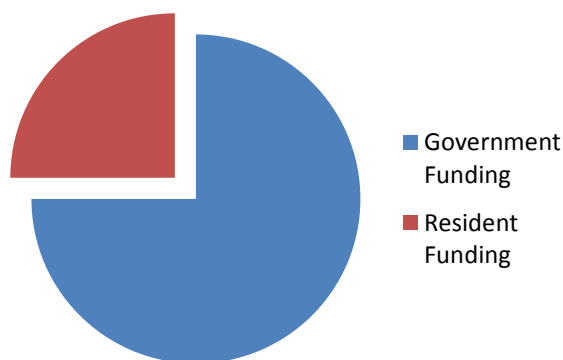


Who Pays for What?

There is often a lot of confusion about the services that Long-Term Care residents pay for and those paid for by the provincial government. 75% of the costs are paid by government and 25% by the residents. In long term care, the Alberta government (through Alberta Health Services) pays for health and personal care services provided to residents. This includes for instance Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Health Care Aides, physician services, recreation and rehabilitation therapy (e.g. occupational and physical therapy), other professional services such as dietitians, social workers and educators, pharmaceuticals, medical supplies such as incontinence products and emergency transportation.



DISTRIBUTION OF LONG TERM CARE FUNDING

Residents pay an accommodation fee which goes towards the costs of their room and board. The government sets the maximum rate that can be charged a resident (this maximum rate is the same at every long term care facility in the province) and where necessary provides subsidies to residents to ensure that they have at least \$265 left each month after paying their accommodation fee, so that they have funds to pay for personal items such as clothing, toiletries, hair care and newspapers. (See <http://www.seniors.alberta.ca/ContinuingCare/LTCare.asp>) The Alberta long term care resident accommodation rates are the second lowest in Canada as of February, 2011 (\$55.90 per day for a private room and \$48.40 per day for a semi-private room). Residents' accommodation fees pay for services such as cable television, housekeeping and janitorial services, utilities, building maintenance, snow removal/landscaping, laundry of linens, three meals per day plus snacks, and general business services.

Government does not provide ongoing funds for capital costs (e.g. fixing a roof, electric beds, or constructing a new facility) although there are some occasional grants that some long term care operators are eligible to compete for to cover a portion of these costs. Pastoral care services are also not funded by government in long term care. Costs such as these must be covered by the operator, often through private donations.