As you approach the age of wisdom, who will catch you if you fall?

As the population in Canada ages, the demands placed on the health care system and the need for long-term care options continue to rise. The question of whether Canadians have adequately prepared for their future health and long-term care needs will be answered in the coming years as a wave of baby boomers retire.

### How Canadians have prepared for long-term care needs

- **56%** Ensured adequate savings allocated
- **22%** Plan to live with children/family member
- **15%** Bought long-term care insurance
- **13%** Other preparations
- **19%** None of the above

### The probability of requiring long-term care rises with age

- **30%** by age 65
- **50%** by age 75

### Primary funding options for future long-term care needs

- **73%** Self-funded/use savings
- **45%** Government assistance
- **20%** Home equity/reverse mortgage
- **19%** Long-term care insurance
- **18%** Line of credit/Home equity loan
- **12%** Insurance with long-term care riders

### Important reasons for building long-term care costs into your financial plan:

- Avoiding being a burden on family members and friends
- Protecting your family finances
- Providing liquidity, especially for business owners with assets tied to business
- Funding a higher level of care
- Accounting for the possibility of changing family situations
- Obtaining greater peace of mind

### Where Canadians would prefer to receive long-term care

- **56%** In own home
- **20%** Assisted living facility
- **13%** Retirement/nursing home
- **6%** Family member’s home
- **3%** I will not need it
- **1%** Other

### Top 5 reasons for needing a caregiver

- Aging
- Cancer
- Cardiovascular disease
- Mental illness
- Alzheimer's/Dementia

### % of respondents who have discussed future life issues with partner, spouse, adult-child, relative

- **42%** Power of attorney for health or living will
- **21%** How to pay for long-term care
- **21%** Preferences in how to receive long-term care
- **20%** Amount to save for health care needs
- **17%** Selecting doctors/health care providers
- **15%** Choices regarding private health insurance
- **37%** None of the above

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Source: BMO Wealth Institute report, As you approach the age of wisdom, who will catch you if you fall, August 2015

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