

Office of the Minister

Deputy Government House Leader

MLA, Edmonton-Rutherford

AR 96717

Date:

March 19, 2012

To:

Mr. John Schmal (schmalj@telusplanet.net)

Subject:

Seniors' Drug Plan

Premier Redford forwarded your e-mail of February 20, 2012, regarding the Alberta seniors' drug plan. The Premier has reviewed your comments and asked me to respond on behalf of the Government of Alberta.



As you know, in March 2010, proposed changes to the Alberta seniors' drug plan was put on hold. Government has no intent to make changes to the plan.

The Government of Alberta will continue to provide premium-free coverage for prescription medications and ambulance services, and coverage of \$300 per year for clinical psychological services and \$200 per year for home nursing care. Our Government pays 70% of the cost of each eligible prescription and seniors pay the remaining 30% to a maximum of \$25.

As you may already be aware, enhancements to the premium-free coverage for the existing seniors plan were announced and will take effect on July 1 of this year. Funding will be provided to subsidize the cost of chiropractic services to a maximum of \$200 annually. Funding will also be available for diabetic testing supplies. Up to \$600 per year will be made available for test strips, needles and syringes for insulin dependant seniors. Further information about the Alberta seniors' drug plan is available on the Health and Wellness website at www.health.alberta.ca/AHCIP/drugs-seniors.html.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely.

Fred Horne

Minister of Health and Wellness Deputy Government House Leader

cc.

Honourable Alison M. Redford, Q.C.

Premier