

For Immediate Release
February 4, 2021

PRESS RELEASE: External Review Findings Bolsters Case for Publicly Funded Seniors Care

Winnipeg, MB – Today, the Government of Manitoba released the external review the Maples Personal Care Home Covid-19 Outbreak, commissioned in November and conducted by Dr. Lynn Stevenson.

‘After increased public pressure it is positive the report was released but the needs in PCHs go far beyond the 17 recommendations contained in this report.’ said Brianne Goertzen, Provincial Director of the Manitoba Health Coalition. ‘The fact is nothing will change in seniors care or LTC without the political will to invest and conduct comprehensive systemic changes to fix seniors care.’

MHC continues to call for increased funding to PCHs, increased and legislated staffing ratios to a minimum of 4.1 hours and end the practice of for-profit long term care providers. Additionally, we have called for regular open and honest communication with families, residents and the general public regarding actions being taken and status of inspections/compliance with public health protocols, and establish an office of the Seniors Advocate.

‘The lives lost while under the care of for-profit Revera should never be forgotten. MHC will continue to call on this government to take responsibility for the state of seniors care in our province and to act. No more excuses or finger pointing.’ continued Goertzen.

The MHC is governed by a board of directors representing a variety of stakeholder organizations across Manitoba. MHC’s organizational model reflects our core values that health care is a public good and a fundamental right for all.