

Minutes, Coalition Meeting
March 13, 2024
Baine Johnson Bldg., Minister Seamus O'Regan's Office
St. John's, NL

Members of the Coalition met in St. John's on March 13, 2024, with Federal Members Seamus O'Regan (Minister for Seniors) and Joanne Thompson (Chair, National Seniors' Caucus).

Coalition members in attendance were:
Sharron Callahan - Chair of the Coalition
Mary Cleary - NLPSPA Rep
Marilyn Best - Federal Retirees Rep
Jon Soper - CBC Retirees Rep
Joyce Reardon - NAPE Retirees Rep
Mike Siscoe - CARP Rep

Sharron led the meeting introducing the topics that we would like to address with the Federal MP's. Issues Document circulated earlier.
The following strategies/plans were introduced and spoken to by Sharron, welcoming and receiving feedback from the Federal Members present:

National Seniors Strategy
Canada Dental Care Plan
National Universal Pharmacare: Bill C-64
Safe Long Term Care Act & National Long Term Care Standards
Ageism/Older Workers Strategy

There was significant discussion around these topics from the Coalition members and the MP's. The MP's were supportive of the information provided and acknowledged the work that has been done and the need to continue with further work and improvements/benefits to the population in general but seniors in particular.

Several topics were not discussed due to time constraints:
Age Well at Home
Family Care Giver Support
Elder Abuse
Cost of Living & Financial Security

It was stressed during the discussion that improvements to the programs discussed would be of great benefit to the seniors of the province, improving their quality of life and hopefully alleviating some financial burden.

Jon raised the issue of the Federal Government urging Canadian pension plans to invest more in Canada and the implications this would have for Defined Benefit Pension Plans. The Coalition will continue to monitor this.

Minister O'Regan committed to other meetings in the future as needed.

Meeting concluded at 3:30 pm

Minutes recorded by Mary Cleary