



For immediate release

PEI nursing homes, residents and staff seek equal treatment from Government

Charlottetown, PEI- November 3, 2022 – Today, PEI’s nursing homes and their workers made an urgent call to fix the unfair funding system that affects seniors living in PEI’s nursing homes. The nursing homes and workers unions can’t tolerate the current situation any longer. “It’s no longer possible to care for our seniors to the required licensing standards without a major adjustment to the funding provided,” said Ramsay Duff, President of Nursing Homes Association of PEI and CEO of MacLeod Group which operates the South Shore Villa and Clinton View Lodge. “Private and not for profit nursing homes care for 50% of all seniors living in nursing homes across PEI yet those seniors receive less than half as much funding as public manor residents. How is that fair to our Residents who deserve the same level of care and services? Our employees are doing the exact same work for 25% less pay. How is that fair? Our Residents and employees are being treated by Government as second-class Islanders in a two-tier system of care” he added.

A worker with the same training and experience makes about \$6 less an hour at a private nursing home and has fewer benefits. “This can’t continue. Half of PEI’s nursing home residents are in chronically under-funded homes, and it’s affecting the ability to recruit and retain health care staff in those homes. The people suffering are our seniors and that’s not fair” added Jason Lee, CEO of PEI Seniors Homes and Vice President of the Nursing Homes Association.

The Nursing Homes Association, UPSE and CUPE have launched a public campaign to raise awareness of the chronic underfunding. The Nursing Homes Association has been without a new funding agreement for three years, resulting in delayed wage and benefit improvements for employees.

“Islanders deserve and expect fairness from their government in how they treat the most vulnerable needing care and the healthcare workers that provide that care. We urge all Islanders to encourage their MLA’s to ensure PEI treats all of its seniors and health workers the same” said Duff.

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For more information visit <https://macleodcares.com/fightforfairness/>

Ramsay Duff CEO, MacLeod Group
ramsay.duff@macleodgroup.ca
(902)- 863-6800 ext. 24

Jason Lee CEO, PEI Seniors Homes
ceo@peiseniorshomes.com