Canadian Home Care Association | Association canadienne de soins et services à domicile

Working together to strengthen integrated community-based care
Travailler ensemble pour améliorer les soins communautaires intégrés
320 Bay Street, Suite 101, Toronto, ON, M5H 4A6
www.cdnhomecare.ca

**Budget 2026 and 2027–2029 Immigration Levels Plan: CHCA welcomes commitments to strengthen home and community care, calls for continued action**

**November 9, 2026 – Toronto, ON –** The Canadian Home Care Association (CHCA) welcomes commitments in the federal government's Budget 2026 and 2027–2029 Immigration Levels Plan to strengthen home and community care, support caregivers, and address workforce challenges. These announcements represent important progress in ensuring Canadians can access the care they need at home and in their communities.

Budget 2026 confirms the previously announced one-year, $1.2 billion extension of federal bilateral funding for home and community care, mental health and addictions services through March 31, 2028. **CHCA has consistently called for the extension of federal home and community care funding beyond 2027–28, indexed to inflation and population aging.** While the one-year extension provides important short-term certainty, sustained investments are needed to meet growing demand. CHCA continues to advocate for increasing the share of provincial and territorial health spending dedicated to home and community care from approximately 5–6% toward 10%, helping to strengthen services and improve health system efficiency.

CHCA also welcomes the government's proposal to make the **Canada Caregiver Credit fully refundable**. CHCA is proud to have supported the longstanding advocacy of its partners at the Canadian Centre for Caregiving Excellence (CCCE), including by calling for a refundable credit in its 2026 federal pre-budget submission. Canadians want to age at home in their communities but the cost to make this happen is out of reach for many. The amendment to the Canada Caregiver Credit will help both caregivers and recipients of care access they support they need at home.

**While increased financial support for caregivers is an important step forward, it must be accompanied by strong, accessible and adequately funded home and community care services.** Caregivers and care providers are integral to a strong home and community care system, with distinct but interconnected contributions to the health and well-being of Canadians. CHCA continues to call for an integrated approach that recognizes and supports caregivers while strengthening access to home care, respite and community services.

CHCA welcomes measures in the **2027–2029 Immigration Levels Plan** to transition up to 100,000 workers already in Canada, along with their families, to permanent residence in 2027. Expanded provincial nomination opportunities are also an encouraging step toward addressing regional workforce needs.

**CHCA urges federal, provincial and territorial governments to prioritize home and community care workers in these permanent residence opportunities**, particularly those whose work permits are approaching expiry and those awaiting decisions on applications under the Home Care Worker

Immigration Pilots. Approximately **7 million home care visits could be at risk by 2029, potentially affecting more than 30,000 people** if action is not taken to retain these essential workers.

CHCA also welcomes proposed reforms to the Temporary Foreign Worker Program but stresses the need to address longstanding immigration barriers facing the sector. **CHCA continues to call for personal support workers (PSWs) and health care aides (HCAs) to be recognized under TEER 3, regardless of care setting**, either by aligning NOC 44101 with NOC 33102 or establishing a dedicated TEER 3 classification. This would help ensure that home care workers have equitable access to Express Entry pathways to permanent residence.

"These commitments represent important progress on priorities CHCA has called for," said **Fiona Deller, CEO of CHCA.** "But more work is needed. Supporting caregivers requires a strong home and community care system, and sustaining that system requires a stable and supported workforce. Long-term investments and immigration policies that recognize the essential contributions of home and community care workers are critical to ensuring Canadians can continue receiving the care they need at home."

**Home and community care is essential to the sustainability of Canada's health care system.** CHCA urges governments to build on these commitments with sustained funding, stronger caregiver supports and immigration policies that address immediate and long-term workforce needs. CHCA remains committed to working with governments and sector partners to advance these priorities and protect access to care at home and in the community.

**About the Canadian Home Care Association**
The Canadian Home Care Association (CHCA) is a national non-profit membership organization dedicated to advancing integrated, person-centred home and community care. Its members include public and private organizations that fund, manage and deliver home and community care services and products. Through collaboration and knowledge sharing, the CHCA informs and shapes policies and practices that support an integrated, accessible, accountable and sustainable health care system.

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**Media Contact**
**Krystell Fernandes**
Communications and Social Media Lead
kfernandes@cdnhomecare.ca