Citizen Watch Continuing Care in Alberta and the Seniors' Action and Liaison Team

www.continuingcarewatch.com

30 November 2008

Hon. Iris Evans, MLA Sherwood Park and Minister of Finance and Enterprise

Dear Iris,

We're very pleased that you took the time to respond to our MLA Bulletin 5 and the cover email, and for engaging in this discussion.

We are well aware of the intentions of the shift to "Aging in Place" for the provision of continuing care services, and of the work of the Demographic Planning Commission.

It's been very clear to us for some years that there are long-standing gaps and deficiencies in the continuing care system and in the Seniors' Benefits programs, and that government planning and initiatives to address these concerns have too often been too little and too late.

We are anticipating that the revised Continuing Care Strategy, the McKinsey reports, and the report from the Demographic Planning Commission will be made public at the earliest opportunity. Public dialogue is vastly improved when all relevant information is shared.

We also believe that more dialogue between policy-makers and the people directly affected by the system might improve matters considerably. To this end, we hope that you will consider an opportunity to meet with us to discuss some specific issues.

As we indicated in our first MLA Bulletin communication (May 21, 2008), we are posting all correspondence on the www.continuingcare.com website, in the MLA Bulletin section.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Wodak
On behalf of Citizen Watch and SALT

cc. Hon. Ron Liepert
Minister of Health and Wellness