



COUNCIL OF ADVISORS

The Office of the Seniors Advocate has a Council of Advisors (COA) that provides valuable insight into seniors' issues in B.C. This group of engaged and connected seniors represents each of the province's five health authority regions and comes from a wide range of educational, professional and socio-economic backgrounds. The COA serves as both a sounding board for the Seniors Advocate as well as a conduit to the Advocate for information and concerns from all regions of the province.

Over the past years, council members have been engaged in their local communities and regions representing the Office of the Seniors Advocate at several events and presentations, including the Union of BC Municipalities Convention and various senior's health and wellness events.





COUNCIL OF ADVISORS BIOGRAPHIES

FRASER

Jerry Gosling Abbotsford	Transit operator, aiming to help seniors across the province improve their lifestyle when it comes to housing, public safety and healthy eating. Jerry is working to become better informed of senior's issues and to advocate for B.C. residents. He is the recipient of the Order of Abbotsford in recognition of volunteer service and community involvement.
Bong-Hwan Kim Port Moody	Retired Government of Manitoba civil servant. Served as President, Korean Society of Manitoba; President, Korean Canadian Housing Corporation Inc.; Chair, Refugee Concerns Committee, Winnipeg Presbytery, United Church of Canada; Vice-president, Folk Arts Council of Winnipeg; received a Doctorate in Sociology from the University of Manitoba; currently serves as the Vice-president of the Korean Senior Citizens' Society of B.C.
Royce Shook Port Coquitlam	Senior Vital Issue's team member looking into the issue of senior isolation. Sits on the Port Coquitlam Mayors Round Table. Former board member, Share Family & Community Services Society. Award winning blogger on senior issues. 43 years in public education teaching grades 8 to 12 in Surrey; 10 years in post-secondary education as area chair for the University of Phoenix in curriculum development. Currently a workshop facilitator, mentor and trainer for COSCO Health and Wellness Institute.

VANCOUVER COASTAL

Sandra Gerbhardt Richmond	Served 34 years in the non-profit sector, with 22 of those as an executive director. Through her tenure at 411 Seniors Centre Society and involvement in several committees dedicated to seniors, Sandra has cultivated a comprehensive perspective on issues affecting seniors. She believes in the importance of providing seniors with essential support and services, enabling them to lead vibrant, engaged, and healthy lives within their own communities.
Diana Leung Richmond	Dedicated life-long learner committed to helping others in her community. Diana has extensive volunteer experience and currently sits on several boards and committees focused on seniors' health and well-being: Minoru Seniors Society, Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee, Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee. She has an in-depth academic and business background as a CPA, IT professional and retired CPHR with an MBA and MA.
Barb Mikulec Vancouver	Retired teacher and director of the B.C. Retired Teachers Association; feels the top three issues facing seniors today are housing, healthcare and outliving their resources; takes part in Salish weaving, oil painting and Scottish country dancing; board member of the Kerrisdale Community Centre; committee member of the National Pensioners Federation, director



of BC Forum, secretary of Metro Vancouver Cross Cultural Seniors Network, involved with the Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of B.C. (COSCO).

INTERIOR

Greg Howard Kamloops	Retired educator with 43 years in public education; volunteer with Operation Red Nose, Rotary, B.C. Winter Games, and B.C. Career Education Society; caregiver for his father and in-laws and believes education is key to assisting seniors.
Leo M Campeau Lavington	Retired BC Ambulance Paramedic (EHS) and former fire chief - Kootenay Boundary Fire Services. He is a member of the BC Fire Chiefs, Canadian Fire Chiefs, and a local assistant fire commissioner. His volunteer service includes PEP Area Coordinator, North Okanagan Therapeutic Riding Association, North Okanagan Community Life Society, North Okanagan Valley Gleaners Society, Schubert Seniors Centre, and Habitat for Humanity (VERNON B.C.)
Sandy Zeznik Cranbrook	Retired teacher/principal and district principal. She is a community volunteer with Rotary, Cranbrook Public Library, CARP East Kootenay, Seniors in Partnership, Age Friendly Committee, Chamber Information Centre, Cranbrook Health Care Auxiliary, Cranbrook Seniors Hall, Co-chair of 2018 55+ games (Kimberley/Cranbrook) and other non-profits. Sandy loves to travel and is an active Dragon Boat paddler.

NORTHERN

Caroline Alexander Fort St. John	Former Environmental Health Officer with various provincial governments (Manitoba, Ontario, Alberta, B.C.) and Health Canada in the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch. Current volunteer for BCSPCA and past volunteer for St. John Ambulance and Self-Management BC. She holds a B.Tech (Hons) degree in Environmental Health, Certificate in Public Health Inspection (Canada), and M.Sc. in Public Health from University of London, School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK.
Dawn Hemingway Prince George	Recently retired professor at University of Northern B.C. and Professor Emerita; involved in research initiatives, graduate student supervision and UNBC-based Northern Feminist Institute for Research and Evaluation; current community roles include leadership team of Action Reform for Residential Care (ARRCBC), Interim Circle of Advisors to BC Human Rights Commission Baseline Project; provincial Board Vice-Chair for the BC Association of Community Response Networks and Nidus Personal Planning & Registry (both addressing aspects of BC's Adult Guardianship legislation); Advisory Committee to the Prince George Council of Seniors and Leadership Team of Community Partners Addressing Homelessness, along with the Steering Committee for Stand Up for the North.



Margaret Sutton Dawson Creek	Retired teacher (39 years – UK, Singapore, Sask., B.C.); committee member and past director of BC Retired Teachers' Assn.; founder and facilitator of "Meals for You" (volunteers providing frozen meals for seniors); founding member of S.P Seniors Access Service Society providing support for seniors; secretary of South Peace Health Services Society; facilitator for "Grief Share"; recipient of the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award.
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VANCOUVER ISLAND

Pauline Gobeil Victoria	With more than 30 years of leading non-profit organizations at the local (Daycare, School PAC), provincial (Federation des parents francophones de CB, College Educacentre, Carrefour50+CB) and national (Commission nationale des parents francophones) levels, Pauline is now focused on helping improve seniors' living conditions in B.C.
Geraldine Hinton Victoria	Former nurse clinician with a focus on teaching geriatric care to nursing students ; former organizational consultant to the Victoria Institute of Gerontology at the Fairfield Health Centre; retired executive director of the B.C. Government Office for Seniors: long history of service with St John Ambulance, developed a revolutionary program for seniors facing loneliness and poverty; awarded the Alzheimer Society of B.C.'s Clyde and Lanny Slade Memorial Leadership Award; YM/YWCA Women of Distinction Lifetime Achievement Award; current member of Alzheimer Society of B.C., Government House Board of Trustees, and Veterans' Memorial Lodge at Broadmead, among many others.
Lynn Wood Campbell River	Retired senior manager and executive with a career spanning federal government, transportation authorities and provincial charitable and community organizations serving vulnerable populations. Recently Lynn completed a 3-year term as a member of the City of Campbell River Community Health and Public Safety Advisory Committee and volunteered as a Long-Term Care Surveyor for the Office of the Seniors Advocate. She continues to volunteer to provide long-term care resident support in her community.