

A Resolution in Support of a National Dementia Strategy

Whereas Alzheimer's disease and other dementias are progressive, degenerative diseases of the brain that cause thinking and memory to become seriously impaired;

Whereas Alzheimer's disease and other dementias most often occur in people over the age of 65 but can strike adults at any age; and

Whereas Alzheimer's disease and other dementias affect more than 500,000 Canadians currently and that this figure is projected to reach 1.1 million within a generation; and

Whereas Alzheimer's disease and other dementias also takes their toll on hundreds of thousands of families and care partners; and

Whereas an estimated further three million Canadians face the burden and challenges of providing care for those suffering with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias; and

Whereas there is no known cause or cure for this devastating illness; and

Whereas the cost related to the health care system is in the billions and only going to increase, at a time when our health care system is already facing enormous financial challenges; and

Whereas Canada, unlike many countries, does not have a national dementia strategy; and

Whereas there is an urgent need to plan and raise awareness and understanding about Alzheimer's disease and other dementias for the sake of improving the quality of life of the people it touches; and

Whereas MP Claude Gravelle Nickel Belt has introduced Bill C-356, *An Act respecting a National Strategy for Dementia*, as he works for broad, all party and non partisan support for an issue that touches us all. His legislation calls for a national plan that includes the development of strategies in primary health care, in health promotion and prevention of illness, in community development, in building community capacity and care partner engagement, investments in research and other (advisory board, objectives, investment in research, and caregivers and more)

Now therefore, the City of **INSERT YOUR TOWN HERE** calls on all levels of government and the Federation of Municipalities to adopt a national dementia strategy, and urges all citizens of our communities to become more aware and engaged concerning the far-reaching effects of this devastating disease.