

Office of the Seniors Advocate Monthly Update - June 2025

Activities of the Office of the Seniors Advocate

Let's Celebrate B.C. Seniors' Week 2025!

June 1-7 is B.C. Seniors' Week and a time to celebrate, recognize and honour older people in our province. Read BC Seniors Advocate Dan Levitt's statement.

[Learn More](#)

Spotlight On B.C. Seniors

Every senior has a story worth sharing! Join us in celebrating B.C. Seniors' Week by participating in our #SpotlightOnSeniors social media campaign. We're inviting seniors to share their achievements, life lessons and insights by submitting a photo and a story.

[Learn More](#)

Budget 2026 Consultation

The BC Seniors Advocate is scheduled to appear before the BC Legislature's Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services to share the office's priorities for Budget 2026 as part of their annual consultation process. He will advocate for increased affordability and availability of public home support services and government funding for the shingles vaccine for older adults, two actions that would improve health, wellness and cost of living for B.C. seniors.

[Learn More](#)

Current Issues and Resources

Honouring Intergenerational Connections

Intergenerational Day on June 1 celebrates meaningful connections between generations, emphasizing the value of inclusion and community support. These cross-generational relationships also play a key role in breaking down age-related stereotypes, encouraging respect, empathy, and increase understanding between younger and older generations.

[Learn More](#)

Property Tax Deferment Program

Are you a senior homeowner struggling with the rising cost of living and facing a large property tax bill? BC Seniors Advocate Dan Levitt is encouraging senior homeowners to consider applying for

the BC Property Tax Deferment Program. Eligible B.C. homeowners 55+ could save up to \$500 or more each month by deferring their taxes, money that could be spent on maintenance, utilities or other household expenses.

[Learn More](#)

World Elder Abuse and Awareness Day Event

Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario, CNPEA, CanAge, and the Elder Abuse Network are co-hosting an online event in recognition of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 11, 2025. This annual gathering will bring together leading experts, advocates, and community voices to raise awareness about elder abuse and neglect, combat ageism, and promote healthy ageing. Be sure to register now, as spaces are limited.

[Learn More](#)

Seniors and Caregivers Needed for Study on Remote Monitoring

The Centre for Technology Adoption for Aging in the North at the University of Northern British Columbia is seeking older adults (65+) and their caregivers for a one-year study exploring the use of remote monitoring technology to support older adults living in the community. Participant pairs will work with the research team to select a remote monitoring system that suits their needs. Technology will be provided at no cost, and participants will complete brief check-ins and surveys throughout the year. After completing all study activities, participant pairs will receive a \$200 honorarium. For more information email ctaabc3@unbc.ca or call 250-960-6143.

[Learn More](#)

Provincial News

Recent Announcements from the B.C. Government Impacting Seniors

- May 26, 2025 [Affordable, accessible homes open in Elkford](#)
- May 26, 2025 [Affordable homes open for seniors in Burnaby](#)
- May 23, 2025 [New homes now available for seniors in Lumby](#)
- May 23, 2025 [Construction begins on Prince George long-term care home](#)
- May 22, 2025 [Langley urgent and primary care centre opens at permanent location](#)
- May 20, 2025 [Assistance payments will continue during Canada Post strike](#)
- May 12, 2025 [Streamlined process cuts wait times, bringing more U.S. nurses to B.C.](#)
- May 12, 2025 [Minister's, parliamentary secretary's statement on National Nursing Week, International Nurses Day](#)
- May 9, 2025 [New affordable homes open for people in Courtenay](#)
- May 9, 2025 [B.C. supports projects that help communities prepare for climate emergencies](#)

May 3, 2025 [Nearly 300 new homes coming to Victoria](#)

Recent Research

Identifying Needs and Support Services for Family Caregivers of Older Community-Based Family Members: Mixed-Method Research Findings

(Journal of Applied Gerontology)

A recent Canadian study conducted in Alberta identified family caregiver support needs and essential support services when caring for older community-based family members requiring assistance with activities of daily living. Weekly interviews of 150 volunteer caregivers over 6 months identified 11 support needs and five essential support services. Scoping literature reviews of the 11 needs found they had all been identified before. Program logic investigations of the five support services identified a patchwork of temporarily available support services in existence across the province.

[Learn More](#)

Elderly care facility location in the face of the climate crisis: A case study in Canada

(International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction)

Climate crisis poses a dual threat to the environment and human health, with older adults being particularly vulnerable. This study aims to establish a network of elderly care facilities designed to respond to climate-induced disasters, an essential element in creating resilient cities that address the challenges of elderly care within the context of the climate crisis. awareness.

[Learn More](#)

Loneliness, ageism, and mental health: The buffering role of resilience in seniors

(International Journal of Clinical and Health Psychology)

Ageism and loneliness are two relevant public health phenomena because of their negative impact on the senior's mental health. With the increase in average life expectancy, these tend to co-occur, which may increase the psychological distress of seniors. Resilience has been shown to be an important protective factor for seniors' mental health, although its potential buffering role on public health risk factors with cumulative impact on mental health, such as loneliness and ageism, requires more study.

[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.

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