

**CARP Advocacy Report
January 25, 2013**

KEY FINDINGS

CARP members applaud the organization most for focusing on pensions and home care, as well end-of-life care, drug coverage and long term care. They overwhelmingly say CARP's focus is important for all issues. CARP has had the most impact on elder abuse and OAS, both core CARP priorities.

Pension security and home care top the list of CARP advocacy issues important to members, followed by end-of-life issues, pharmacare (or a national drug plan for all) and long term care

Older workers, OAS and investor protection are issues which are seen to be less than critically important now.

Elder abuse and OAS are the issues most see CARP having had great impact on, followed by pension security, home care and pharmacare. Long term care and end-of-life are growing in impact for CARP, and CARP's "One Patient" concept, LTC and investor protection are seen as issues where more CARP attention is needed.

Areas where CARP is seen to have had less impact include the "One Patient" comprehensive care concept, investor protection, older workers, advanced directives and end-of-life. OAS, older workers and investor protection are issues which some see to be intractable.

When CARP members are asked what more can be done on specific advocacy files, the answer is most frequently "awareness building", followed by "more government funding".

The Conservatives have gained slightly in the CARP Poll™, while the Liberals and NDP are lock up in a second place tie.

Detailed Findings - Importance Of Advocacy Issues

Members are most likely to see pension security as CARP's most important issue (12%), followed by home care (9%). Other issues exist in a second tier (pharmacare - 6%, elder abuse - 5%, long term care - 4%, OAS - 4% and end-of-life - 4%). Home care is especially likely to be seen as one of CARP's most important issues (53%).

Issues which are seen to be not that important are older workers (21%), OAS (12%) and investor protection (11%). Members are especially likely to think OAS is an issue which the government won't act on and should be dropped (9%). Issues which are not seen to be CARP's business include OAS and investor protection. There are no issues about which no one cares except older workers (5%).

	Most Imp issue	One of most imp	Imp issue	Not that imp	Govt won't act forget it	Not CARP biz	Don't care about this
Pension security	12%	40%	35%	5%	3%	3%	1%
Home care	9%	53%	32%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Pharma care	6%	41%	40%	6%	3%	2%	1%
Elder abuse	5%	34%	51%	5%	1%	1%	1%
Long term care	4%	37%	50%	3%	1%	1%	1%
OAS	4%	35%	35%	12%	9%	4%	1%
End-of- life	4%	40%	47%	5%	1%	2%	1%
Investor protection	3%	28%	50%	11%	1%	4%	1%
One patient	3%	28%	51%	7%	2%	1%	1%
DNR	2%	30%	54%	6%	1%	4%	1%
Older workers	2%	16%	49%	21%	2%	1%	5%

Impact Of CARP's Advocacy

CARP is seen to have had great impact especially on OAS and elder abuse (3% each), followed by home care (2%). When good impact and some impact are measured, elder abuse, pharmacare, long term care and end-of-life enter the list of issues where CARP's advocacy has had impact.

Elder abuse (18%), long term care (17%) and end-of-life (17%) are issues where CARP's impact is seen to be growing. Home care and end-of-life (5% each) are both issues where members say CARP has had an impact on themselves.

Older workers (16%) and CARP's "One Patient" vision of comprehensive care (14%) are seen to be issues where CARP has had no impact. OAS (8%) and older workers (6%) are issues where CARP is not seen to be able to have an impact in the future, while these are also issues identified as those that will never be resolved (3% each).

	Great	Good	Some	Grow	Me	More	None	Won't	Never
Pension Security	1%	17%	29%	16%	4%	11%	11%	3%	1%
Home care	2%	17%	35%	16%	5%	12%	6%	2%	1%
Elder abuse	3%	17%	35%	18%	2%	11%	7%	2%	2%
Pharma care	1%	14%	30%	14%	5%	15%	11%	3%	1%
LTC	1%	9%	32%	17%	4%	18%	8%	2%	1%
OAS	3%	14%	37%	11%	4%	6%	10%	8%	3%
End-of-life	1%	8%	33%	17%	5%	15%	12%	2%	2%
Investor protect	1%	8%	27%	15%	3%	19%	13%	5%	2%
One patient	1%	8%	24%	13%	5%	21%	14%	3%	2%
DNR	1%	9%	29%	15%	4%	19%	12%	3%	2%
Older workers	1%	7%	26%	13%	4%	19%	16%	6%	3%

Key to Impact Table

Great = Great deal of impact, governments have acted

Good = Good deal of impact, governments have taken notice

Some = Some impact, public awareness is higher

Grow = Impact growing/public awareness growing/governments noticing

Me = Has impact on me/may influence my vote

More = More focus is needed on this issue

None = CARP has had no impact on this issue

Won't = CARP will not have impact on this issue

Never = This issue will never be resolved

Additional Advocacy Actions For CARP - Pension Security

The most common suggestion on pension security is an enhancement to CPP (37%). Half as many want awareness-building on senior poverty and financial insecurity (15%), voluntary access to a plan similar to CPP (14%), a provincial CPP-like plan (13%) or mandatory employer contributions to PRPPs (11%).

Enhanced CPP contributions/benefits	37%
Awareness-building on senior poverty/insecurity	15%
Voluntary access to CPP-like supplementary plan	14%
Provincial CPP-like plan for all	13%
Mandatory employer contributions to PRPPs	11%
OTHER	3%
DON'T KNOW	7%

Home Care

Awareness building on benefits of home care is the most commonly mentioned action for CARP on home care advocacy (24%), followed by nurses taking on more doctors' duties (17%), caregiver tax credits (13%), creating community hubs at nursing homes or nurse-led outreach teams to isolated seniors (10% each).

Awareness building on benefits of home care	24%
Nurses take on more doctors' duties	17%
Family caregiver tax credit	13%
Nursing homes as community hubs	10%
Nurse-led outreach teams	10%
Public home care/LTC insurance	9%
Specialized seniors' clinics in hospitals	6%
Increase premium for house calls	5%
OTHER	2%
DON'T KNOW	5%

Elder Abuse

Awareness-building about elder abuse is the most common suggestion from members (29%), followed by a second tier consisting of education of judges and prosecutors (19%), a national elder abuse hotline (16%) or specialized investigation and prosecution teams (14%).

Awareness building on elder/financial abuse	29%
Education of judges/prosecutors/investigators	19%
National elder abuse hotline	16%
Specialized investigation/prosecution teams	14%
Stiffer sentences for abusers	8%
Funding victim support services	7%
Municipal elder care shelters	3%
Increase premium for house calls	5%
OTHER	1%
DON'T KNOW	3%

National Pharmacare

Members are relatively equally likely to suggest a national drug coverage plan (32%) or provincial cooperation on bulk drug purchase (29%). After this, it is suggested the Canada Health Act cover drugs (14%).

National drug coverage plan	32%
Provincial bulk pharmaceutical purchasing	29%
Canada Health Act to cover drugs	14%
Build awareness of cost of uncovered drugs	8%
Income-tested drug plan for all Canadians	6%
Build awareness of national pharmacare	4%
OTHER	3%
DON'T KNOW	4%%

Long Term Care

Members are most likely to suggest funding home care to lessen need for LTC (34%) or national standards and regulations for nursing homes (33%). After this, awareness building is seen to be important (14%).

Fund home care to lessen need for LTC	34%
National standards/regulations for LTC facilities	33%
Awareness-raising on need for more LTC	14%
More public awareness of LTC options	6%
Public LTC insurance	4%
Affordable private LTC insurance	3%
OTHER	2%
DON'T KNOW	4%

OAS

When asked what additional steps CARP could take on the OAS file, equal proportions suggest government should fund OAS replacement for low income seniors (23%), for all who need it (22%) or that government reverses the decision (20%). Awareness-building is also urged (16%)

Govt funds OAS replacement for low income seniors	23%
Govt funds OAS replacement for all who need it	22%
Govt reverses decision on OAS changes	20%
Raise awareness of poverty between 65 and 67	16%
Work with members to explain OAS change	9%
OTHER	5%
DON'T KNOW	5%

End-of-life

Members are relatively equally likely to support a national end-of-life care strategy (25%), more funding for end-of-life care (20%), and awareness building about end-of-life care (20%). Other suggestions include discussions with a doctor or family about end-of-life needs (16%) or lobbying provinces for more end-of-life funding (13%).

National end-of-life care strategy	25%
Federal funding for end-of-life care	20%
Awareness-building about end-of-life issues	20%
Members to discuss end-of-life with doctor/family	16%
Lobby provinces for end-of-life funding	13%
OTHER	1%
DON'T KNOW	4%

Investor Protection

The most common single suggestion is a national investor protection agency with powers to investigate, prosecute and order restitution (37%), followed distantly by a central registry of fraudulent advisers (13%), a legal mandate to be licensed before practicing as an advisor (11%) or having more financial literacy education in schools (10%).

Nat'l investor protection agency with powers	37%
Central registry of perpetrators	13%
Mandate licensing of advisors before practicing	11%
More financial literacy education in schools	10%
Industry compensation fund to pay restitution	6%
Central registry of advisers	5%
Adviser-financed compensation fund	5%
Fewer, better regulated adviser designations	5%
OTHER	2%
DON'T KNOW	6%

“One Patient”

On CARP’s “One Patient” concept of seamless comprehensive care, the leading suggestion is to mandate system-wide electronic health records (30%), followed by provincial support for integrated health teams (22%), more duties for nurses and other medical personnel (15%) and comprehensive end-of-life care (11%).

Mandate system-wide electronic health records	30%
Province supports integrated health teams	22%
More duties for nurses/other medical staff	15%
Comprehensive end-of-life care	11%
Caregiver support and training	5%
Funding for health care system ‘navigator’	5%
Fund health care innovation	3%
OTHER	2%
DON’T KNOW	9%

Advanced Directives

On advance directives, members are most likely to suggest ensuring electronic health records for all (27%), followed in a second tier by discussions with patients on these issues by doctors (21%), more public education about advanced directives (20%) or education of doctors in palliative care (11%).

Ensure electronic health records for all	27%
Doctors to discuss end-of-life with patients	21%
Public education about advanced directives	20%
Education of doctors in palliative care	11%
Mandate advanced directives by law	9%
Direct line/clinic to consult palliative specialist	4%
OTHER	2%
DON’T KNOW	6%

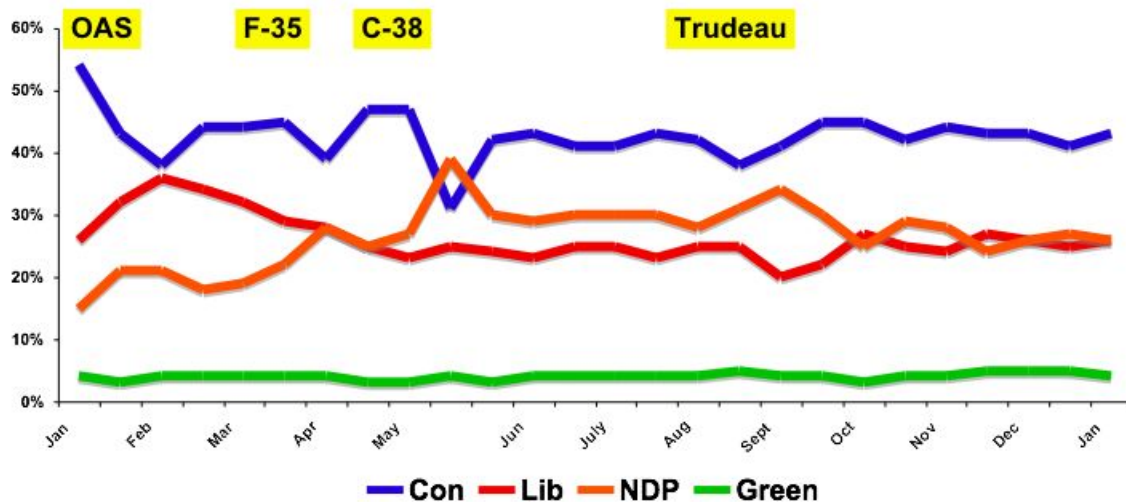
Older Workers

On older workers, the most common suggestion is to create new roles for older workers as specialists and mentors (27%), followed by building awareness of the benefits of older workers (18%), training for new economy jobs (15%) or changing workplace health and safety standards to suit older workers (12%).

Create new roles for older workers/mentors/specialists	27%
Build awareness of benefits of older workers	18%
Training for jobs in the new economy	15%
Workplace standards suited to older workers	12%
Govt job fairs for older workers	8%
Caregiver leave policies	5%
OTHER	4%
DON'T KNOW	13%

Electoral Preference

The NDP (26%) and the Liberals (26%) are tied for second place, while the Conservatives have gained a few points (43%).



More than 1100 CARP Poll™ panel members responded to this poll between December 21 and 24, 2012. The margin of error for a probability sample this size is about plus or minus 3%, 19 times out of 20