017

17.6.1 Bill C-27

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) continue to work with the Canadian Labour Congress, the Congress of Union Retirees of Canada, the BC Retired Teachers Association, our allies and union affiliates to oppose Bill C-27, an act to amend the Pensions Benefits Standards Act and, that the NPF continue to educate members and the public on the dangers of Bill C-27.

Submitted by: BC Federation of Retired Union Members (BC Forum) and Congress of Union Retirees of Canada

17.6.2 DEFINED BENEFITS 1

Policy: That the Prime Minister keep his promise made to the National Association of Federal Retirees in writing that defined benefit plans which have already been paid for by employees and pensioners should not be retroactively changed.

Submitted by: USCO

17.6.3 DEFINED BENEFITS 2

Policy: That the USCO work with all senior groups, pension and social justice organizations to carry out campaigns to ensure that Federal and Provincial Governments enact legislation that will prohibit both public and private sector employers from making any change to defined benefit pensions which do not enhance such plans, and

That the USCO work to move forward with a suitable representation on October 1st (United Nations Day of the Older Person) for Canadians around the pending pension crisis.

Submitted by: USCO

17.6.4 CANADA PENSION PLAN DEATH BENEFIT REVISIONS

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal Government to increase the Canada Pension Plan Death Benefit to “equal to six months’ worth of calculated retirement pension up to a maximum of \$5,000” immediately, with incremental increases every year thereafter at no less than the cost of living, and that this benefit be made non-taxable.

Submitted by: Old Age Pensioners Organization of BC and COSCO, Council of Senior Citizens Organization of BC

17.6.5 CAREGIVERS TAX CREDIT REFUND

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal Government to make the new combined Caregiver Tax Credit refundable.

Submitted by: COSCO, Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of BC

17.6.6 CHANGES TO AGE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR CANADA PENSION PLAN AND OLD AGE SECURITY

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) will continue to:

- oppose changes to the age of eligibility for either/ or and both the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and Old Age Security (OAS) and
- work with our allies to oppose these changes.

Submitted by: BC Federation of Retired union members (BC Form) and CURC

17.6.7 CPP INDEXING

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the federal government to index senior pensions to the cost of living, inflation rate, only in the positive.

Submitted by: USCO

17.6.8 CANADA PENSION PLAN BENEFITS INCREASE

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal Government to change the formula for increasing all benefits paid through Canada Pension Plan (CPP).

Submitted by: COSCO, Council of Senior Citizens Organization of BC

17.6.9 CPP AND OAS INCREASE

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the government to increase the amount of CPP, OAS, and other monies so that people who are on fixed income and low-income families or the disabled can live in their homes comfortably.

Submitted by: USCO

17.6.10 NOTIFICATION OF INCOME SUPPORTS

Policy: That the National Pensioners' Federation urge the Federal and Provincial Governments to collaborate in producing and distributing with the T4A slips an information sheet outlining the following:

- income supports available, such as the Guaranteed Income Supplement, Medical Plan Premium Assistance, Shelter Aid for Elderly Residents, etc.,
- household income required to be eligible for such income support, e.g., under \$42,000 or ?,
- contact information to obtain application forms for such income support

Submitted by: COSCO

17.6.11 SEPARATE SURVIVORS BENEFITS

Policy: That the Survivor benefits are not combined with Canada Pension Plan at 60 to reduce the overall benefits but that both benefits are maintained.

Submitted by: USCO

17.6.12 CHANGES TO AGE ELIGIBILITY FOR CANADA PENSION PLAN AND OLD AGE SECURITY

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) will continue to: – oppose changes to the age of eligibility for either/ or and both the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and Old Age Security (OAS) and – work with our allies to oppose these changes.

Submitted by: BC Federation of Retired Union Members (BC Forum) And Congress of Union Retirees of Canada.

17.6.13 CANADA PENSION PLAN BENEFITS INCREASE

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal Government to change the formula for increasing all benefits paid through Canada Pension Plan (CPP).

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of BC

17.6.14 DEFINED BENEFITS

Policy: That the Prime Minister keep his promise made to the National Association of Federal Retirees in writing that defined benefit plans which have already been

paid for by employees and pensioners should not be retroactively changed.

Submitted by: USCO

17.6.15 CANADA PENSION PLAN DEATH BENEFIT REVISION

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal Government to increase the Canada Pension Plan Death Benefit to “equal to six months’ worth of calculated retirement pension up to a maximum of \$5,000” immediately, with incremental increases every year thereafter at no less than the cost of living, and that this benefit be made non-taxable.

Submitted by: Old Age Pensioners Organization of BC And Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of BC

17.6.16 CPP INDEXING

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the federal government to index senior pensions to the cost of living, inflation rate, only in the positive.

Submitted by: USCO

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2016

16.6.1 CANADA PENSION

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation and its affiliates lobby provincial Finance Ministers to support the Canadian Labour Congress proposal for an enhanced Canada Pension Plan and Quebec Pension Plan.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2015

15.6.1 TAX-FREE HYDRO BILLS

Policy: That the NPF urge governments to eliminate the sales tax on hydro bills for seniors.

15.6.2 REDUCE CROSS-BORDER EXEMPTIONS

Policy: That the NPF request the federal Minister of Finance to urge that the cross-border tax exemptions be reduced to encourage Canadians to shop at home. Number: 32 Section: Pensions

15.6.3 KEEP MANUFACTURING IN CANADA

Policy: That the NPF call upon all levels of government to work together to maintain our existing manufacturing base and to put incentives in place to encourage business to remain in Canada.

15.6.4 INVESTING IN PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Policy: That the NPF call upon all levels of government to work together to create good full-time jobs by investing now in public infrastructure.

15.6.5 INCREASE PER-PERSON SUBSIDY

Policy: That the NPF support the provincial government of British Columbia in its quest to have the federal government increase the per-person subsidy substantially and urge the federal government to enter into meaningful discussions with the B.C. government on this issue.

15.6.6 TAX REMITS AND OAS AND GIS

Policy: That the NPF urge the Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA) to attach a very visible notice to the Old Age Security (OAS) T4A form stating very clearly the necessity to file an income tax return to be eligible

for the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) and other eligibility requirements for the GIS benefit and that GIS recipients receive a notice informing them of their right to also apply for provincial or territorial benefits.

15.6.7 SENIORS FIRST AS SECURE CREDITORS

Policy: That the NPF urge governments to enact legislation to put workers and seniors first as secure creditors when a company wind-up or bankruptcy occurs. Number: 38 Section: Pensions

15.6.8 CPI ASSESSMENT

Policy: That the NPF call upon all levels of government, the Department of Labour, and Statistics Canada to take a hard look at the “fixed basket of commodities” used to determine the Consumer Price Index and to use more realistic goods and service items to come up with a Consumer Price Index which is fairer to all persons and that cost of living increases be a true reflection of price increases.

15.6.9 EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS ACT 2000

Policy: That the NPF call upon the federal and provincial Ministers of Labour and the federal and provincial governments to work together to amend the Employment Standards Act 2000 and its regulations to protect employees in situations where a new owner has taken over a company.

15.6.10 ELIMINATE SENIORS LIVING IN POVERTY

Policy: That the NPF strongly ask that the federal government double the Canada Pension Plan retirement, change the plan to raise eligibility for Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement, as well as enhance these benefits in order to keep Canadian seniors out of poverty.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2014

14.6.1 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ASSESSMENT

Policy: That the Canadian and provincial governments’ Departments of Labour plus Statistics Canada take a hard look at “the fixed basket of commodities” used to determine the Consumer Price Index and use more realistic goods and services items to come up with a CPI fairer to all Canadians.

14.6.2 FEDERAL EQUITY IN GENERAL MOTORS

Policy: That the government of Canada reverse its decision and continue with its ownership of a significant equity in shares of General Motors to help ensure that General Motors maintains its manufacturing base in Canada, providing good paying jobs for Canadian taxpayers and ensuring the pensions of the retirees who have sacrificed so much to build that profitable company.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2013

13.6.1 SENIOR INCOME SUPPLEMENTS FREE FROM INCOME TAX

Policy: That the NPF lobby the federal government to exempt CPP, QPP, OAS and CPP benefits from income tax.

13.6.2 RESCIND 67 AS NEW RETIREMENT AGE

Policy: That the NPF request of the federal government that the age legislation raising the eligible age to receive pensions to 67 be rescinded before it is enacted and that all private pension plans be required to have adequate funds and be insured by the federal government against bankruptcy.

13.6.3 OAS AND GIS INCREASES

Policy: That the OAS and GIS be increased significantly to provide for those who have never entered the workforce.

13.6.4 COST OF LIVING INCREASES FOR SENIORS

Policy: That the increases in OAS, CPP and GIS be adjusted so as to more accurately keep up with the actual cost of living.

13.6.5 APPLYING CPP ADJUSTMENT

Policy: That the NPF lobby the federal government – Service Canada to apply the CPP adjustment amount to CPP and supplements every three months.

13.6.6 ACCESS TO OFFICIAL TAX FORMS

Policy: That the official tax forms provided by the Canadian Revenue Agency be available at post offices and other locales for easier access to citizens.

13.6.7 ON RRIF WITHDRAWALS

Policy: That the federal government treat RRIF withdrawals, up to the amount required by law, in a similar manner as capital gains, with only half of the withdrawal being subject to tax until such time as the economy no longer requires government control at the record low-interest rate levels evident over the past five years.

13.6.8 NON-TAXABLE DEATH BENEFIT

Policy: That the NPF urge the federal government to make the CPP lump sum death benefit non-taxable.

13.6.9 MINIMUM WAGE EQUIVALENT FOR SENIORS

Policy: That the NPF urge governments (provincial and federal) to devise a system whereby no senior's income would drop below what they would make if they were working a 40 hours week at minimum wage.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2012

12.6.1 INCREASING THE CURRENT MAXIMUM DEATH BENEFIT

Policy: That the federal government and Health Canada take immediate steps to increase the current maximum death benefit of \$2500 to a maximum of \$5000 income tax exempt benefit to enable the family of a deceased to cover much of the funeral and other related expenses.

12.6.2 HELP FOR LOW INCOME SENIORS

Policy: That the NPF urge governments to help, financially, low-income seniors so they may live with dignity.

12.6.3 HEALTHCARE PREMIUMS AS A TAX DEDUCTION

Policy: That the NPF urge the federal government to allow seniors to claim all premiums for health care services as a tax deduction.

12.6.4 GST EXEMPTION

Policy: That the NPF urge the federal government to remove the Goods and Services Tax (GST) from over-the-counter medications.

12.6.5 REFORMING THE PRESENT PENSION SYSTEM

Policy: That community campaigns (with a national focus) be established to restructure our present pension system in line with the Canadian Labour Congress proposals be initiated and supported to address all shortcomings and inadequacies; and, further, that the provincial and federal governments implement the Canadian Labour Congress's proposals on pension reform.

12.6.6 PRIVATE PORTABLE PENSION PLAN

Policy: That the NPF lobby the federal government to institute (in addition to the Canada Pension Plan) a private portable pension plan sponsored by the federal government and employees which takes into consideration the movement of Canadian workers from one job or type of employment to another; and that this portable pension plan make special pension provision for parents who elect to stay at home during child-rearing years.

12.6.7 INCREASE OAS AND COST OF LIVING

Policy: That the NPF urge the federation government to increase Old Age Security by no less than 30% and tie future benefits to the cost of living index.

12.6.8 INCREASE THE GUARANTEED INCOME SUPPLEMENT

Policy: That the NPF urge the federal government to increase the Guaranteed Income Supplement by no less than 16% in order to give seniors and others on fixed income a decent standard of living and thus raise them above the poverty level.

12.6.9 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ON CHANGES TO OLD AGE SECURITY

Policy: That the NPF urge the federal government to institute public dialogue and consultation prior to any changes to the status quo Old Age Security benefits.

12.6.10 AGE FOR PENSION ELIGIBILITY

Policy: That the NPF advise the federal government that our organization is totally opposed to raising the age of eligibility for pensions beyond the present 65 years of age.

12.6.11 THE TOBIN TAX

Policy: That the NPF urge the government of Canada to support the Tobin Tax (a tax on foreign exchange transactions).

12.6.12 TAXING THE WEALTHY AND CORPORATIONS

Policy: That the federal and provincial governments increase all forms of taxation on wealthy Canadians and that they increase corporate taxes as well.

12.6.13 TAX-FREE FUNERALS

Policy: That all federal taxes be removed from seniors' funeral expenses

12.6.14 PENSION PLAN FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Policy: That the NPF urge the federal government to scrap the current pension plan for Members of Parliament immediately and replace it with a plan that requires the funding to be equitable for both the MPs and taxpayers and that the pension plan be based on sound actuarial principles.

12.6.15 ON PENSION FUND INVESTMENTS AND PRIVATE EQUITY CORPS 1

Policy: That the NPF call on all levels of government to investigate the practice of pension fund investment in private equity corporations that benefit from the purchase of other corporations and then subject the employees and retirees to financial hardship.

12.6.16 ON PENSION FUNDS AND PRIVATE EQUITY CORPS 2

Policy: That pension funds not be used to finance private equity corporations.

INTERNATIONAL POLICIES

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2016

16.7.1 INTERNATIONAL TRADE- TRANS PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge its chapters across Canada to write letters outlining concerns to the Minister of International Trade; lobby local MP's on areas of concern; demand that the TPP agreement not be ratified as it has consequences for Canada's sovereignty and the national government's ability to pass laws in the best interest of its citizens.

16.7.1 END HARMFUL TRADE AGREEMENTS

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation demand that the Federal Government reject these deals that further entrench corporate privilege in favour of trade that is truly fair. Section:

16.7.3 A FAIR TRADE FUTURE BEGINS BY SAYING NO TO THE TPP

Policy: That National Pensioners Federation undertake a national campaign on the TPP, with the goal of influencing Members of Parliament not to ratify the deal as proposed and to promote an alternative vision for a fair trade agenda in Canada, and that through this campaign NPF will engage with activists, local leadership and interested members across the country, encouraging them to play a leading role in this campaign at the community level, and that NPF will work in close collaboration with both traditional and non-traditional allies, both nationally and internationally, to stop the ratification of TPP.

16.7.4 A FAIR-TRADE FUTURE BEGINS BY SAYING NO TO THE TPP

Policy: That National Pensioners Federation undertake a national campaign on the TPP, with the goal of influencing Members of Parliament not to ratify the deal as proposed and to promote an alternative vision for a fair trade agenda in Canada, and that through this campaign NPF will engage with activists, local leadership and interested members across the country, encouraging them to play a leading role in this campaign at the community level, and that NPF will work in close collaboration with both traditional and non-traditional allies, both nationally and internationally, to stop the ratification of TPP.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2013

13.7.1 STOP TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR CROSS BORDER SHOPPERS

Policy: That the NPF oppose the increased tax exemptions for cross-border shoppers and send a letter to the federal Minister of Finance advising that at this time of store closings, layoffs, and stores moving to the United States, that his increase is totally irresponsible and will lead to further unemployment in Canada.

13.7.2 SENSITIVITY TRAINING FOR PORT SECURITY OFFICER

Policy: That sensitivity training be compulsory for all people dealing with the public in our nation's ports.

13.7.3 WEAPONS OF COLUMBIA

Policy: That the NPF request the federal government to stop the export of weapons to Colombia.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2012

12.7.1 Canada's Peacekeeping Tradition

Policy: That the NPF urge the Canadian government to return to focusing on being a nation of "peacekeepers"; withdraw from the War on Terrorism; and rebuild Canada's global respect.

12.7.2 Trade Deals with Japan

Policy: That the NPF call on our government to put Canadian jobs first in any trade deal(s) with Japan.

COMMUNICATIONS POLICIES

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2025

25.2.1 Transit Development

Policy - Work with its affiliates to call on all levels of government to:

- Develop inter-community express bus services connecting communities
- Eliminate privatization throughout public transit systems to ensure better, more reliable services for riders, and fairer benefits and wages for transit workers.
- Extend free transit programs to cover all seniors and individuals 18 and younger.

Submitted by: BC Forum

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2023

23.8.1 CANADIAN COMPANIES AND OFFSHORE CONTRACTS

Policy: Make the necessary representations to the federal government so that companies who receive federal government subsidies are required to disclose data on the volume of work which is being sent outside Canada.

Submitted by: Unifor Toronto Area Retired Workers Council

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2018

18.8.1 CRTC – PRESSURED OVERSELLING

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation through PIAC (Public Interest Advocacy Centre), lobby the CRTC to intervene in the overselling pressures by service providers.

Submitted by: Saskatchewan Seniors Association Incorporated

18.8.2 SENIORS AND NEW TECHNOLOGY

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation call upon the Federal Government and the Minister for Seniors to have Service Canada give Seniors required services and have a manual alternative available until such time as computer literacy is the norm, and that there be an end to open ageism and discrimination.

Submitted by: Unifor Toronto Area Retired Workers Council

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2016

16.8.1 NET NEUTRALITY & ZERO-RATING

Policy - That the leadership of the National Pensioners Federation make representations to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission [CRTC] and lobby government to ensure that the federal government and Members of Parliament are informed about our concerns regarding the importance of regulations supporting net neutrality and support of citizens

16.8.2 BROADBAND AND NET NEUTRALITY

Policy - That the leadership of the National Pensioners Federation make representations to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunication Commission [CRTC] as well as lobby government:

- That broadband as part of “basic telecommunications service” is vital for everyone but particularly seniors.
- Access must be made universally available and affordable in all communities across Canada. The minimum speed for such service

must be 10 Mbps [megabits per second] download and 1 Mbps upload.

16.8.3 ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE BROADBAND AND NET NEUTRALITY

Policy - That the leadership of the National Pensioners Federation arrange for educational materials about the relevance of 'Broadband and Net Neutrality' and the implications of zero rating be compiled and made available to member organizations. This can be done through the newsletter.

POLITICS POLICIES

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2025

25.1.1 Call for Provincial and Territorial Seniors Advocates

Policy – Call on all levels of Government to work together to mandate a Provincial Senior Advocate position in all Provinces and Territories as currently established in British Columbia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland/Labrador.

Submitted by: The Ontario Federation of Union Retirees Convention 2024, The National Pensioners Federation & Unifor Toronto Area Retired Workers Council

25.1.3 Keep Canada the True North and Free

Policy - Call on all levels of government to ensure that Canada remains as the sovereign great country we know today and not under any circumstances become part of the United States of America.

Submitted by: Unifor Local 1451 Retirees

25.1.4 Emergency Resolution – Save Canada Post

Policy - Continue to take actions to protect public postal service that meets seniors needs

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2023

23.9.1 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Policy - Call upon the Federal Government to create a federal registry, with an annual registration fee, for all automation devices and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Units used in manufacturing service and communication industries in Canada.

Submitted by: Unifor Toronto Area Retired Workers Council

23.9.2 AUTOMATIC TAX FILING SYSTEM

Policy - Strongly support the implementation of an automatic tax filing system as outlined in the 2023 Federal budget while ensuring no negative impacts to those receiving government income supplements, and

Strongly urge the Federal Government to expand the system of automatic tax filing so it is available to all Canadians who wish to take advantage of it.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of BC (COSCO BC)

23.9.3 AUTOMATIC TAX FILING SYSTEM

Policy - Oppose the privatization of Service Canada call centers to Gatestone a call center corporation based in the USA, and

Work with allies, including but not limited to the Public Service Alliance of Canada to oppose the privatization of Service Canada Call centres and to advocate for better and improved publicly run Service Canada Call Centre services.

Submitted by: BC Federation of Retired Union Members

23.9.4 EXPANSION OF CANADA POST

Policy - Advocate for the expansion of services offered by Canada Post by offering a national check in service programme for seniors and persons with mobility issues.

Submitted by: Unifor Toronto Area Retired Workers Council

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2021

21.9.1 TAX THE ROBOTS

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation call upon the federal government to create a federal registry, with an annual registration fee, for all automation devices and AI control units used in manufacturing, service, and communications industries in Canada, and

That the registry monitors the automation and AI trend and that the data gathered be used to aid in the formation of future fees and for taxes on such devices to benefit displaced workers with compensation including paid retraining for replacement jobs.

Submitted by: Ontario Federation of Union Retirees

21.9.2 SERVICE CANADA

Policy - That the NPF oppose the privatization of Service Canada call Centres to Gatestone a call Centre corporation based in the USA, and

Work with allies, including but not limited to the Public Service Alliance of Canada to oppose the privatization of Service Canada call Centres and to advocate for better and improved publicly run service by Canada call Centre services.

Submitted by: Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC)

21.9.3 EXPAND CANADA POST SERVICES

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation reiterates their support for the delivering to community power plan calling on Canada Post to;

- Provide postal banking services;
- Provide check in services allowing seniors to stay in their own homes;
- Provide a wide range of services;
- Become environmentally sustainable.

Submitted by: Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC)

21.9.4 WHY REGULATE NEW DRUG PRICES?

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation urge the federal government to put the public good first and implement the Patented Medicine Prices Review Board (PMPRB) regulations immediately.

21.9.5 PLAN WITH SENIORS, NOT FOR SENIORS

Policy - That the NPF urge the federal/provincial/territorial governments to ensure policy tables and consultations have as members, representatives from key seniors' organizations.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2019

19.7.1 MAKE EVERY VOTE COUNT

Policy - That the NPF calls upon all levels of government and the Prime Minister to conduct a multi-partisan process involving citizens and experts to determine the best model of proportional representation; and,

That this model be implemented in time to make every vote count in the 2022 election.

Submitted by: Club #197 - Unifor Area Retired Workers Council, Toronto & USCO

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2018

18.9.1 TRUDEAU'S AND THE LIBERALS' PROMISE TO CANADIAN VETERANS

Policy: That the NPF urge the federal government that all the commitments made by Trudeau and the Liberal Party during the last election campaign to the men and women veterans who honoured their commitments to their country be restored.

Submitted by: Unifor Local 200 Retired Workers Chapter

18.9.2 RESTORING HOME DELIVERY BY CANADA POST

Policy: That the National Pensioners' Federation continue to work with unions and other organizations that are campaigning to have door-to-door mail delivery restored to the 840,000 households that have had their door-to-door mail delivery ended since 2014.

Submitted by: BC Forum (BC Federation of Retired Union Members)

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2017

17.9.1 ELECTORAL REFORM

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation call upon all levels of government and the Prime Minister to conduct a non-partisan process involving citizens and experts to determine the best model of proportional representation, and

That this model be implemented in time to make every vote count in the 2019 election.

Submitted by: UNIFOR Toronto Area Council Retired

17.9.2 AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation engage the Federal and Provincial governments for affordable childcare program to increase the number of low-cost spaces at a cost of no more than \$15 per day, and

That these spaces be universally created in across our country so that all provinces have a chance for safety and affordability in all cities throughout Canada, and

That these spaces be offered in safe government- regulated facilities for the wellbeing of our children and grandchildren.

Submitted by: USCO

17.9.3 DEATH TAX EXEMPTION

Policy: That the Government exempt taxes owing to anyone who passes away after age of 65.

Submitted by: USCO

17.9.4 ELECTORAL REFORM

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation call upon all levels of government and the Prime Minister to conduct a non-partisan process involving citizens and experts to determine the best model of proportional representation, and

That this model be implemented in time to make every vote count in the 2019 election.

Submitted by: Unifor Toronto Area Council Retired Workers

17.9.5 NATIONAL SENIORS' STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation lobby the Federal Government and the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills, and Social Development to support the development and implementation of a national senior's strategy for Canada.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of BC

17.9.6 EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation highlight the unfairness of the present compensation paid to CEO's and other corporate executives while workers experience wage and pension stagnation.

Submitted by: Toronto Area Retired Workers Council

17.9.7 POSTAL BANKING

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation call upon our Prime Minister, the Federal Government, and Canada Post Corporation to establish a task force to determine how to deliver new financial products and new services through the Post Office; and

That the National Pensioners Federation urge the national government to establish a publicly owned postal bank.

Submitted by: Toronto Area Retired Workers Council

17.9.8 TAXING SENIORS' HEALTH BENEFITS

Policy: That the National Pensioners' Federation oppose the Federal Government's proposed Taxation of Seniors' Health Benefits.

Submitted by: Saskatchewan Seniors Association Incorporated

17.9.9 BILL C-27

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) continue to work with the Canadian Labour Congress, the Congress of Union Retirees of Canada, the BC Retired Teachers Association, our allies, and union affiliates to oppose Bill C-27, an act to amend the Pensions Benefits Standards Act and,

That the NPF continues to educate members and the public on the dangers of Bill C-27.

Submitted by: BC Federation of Retired Union Members (BC Forum) And Congress of Union Retirees of Canada

17.9.10 NOTIFICATION OF INCOME SUPPORTS

Policy: That the National Pensioners' Federation urge the Federal and Provincial Governments to collaborate in producing and distributing with the T4A slips an information sheet outlining the following:

- income supports available, such as the Guaranteed Income Supplement, Medical Plan Premium Assistance, Shelter Aid for Elderly Residents, etc.,
- household income required to be eligible for such income support, e.g., under \$42,000 or?,
- contact information to obtain application forms for such income support.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens Organization of BC

17.9.11 CAREGIVERS TAX CREDIT REFUND

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal Government to make the new combined Caregiver Tax Credit refundable.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of BC

17.9.12 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR SENIORS

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal Government to create a Consumer Price Index for Seniors, revamping the list of items included in the 'basket of items' used in the calculation of the Consumer Price Index and to give extra weight in the calculations to essentials like food, electricity, heat, etc.

Submitted by: Old Age Pensioners Organization of BC And Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of BC

17.9.13 CANADA REVENUE AGENCY INCOME CATEGORIES

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Canada Revenue Agency to rectify the injustices that taxpayers face regarding their inability to claim significant medical expenses because they may not have income in a specific category.

Submitted by: Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of BC

17.9.14 CAREGIVER SUPPORT

Policy: That the National Pensioners' Federation urges the Federal and Provincial Governments to enable a means-tested allowance, whether through an Employment Insurance or other medium, to be paid directly to these informal caregivers to allow them to care for family members without the stress of financial hardship.

Submitted by: Old Age Pensioners Organization of BC

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2015

15.9.1 DEMOCRATIC REFORM TO OUR ELECTORAL SYSTEM

Policy: That the NPF encourage all members to endorse electoral reform and bring democratic reform to our electoral system.

15.9.2 REPEAL BILL C-51

Policy: That the NPF demand that the federal government repeal Bill C-51 immediately.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2014

14.9.1 FAIR ELECTIONS ACT

Policy: That the federal government withdraw the Fair Elections Act as presented and entrust the writing of a new "Fair Elections Act" to a committee of the provincial and federal chief electoral officers to ensure that the Act is crafted for the good of democracy.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2013

13.9.1 NATIONAL LOBBY DAYS FOR GOOD LABOUR LAW

Policy: That the NPF join with others to mount a national lobby day with politicians at all three levels of government to tell them that good labour laws are key to maintaining a good community.

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2012

12.9.1 ONLINE VOTING SYSTEMS

Policy: That the NPF actively and vigorously oppose any federal, provincial, municipal, and/or regional attempt to change the secret ballot voting system to an online voting system.

12.9.2 ELECTORAL REFORM TOWARD PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

Policy: That in the next federal election, the NPF call for complete cooperation among the parties to introduce a system of proportional representation.

EQUALITY POLICIES

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2023

23.10.1 UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS

Policy - Work with affiliates and allies encourage and support the development of a United Nations Convention on the Rights of Older Persons.

Submitted by: Unifor Toronto Area Retired Workers Council

23.10.2 UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS

Policy - Work with affiliates and allies to encourage and support the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Older Persons.

Submitted by: Unifor Local 1459 Retired Workers Chapter

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2021

21.10.1 UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation support a Canadian and International initiatives to hold governments accountable for seniors' human rights through a UN Convention on the human rights of older persons that is currently under development, and

That the National Pensioners Federation lobbies all federal political parties in support that Canada be a signatory of that convention.

Submitted by: NPF Executive

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2018

18.10.1 SUPPORTING THE POSITION OF OECD MINISTERIAL STATEMENT TO REDUCE INEQUALITY

Policy - That the National Pensioners Federation urge the Federal, Provincial, and Territorial governments to discuss and agree to support and take actions which reflect the intent of the OECD "Ministerial Statement" Social Policy for Shared Prosperity: Embracing the Future.

(<http://www.oecd.org/social/ministerial/ministerial-statement-2018.pdf>), and

That the NPF urge the federal government to report to Canadians on the content and results of these discussions, and

That the NPF urge the federal government to educate Canadians and encourage attitudes that reflect the intent of this report in reducing inequality.

Submitted by: NPF Executive Board

CONVENTION YEAR ADOPTED: 2017

CPP AND OAS

Policy: That the National Pensioners Federation urge the government to increase the amount of CPP, OAS, and other monies so that people who are on fixed income and low-income families or the disabled can live in their homes comfortably.

Submitted by: USCO