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## CNA calls on governments to redesign long-term care to address serious 'vulnerabilities'

Ottawa, May 27, 2020 — In a report released today titled [2020 Vision: Improving Long-term Care for People in Canada](#) [PDF, 600.4 KB], the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) calls for decisive action to respond to the staggering effects COVID-19 has had on our health-care system, economy and lives.

"While a Canada-wide public health campaign to flatten the curve has largely spared our hospitals the devastation witnessed in countries like Italy and the United States, the pandemic has exposed long-standing vulnerabilities in Canada's long-term care (LTC) sector," said CNA president Claire Betker.

Canada has had unacceptable rates of COVID-19-related deaths in LTC; by late April, 79% of the country's deaths due to COVID-19 were linked to outbreaks in these care facilities. "These tragic numbers are in part a result of decades of neglect of the LTC sector and a growing mismatch between the level of care required by people living in those settings," said Betker.

To continue reading, please visit the link on the [CNA website](#).

## CNA's Key Messages on COVID-19 and Mental Health

CNA recognizes the need for dedicated resources and investment to support nurses and health-care providers during this pandemic. CNA is advocating for rapid access to no-cost accessible mental health support services specific for nurses and health-care providers both during the pandemic and long after.

Prior to the pandemic, approximately 20% of people in Canada were expected to experience a mental health issue or illness every year. Mental health services have been struggling to meet the demand due to a number of barriers including geography, stigma and cost. A recent poll from the Mental Health Commission of Canada found that over half of participants reported delays in accessing mental health services.

To continue reading, please visit the link on the [CNA website](#).

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