

## **ASCHA Resolution No. 1 - 2020**

### **Provincial Lodge Funding**

#### **Issue**

Provincial funding for the Provincial Lodge Program is not aligned to the rising cost of operations, putting financial stress on operators and Alberta municipalities.

#### **Background**

The Provincial Lodge Program relies heavily on the rent paid by Alberta's seniors, many of whom are low-income. As rental rates are regulated by the Province through the Alberta Housing Act and regulations, extreme pressure is being applied to Alberta Municipalities, that are experiencing increases in requisitioning. This is putting the program at risk in terms of sustainability.

The funding model for the Provincial Lodge Program has not been reviewed or updated since 1994, and the province's funding responsibility continues to be capped.

#### **Impacts**

This is an in issue that impacts all Albertan municipalities that offer the Lodge Program within their communities. Increased to the Lodge Assistance Program Grant have been less than adequate in addressing rising costs.

The operational viability of lodges within Albertan communities is being challenged through the existing funding model, which places current residents at risk, and reduces living options for future seniors.

#### **Call to Action**

That the Province be called upon to modernize the Provincial Lodge Program's funding model to help balance provincial and municipal government's responsibilities to the program, lessening the financial burden placed on Alberta's seniors and municipal requisitions.

The Alberta Seniors Communities & Housing Association shall seek further support to lobby the provincial government for this resolution in partnership with the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) and the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA).

**Submitted by the Board of Directors of Bridges Community Living**  
***Approved by ASCHA Members on June 2, 2020 at the ASCHA 2020 Annual General Meeting***