

The New Brunswick Association of Nursing Homes

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PRESS RELEASE- *For immediate release*

The New Brunswick Association of Nursing Homes (NBANH) is an association that represents all of the 62 non-profit nursing homes in the province. Our mandate is to provide our residents with an environment in which they can live with respect and dignity. Many of our nursing homes were unable to provide adequate living conditions because of dated facilities, however, much of that is about to change. Today's announcement by the Government of New Brunswick is music to our ears. The creation of two new nursing homes and the replacement of eleven existing structures will allow the residents of these facilities to enjoy a home like experience.

The Association considers that there will never be enough done for our seniors but the province of New Brunswick is moving towards a more positive future for people requiring care. The way services are currently rendered basically makes it impossible for us to give the quality of care our residents deserve. Having three residents to a room does not respond to the standards of care set out by the Canadian Standards Association, which has been developing standards of care for over 40 years. What we need is to establish nursing homes where people feel as if they were in their own home, only assisted by nurses and aides. We need to improve nursing home care and this is one step in the right direction.

The creation of an additional 170 beds demonstrates the commitment from government that we need to ensure our seniors will have the care they deserve in the coming years. After today's announcement, we now know the province is dedicated to helping us help our people. Substantial repairs to several other nursing homes is also viewed as recognition by the Province that our residents deserve to live in acceptable housing.

It has always been our goal to have our residents feel like they are living in their own home. The new design models allow for expanded space and an open atmosphere that gives those living there a sense of space and improved sanitary conditions. This is a significant improvement from the past. Humanizing nursing home care will always be our priority.