

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 3, 2022

Seniors Advocate reconnecting during B.C. Seniors' Week 2022

VICTORIA – June 5 marks the beginning of Seniors' Week in British Columbia. With the number of B.C. seniors now passing the one million mark, there is much to celebrate as communities throughout the province come together again to honour the seniors in their lives.

Already a generational leader in volunteer hours in Canada prior to the pandemic, seniors stepped up in spectacular fashion to help friends and neighbours get groceries and medication, delivered meals to people with mobility challenges, and called or virtually visited others to reduce social isolation.

Across the province, seniors are reconnecting and enriching their communities daily by caring for grandchildren, spouses and friends; cleaning up parks and maintaining greenspaces; helping others file taxes, fill out forms or complete applications; offering rides to neighbours; cooking and serving food; and fundraising or selling items for local charities. This important volunteer work helps make our communities stronger, vibrant, and more caring places to live.

I, too, am reconnecting in person with seniors and organizations throughout B.C. and learning about their issues and challenges. Seniors' Week is an important time to recognize the immense contributions of older British Columbians and take stock of how we are doing in meeting the needs of older people in our communities. Let's all take a moment to acknowledge the importance of seniors in our society and thank them for all they've done, and continue to do, to enrich all our lives.

Isobel Mackenzie
BC Seniors Advocate

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The Office of the Seniors Advocate is an independent office of the provincial government with a mandate of monitoring seniors' services and reporting on systemic issues affecting seniors. The office also provides information and referral to seniors and their caregivers by calling toll-free 1 877 952-3181, BC211, via email at info@seniorsadvocatebc.ca, Canada Post and the OSA web site <https://www.seniorsadvocatebc.ca/>.

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