

Fighting for Canadians as We Age



2017 – 2018
Impact Report



Messages from **CARP**

"Ninety-eight percent of CARP members voted in the last federal election. As Canada's largest advocacy association for older Canadians, we now represent the largest segment of the voting population."

Moses Znaimer
President, CARP



"Through our polls and member feedback, we understand the issues that are important to older Canadians. We are keen to work with governments at all levels to create policy and secure funding to make a difference in the lives of Canadians as we age."

Wanda Morris
VP of Advocacy, CARP



"CARP chapter volunteers are a valuable resource for government. We share our knowledge of seniors' concerns and support those politicians who work with us to address them."

Ron Singer
President, Brantford Chapter



What's Trending with **CARP Members**?

31%

went back to work following retirement

52%

support the idea of a government-provided universal basic income

89%

support a best interest standard for financial advisors

70%

support presumed consent for organ donation (opt-out rather than opt-in)

64%

believe doctors should be paid a salary and benefits rather than for specific services provided

64%

support a basic universal drug plan

78%

support allowing pharmacists to renew or extend prescriptions

72%

believe investments in social programs should be increased

86%

would have surgery between 8:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. to reduce wait times

45%

believe long-term care in their province is poor or very poor

96%

believe every province should have a corporate defined benefit pension plan guarantee fund

Visit carp.ca/news for more on what's trending with older Canadians.

CARP conducts online surveys across Canada of its 300,000 members. All percentages are calculated as a percent of total responses with an opinion (excludes responses of don't know/not sure).

2017 **CARP Action**

Here are the highlights of CARP's advocacy in 2017.



Moses Znaimer,
President, CARP

Andrew Scheer,
Conservative Party Leader

- ✓ **Successfully advocated** for a new **EI Family Caregiver Benefit** for people caring for critically ill family members for up to 15 weeks.
- ✓ **Obtained** a commitment from the Ontario government of **\$20 million** for additional homecare funding in 2017 for approximately 1.2 million hours of **respite services for caregivers**.
- ✓ **Pressured** Ontario government to initiate a **public inquiry** into Elizabeth Wetlaufer and systemic abuse in **long-term care homes**.
- ✓ **Supported** major Ontario reforms to introduce legislation to levy fines on homes **to better protect long-term care residents** from abuse.
- ✓ Our “**Heat or Eat**” public campaign **pressured** the Ontario government to **reduce hydro rates by 25%** and provide financial relief to those living in rural areas.
- ✓ **Partnered** with the Alzheimer's Society of Ontario to obtain a commitment of **\$100 million over three years** for an **Ontario dementia strategy**.



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

Wanda Morris, VP, Advocacy

✓ **Held** the Liberal government's feet to the fire to ensure election **homecare funding commitment of \$3 billion** was included in the 2017 federal budget (budget delivered \$11 billion over 10 years for homecare, palliative care and mental health).

✓ **Focused attention** on the need for **better investor protection**, including a best interest standard, the banning of embedded fees, and proper titling and credentialing of advisors.

✓ Opened CARP's second office — in B.C. — to **better advocate for members in Western Canada**.

✓ **Obtained commitments** from the **Ontario** and **Alberta** governments to better protect investors by boosting regulators' fine collection powers and enhancing their enforcement tools to crack down on financial advisors who harm investors.



Jagmeet Singh,
NDP Leader

Anthony Quinn,
Director, Community Affairs

2018 Top 5 **CARP** Priorities

Here's what will consume us in 2018.



Pension Protection

Corporate employees work for decades only to have their pensions cut if their company goes bankrupt. Canada is at risk of becoming an international laggard when it comes to pension protection. Our federal and provincial governments must do more. CARP is calling for super-priority for pensioners in bankruptcy, along with pension guarantees in all provinces.

**1.3
million**

corporate pensioners
at risk



RRIF Reform

We are living longer than ever before, but facing historically low interest rates and the disappearance of defined benefit pension plans. Current regulations governing RRSPs and RRIFs are no longer working. It discourages older Canadians from continuing to work while our oldest seniors are at risk of running out of savings. That's why CARP is calling for reform that includes the elimination of mandatory RRIF withdrawals.

**66%
of members**

support elimination
of mandatory RRIF
withdrawals



Resident Safety in Long-term Care

Every Canadian deserves to live out their life with dignity, respect and peace of mind – no matter their age or health. CARP will continue to focus on resident safety in long-term care, including securing sufficient funding, appropriate training, and supportive environments for those in long-term care.

23,000
reports

of abuse
in one year



Access to Housing

Housing is too often portrayed as a millennial issue. Not so. Homelessness among seniors is on the rise across Canada. Those who are housed but on modest fixed incomes struggle with affordability. One-quarter of single seniors live in poverty; providing secure housing is the key to reducing the number of seniors living in poverty.

1/4
of single
seniors

live in poverty




Stand (or Sit) Up Straight!

If we could only bottle and sell it, exercise would be the best-selling pharmaceutical of all time. Together with our chapters across the country, we'll be launching a campaign to get our members moving through a series of walking events and other physical activities.

**"The best way
to keep going...
is to keep going."**

Moses Znaimer
President, CARP



CARP is a national, non-partisan,
300,000 member association
that advocates for better
healthcare, improved financial
security, and freedom from
ageism for older Canadians.

Sign-Up for **CARP Action**

Get updates on advocacy campaigns
at carp.ca/newsletters.

Find Your **Community Chapter**

Visit carp.ca/chapters to connect
with local members.

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