



## Media Release

For Immediate Release

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### Significant Increases in Funded Care Hours in 2018/2019

The Office of the Seniors Advocate today released the 2019 update of the Quick Facts Directory (QFD). The QFD provides information on all publicly funded long-term care homes in British Columbia.

“The latest data demonstrate a significant increase in care hours over the past year, and we are clearly making considerable advancement on the goal of 3.36 hours of care per bed per day. This past year 216 facilities received an increase in their funded care hours and the percentage of care homes that are funded to the 3.36 recommended standard has doubled in the last year. The focus for the increase over the past year has been with contracted providers as they had lower funded direct care hours overall,” stated Seniors Advocate Isobel Mackenzie.

In addition to funded hours of care the QFD reports on a series of quality indicators and other information of importance for care homes. New this year to the QFD are inspection reports and it showed a total of 765 inspections which found 1,103 infractions. Of the infractions found, 21% related to care and supervision, 19% to record keeping, and 13% to staffing.

One new facility, Cariboo Place was added to the QFD, however it opened in April 2019 and will not be reporting any operational data until next year.

The age demographic did not change with an average age of 85 and 5% of residents under the age of 65.

“Overall, we found the population did not change in the last year. The Case Mix Index (CMI) which is a proxy to measure complexity remained at 0.58 and the residents with moderate to severe dementia remained at 29% with the overall rate of dementia at 64%. We did see a small increase (from 30% to 31%) of residents with total dependency in activities of daily living” stated Mackenzie.

Highlights of the 2018/19 QFD include:

- An overall increase of 3.8% in funded direct care hours, with 73% of facilities receiving more funding and double the number meeting the 3.36 guideline.
- The average amount spent on food increased by 3.2% and ranged from \$5.21 per bed to \$19.88 per resident per day.
- The average length of stay has remained relatively stable, however, there is great variation between health authorities with a low of 707 days in the Interior and a high of 1,084 days in Northern Health.
- Overall care home per diems increased by 4.6% and range from \$182.23 to \$272.35 per bed per day.
- There was almost no change overall in the percentage of residents receiving physical/ occupational/recreational therapy.
- Use of daily restraints, remained the same at 7%, although it has dropped over the last five years from a high of 11%.
- There was almost no drop in the inappropriate use of antipsychotic drugs, a trend that has continued for the past three years.
- The rate of reportable incidents remained relatively unchanged in the past year and has dropped from 17.5 to 15.8 over the past five years.

- Substantiated complaints dropped over the past year from 7.4 per 1000 beds to 5.9.
- The percentage of residents with low social engagement remains unchanged from last year (48%).

“Overall, we have seen very positive progress in relation to care hours and a positive shift in substantiated complaints. Progress on the appropriate use of antipsychotics has stalled in the past three years and BC remains above the national average.

‘With the 2019 update we now have five years of data which can allow us to look at developing trends and areas where we still need to make improvement such as the use of therapies,” concluded Mackenzie.

[British Columbia Long-Term Care Facilities Quick Facts Directory](#)

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