

## HOME SUPPORTS INITIATIVE SURVEY RESULTS

Real Options ~ Better Outcomes ~ Lower Costs

SSM's Home Supports Initiative continues to highlight the need to create a framework where older adults can access key services that support positive aging at home so people can live in the home and community of their choice. In order to make this happen, the Government of Saskatchewan needs to broaden its approach and funding for older adults. Research indicates that supporting older adults at home is less costly than residential care. Older adults want to live in their own homes for as long as possible. Governments have agreed. However, so far government policy changes don't reflect this. SSM believes this needs to be an issue in the 2024 election.

In the spring of 2024, SSM conducted a survey asking about the most essential components of Home Supports.

The first question was "Do you agree with SSM's position that the provincial government elected in 2024 should commit to establishing a Home Supports Initiative?" There were 1353 responses:

**Yes = 1343**

**No = 10**

Respondents were asked to indicate the importance of several possible services that could be part of home supports. The priorities in order of ranking were:

- 1 Additional medical and personal care (this was ranked significantly higher than the other services)
- 2 Housekeeping (close in ranking to transportation)
- 3 Transportation to activities, errands and appointments (close in ranking to housekeeping)
- 4 Meal preparation
- 5 Minor home renovations and repairs
- 6 Yard work
- 7 Pet care

The survey also asked about the community the respondents live in. Slightly over half of the respondents are from Regina or Saskatoon. The rest are widely spread throughout the province.

Talk with friends and neighbours.

Talk with candidates – ask them about their plans for supporting older adults.

Make this an election issue.

Vote thoughtfully!