



Office of the Minister



JAN 16 2015

AR 124403

Ms. Helen Rice  
President  
Alberta Urban Municipalities Association  
300, 8616 - 51 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6E 6E6

Dear Ms. Rice:

Honourable Jeff Johnson, Minister of Seniors, forwarded your letter of October 27, 2014, regarding the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association's (AUMA) resolution on seniors' care. Further to Minister Johnson's response to you on November 20, 2014, I appreciate the opportunity to provide the perspective of Alberta Health.

I commend the AUMA for working to improve care for Alberta's seniors. Home care services play an increasingly important role in our continuing care system, and the Ministry of Health is working with Alberta Health Services (AHS) to expand, improve and standardize home care services across the province. AHS has increased home care spending by approximately 29% over the last four years, from \$402 million in 2010/2011 to a forecasted expenditure of \$518 million in 2014/2015.

The Government of Alberta agrees that support for family caregivers is an integral part of the continuing care system in Alberta and that innovative approaches that will increase support for caregivers should be considered.

Thank you for sharing your resolution. As my Ministry explores options related to support for caregivers, the AUMA's input will be considered.

Sincerely,

Stephen Mandel  
Minister of Health

cc: Honourable Jeff Johnson  
Minister of Seniors