

# The Seniors Charter of Canada

Adopted by the House of Commons, June 20th, 2006

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MP Chris Charlton (Hamilton Mountain, NDP) moved :

***That, in the opinion of the House, the government should work with the provinces to rectify decades of underfunding of seniors programs by:***

## **(a) creating a Seniors Charter**

**that recognizes older Canadians as creative, active and valued members of our society, and that this Charter shall enshrine the right of every senior living in Canada to the following:**

- (i) income security, through protected pensions and indexed public income support that provides a reasonable state of economic welfare;***
- (ii) housing, through secure accessible, and affordable housing;***
- (iii) wellness, through health promotion and preventative care;***
- (iv) health care, through secure, public, accessible, universal health care including primary care, dental care, homecare, palliative and geriatric care, and pharmacare;***
- (v) self-development, through lifelong access to affordable recreation, education and training;***
- (vi) government services, through timely access to all federal government services and programs, including family re-unification; and***

## **(b) creating a Seniors Advocate to:**

- (i) conduct public education and awareness initiatives on the rights of seniors;***
- (ii) ensure that all new or revised policies and programs affecting seniors receive public input from older persons;***
- (iii) require that all new policies and programs affecting seniors are announced with specific timelines for implementation;***
- (iv) act as an Ombudsman for seniors with respect to all government services and programs making recommendations as appropriate and that this Seniors Advocate publish and report annually to Parliament on government policies and programs affecting seniors, including the effectiveness of federal funding related to the needs of older persons.***

