

Office of the Seniors Advocate Monthly Update - September 2024

Activities of the Office of the Seniors Advocate

Seniors Advocate Attends Elders Gathering

The Seniors Advocate was honoured to attend the 48th BC Annual Elders Gathering in Vancouver last month. Elders have an important role in communities as knowledge keepers and teachers who pass down language, culture, traditions and wisdom from one generation to the next.

[Learn More](#)

Canada's Three Seniors Advocates Meet in Fredericton

BC Seniors Advocate Dan Levitt met with his counterparts from New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador last month to discuss seniors' issues across the country and identify mutual opportunities to collaborate.

[Learn More](#)

September Message from the Seniors Advocate

As we transition into September and the last weeks of summer, I hope this message finds you well and ready for the changes that autumn brings. The Office of the Seniors Advocate (OSA) has had a busy summer connecting with stakeholders near and far, as well as making time to reflect on our work and plan the projects ahead.

[Learn More](#)

Current Issues and Resources

Red Cross Friendly Calls Program

The Red Cross Friendly Calls Program aims to enhance social connectedness and well-being of anyone who may benefit from increased access to regular emotional support, social interaction, enhanced coping skills and community connections to other existing support by matching people with trained personnel. Friendly Calls is safe, accessible, free and available nationwide. Call them toll free at 1 833-979-9779 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays.

[Learn More](#)

Applications for New Horizons for Seniors Funding Open Until September 12, 2024

The New Horizons for Seniors Program is a federal grant that supports projects led by seniors, for seniors, in their communities. This community-based program funds projects that empower seniors and contribute to improving their health and well-being. Eligible organizations can apply for up to \$25,000 for volunteer-based projects led by seniors.

[Learn More](#)

Webinar: Reimagine Ageing – A Program to Counter Internalized Ageism

This free webinar hosted by Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario will feature University of Manitoba researchers, Dr. Michelle Porter and Dallas Murphy, sharing the findings of their study on internalized ageism. They will also introduce a program they've developed called Reimagine Ageing. The webinar takes place on September 18th at 1 p.m.

[Learn More](#)

Provincial News

Recent Announcements from the B.C. Government Impacting Seniors

- August 29, 2024 [Affordable, accessible homes for seniors open in the north](#)
- August 26, 2024 [Annual rent increase for 2025 will be tied to inflation](#)
- August 22, 2024 [Community funding boost makes more free, healthy food available](#)
- August 20, 2024 [New long-term care home coming to Smithers](#)
- August 20, 2024 [New long-term care home coming to Quesnel](#)
- August 19, 2024 [New long-term care beds coming to Chilliwack](#)
- August 16, 2024 [Hospital at Home expands to Cowichan District Hospital](#)
- August 15, 2024 [Urgent and primary care centre connects more people to health services](#)
- August 13, 2024 [More supports for health-care workers strengthen care in south Okanagan](#)
- August 9, 2024 [Nearly 150 new homes coming for Vancouver families, seniors](#)

National News

Recent Announcements from the Federal Government Impacting Seniors

- August 1, 2024 [Government of Canada launches call for proposals for community projects to help seniors](#)

Recent Research

“Dementia Doesn’t Mean That Life Doesn’t Have More Wonderful Things Ahead”: A Qualitative Study Evaluating a Canadian Dementia Support Services Program

(Canadian Geriatric Journal)

Community support programs can improve quality of life for people living with dementia and their care partners. Important to the successful implementation of such programs is close engagement with end-users to gain a better understanding of their needs. This study describes the perspectives of people living with dementia, care partners, and health-care providers on the First Link® dementia support program provided by the Alzheimer Society of British Columbia (ASBC).

[Learn More](#)

Arthritis is associated with high nutritional risk among older Canadian adults from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging

(Scientific Reports Nature)

In 2018, 46.9% of Canadians over the age of 65 years suffered from arthritis. Recent evidence suggests that older adults affected by disabling conditions (such as arthritis) are more likely to suffer from malnutrition. The relationship between nutritional status and arthritis is complex and may vary based on the type and severity of arthritis, as well as the affected joints.

[Learn More](#)

The use of technology by seniors with neurocognitive disorders in long-term care: a scoping review

(BMC Geriatrics)

The purpose of the study was map the current state of knowledge about the use of technology with seniors with neurocognitive disorders in long-term care to foster interactions, wellness, and stimulation. Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL Plus); MEDLINE; PsycINFO; Embase and Web of Science were searched in eligible literature, with no limit of time, to describe the current use of technology by seniors with neurocognitive disorders in long-term care.

[Learn More](#)

Outreach by the OSA

If you would like to invite BC Seniors Advocate Dan Levitt to speak to your organization or attend an event, please email info@seniorsadvocatebc.ca.

The Office of the Seniors Advocate has an information and referral line that is available 24 hours a day, every day. Our senior service specialists will work with you during our office hours to provide resources and help resolve issues. Staff at BC211 will assist after hours.

You are receiving this email because you are on our mailing list to receive updates and other occasional correspondence from our office. You can [subscribe](#) or [unsubscribe](#) to this mailing list.

Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) or visit the [OSA website](#).