

## **PRICES UP, SPENDING DOWN**

RECENT SURVEY BY ANGUS REID INSTITUTE REPORTED THAT 'CANADIANS ARE RESPONDING TO PRICE INCREASES WITH SPENDING DECREASES'

The reality is things are significantly more expensive than a year ago, and this is starting to take a toll on many Canadians.

A recent survey by Angus Reid Institute reported that "Canadians are responding to price increases with spending decreases."

Eighty per cent of Canadians have reduced their spending. This was done by reducing discretionary spending, delaying a major purchase, driving less and cutting back on travel and



PETER WATSON Column

charitable donations.

People are also deferring saving. That is understandable; you cannot save what you do not have. However, this will have negative implications down the road.

Almost 80 per cent of those surveyed feel grocery stores are benefiting from inflation by increasing prices more than necessary. Less than 10 per cent think that higher grocery chain profits are due to good management.

Three-quarters of Canadians are stressed about money, and over half the people surveyed by Angus Reid said they were not able to keep up with the rising cost of living.

Inflation will eventually be controlled and return to the two per cent target set by the Bank of Canada.

Try to manage your spending so you do not end up increasing your amount of debt.

Peter Watson is registered with Aligned Capital Partners Inc. (ACPI) to provide investment advice. *Investment products are* provided by ACPI. ACPI is a member of the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada. The opinions expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of ACPI. *Only investment-related* products and services are offered through Watson Securities of ACPI. Peter Watson provides wealth management services through Watson Investments. He can be reached at www.watsoninvestments com

## EQUAL ACCESS TO HEALTH SUPPORTS FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS THROUGH BLUE DOOR'S NEW HEALTH HUB, THANKS TO GENEROUS FUNDING FROM TD BANK GROUP

With hospitals in nearly every major city, the need for a Health Hub in York Region dedicated to serving people experiencing homelessness may not be glaringly obvious.

Blue Door, an organization marking its 40th anniversary in 2022, sees daily how youth, families, and seniors experiencing homelessness are falling through the gaps.

While poor health can lead to homelessness, experiencing homelessness eats away at a person's immune system. Without enough food, with little sleep, and the overwhelming stress of trying to meet even the most basic daily needs including where to eat, shower, or go to the washroom, a person's health quickly declines.

As a result of poor health, people experiencing homelessness have a mortality rate 2-4 times higher than the general population.

Supported by



TD READY COMMITMENT While simply trying to survive, people encounter overwhelming barriers to medical attention and improved health including missing health cards, lacking a family doctor, immense stigma and shame, or no place to go home and recover.

Through its corporate citizenship platform, the TD Ready Commitment, TD Bank Group is providing generous funding for Blue Door's new Health Hub, which is opening in the fall of 2022.

An on-site Nurse and Hospital In-Reach Worker will offer lifesaving support through the Health Hub.

By streamlining health supports to improve health and housing outcomes, in collaboration with Southlake Regional Health Centre the Hospital In-Reach Worker connects with people helping discharge people with no fixed address into housing and connecting them to the Nurse.

The Nurse provides basic care, education, and is vital in connecting people to community healthcare options and family doctors.

During the pandemic, at a time when good health and access to housing can mean the

difference between life and death, Blue Door's new Health Hub offers a beacon of hope and good health for our community's most vulnerable.

> **TEARS** BLUJF

To learn more, visit www.BlueDoor.ca

**34-47** Average Life Expectancy for People Experiencing Homelessness (Compared to 77-82 years among the general population)

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