

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 3, 2015

Provincial election forum to focus on seniors' issues

ST. JOHN'S – Will the new provincial government be committed to a renewed Health Accord? What will they do to enable seniors to age at home, rather than in an institution? Are seniors seen as less important than the rest of society, and thus not deserving of good health care and quality of life?

These are some of the questions that will be put to candidates from all parties during a forum on seniors' issues that is being sponsored by the Newfoundland and Labrador Coalition of Pensioners', Retirees', and Seniors' Associations. **The debate will be presented on Monday, November 9, 2015 7:00 - 9:00 PM in the Main Auditorium, School of Medicine, Health Sciences Complex.** Visitors should enter through the Medical School entrance, and follow the signage that will be in place. Free parking is available in parking lot 9, adjacent to south end of the Medical School.

The forum will focus on issues affecting the financial, physical and social well being of older persons, and how the political platforms of those seeking election might resolve these issues.

Invitations have been extended to the leaders of the Progressive Conservative, Liberal, and New Democratic Parties of Newfoundland and Labrador. The moderator for the evening will be Ralph Morris, a well-known and respected advocate on seniors' issues.

While discussion will be open to all issues affecting seniors, the forum will address topics such as poverty amongst seniors, provincial programs to increase the disposable income amongst older eligible persons, health care services for seniors, aging at home, why Newfoundland and Labrador bases its assessment processes for long term care on assets and not need – as all other provinces do – and privatization of nursing homes, to name a few. Other seniors' related issues will be addressed, time permitting.

While the event is specifically focused on seniors' issues, people of all ages are welcome to attend. Media are invited to attend the event and record the proceedings.

For further information on the debate, contact Ralph Morris (364-4928, 725-6779).

To arrange a media interview, contact:

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