

## Office of the Seniors Advocate Monthly Update - July 2025

### Activities of the Office of the Seniors Advocate

#### **Seniors Advocate Visits the Kootenays**

Seniors Advocate Dan Levitt will be holding town hall events in the Kootenays during the week of July 14. He is inviting seniors, their families and services providers to join him for a conversation about seniors' concerns and issues in Creston, Castlegar, Trail, Nelson, Fruitvale and Grand Forks.

[Learn More](#)

#### **New OSA Report Coming Soon**

Later this month, the Office of the Seniors Advocate is releasing a new systemic review on the supply and demand of long-term care beds. Is B.C. ready to care for the growing number of vulnerable seniors in our province? Stay tuned to our social media channels for more information.

[Learn More](#)

#### **Newsletter Feedback Survey**

Help us make the OSA Update even better by sharing your thoughts in a short survey. Your feedback will provide valuable insight into how we can better tailor our content, format and topics to meet your needs and interests.

[Learn More](#)

#### **Seniors Advocate Statement on National Indigenous Peoples Day**

National Indigenous History Month and National Indigenous Peoples Day are opportunities to honour the rich heritage, diversity and strength of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples across Canada.

[Learn More](#)

#### **Seniors' Advocates Join Forces to Raise Awareness of Elder Abuse**

In recognition of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15, leaders of three seniors' advocacy groups joined the BC Seniors Advocate to raise the alarm about elder abuse, a growing but often hidden issue affecting older adults across the province.

[Learn More](#)

## July Message from the Seniors Advocate

Seniors Advocate Dan Levitt shares updates about recent activities and initiatives of the Office of the Seniors Advocate.

[Learn More](#)

## Current Issues and Resources

### Beat the Summer Heat – Tips for Seniors to Stay Cool

The summer months bring warmer weather and high temperatures can pose serious health risks for older adults. As temperatures rise, seniors should take extra care to stay cool and hydrated. Family, friends and neighbors should check in regularly.

[Learn More](#)

### Struggling Senior Homeowners Encouraged to Defer Property Taxes

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](#)

### Farmers Market Nutrition Coupons Return

The Farmers Market Nutrition Coupon Program has returned again this year, helping eligible seniors access fresh summer produce at local markets. Each eligible household enrolled in the program can receive up to \$27 per week in coupons for up to 16 weeks. Free coupons are available now but run out fast! Get yours today.

[Learn More](#)

### Reminder: BC Climate Action Payments End

Please be advised that the BC Climate Action Tax Credit Program has ended. The tax credit payment for April 2025 was the final payment.

[Learn More](#)

## Provincial News

### Recent Announcements from the B.C. Government Impacting Seniors

June 30, 2025 [Have your say on B.C.'s climate plan](#)

June 21, 2025 [Premier's, minister's statements on National Indigenous Peoples Day](#)

June 19, 2025 [First-of-its-kind in Canada, First Nations healing centre breaks ground](#)

- June 18, 2025 [Farmers' market program delivers another bountiful harvest](#)
- June 17, 2025 [New community health centre opens in Kamloops](#)
- June 10, 2025 [Health authority review expands to ensure support for front-line services](#)
- June 9, 2025 [People urged to prepare as warming temperatures increase wildfire, drought risk](#)
- June 9, 2025 [New partnership will help detect, monitor wildfires in B.C.](#)
- June 6, 2025 [Recruitment campaign for doctors, nurses launches in U.S.](#)
- June 6, 2025 [Province makes progress in international credential recognition](#)
- June 6, 2025 [Province supports emergency operations centres to keep communities safe](#)
- June 5, 2025 [New digital service will help lower home-energy bills](#)
- June 2, 2025 [Province strengthens community-based primary-care services](#)
- June 2, 2025 [Tax services continue during Canada Post disruption](#)

## Recent Research

### **Transforming health-care, social care and community landscapes to optimize the mental health of older adults in Canada**

(Mental Health Commission of Canada)

This report highlights the findings of a study conducted for the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) to take the pulse of older adults, caregivers, health-care providers, and other key partners on the mental health of older adults in Canada.

[Learn More](#)

### **Falls prevention interventions for community-dwelling older adults: systematic review and meta-analysis of benefits, harms, and patient values and preferences**

(BMC Systematic Reviews)

About 20–30% of older adults 65 years old or more experience one or more falls each year, and falls are associated with substantial burden to the health care system, individuals, and families from resulting injuries, fractures, and reduced functioning and quality of life.

[Learn More](#)

## **Disaster Awareness and Preparedness Among Older Adults in Canada Regarding Floods, Wildfires, and Earthquakes**

(Disaster Risk Science)

Older adults are significantly impacted by natural hazards and disasters that are exacerbated by climate change. Understanding their awareness and preparedness is essential for enhancing disaster resilience. This study investigated the attitudes, actions, and recommendations of older adults regarding natural hazards that pose risks in their geographic area—specifically floods, wildfires, and/or earthquakes in Canada.

[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](mailto: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. Call 1-877-952-3181 (toll free) or 250-952-3181 (Victoria).

---

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](#).