

From: Steve Anderson <steve@anderson.works>
Sent: September 18, 2018 9:30 PM
To: Heather Pope
Cc: Steve Anderson
Subject: Re: Dementia and Criminal Justice - Ottawa Municipal Election

Hi Ms. Pope -

As a son whose father is in a long-term care home in a small town with Parkinsons and several other medical issues, whose mother is located in a retirement home in a suburb of Ottawa (they are not separated by choice), whose mother-in-law is in long-term care in the Peterborough hospital (no beds available elsewhere), whose father-in-law is in a retirement home in Peterborough, whose grandfather had Parkinsons, whose grandmother had another form of dementia (the grandparents on the other side of my family died of other causes), I am experienced in the incredible challenges of dementia. I've seen a lot the past few years in particular. It is like a world apart. Patients writhing on the floor. Patients yelling out repeatedly all day long, day after day, lots and lots of swearing and abuse hurled about by patients - there is another side of the "patient abuse" story that just isn't being reported in the press. What would I do? My first thought would be to simply pay the staff who are the "boots on the ground" more. PSW's aren't paid enough for sure. Far too much staff turnover and burnout. Frankly, those that aren't unionized should be. It is positively tragic when these obviously confused and befuddled patients lash out at others - it is difficult to believe how they could be charged and tried with anything. But who wants to see their loved one punched by another patient, or groped or... It is difficult not to get philosophical about how we are "storing" those with dementia and question what it says about our society. I think a constructive step would be to back your organization, offer appropriate funding, and let you lead positive changes to the system since you likely have lots of positive suggestions and experience.

Thank you

- Steve Anderson

Candidate, Kanata South / Ward 23

From: Heather Pope <dementiajustice@outlook.com>
Sent: September 18, 2018 5:01 PM
To: Heather Pope
Subject: Dementia and Criminal Justice - Ottawa Municipal Election

Dear Candidate:

On behalf of the Dementia Justice Society of Canada, I am writing to ask a campaign question: "If elected, how will you work to improve the lives of people with dementia who live in a municipal long-term care home and become involved with the criminal justice system (e.g., are violent toward staff or another resident and are charged with assault)?"

Dementia Justice is a federally-incorporated non-profit society dedicated to advancing the rights, needs and dignity of people with dementia who are, or are at risk of becoming, involved with the criminal justice system. We strive to achieve our objectives through public advocacy, awareness-raising, education, and interdisciplinary legal and policy research.

Our current volunteer advisory board members are:

- Nicole Dalmer, PhD candidate, Faculty of Information and Media Studies, University of Western Ontario;
- Professor Margaret Isabel Hall, Faculty of Law, Thompson Rivers University;
- Barbara Lindsay, Director of Advocacy and Education & Marketing and Communications, Alzheimer Society of British Columbia;
- Helene Love, doctoral candidate, Faculty of Law, University of Toronto;
- Aileen McGinty, Crown Attorney, Mental Health Court and Court Monitored Drug Treatment Program, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia; and
- Daina Stanley, PhD candidate, Medical Anthropology, McMaster University.

For your reference, several of our advocacy materials are posted on our website, including our 2017 [submission](#) to the federal Department of Justice in response to its transforming the criminal justice system initiative.

Kindly note that we intend to post your response on our website for voters to read.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes with your campaign.

Sincerely,

Heather Pope, BA (Hons.), LLB, LLM
Director
Dementia Justice Society of Canada
www.dementiajustice.com