

Premier Doug Ford

Queens Park

11th February 2021

Dear Premier Ford

Muslim Seniors Circle-Niagara has been advocating since 2015 for improved senior care services Niagara wide for all seniors and specifically for seniors of ethnic back ground, minority group of color including Muslim senior population in Niagara Region. Niagara population is growing faster so does the ratio of minority groups is growing.

Many times province lack of much needed timely action has left our minority group in disappointment and uncertainty especially in this current pandemic covid-19 scenario with locked down and isolation.

We are fortunate that as per our cultural up bringing we keep our elderly at home with us which is a positive factor in 2-ways it keep them away from high risk environment and out breaks that comes in with the retirement and Long Term Care homes setting and make them safe from the 2nd risk factor of negligence and compromise on quality of care due to front line staff shortages, extra load and burn out and beyond capacity of departments to ensure residents had proper timely care and safety from the out breaks.

Due to our cultural belief and following, most of our seniors lived with their children and with this pandemic are locked at their home and need extra load of work and care from their loved ones who themselves are sometime over whelmed and often experiencing burn out situation. As care givers these loved ones need timely support and breaks for themselves to continue further and this extra support is expected to comes from our government.

Even though our organization volunteers number is low due to the pandemic situation MSC-Niagara still with its limited capacity trying its best during this pandemic to support our seniors. Heads up to those dedicated volunteers for the hard work they are still trying beyond their capacity to manage to fulfil the need of our senior community in this covid-19 scenario.

MSC-Niagara are also advocating for couple of years for a role model, a kind of LTCH and retirement homes with cultural respected setting for seniors of color or ethnic back ground, its kind of cost effective innovation setup where birds of same flock can live together and their loved ones can share the responsibility

together with front line workers and they can enjoy the company of their family and their peers in a home like setting, it can be a future platform and can be helpful to reduce the major complications our elderly faces as result of loneliness and isolation and other related challenges.

Hopefully government is aware of the other side of the scenario about some of at home seniors couples lives in isolation and No loved ones around. Few of our seniors couples facing practical challenges one partner is sick and other does not have enough capacity or strength to take this extra load which aggravate the health challenges and Malnutrition due to not having enough capacity to cook on regular basis and often starving or no choice but to eat unbalanced improper food available.

To make it short our Front line staff experiencing severe burn out, retirement and LTCH spaces are scarce and rapidly shrinking and Niagara health care system is compromised.

It is good news that Covid-19 vaccination plan is now under going for high risk groups and Niagara Health will open a new vaccination clinic effective February 17th at Seymour Hannah centre in St.Catharines, but what about our at home seniors with the same risk and circumstances plus age factors?? they also need attention and timely vaccination plan ASAP to combat this pandemic. Province wide protest are going Niagara health team, Regional municipality of Niagara, Local Councils, other organizations and Niagara residents are restless and urging and raising their concern.

MSC-Niagara is also deeply concerned and expecting a positive and practical response from Premier Ford and needed support from dignitaries.

Sincerely

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Founder/Organizer MSC-Niagara

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Mayor,s Niagara Falls, NOTL, west Lincoln,, Fort Erie, Thorold, Lincoln, welland
St.Catharines, Grimsby, port colborne, pelhem, wainfleet

MPP St.Catharines, Niagara Falls, Niagara West, Welland

Chair Regional Municipality of Niagara – Jim Bradely

MPs St Catharines, Niagara Falls centre, Niagara west