

Office of the Seniors Advocate Monthly Update - August 2025

Activities of the Office of the Seniors Advocate

New Report - From Shortfall to Crisis: Growing Demand for Long-Term Care Beds in B.C.

The BC Seniors Advocate is calling on the Province to address the increasing shortfall in long-term care bed supply. This new systemic review reveals B.C. is not prepared to care for the most vulnerable seniors today or in the future due to the ongoing, increasing shortage of long-term care beds.

[Learn More](#)

OSA Update Refresh: Share Your Feedback!

Help us make our monthly newsletter 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](#)

August 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

Celebrating COSCO's 75th Anniversary

The Council of Seniors Citizens Organizations BC is celebrating their 75th anniversary with a national conference taking place in Richmond, B.C. on October 4 - 5, 2025. The conference will focus on human rights and ageing and will feature expert speakers, including BC Seniors Advocate Dan Levitt, BC Commissioner of Human Rights Kasari Govender, and President of the Canadian Coalition Against Ageism Margaret Gillis. Registration for the conference is now open.

[Learn More](#)

Tsunami Preparedness

As we were reminded last month, B.C. is a seismically active province and many coastal communities can be at risk of tsunamis. Tsunamis are most often caused by huge undersea earthquakes that cause large waves. Read the Earthquake and Tsunami Preparedness Guide to learn what to do during and after a major earthquake and tsunami.

[Learn More](#)

Webinar - Bridging Health and Community Care: The Essential Role of Social Prescribing Connectors

Social Prescribing Connectors, also known as Community Connectors and Navigators, have the potential to play a critical role in seniors' care by bridging health care and community support services. Join the Canadian Institute for Social Prescribing for a webinar on how this role is evolving in Canada and beyond, what training and competencies are needed and strategies for sustainable funding.

[Learn More](#)

Provincial News

Recent Announcements from the B.C. Government Impacting Seniors

- July 24, 2025 [Construction starts on new BC Cancer centre in Kamloops](#)
- July 24, 2025 [More support on the way to strengthen rural communities](#)
- July 24, 2025 [Province strengthens local evacuation routes, public notification planning](#)
- July 17, 2025 [Updated cabinet sworn in to meet the needs of British Columbians in a changing world](#)
- July 17, 2025 [Province moves to protect supply of two more diabetes drugs](#)
- July 16, 2025 [B.C. fast-tracks recruitment of international doctors as U.S. campaign delivers results](#)
- July 15, 2025 [More heat pump rebates on the way; now open for renters, condo owners](#)
- July 14, 2025 [Better safeguards, transparency for homebuyers](#)
- July 14, 2025 [People, businesses urged to conserve water as drought risks increase](#)
- July 2, 2025 [More flexibility for development charges will unlock more homes for people](#)

National News

Recent Announcements from the Federal Government Impacting Seniors

- July 26, 2025 [Government of Canada and partners invest \\$44.8 million to support healthy brain aging](#)

Recent Research

Aging in the community: Factors associated with home adaptations and receipt of informal care, home care, and community support services among older Canadians

(Statistics Canada)

Most older Canadians would prefer to stay in their own homes and communities rather than move to long-term care facilities. A growing older population, limited long-term care capacity and costs have increased demand for initiatives that enable people to age in their communities for as long as possible.

[Learn More](#)

Retrospective Analysis of Circumstances of Falls and Related Injuries across Levels of Care in Older Adult Retirement Home Facilities

(Canadian Journal on Aging)

Towards developing more effective interventions for fall-related injuries, this study analyzed a novel database from six retirement home facilities over a 4-year period comprising 1,877 fallers and 12,445 falls. Falls were characterized based on location, activity, injury site, and type, and the database was stratified across four levels of care: independent living, retirement care, assisted care and memory care.

[Learn More](#)

What contributes to a decline in cognitive performance among home care clients? Analysis of interRAI data from across Canada

(BMC Geriatrics)

This study examined potential risk factors for experiencing a decline on the interRAI Cognitive Performance Scale. It was a retrospective cohort study using secondary data collected with the Resident Assessment Instrument for Home Care (RAI-HC) for all assessments completed in Canada between 2001 and 2020.

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

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