

Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society

Annual Report

25th
Anniversary

2015-2016 Fiscal Year

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Who We Are

The Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society is a non profit society dedicated to the interests of seniors on the North Shore.

We act as a strong voice for seniors through research, planning, coordination, collaboration and education.

We are a seniors led and seniors driven organization promoting the participation of seniors in the ongoing co-ordinated planning and delivery of health, social and all other activities that affect the quality of our lives.

We believe that individuals desire to live independently and to be responsible for their own health. Seniors, and all other citizens, have the right and responsibility to make informed decisions on matters that affect their well-being.

Our Organization

We are a non partisan association and a registered charity.

We encourage volunteers and participation from community members of all ages.

Our research, projects and programs are directed at meeting needs expressed by those over 55 years of age.

Greetings from the President

This year Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society celebrates 25 years of service to seniors on the North Shore. Congratulations!

We are pleased to announce that the City of North Vancouver (CNV) and the District of North Vancouver (DNV) have received the Age Friendly Community Designation. On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank all the volunteers, Silver Harbour, the Seniors' Action Tables and the much appreciated involvement of the CNV and the DNV to make our communities Age-Friendly for everyone.



This has been a year of change for us as we say goodbye, with our thanks, to Robin McGuinness, and hello to Margaret Coates. Margaret brings 35 years of experience with her from non-profit agencies.

We continue to facilitate the meetings of the Services to Seniors Coalition. These meetings include speakers, community members, service providers, CNV and the DNV staff members and invited guests.

We have formed an Age-Friendly Steering Committee which held a presentation at the Senior's Coalition. The presentation included an overview of the Age-Friendly Assessment and Action Plan which introduced the Priorities for Meaningful Change. It was a very active meeting and well received. Thank you to Paul Penner, Phil Chapman, Margaret Coates and Annwen Loverin for their very informative presentation.

A challenge for all non-profit organizations is funding. Margaret Coates delivered a presentation to the CNV and DNV Council on funding cutbacks. This was well received, with a positive motion by the CNV Council to look into the matter.

Also new this year was the formation of the Seniors' Action Tables (SAT) Steering Committee. The Lower Capilano SAT continues to run very successful computer literacy classes and they even have a waiting list! The City of North Vancouver SAT hopes

to participate in the Seniors' Expo in West Vancouver with their mobile information kiosk. The SAT's continue to review the Priorities for Meaningful Change which come out of the Age Friendly process.

Good volunteers are hard to find and one of the best is leaving us. Thank you to Barb Brett for her years of service with Lionsview, as our president and delightful board member. Your commitment and contributions to the community and to us was very much appreciated. Thank you for all your support; you will be missed!

I would also like to thank Tom Carney, past Executive Director, for his continued support of Lionsview and his very informative North Shore Newspaper column, Older and Wiser. We always look forward to and enjoy reading your column.



Barb Brett, Past President

We are very appreciative of the financial support that we receive from the three municipalities, Province of BC, community organizations, foundations and our members.

As the newly elected president I look forward to the challenges that will face Lionsview. We will continue to grow and change and work towards an age-friendly North Shore, with the support of partners, the local municipalities and the community. I am looking forward to another great year!

Submitted by Raye A. Lee, President

Coordinator's Report

Last year saw many changes to the organization including the change-over of the president and the senior staff person. We welcomed Raye Lee as our president for her first term. Raye brings valuable experience with her as a volunteer in several capacities on the north shore, particularly with seniors. We said good bye to Robyn McGuinness who left Lionsview mid-year for a great opportunity. She was replaced by myself.

A small committee made up of Annwen Loverin and Barb Brett worked on structural and organizational changes. Our constitution and bylaws have been revised in order to comply with new provincial regulations. The committee also determined new purposes so that Lionsview could broaden its ability to work on behalf of seniors.

The programs and activities of the organization have been revitalized, particularly the Seniors Coalition and the SAT programs. We have tried new formats at the Coalition and have created a Seniors SAT steering committee made up of Lorna Goodwin, Khodarahm Bakhshandeh, Joanne Cooper and Raye Lee. Among other things, they will be responsible for seeing that the SATs have some interaction with each other.

Vi Johnston, who also volunteers at Elder College is new on the board, and so is, like me learning the ropes – welcome Vi. Deanna Charlton, our long-time member continues to support us in many ways, particularly with her knowledge of the history of Lionsview.

We have tried to keep members and north shore residents informed about our activities and programs through our web site by making sure to update the home page frequently. Please check it out at www.lionsviewseniorsplanning.com

As we celebrate our 25th anniversary, Lionsview is looking to its future. We know that we are sometimes referred to as the “best kept secret on the North Shore” and we are looking to change that by updating our materials including producing a regular newsletter. We are pursuing funding opportunities in order to enhance our continuing work on behalf of seniors and seniors organizations. I would like to thank our donors, supporters and friends of Lionsview (see page 11 for a list).

I also want to thank the members, volunteers and board of Lionsview for welcoming me as the Coordinator. This role has given me a chance to really get to know the North Shore, the professionals who work for seniors and seniors themselves.

We hope you enjoy this Annual Report which has information about our programs and activities, structure, funders and supporters and much more.



Submitted by Margaret Coates

Programs and Activities

Services to Seniors Coalition

A major program of LSPS is the “one of a kind” Services to Senior Coalition whose main purpose is to provide a voice, forum, and vehicle for information sharing, collaboration and networking. It also provides an opportunity for education sessions. The 55 participants from across the North Shore come together 9 times a year to network, set priorities and plan services strategically.

Most importantly, the SSC adds value to the 35 organizations represented at the Coalition because of its indirect impact on their programs and services through networking, collaboration and information sharing.

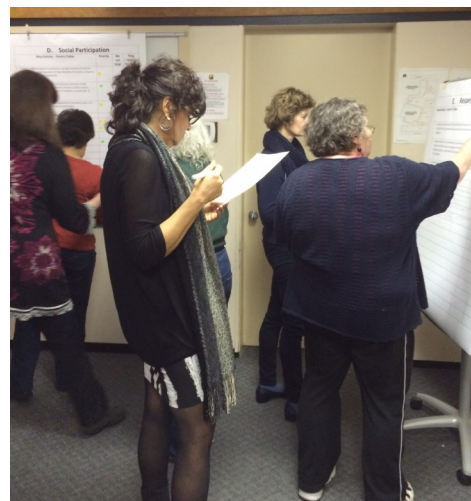
A few highlights from our past year are noted below:

The Services to Seniors Coalition presented the Seniors Advocate, Isobel Mackenzie in October. The event was extremely well attended and people were very pleased with the advocate’s presentation. In the meantime we have asked Trudy Hubbard one of the Steering Committee members of the Seniors Advocate’s office to attend our meetings in order that we can update her about the Coalition’s concerns.

In November, three municipal representatives presented information about what is going on in terms of seniors from a local government perspective. They updated the Coalition on what their municipalities are doing for seniors in terms of policy, development concerns (how seniors are impacted by new development in terms of amenities and so on), improvements to the built environment, communication, social issues and so on. In January we had two presentations: one on the new Elder College and one by Nancy Hollstedt, who presented information and data about the NSCR’s One Stop program. In March there was an interactive presentation on the work of the committee responsible for looking at the Priorities for Meaningful Change which came out of the Age Friendly Assessment and Action Plan. Participants were asked to prioritize issues and concerns. In June we expect a follow up to create an action plan.



The Coalition also looks at issues of concern to its participants. For example, a discussion about some of the cut-backs to the municipal grants resulted in the strategy to send a delegation with a letter to City and District councils asking them to consider putting more money in the funding stream. The presentation at the City was well received and a motion was passed which stated: “That the correspondence from Lionsview Seniors’ Planning Society, dated February 16, 2016 regarding North Shore Services to Seniors Coalition, is received with thanks, and that the correspondence is referred to staff to prepare options for Council’s consideration”.



Interactive Workshop at Services to Seniors Coalition in March 2016.

Seniors Planning Initiatives

Until last year Lionsview hosted the Senior’s Planning Table on the North Shore. A program sponsored and funded by the United Way, the planning table supported the capacity of the community to collaborate, plan and mobilize to improve the lives of older adults. However, funding ceased last year and, since the work of the Planning Table was significant, Lionsview has delegated some of that work to the Services to Seniors Coalition as well as working independently on initiatives in the interest of seniors.

Lionsview has been involved in working with the community on setting up the Age Friendly Designation and is now invested in looking at the Priorities for Meaningful Change which came out of the Age Friendly process. They have also been engaged in the Better at Homes initiative and the Transportation Project sponsored by Silver Harbour Centre. We have also joined the Seniors Expo steering committee and have plans to work on the new initiative to make the three North Shore municipalities Dementia Friendly. Because LSPS is concerned about access to good research information, we are promoting the Census Canada program.

Programs and Activities

Seniors Action Tables

Seniors Action Tables (SAT's) are grassroots entities that choose to align themselves with the purposes and principles that the World Health Organizations has defined for age-friendly communities. SAT's are supported and mentored by Lionsview and are comprised of local groups of seniors who discuss local barriers to age-friendly communities. They plan and implement initiatives and advocate for change.

At present there are two very active SAT's, the City and the Lower Capilano SAT. They meet regularly and both have set agendas for their future work. The Seymour SAT is revitalizing itself after spending much of their energy on creating the very successful "My Parkgate Break" program. West Vancouver is not meeting but with some funding from the West Vancouver Foundation and support from Senior staff at West Vancouver Seniors Activity Centre, we are expecting to get their SAT up and running this year.



Lower Capilano SAT sponsored Computer Literacy Class

Older and Wiser

For a number of years now our Society has sponsored the writing of a column for seniors published in the *North Shore News*. The column, titled “Older & Wiser” is written by Tom Carney and is published bi-weekly. The column is intended to promote discussion on seniors’ issues, reflect the views of the Lionsview Seniors Planning Society and to influence policy and decision makers.

The column reaches approximately 30,000 people across the North Shore, many of whom are seniors, including some isolated and stay at home seniors, allowing them to access valuable information and to keep current about issues and concerns. Recent topics include seniors and drug use, tools for aging well, making positive changes, good books, screening for older drivers, new tax credits and an update on the Seniors Advocate Office. Suggestions from our readers are always welcome.

Volunteers

As usual for a non-profit, volunteers are instrumental in keeping the organization going as a thriving enterprise. Our dedicated Volunteers work on the Seniors Action Tables, on the Coalition, on the board and on committees. A very big thank you goes to these dedicated individuals.

SAT Steering
Committee



Board Members 2015-2016

Raye Lee – President

Barb Brett – Past President

Lorna Goodwin – Vice President

Khodarahm Bakhshandeh - Treasurer

Virginia (Ginny) Cathcart – Secretary

Deanna Charlton – Director

Annwen Loverin – Director

Vi Johnston – Director

Joanne Cooper – Director



Biographies of Board Members are on our web site.



Board Meeting Spring 2016

Staff

Margaret Coates– Coordinator

Thanks to the Donors, Supporters and Friends of LSPS

This is a list of institutional and government donors and funders. We also receive donations from a number of individuals. Support from our community partners is deeply appreciated.

Government of Canada

New Horizons Program



Province of British Columbia

Ministry of the Solicitor General – Community Gaming Grants



Municipal Governments

The City of North Vancouver

The District of North Vancouver

The District of West Vancouver

North Vancouver Recreation Commission

Union of BC Municipalities



Social Service Groups, Foundations and Grants

Lower Lonsdale Legacy Fund

Royal Canadian Legion #114

Royal Canadian Legion #118

United Way of the Lower Mainland

Vancouver Foundation

West Vancouver Foundation



Corporate Donors

ICBC

PARC Retirement Living



Supporters

Services to Seniors Coalition Members

Individual Donors



Contact Information

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"I'm particularly grateful for the updates you provide on behalf of the Coalition" - New Member

"Just quick note to say how helpful I found your column today. My family is struggling with my parents' decline and we don't really know what we are talking about when we are discussing their future." - *Older and Wiser* Reader

"I really enjoyed attending the last SAT meeting and want to participate in the info kiosk program." - New SAT Member