

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

### Activities of the Office of the Seniors Advocate

#### Seeking Seniors Survey Testers

Are you 65 or older and receive the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) or BC Seniors Supplement? OSA and BC Office of Patient-Centred Measurement are looking for seniors to give feedback on survey questions about income and affordability.

Selected participants will complete a 60–90-minute interview and provide feedback to help make the questions clear and meaningful. Interviews are voluntary and confidential, and participants will receive a \$50 grocery gift card.

Email [info.bcpcm@phc.ca](mailto:info.bcpcm@phc.ca) or call 604-806-9401 to learn more.

#### December Message from the Seniors Advocate

As the holiday season approaches, the Seniors Advocate looks back on a year of research, engagement, and advocacy for older adults in B.C.

[Learn More](#)

### Current Issues and Resources

#### New Anti-Ageism Toolkit Released

The Canadian Coalition Against Ageism has introduced a practical and accessible Ageism Awareness and Education Toolkit. This resource offers educational modules, discussion guides, workshops, and other tools designed to help people, organizations, and communities recognize and challenge age-based stereotypes.

[Learn More](#)

#### Holiday Fraud Watch

Scams often escalate during the holidays, targeting seniors with fake charities, delivery scams, and online shopping fraud. Staying alert to common red flags and knowing where to report suspicious activities is the key to staying safe.

[Learn More](#)

## **New National Cybercrime and Fraud Reporting System**

The RCMP has launched a new national online system that makes it easier for Canadians to report cybercrime and fraud. The platform allows users to submit details, upload evidence, and help law enforcement identify emerging scams across the country.

[Learn More](#)

## **Cold Weather Safety and Preparedness**

Colder weather can increase risks for seniors, including falls, power outages, and mobility challenges. Being prepared, whether it's updating emergency kits, planning for severe weather, or arranging community supports, can make a big difference in staying safe throughout winter.

[Learn More](#)

## **Provincial News**

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

- November 21, 2025 [Delivering 200 new beds for seniors in south Okanagan](#)
- November 21, 2025 [People encouraged to prepare for winter weather](#)
- November 12, 2025 [Cowichan's new hospital celebrates name, construction progress](#)
- November 11, 2025 [Premier's statement on Remembrance Day](#)
- November 7, 2025 [More than 150 affordable homes open for seniors in Delta](#)
- November 7, 2025 [Minister's statement on November 2025 rental report](#)
- November 6, 2025 [Record number of shelter spaces opening before winter](#)

## **National News**

### **Recent Announcements from the Federal Government Impacting Seniors**

- November 4, 2025 [Canada Strong: Budget 2025](#)
- November 27, 2025 [New Report: Housing supply needs and challenges for a diverse seniors population in Canada](#)

## Recent Research

### **Seniors Report 2025: Monitoring Key Indicators of Seniors' Wellbeing in Newfoundland and Labrador**

(Office of the Seniors Advocate Newfoundland and Labrador)

The second annual Seniors' Report provides a comprehensive profile of the wellbeing of seniors in Newfoundland and Labrador related to their Individual Health, Health Care, Finances, Housing, Transportation, and Safety and Protection. The accompanying Seniors' Report 2025: Data Tables ensures transparency and the use of this data by others interested learning about and the wellbeing of seniors in the province.

[Learn More](#)

### **Exploring Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities in the Context of the Social Determinants of Health**

(Canadian Journal on Aging)

Ontario seniors face a range of challenges as they age, including financial, physical and social barriers. Addressing these challenges is essential to improving the health and wellbeing of older adults in the province. This discussion proposes that naturally occurring retirement communities (NORCs) offer a viable and safe alternative to formal retirement communities and evaluates how NORCs can support seniors when examined through the lens of the social determinants of health.

[Learn More](#)

### **Growing Older at Home: Canadians' Meaning of Aging in Place**

(Journal of Aging and Environment)

"Ageing in place" is a widely used term but its meaning and interpretation in literature and practice have often omitted older adults' perspectives. This study sought to uncover the meaning of "aging in place" for older adults in Canada, the ways they think it can be supported, and the influence of the COVID-19 pandemic on their perspectives. A survey probing these topics was distributed to older Canadians, and participants were invited to focus groups to elaborate.

[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 operates a toll-free information and referral phone line staffed by seniors' services specialists who can help put seniors and family

caregivers in touch with services and navigate issues and concerns. Call 1-877-952-3181 (toll free) or 250-952-3181 (Victoria).

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