Resolutions and Legislation September 2016 Report

In the last two months, I’ve had the opportunity to meet with Amarjeet Sohi, the Federal Minister of Infrastructure, Sarah Hoffman, Provincial Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Irfan Sabir, Provincial Minister of Human Services, David Eggen, Minister of Education, Joe Ceci, Minister of Finance, and Brandy Payne, Associate Minister of Health. I’m always impressed by their willingness to listen to information or new ideas. I think that we sometimes forget that they are also ordinary people with families and similar concerns.

The new Resolutions that have come out of the National Convention are outstanding as usual. The two dealing with adding palliative care and home care to the Health Act are especially important. Both are aimed at preventing individuals from availing themselves of the new Medical Aid in Dying. Palliative care is an obvious issue; however, home care is just as important. In my work on the bioethics committee at the Glenrose, I have been confronted with individuals who have experienced devastating strokes or a diagnosis of dementia that has left them asking for death rather than being placed in a nursing home. Home care would solve a portion of that problem.

I wanted to thank everyone for their patience while I was ill. They think that this outbreak of Labyrinthitis was caused by toxic mold I was exposed to when helping clean out my in-law’s home. My mother in law was a hoarder and 20 years’ worth of dust and mold on articles stacked to the ceiling was more than my respiratory system could take. I’m feeling great now and ready to tackle our new Resolutions.