

Office of the Seniors Advocate Monthly Update - November 2025

**This edition includes two months of content due to recent job action.*

Activities of the Office of the Seniors Advocate

Seniors Advocate's Statement on International Day of Older Persons

As the International Day of Older Persons deadline passes without commitment, Seniors Advocate Dan Levitt says the provincial government has failed to develop an action plan to address the long-term care crisis.

[Learn More](#)

OSA Council of Advisors Meets in Richmond

The OSA Council of Advisors met recently, bringing together members from across the province to discuss pressing issues affecting B.C. seniors. This meeting focused on ageing in place and seniors' homelessness, with thoughtful input from council members who shared their perspectives from urban, rural, and remote communities. We were also joined by guest presenters, including leaders from community organizations and health authorities, who shared valuable expertise and helped deepen the discussion.

[Learn More](#)

Ageism Awareness Day

BC Seniors Advocate Dan Levitt issued a statement to highlight Ageism Awareness Day on October 9 and encourages B.C. to be a leader in advancing the rights of seniors by improving health care; building more long-term care and seniors subsidized housing; strengthening rent subsidies and income supports; supporting reliable and affordable transportation services; and creating age-friendly communities throughout the province.

[Learn More](#)

Current Issues and Resources

Preventing Falls and Staying Independent

November is Fall Prevention Month, a time to highlight steps older adults can take to stay safe, active and independent. Most falls are preventable. Maintaining strength and balance through

regular activity, proper footwear, medication reviews and simple home safety can all help reduce the risk.

[Learn More](#)

Volunteer Training Opportunity from Healthy Aging CORE BC

Healthy Aging CORE BC is launching free digital training modules for volunteers in the Community-Based Seniors Services sector. These upcoming modules will cover a variety of topics to help volunteers gain the skills, knowledge, and insights they need to make an impact. Whether you're already volunteering or considering it, this is a great chance to grow your capacity and support seniors more effectively.

[Learn More](#)

BC College of Nurses and Midwives – Survey

The BCCNM wants to hear from seniors and others about their experiences or expectations around nursing (or midwifery) care, particularly in situations where care may have been declined or ended. These situations may occur due to legal scope or professional standards; personal or ethical beliefs; safety concerns or a breakdown in trust; or a client makes decisions that differ from the providers clinical recommendations. This survey is anonymous and will take approximately 5 minutes to complete.

[Learn More](#)

Webinar - Stay on the Road: Driver Assessments for Seniors

Are you approaching 80 and curious about driver assessments? Join ICBC the COSCO Seniors' Health and Wellness Institute for a virtual workshop to learn about RoadSafetyBC's Medical Assessment and ICBC's Enhanced Road Assessment. While geared toward seniors approaching these milestones, drivers of all ages are welcome.

[Learn More](#)

Cybersecurity Awareness

With more services and daily activities shifting online, seniors are increasingly targeted by online scams. October was Cybersecurity Awareness Month across Canada and this year's theme was "Get cyber safe - for future you". Learn more about skills like using a password manager, creating strong passphrases, and enabling multi-factor authentication. These small steps can make a big difference in protecting personal information and staying safe online.

[Learn More](#)

Provincial News

Recent Announcements from the B.C. Government Impacting Seniors

October 22, 2025 [Roll up your sleeves, B.C., the 2025-26 vaccination campaign is here](#)

October 22, 2025 [Eighty-seven affordable homes open for Vancouver residents](#)

October 17, 2025	<u>Affordable homes open for Indigenous people in Alberni Valley</u>
October 16, 2025	<u>People in B.C. can count on getting income assistance during strike action</u>
October 15, 2025	<u>Mass-timber building adds affordable, energy-efficient homes in Kelowna</u>
October 15, 2025	<u>New affordable homes coming to Vancouver</u>
October 2, 2025	<u>Forty-three homes open for people in Osoyoos</u>
October 2, 2025	<u>Homeless counts show more support needed, progress underway</u>
September 19, 2025	<u>Nearly 250 rental homes underway in Township of Langley</u>
September 12, 2025	<u>400 new affordable homes coming to Metro Vancouver</u>
September 11, 2025	<u>Affordable, accessible homes open for seniors in Valemount</u>
September 11, 2025	<u>Construction starts on Cranbrook long-term care home</u>
September 9, 2025	<u>Seniors in Maple Ridge will benefit from nearly 100 new affordable homes</u>
September 8, 2025	<u>Affordable homes underway for people in Quesnel</u>
September 4, 2025	<u>New Nelson health campus will support people of all ages</u>

National News

Recent Announcements from the Federal Government Impacting Seniors

October 20, 2025	<u>Minister Champagne takes aim at financial scams and abuse, announces Anti-Fraud Strategy and new Financial Crimes Agency</u>
October 1, 2025	<u>Secretary of State Stephanie McLean celebrates National Seniors Day</u>
September 3, 2025	<u>Government of Canada funds retirement savings project for personal support workers</u>

Recent Research

Addressing Dementia in Canada: Current Trends, Challenges and Opportunities in Improving Public Awareness, Reducing the Risk and Challenging Stigma Related to Dementia

(National Institute on Ageing)

Already, 74% of Canadian adults know someone who has or had dementia—highlighting its widespread impact. Approximately 500,000 older adults were diagnosed in 2023/24, and close to 772,000 Canadians may be living with dementia in 2025. With an ageing population, that number

could reach 1.7 million by 2050, alongside 1 million care partners. The good news is that there are many things Canadians can do to reduce their risk and prevent or delay getting dementia.

[Learn More](#)

Resilience applications to social isolation and loneliness in older adults: a scoping review to develop a model and research agenda

(Front Public Health)

The development of a theoretical model applied to social isolation and loneliness among older adults has not kept pace with the exponential growth in empirical research, especially since the COVID-19 pandemic. One promising but under-investigated area is the contribution of resilience models to this field. This paper provides a scoping review of the application of resilience theoretical models to social isolation and loneliness and suggests directions for the development of an integrated new model.

[Learn More](#)

Declining financial and health literacy among older men and women

(Journal of the Economics of Ageing)

Financial and health literacy decline at older ages, and such deterioration in later life is associated with adverse outcomes. Nevertheless, it is unclear whether the rate or likelihood of decline diverges over time across subgroups of the elderly. This study used longitudinal data to assess whether older men and women differ in the likelihood and rate at which their financial and health literacy deteriorates.

[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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