



Motion

Extended Care Facilities

WHEREAS the population of the Northwest Territories is ageing, with the proportion of seniors of the general population rising by about 8% annually;

AND WHEREAS the waiting lists in the NWT for extended care facilities are long and getting longer, with urgent current and future need for services for seniors in both large and small communities;

AND WHEREAS the numbers of seniors living in Yellowknife will triple by 2031, and the number of beds needed may parallel this increase here and throughout the NWT;

AND WHEREAS there is a projected shortfall in the NWT of 200 long-term care beds and 60 dementia beds by 2031, according to the 2013 GNWT Health and Social Services Continuing Care Review;

AND WHEREAS it is acknowledged that supports for seniors to age in place are beneficial to our society and will help in some degree to delay and reduce the need for long-term care, but will not relieve the existing deficit in facilities;

AND WHEREAS facilities in Norman Wells and Behchoko with eighteen beds each are being constructed, and these projects are a step in the right direction but will again not address the Territorial deficit and building need;

AND WHEREAS the Avens Society has a proven record of providing effective and efficient long term care facilities to residents from across the Territories, with 52% of Avens Cottage residents and 18% of Avens Manor residents from home communities outside of Yellowknife, at relatively low cost;

AND WHEREAS Avens Society is poised to begin construction of a sixty bed facility pending indications of government support;



Date of Notice:	October 23, 2014	Moved by:	Mr. Bromley
Date of Introduction:	October 27, 2014	Seconded By:	Mrs. Groenewegen
Disposition:	Defeated RV		
Carried:	October 27, 2014	Ruled Out of Order:	

AND WHEREAS the Territorial facilities at Avens Manor were built in 1987, and are coming to the end of their useful service life, with critical electrical, structural and mechanical and systems upgrades needed;

AND WHEREAS Avens Manor was never designed to provide long-term care, with the consequence that there are significant occupational hazards with the continued use of the space by people who have high level care needs;

AND WHEREAS current NWT waiting lists for Avens Campus facilities are four to six years, and eight months for a long term care bed;

AND WHEREAS Avens Territorial Campus plays a key interim role in providing care for NWT seniors, there is recognition that regional facilities must also develop to meet regional needs;

AND WHEREAS Government financial support of facilities for seniors is crucial;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Hay River South, that the Government develop a long-term action plan for the provision of the necessary long-term care beds, indicating the steps they will take in the areas of resources, facilities and timing to meet this urgent need for facilities for seniors, including possible partnerships to serve those seniors who have some financial independence, in both large and small communities;

AND FURTHERMORE, that the Government provide Avens Society with the assurance of support needed to enable construction of their proposed new 60-bed Territorial facility and renovation of existing facilities to begin next spring;

AND FURTHERMORE that the Government respond to this motion within 120 days.