Caregivers in 2033

- Aging Boomers: family or government responsibility?
- Litigious policy developments?
- Technology: hero or villain?
- New work environments?
- Fortunes: a prosperous or struggling Ontario?
- Gaps & Divides: economic and geographic?
- Natural Resources: competition or cooperation?
- A world adapted to climate change?
- New forms of political voice and advocacy?
- New health and social funding and delivery models?

"CARING-ABOUT-CAREGIVERS": LRSP & PESTEL PROCESS BACKGROUNDER

The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care recently launched a Long-Range Scenario Planning (LRSP) project on the subject of: "Caring-About-Caregivers".

The goal of this project is to determine how best to support those Ontarians who provide care to family and friends (seniors, adults and children) as they manage long-term physical or mental health conditions.

One of the first steps in undertaking a LRSP project is to identify the key questions, assumptions and driving forces impacting the issue under investigation.

LRSP uses PESTEL analysis to support that process. PESTEL is a technique for understanding the various external influences or factors of an issue according to six categories: **P**olitical, **E**conomic, **S**ocial (socio-cultural), **T**echnological, **E**nvironmental, and **L**egal.

On the following page are a series of questions, corresponding to the PESTEL categories, and providing examples of some global forces or trends which may significantly impact the future of the caregiver's role in Ontario over the next 25 years.

Starting from questions like these, we will collaboratively identify preferred long-term options, signposts to guide choices and how to adapt them as needed.

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact Jerry Koh (JerryChekHung.Koh@ontario.ca; 416.327.8544).

POLITICAL

How would the introduction of other health and social care finance models and approaches affect the current status quo of funding and service delivery?

How might the forms of political voice and advocacy change by 2033, and what might be the impact on policy development, policy content and how organizations provide support and services?

ECONOMIC

Does a decline in economic growth present a threat to the revenue generation of government, or the necessity to revisit current taxation distribution between older retired adults and a younger working population?

How might the forms of political voice and advocacy change by 2033, and what might be the impact on policy development, policy content and how organizations provide support and services?

SOCIO-CULTURAL

What values will define and shape Ontario's future as a caring province?

How might the capacity of persons to balance caregiving with income requirements and labour force participation change over the long run (including the capacity to save for their own aging and retirement)?

TECHNOLOGICAL

Do such technologies have the potential to fundamentally alter the labour intensive nature of caregiving, as well as alleviate future projected health human resource needs and shortages?

Without changes in funding models and criteria, does new technology have the potential to create an economic divide with only high income populations gaining access and benefits?

ENVIRONMENTAL

How will societies need to adapt and become resilient to climate change impacts that are already unavoidable?

Will climate change impacts lead to violent competition for scarce resources or greater global cooperation?

LEGAL

Will legislation and legislative challenges through legal avenues and tribunals become an increasingly prominent tool for policy development and policy change?

With increases in the size of the aging population, is it likely that there will be heightened demand on Public Guardianship, or will other approaches be adopted or existing mechanisms more consistently used by individuals and families?