

**Date:** February 27, 2026

## Statement on the Provincial Funding cuts

We were deeply saddened to learn about the provincial budget reductions affecting Caregivers Nova Scotia, along with many other non-profit organizations that support caregivers, people with disabilities and seniors across the province.

These cuts come at a time when demand for caregiver support continues to grow. While this reduction affects our organization, we remain committed to prioritizing our support groups and our team as we continue to serve caregivers across Nova Scotia.

We are particularly concerned about the \$2.5 million reduction to the Caregiver Benefit program. This program provides a \$400 monthly benefit to eligible caregivers, many of whom reduce work hours or leave employment due to caregiving demands. Caregivers also face significant out-of-pocket expenses, including transportation, medical supplies, equipment, home modifications and respite care.

While the monthly benefit does not replace lost income or fully offset financial strain, caregivers consistently tell us that it makes a meaningful difference. It also represents recognition, an acknowledgement that caregivers are essential partners in care and that their contributions matter.

Family and friend caregivers are the backbone of our healthcare system. Without them, many people would require significantly more government-funded home care services or would enter hospital or long-term care much earlier — both far more costly options.

Supporting caregivers is not only compassionate; it is practical and cost-effective. It helps people age safely at home, reduces strain on acute care and strengthens the sustainability of our healthcare system.

Nearly one in three Nova Scotians is a caregiver. We remain committed to advocating for them and working with partners and government to ensure their voices are heard. Caregivers deserve stability, recognition and meaningful support — and we will continue to stand with them.

**Jenny Theriault**  
Executive Director

**The Board of Directors**  
Caregivers Nova Scotia

  
**Caregivers**  
Nova Scotia  
for friends and family giving care