**ADDRESSING PARKINSON’S DISEASE**

**PREVALENCE**
- Parkinson’s is the **fastest-growing** neurological condition in the world.
- Parkinson’s is the **most prevalent** neurodegenerative movement disorder.
- Global prevalence of Parkinson’s is expected to double by 2040 from 6 million to **12 million**.
- Researchers call Parkinson’s a “pandemic” due to the growing prevalence in all regions around the world.
- Number diagnosed with Parkinson’s will be **50+ every day** in Canada by 2031.
- **100,000** Canadians have Parkinson’s.

**COST**
- Economic burden of Parkinson’s disease in Canada is **$1.21 billion**.
- Parkinson’s has one of the **highest direct healthcare costs** annually of any neurological disease.
- 45% of people with Parkinson’s and care partners in Canada report it is **difficult to pay** for medical expenses related to the treatment of Parkinson’s. Next to medication, **exercise** is the highest-used therapy for symptom management.

**GETTING CARE**
- Average **wait time** to see a specialist for diagnosis of Parkinson’s in Canada is **11 months** and in some regions the wait is 2+ years.
- **3 in 5** believe regular appointments with specialists will help them live better with Parkinson’s.
- **1 in 5** report lack of access to specialists as a barrier to receiving the care they need.
- **3 in 5** report wait times to specialists as poor or very poor.

Non-motor Parkinson’s symptoms are reported as having the most **negative impact** on quality of life. These symptoms include: changes in cognition and memory, fatigue, sleep disturbances, anxiety and depression.
PLAN FOR PARKINSON’S

Parkinson Canada is asking for $100 million over five years to develop a Plan for Parkinson’s that addresses the following priority areas:

• Invest $30 million in the Canadian Open Parkinson Network (C-OPN) to accelerate research discoveries in the cause, treatment, and ultimately a cure for Parkinson’s.
• Increase the skilled Parkinson’s workforce to promote early diagnosis and improve access to specialized multidisciplinary care.
• Ensure Parkinson’s treatments and therapies are affordable and available.
• Improve access to care partner resources and supports.
• Increase access to evidence-based community programs that improve quality of life.
• Ensure access to palliative care and end-of-life options.

Champion a Plan for Parkinson’s. Here’s how:

1. Write a letter to the Minister of Health requesting that a Plan for Parkinson’s be urgently addressed.
2. Share the message on social channels and use #PlanforParkinsons to prioritize the need.