

# Minutes

## Caregivers Focused Coalition

November 17, 2020 | 10:00 – 11:00 am | Location: Zoom Link

### Agenda Items

Topic	Presenter/Actions
1. Welcome	Sandy Sereda
a. Sandy welcomed all members and introductions	
2. CORE Platform	Johnna Lowther
a. Caregivers Group	Members join CORE
i. Ready to launch a caregivers group within the CORE platform. Goal is to connect members from all across Alberta to collaborate. Features of CORE is to offer presentations. Discussion to support caregivers during COVID.	Members register for the Launch Event
ii. Research around COVID will be presented	
iii. Engage in conversation about what is happening in the coalition and your participation	
b. Launch Event and Discussion Forum is Nov 24, 2020 (10:30 – 12:00)	
c. Register at: <a href="https://corealberta.ca/training-events/core-caregivers-group-launch-event-and-discussion-forum-supporting-family">https://corealberta.ca/training-events/core-caregivers-group-launch-event-and-discussion-forum-supporting-family</a>	
3. Presentation & Discussion re: Fact Sheet & Survey Report	Sharon Anderson
a. Impact on Caregivers during COVID	Email Anita Murphy
b. Reviewed Fact Sheet and Report	<a href="mailto:Anita.Murphy@gov.ab.ca">Anita.Murphy@gov.ab.ca</a> for further discussion on legislation
i. Many caregivers are at the end of their rope and are waiting for COVID to end but it is still here. A survey in early 2021 is a good idea.	
ii. 604 Family Caregivers participated	
iii. Now is the opportunity to build a better system to support family caregiver's health and wellbeing during their caregiving journey in the COVID pandemic and beyond	
iv. Need to recognize family caregivers as partners-in-care in need of support to maintain their own health and wellbeing, not just to sustain care	
1. Recognize the caregivers role	
2. Red tape reduction will assist	
3. Move to shift of care on the families	

4. Education for everyone (social care providers need to come up with a system of education with common language). Collective education mandate.
5. What does the caregiver need? Come at it from the Caregivers perspective. We provide only certain supports, it is limited. Caregivers could have a bunch of other needs.
6. Co-designing, launched a website, all get together and make sure the family caregivers are involved
7. Response rate: Edmonton responded more than other locations. All work from the last 6 years has mainly been in the Edmonton zone. Collaborations are getting stronger in other areas.
8. Comments were about reduction of homecare services, closure of programs, loss of relationship with care managers, loss of visits. Need to work with them about what else is offered.
9. Need to be creative and what stakeholders can do to help reduce anxiety, mental health and loneliness, creating interventions, refer to each other
10. How is the Fact Sheet being used: quick and easy reference (where people care is the big story in survey), specify key messages and evidence
11. Feedback on other questions included in next round: Employment, unemployment, partial-employment, what healthcare partners and sharing, interviews and what help do caregivers need now, demographics, what is the pandemic doing to caregivers, how have the care needs changed
12. Issues will remain after pandemic (bring about programming and change in course of direction)
  - v. Drafting new continuing care legislation, pulling together policies, take a look at what the policy issues are, scope around how to recognize caregivers, is there more depth or specifics, assessing caregivers in legislation, what are the policy issues
  - vi. How do we start recognizing the term "caregivers", how can we reflect this in policies, need a definition
  - vii. Lack of recognition continues to be a problem
  - viii. The term "agent" is used in the legislation acts, if they have established a personal directive
  - ix. Rural, remote, and suburban have different set of needs, have to capture these zones separately

#### 4. Questions and Closing Remarks

Sandy Sereda

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## Other Information

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Next Meeting      Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021  
                                 Time: 10:00-11:00 am

If you want to invite additional members to join the coalition, send the information to Morene Lamaitre at [MLamaitre@caregiversalberta.ca](mailto:MLamaitre@caregiversalberta.ca)