September 16, 2014

Re: Home care’s where the heart is, The Globe and Mail

Canada has an aging population. Hospitals are overcrowded and expensive. Canadians want to stay in their own homes as long as possible. These are universal truths we can all agree on — the “all talk” that André Picard refers to. So let’s talk action.

Action would mean provincial and territorial governments redistributing their budgets more appropriately between hospital care and community- or home-based health care.

Action would mean the federal government acknowledging that uniform health transfers across the nation aren’t enough, that demographic top-ups are needed for certain regions — to Atlantic Canada, for example, where 7.4% of the population is 65 or older, compared with the national average of 5.3%.

Nurses are in action every day bringing health care to Canadian homes and communities. We hope governments will join us.

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