

# Candidate Questions

Concerned Friends has identified a set of questions to help embolden your conversations with local candidates and guide your choice. For more information on key issues and proposed solutions, please check out our expanded Election Toolkit [here](#).

**1**

Historic chronic underfunding of Long Term Care (LTC) services means that Ontario is struggling to meet the rapidly growing needs of an aging population. **What kind of LTC investment can we expect if your party forms the next government?**

**2**

Late in 2021, the Ontario Government launched “a new and improved annual proactive inspections program in long-term care homes”. However to date less than 60% of long term care homes have received at least one proactive inspection. **Are you prepared to ensure annual proactive inspections (i.e. comprehensive and unannounced) on all long term care homes (LTCH)?**

**3**

In 2020 the Ontario government announced its commitment to ensure long-term care residents get an average of four hours of direct care each day. An average of four hours a day has not been reached and it is not enough. **Will your government require and fund a minimum of 4 hours of direct care per resident immediately in each home (not an average over the province)?**

**4**

The latest report of the National Institute on Ageing (NIA) calls for the urgent prioritization of small care home models in the future delivery of LTC services across Canada. But the Ontario government has continued to subsidize the development or redevelopment of large traditional LTC homes according to pre- pandemic design standards. **Will your government encourage and fund small LTC homes (i.e. 8-12 people) which will have better outcomes for residents and could also promote keeping residents from rural and remote regions in their communities?**

**5**

The Ontario government proclaimed the Fixing the Long-term Care Act in 2021 but did not provide the resources needed to satisfy the new requirements. **How will your government change funding so that LTCHs can meet regulations and improve quality and safety in homes?**

**6**

Long term homes in Ontario are chronically understaffed, leading to unsafe conditions and poor quality of life for residents. **What will your government do to address the critical shortage of quality, trained staff in long term care homes? Will you fund increases in salaries and benefits so that LTCHs can offer a competitive package for staff?**