

RESOLUTIONS

57TH ANNUAL
CONVENTION



AUGUST 10, 11 & 12, 2015
HOLIDAY INN CONFERENCE CENTRE
ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO

HEALTH

1. WHEREAS: Nurse Practitioners have assumed a greater role as Primary Health Care Providers in recent years; and

 WHEREAS: In many communities a shortage of Family Physicians has not permitted individuals to have a family doctor and has also resulted in increased wait times for appointments; and

 WHEREAS: Nurse Practitioners are able to provide health care services to seniors often sought from Family Physicians but not available in a timely manner.

 BE IT RESOLVED: That the Provincial Government continue to support the expanded role of Nurse Practitioners especially in Health care sectors providing care to seniors.

Submitted By: Zone 39 - Muskoka Area

AGREE - CARRIED

2. WHEREAS: In Northern Ontario, senior's access to physicians is difficult, delayed, and/or restricted; and
- WHEREAS: Nurse Practitioners play an important role in our health care system; and
- WHEREAS: Nurse Practitioners are underfunded.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government provide increased funding for Nurse Practitioners in rural areas; and
- BE IT FURTHER
RESOLVED: That the Government provide better incentives to medical workers to work in Northern Ontario and other rural areas.

Submitted By: Zone 41 - Temiskaming District

AGREE - CARRIED

3. WHEREAS: Access to medical services in Ontario should be equitable regardless of the postal code; and
- WHEREAS: Closures and reduction in services have compromised the accessibility to medical services; and
- WHEREAS: Additional closures and reductions in services are still being considered.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Provincial Government provide financial resources to ensure accessibility to medical services by all residents of Ontario.

Submitted By: Zone 39 - Muskoka Area

AGREE - CARRIED

4. WHEREAS: Innovative approaches to health care have been introduced to improve the quality of care available in Ontario; and
- WHEREAS: Many seniors do not receive adequate dental care, eye care, physiotherapy, chiropody services, etc. because of the delisting of these services or lack of financial resources to access what is required; and
- WHEREAS: Health condition or quality of life may be impacted by lack of access to required care.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Provincial Government through the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care provide the required funding for health care services needed by residents of Ontario.

Submitted By: Zone 39 - Muskoka Area

AGREE - CARRIED

5. WHEREAS: Ontario population is growing and aging and we don't have enough Doctors to adequately treat our current population, let alone our growing and aging population; and
- WHEREAS: Everyday Doctors diagnose, treat and cure over 320,000 patients, and there are still about 900,000 adults and children who still do not have a primary care doctor; and
- WHEREAS: Medical care will grow by at least 2.7% per year and the Government is willing to fund only 1.25% - less than half what is needed.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government at least fund the necessary monies to look after our growing and aging population.

Submitted By: Club #826 - Mountain Seniors Club, South Mountain

AGREE - CARRIED

6. WHEREAS: We see the current Government slashing \$36 billion from Canada's health care system; and
- WHEREAS: Our system costs less and delivers more than the market driven alternatives in the United States; and,
- WHEREAS: Our Canadian population is aging rapidly, which means our health care needs are growing; and,
- WHEREAS: We see the government in Ottawa refusing to restore the Canada Health Act.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That we ask the Federal Government to reverse its decision to walk away from the Federal-Provincial table and cut \$36 billion in funding; and,
- BE IT FURTHER
RESOLVED: That the Federal Government start enforcing the Canada Health Act and stop the push towards privatized and for profit health clinic; and,
- BE IT FURTHER
RESOLVED: That the Federal Government work with the provinces and territories on a new 10 -year Health Accord that includes stable, predictable and long-term funding that grows 6% each year.

Submitted By: Club #407 - 444 Retirees Chapter, Windsor

AGREE - CARRIED

7. WHEREAS: "Bringing Care Home", the Report of the Expert Group on Home and Community Care was released in March 2015; and,
- WHEREAS: This report provides and important review of the issues facing home and community care and documents what is needed for Ontario.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Provincial Government through the Ministry of Health and Long Term care endorse the recommendations of the "Bringing Care Home" report and implement all 16 recommendations as a priority.

Submitted By: Zone 39 - Muskoka Area

AGREE - CARRIED

8. WHEREAS: Mobility scooters and electric wheelchairs are used on public streets and sidewalks but are not regulated for use in these situations; and
- WHEREAS: Accidents and near-misses have occurred because of poor driving, errors in judgement, improper use on terrain not intended to be travelled on, and lack of safety gear, eg helmets.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Provincial Government develop regulations to govern the use of mobility scooters and electric wheelchairs on public streets.
- AMENDED ADDED TO BE IT RESOLVED: To prevent them from using the roads where other means are available.

Submitted By: Zone 39 - Muskoka Area

AGREE - CARRIED WITH AMENDMENT

9. WHEREAS: We have been asking for a National Pharma Care Plan for Canada for many years; and
- WHEREAS: We have pointed out many times, the high cost of not having a national, universal pharma care plan which has now been supported in a study that was published in the Canadian Medical Journal during the week of March 16, 2015; and
- WHEREAS: Since 1964 numerous Royal commissions and advisory bodies have shown that such a plan would save citizens of this country a considerable amount of money; and
- WHEREAS: We see employers cutting drug coverage for retirees thus forcing retirees to make a choice between buying their drugs to survive, or paying their rent, or buying food, etc.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That this Convention reaffirm its support for a National Pharma Care Program for every Canadian.
- AMENDED ADDED: That the USCO communicate our opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership which would prevent a Canadian Pharmacare program.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Submitted By: Club #407 – 444 Retirees Chapter, Windsor

AGREE - CARRIED WITH AMENDMENT

10. WHEREAS: The Ontario Government does not pay for some of the medication for Cancer Patients; and
- WHEREAS: People of low income, and seniors on a fixed income pension are unable to pay for this medication.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government of Ontario pay for these drugs.

Submitted By: Club #690 – The Winchester Golden Years Club, Winchester

AGREE - CARRIED

11. WHEREAS: All levels of government know “aging in your own home” is most economical for seniors and our provincial health system; and
- WHEREAS: Medical alert security systems can significantly extend independent living for seniors.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government of Ontario develop and implement an assistance plan to help seniors cope with the cost of medical alert security systems so they feel confident and comfortable in their own homes with the knowledge that help is only the press of a button away.

Submitted By: Club #1295 – Greenock Seniors, Paisley

AGREE - CARRIED

12. WHEREAS: Scientific research has proven that poor dental and gum health is related to a higher risk of heart disease; and
- WHEREAS: Low income families and seniors with little or no pension cannot afford proper dental care, and therefore do not go to the dentist because of cost.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government pay for Dental Benefits for seniors on a fixed low income and low income families, ie. The working poor.

Submitted By: Club #690, Winchester Golden Years Club, Winchester

AGREE - CARRIED

13. WHEREAS: Sadly, many seniors cannot afford dental care; and
- WHEREAS: Poor dentition can lead to poor nutrition.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Ontario Government subsidize dental care for seniors who cannot afford that care.

Submitted By: Zone 41 - Temiskaming District

AGREE - CARRIED

14. WHEREAS: Many Seniors are living below the poverty line and just paying their day to day bills and putting food on the table is next to impossible; and
- WHEREAS: Many Senior's health is being neglected because they cannot afford proper care.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government financially help low income Seniors with dental care and prescription drugs that they have to pay for.

Submitted By: Club #826 - Mountain Seniors Club, South Mountain

AGREE - CARRIED

15. WHEREAS: Many seniors cannot afford proper dental care that is critical to their health and wellbeing; and
- BE IT RESOLVED: The Government of Ontario develop a plan to assist seniors with full or partial payment of their dental (including dentures) and optical (glasses) care.

Submitted By: Club #1116 - Londesboro Happy Gang Seniors, Londesboro

AGREE - CARRIED

16. WHEREAS: Good dental health is important to overall well-being; and

WHEREAS: Most seniors do not have dental plans/coverage.

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government assist seniors with routine dental coverage, ie. examinations, cleaning, x-rays, and minor filling.

Submitted By: Club #611 – ABC Seniors, Apsley

AGREE - CARRIED

17. WHEREAS: It is prudent for the Ontario Government to support the health care of seniors; and

WHEREAS: Dental costs have risen beyond the means of low income seniors.

BE IT RESOLVED: That there be support for dental care of low income seniors.

Submitted By: Club #939 – Russell 55+ Club, Russell

AGREE - CARRIED

18. WHEREAS: There are no professional Endodontics practicing specialized dentistry in many areas of Ontario; and
- WHEREAS: A patient needing a root canal to save a tooth is directed by the attending dentist to a specialist in an urban centre, necessitating travel; and
- WHEREAS: Existing travel grant does not cover root canal or extraction at a distant location.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Ontario Government include grant coverage for dental work if there are no specialists in the patient's immediate area.

Submitted By: Zone 41 - Temiskaming District

AGREE - CARRIED

19. WHEREAS: Patients are being discharged from hospital ever more quickly, in many cases while still needing extensive medical and drug therapy as part of their recovery.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That any drugs which would be provided free of charge while an inpatient be provided on the same basis during their recovery following discharge; and
- BE IT FURTHER
RESOLVED: That any medical care including Physiotherapy or other therapy provided free of charge while an inpatient be continued on the same basis during their recovery as an outpatient.

Submitted By: Club #1310 – Larder Lake Senior Canadian Club, Larder Lake

AGREE - CARRIED

20. WHEREAS: Patient transfers are provided free of charge to OSDB and WSIB recipients.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That these services be provided on the same basis for residents of long term care or other assisted living facilities and for patients who are house bound in their own homes.

Submitted By: Club #1310 – Larder Lake Senior Canadian Club, Larder Lake

AGREE - CARRIED

21. WHEREAS: Seniors, the working poor, people on fixed incomes are having difficulty paying for their basic needs; and
- WHEREAS: Out of necessity in rural areas need their vehicles to take them to hospitals, doctor’s offices and clinics for consults and treatment; and
- WHEREAS: Seniors, the working poor, people on fixed incomes have to pay large parking fees at hospitals, doctor’s offices and clinics to park their cars; and
- WHEREAS: Seniors, the working poor, people on fixed incomes who need some procedures in a day stay unit or outpatient capacity will not go because of the high cost of parking.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government should exempt people who have ongoing treatment ie. Chemotherapy, Dialysis, and other medical procedures in a outpatient capacity and in a day stay unit; and
- BE IT FURTHER
RESOLVED: That the Government should exempt seniors, the working poor, people on fixed incomes that have to visit hospitals, clinics and doctor’s offices on a regular basis.

Submitted By: Club #690 - The Winchester Golden Years Club, Winchester

AGREE - CARRIED

22. WHEREAS: Many traveling specialists are set up in hospitals; and
- WHEREAS: Many seniors cannot afford the parking lot fees that most hospitals charge.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That hospitals provide a Seniors Pass at a reduced rate.

Submitted By: Zone 41 - Temiskaming District

AGREE - CARRIED

23. WHEREAS: Some seniors, who are confined to hospital for extensive stays, really need the support of visitors; and
- WHEREAS: Often, relatives or friends cannot visit due to the parking fees.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That a daily visitor's pass at a reduced cost be provided in the senior's name, to then be used by a visitor.

Submitted By: Club #1254 - Matachewan Pioneer Club, Matachewan

AGREE - CARRIED

24. WHEREAS: Many seniors are living on fixed incomes, well below the poverty line; and
- WHEREAS: When a family member requires hospital admittance and remains in hospital for a number of days, it causes financial difficulties for the family to visit due to the COST OF PARKING and transportation to the hospital (bus, taxi, etc.)
- BE IT RESOLVED: That a family member be able to apply for temporary parking at a reduced (or no) rate while that family member remains in hospital. This could apply to seniors who have multiple visits to hospital for serious illnesses (cancer treatments, kidney dialysis, etc.).

Submitted By: Club #611 - ABC Seniors, Apsley

AGREE - CARRIED

25. WHEREAS: Long Term Care waiting lists in all provinces have not gone down; and
- WHEREAS: We see more privatization seeping into our Long term Care system.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That this Convention approach all provinces and territories to make sure that Long Term Care reform is being addressed in their provinces; and
- BE IT FURTHER
RESOLVED: That the principles of a universal, publically funded, not-for-profit long term care system is accessible to all Canadians who are in need of long term care.

Submitted By: Club #407 – 444 Retirees Chapter, Windsor

**DISAGREE - CARRIED AND AGREED THAT WHERE
“FIXED INCOME” APPEARS - THAT “FIXED LOW
INCOME” WILL BE UNDERSTOOD**

26. WHEREAS: It seems that wait times for Long Term Care facilities are getting longer and longer, when it comes time for families to put their loved ones on a list; and
- WHEREAS: The Government would like seniors to live in their homes longer; and
- WHEREAS: The Government is cutting back on home care for seniors who are trying to live in their own homes longer; and
- WHEREAS: Many seniors do not have family living close by to help them out with the day to day necessities for seniors to stay in their own homes.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government put in place more home care for our seniors trying to live at home; and
- BE IT FURTHER
RESOLVED: That the Government shorten up wait times for seniors who need to go into long term care.

Submitted By: Club #690 – The Winchester Golden Years Club, Winchester

AGREE - CARRIED

27. WHEREAS: Some older adults who live in their own homes need some sort of home care; and
- WHEREAS: The amount of home care they get is marginally adequate; and
- WHEREAS: Some seniors need more help than others; and
- WHEREAS: Some seniors do not have family to help them out.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government increase the amount of Home Care that some seniors are in badly need of.

Submitted By: Club #690 - The Winchester Golden Years Club, Winchester

AGREE - CARRIED

28. WHEREAS: The Government say they want Seniors to stay in their own home as long as possible; and
- WHEREAS: Many of our Seniors need help with personal care, other than what their caregiver in the home care can provide; and
- WHEREAS: Many of the Seniors cannot afford to pay for extra care.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government provide more funds to organizations such as Community Care Access Centres and community health and social service agencies, etc. to help Seniors stay in their own home in their aging years.

Submitted By: Club #826 - Mountain Seniors Club, South Mountain

AGREE - CARRIED

29. WHEREAS: The Northern Ontario Medical Travel Grant Program provided assistance to those individuals travelling to access medical services that meet the guidelines and fund according to those guidelines; and
- WHEREAS: Many specialized medical services are centralized in southern urban centres and require travel to the locations from all parts of the province not just the north.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Provincial Government expand the Northern Ontario Medical Travel Grant Program to include individuals within Ontario with no limitation to having to have northern residence; and
- BE IT FURTHER
RESOLVED: That the guidelines for the Program be reviewed and revised to better represent the true expenses of the individual, eg. that the starting point for the travel distance be calculated from their residence, etc.

Submitted By: Zone 39 - Muskoka Area

AGREE - CARRIED

30. WHEREAS: Most seniors living in rural areas do not have easy access to medical services; and
- WHEREAS: Many seniors are moving from their homes in rural areas to bigger cities in order to have this medical access.
- BE IT RESOLVED: Encourage physicians to open satellite clinics in order to provide seniors with medical services and services able to be delivered within this clinic.

Submitted By: Club #611 – ABC Seniors, Apsley

AGREE - CARRIED

31. WHEREAS: Shingles is very painful and debilitating; and
- WHEREAS: The cost of the vaccine is more than some seniors can afford.
- BE IT RESOLVED: We urge free vaccines for shingles prevention to be offered to seniors.

Submitted By: Club #920 – Eagle Place Seniors, Brantford

AGREE - CARRIED

32. WHEREAS: Shingles causes terrible suffering to its victim; and
- WHEREAS: The cost of shingles vaccine is often prohibitive.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Ontario Government cover the cost of the shingles vaccine to all who cannot afford it.

Submitted By: Zone 41 - Temiskaming District

AGREE - CARRIED

33. WHEREAS: Seniors with Alzheimer's have a tendency to be violent; and
- WHEREAS: The drug Ebixa is available to control violence in Alzheimer's patients, but the cost is high.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the medication Ebixa which is used to control violence in those with Alzheimer's be paid for by the Province.

Submitted By: Club #920 – Eagle Place Seniors, Brantford

AGREE - CARRIED

34. WHEREAS: Clogged arteries can result in heart problems; and
- WHEREAS: Major surgery is a result of this, with a long recovery time.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That an instrument (used in the USA which cleans out clogged arteries) be made available in Canada. This results in less stress, more patients who could benefit from this and there would be less surgeries.

Submitted By: Club #920 – Eagle Place Seniors, Brantford

AGREE - CARRIED

TRANSPORTATION

35. WHEREAS: Automobile manufacturers have had to make sure that the head lights on automobiles come on automatically; and
- WHEREAS: This practice has proven to cut down on accidents; and
- WHEREAS: The weather patterns in the Province of Ontario have changed and now we have more snowstorms, fog, rain, freezing rain, etc.; and
- WHEREAS: When driving in these conditions it is easier to see a car with the head lights on, but it is very hard to see the car in front with no tail lights on.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government should make mandatory that car manufacturers also make sure that the tail lights are lit as well.

Submitted By: Club #690 – The Winchester Golden Years Club, Winchester

AGREE - CARRIED

36. WHEREAS: Seniors, the working poor, people on fixed incomes are having difficulty paying for their basic needs; and
- WHEREAS: Out of necessity in rural areas need their vehicles; and
- WHEREAS: Seniors, the working poor, people on fixed incomes have not seen a raise to keep up with the high cost of gas for their vehicles.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government decrease the amount of tax that is imposed at the gas pumps.

Submitted By: Club #690 – The Winchester Golden Years Club, Winchester

AGREE - CARRIED

HOUSING

39. WHEREAS: In winter many seniors have difficulty keeping their walkways and entrances clear of snow and some cannot afford to hire help to do this; and
- WHEREAS: Without snow clearing, the individual becomes house-bound and is unable to access services and activities.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That Municipalities assume responsibility for snow clearing for individuals who are unable to do their own snow removal or afford to hire help.

Submitted By: Zone 39 - Muskoka Area

AGREE - CARRIED

40. WHEREAS: Ontario Seniors on fixed incomes are having difficulty paying for their basic needs; and
- WHEREAS: Natural Gas charges are rising; and
- WHEREAS: Many Ontario Seniors on fixed incomes cannot afford food because of the high cost of Natural Gas.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government reduce the cost of Natural Gas.

Submitted By: Club #690 – The Winchester Golden Years Club, Winchester

AGREE - CARRIED

41. WHEREAS: Ontario Seniors on fixed incomes are having difficulty paying for their basic needs; and
- WHEREAS: Hydro is charging more and more for their utility during off peak hours; and
- WHEREAS: Many Ontario Seniors on fixed incomes cannot afford food because of the high cost of Hydro, and this is affecting their health.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government remove some of the extra charges from the Hydro Bills.

Submitted By: Club #690 – The Winchester Golden Years Club, Winchester

AGREE - CARRIED

42. WHEREAS: Hydro costs have become prohibitively expensive and are beyond what seniors can afford to pay with their reduced income; and
- WHEREAS: The Government should be encouraging seniors to stay in their own homes to reduce the cost of building subsidized senior's residences.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That seniors do not pay HST on their Hydro bills.

Submitted By: Club #939 – Russell 55+ Club, Russell

AGREE - CARRIED

43. WHEREAS: The British North America Act (BNA) requires that property owners pay for school support; and
- WHEREAS: All levels of Government are in favor of senior citizens living at home for as long as possible before moving into nursing homes; and
- WHEREAS: The present property tax burden is a hardship on seniors with fixed incomes.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That at age 65, seniors cease paying the school tax portion of their municipal tax assessment.

Submitted By: Club #24 – Brant Seniors Club, Brantford

AGREE - DEFEATED

44. WHEREAS: Canada Post has indicated its plans to stop door-to-door delivery of mail and institute “community boxes”; and
- WHEREAS: Many individuals with mobility problems would be adversely affected by this change in mail delivery system; and
- WHEREAS: Walking conditions in Ontario in winter are often dangerous and many seniors are vulnerable to injury from falls.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Federal Government direct Canada Post to cease this initiative and continue the present door-to-door delivery system.

Submitted By: Zone 39 - Muskoka Area

AGREE - CARRIED

PENSIONS/FINANCIAL ISSUES

45. WHEREAS: Retired people, seniors, the working poor, people on fixed incomes are having difficulty paying for their basic needs; and
- WHEREAS: These people do not get a cost of living increase to help them financially; and
- WHEREAS: The cost of food, utilities, rent keep on rising; and
- WHEREAS: Many people throughout the winter could not afford heating fuel or food; and
- WHEREAS: Many seniors had to resort to using food banks.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Government increase the amount of CPP, OAS and other monies so that the people who are on fixed incomes and the working poor can live in their homes comfortably.

Submitted By: Club #690 – The Winchester Golden Years Club, Winchester

AGREE - CARRIED

46. WHEREAS: We have seen many organizations re-launch their campaign to enhance the CPP, OAS and GIS; and
- WHEREAS: We have seen the Canadian Medical Association support their campaign; and
- WHEREAS: Pensions are crucially important to the well-being of workers, their families and to the economic health and vitality of our cities and communities; and
- WHEREAS: The Federal Government has changed the rules and made it harder for people to access retirement income benefits like OAS and GIS, raising the eligibility from 65 to 67.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That we strongly ask that the Federal Government double the CPP retirement, change the plan to raise eligibility for OAS and GIS, as well as enhance these benefits to keep Canadian seniors out of poverty; and
- BE IT FURTHER
RESOLVED: That the seniors and all clubs make this part of the 2015 Federal Election platform across the province.

Submitted By: Club #407 – 444 Retirees Chapter, Windsor

AGREE - CARRIED

47. WHEREAS: After retirement seniors have the time and do a lot of volunteer work; and
- WHEREAS: Seniors income is reduced after retirement.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That there should be an income tax reduction for seniors who do volunteer work to claim expenses related to their volunteering, ie. gas, printing costs, security checks, etc.

Submitted By: Club #939 – Russell 55+ Club, Russell

AGREE - CARRIED

48. **WHEREAS:** Massive plant and store closures have occurred and the Provincial and Federal Governments of Canada do not have legislation in place to protect workers; and
- WHEREAS:** It is wrong for a company to not meet its financial obligations to employees; and
- WHEREAS:** Companies such as Target, Nortel and SKD are examples of a lack of workers' and retirees' protection.
- BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Governments at both levels enact legislation to put workers and seniors first as secure creditors when wind-up or a bankrupt situation occurs.

Submitted By: Club #407 – 444 Retirees Chapter, Windsor

AGREE - CARRIED

49. **WHEREAS:** Over the last several years, we have seen high rates of unemployment and underemployment; and
- WHEREAS:** We see young people becoming increasingly vulnerable as job opportunities are not only hard to come by, but increasingly can be found only in precarious work with low wages, thus limiting career prospects.
- BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Federal government deliver a National Jobs Strategy to deal with unemployment and underemployment among Canada's young workers with deliberate labour market action plans that will allow young people to find full-time meaningful work.

Submitted By: Club #407 – 444 Retirees Chapter, Windsor

AGREE - CARRIED

50. WHEREAS: Seniors have long supported the Canadian Banking system, have recently been given fee freedom at most major banks when they reach 65 years of age; and
- WHEREAS: Seniors' Clubs are required to pay banking fees that amount to a considerable percentage of Club membership fees for smaller clubs; and
- WHEREAS: Banks in Canada continue to set record banking fees and pay very little to zero interest on savings accounts.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That Canadian Banks remove banking fees from accounts of legitimate, not-for-profit senior citizen clubs with a defined membership.

Submitted By: Club #827 – Formosa Leisure Club, Formosa

AGREE - CARRIED

51. WHEREAS: The Ontario Government has a Not-for-Profit Corporations Act Reform that may apply to social clubs such as the USCO and that directors should be covered by personal liability insurance in any case; and
- WHEREAS: That most social clubs do have funds and assets that are managed by a Board of Directors and find the cost of personal liability insurance prohibitive.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the USCO pursue the institution of global personal liability insurance for members in good standing; and
- BE IT FURTHER
RESOLVED: That at the very least, the USCO pursue the institution of global personal liability insurance for Board of Directors and/or Executive members of USCO Clubs which would reduce the cost of insurance for each club; and
- BE IT FURTHER
RESOLVED: That the USCO observe due diligence in purchasing personal liability insurance.

Submitted By: Club #566 – The Golden Age Club, Cobalt

DISAGREE - CARRIED

MISCELLANEOUS

52. WHEREAS: Mining, forestry and construction companies pay no fees to municipalities for materials removed from the municipalities; and
- WHEREAS: The fees are charged and collected at the Provincial level; and
- WHEREAS: A very, very small amount of the revenue is returned to these municipalities.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That legislation be passed to increase the revenues distributed to the donor municipalities.

Submitted By: Zone 41 - Temiskaming District

AGREE - CARRIED

53. WHEREAS: Bill C-51 is supposed to be an Act to enact the Security of Canada information Sharing Act and the Secure Air Travel Act; and
- WHEREAS: It is also to amend the Criminal Code, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service Act as well as the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act and to make related and consequential amendments to their Acts; and
- WHEREAS: It authorizes the disclosure of information throughout and within the Government of Canada relating to activities that undermine Canadian security; and
- WHEREAS: It creates listing mechanisms and prohibition for persons who may pose a threat to air transportation or who may travel abroad to commit terrorist offences; and
- WHEREAS: It expands the mandate of CSIS to operate both inside and outside of Canada and grant CSIS the ability to disrupt erroneous terror stats to expand no-fly lists; and
- WHEREAS: We feel this Bill could be used to target environmental activists, women's groups, senior citizen groups, aboriginal protestors, health care workers, just to name a few or any other forms of protests without official permits; and
- WHEREAS: In our opinion, it fails to protect the safety and privacy of Canadians granting unprecedented and excessive power to Government agencies.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That this USCO Seniors Convention go on record opposing Bill C-51 which is designed to destroy the people's voice for democracy; and
- BE IT FURTHER
RESOLVED: That we as seniors work to oppose this undemocratic Bill.

Submitted By: Club #407 – 444 Retirees Chapter, Windsor

AGREE - CARRIED

54. WHEREAS: The 2011 Federal election saw a party with 39.6% of the vote received a majority of the seats and absolute power for 4 years; and
- WHEREAS: The 2011 Federal election saw one in three Saskatchewan voters support the NDP but the NDP received no seats; and
- WHEREAS: The last real majority in Canada was in 1984 when Brian Mulroney won 50.04% of the popular vote but the party won 75% of the seats and 100% of the power; and
- WHEREAS: Strategic voting disenfranchises voters who vote for parties they consciously do not support; and
- WHEREAS: 97% of New Zealand voters cast a vote that elected someone to represent them, in Canada just 51% cast a vote that elected someone; and
- WHEREAS: 428,325 Green Party voters east of British Columbia didn't elect a single MP while 333,172 Liberal voters in Atlantic Canada elected 12 MP's.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the USCO support electoral reform and invite Fair Vote Canada to address the USCO Convention; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the USCO lobby all political parties to commit to electoral reform (proportional representation) and enact once in power; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the USCO encourage all Clubs to endorse electoral reform and bring democratic reform to our electoral system.

Submitted By: Club #563 – Unifor Local 707 Retirees Chapter, Oakville

AGREE - CARRIED

55. WHEREAS: The Provincial Government is processing Bill 75 which is addressing a ban on the manufacturing of plastic microbeads or their use in any production of any product; and
- WHEREAS: Microbeads are hazardous to the environment as they enter the water ecosystem and fish and wildlife are being killed as a result of this contamination.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Provincial Government be urged to enact Bill 75 as soon as possible.

Submitted By: Club #920 - Eagle Place Seniors Club, Brantford

AGREE - CARRIED

56. WHEREAS: Long Term care facilities are increasingly being populated with residents with Alzheimer's and other dementias; and
- WHEREAS: These residents are very vulnerable and often do not have family or friends who can speak up for them; and
- WHEREAS: There have been documented cases where abuse of all kinds has occurred inflicted on the resident both by staff and other residents.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That regulations be enacted by the Provincial Government that only trained and registered Personal Support Workers be employed; and
- BE IT FURTHER
RESOLVED: That funding be increased to allow for sufficient staffing to have safe and proper care in Long Term Care facilities so that residents can be treated with the respect and dignity that they have a right to.

Submitted By: Club #99 – Paris Seniors Club, Paris

AGREE - CARRIED

57. WHEREAS: Ex-soldiers must wait often more than four (4) months for a decision on their application for disability benefits. IN addition, for a percentage of the applicants, they are then asked for more details on their injury status, and may remain in the queue for an even longer period of time; and
- WHEREAS: Psychological and emotional stress is now formally recognized as a prognostic variable in successful long term care adaptation; and
- WHEREAS: Veteran Affairs direct service employees have been reduced gradually since 2008-09, from 1,890 to 1,352; and
- WHEREAS: While the Federal Government has recently stated they will hire 100 more direct service employees to ensure Veterans receive faster decisions on disability benefit applications, and increase priority service in some situations, the more routine applications may remain stalled in the queue.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the United Senior Citizens of Ontario ask the Federal Government to increase the number of trained direct service employees to more effectively deal with applications in a timely manner.

Submitted By: Club #729 - The Huntley Friendship Club, Carp

AGREE - CARRIED

58. WHEREAS: In 2012 Public Health Ontario reported that there was a decrease in the number of car drivers injured or killed on Ontario roads, the same was not true for pedestrians and cyclists; and
- WHEREAS: Pedestrians, cyclists, mobility scooter riders, electric wheelchair riders, construction road workers and roadside emergency responders are to be considered to be vulnerable road users; and
- WHEREAS: Laws have been passed in a number of States in the USA; and
- WHEREAS: The present laws do not adequately penalize those injuring or killing vulnerable road users; and
- WHEREAS: Increased penalties will require others to drive with increased safety and precautions when near vulnerable road users and reduce the number of injuries and fatalities.
- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Provincial Government pass Vulnerable Road Users Laws to increase penalties when a Vulnerable Road User is injured or killed; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the defendant be required to be present in court when the victim impact statements are read out; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That USCO join a coalition to lobby and implement this initiative.

Submitted By: Patrick Brown, Lawyer, McLeish Orlando

AGREE - CARRIED