

Services to Seniors Coalition – North Shore

Notes

Co-Chairs

- Trish Alsop, *North Shore Neighbourhood House, and John Braithwaite Community Centre*
- Margaret Coates, *Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society*

About the Coalition

The **Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society** is the host agency for the Services to Seniors Coalition – North Shore. The Coalition has been operating since 1992 and is the planning table for issues facing seniors and services to seniors on the North Shore. The 50+ participating organizations and individuals represent a wide spectrum of service providers. We come together as the Coalition to network, plan services and supports strategically and set priorities and target resources for collaborative action.

Contact the Coalition

C/o Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society
1733 Lions Gate Lane
North Vancouver
Tel: 604 988-7115 ex 4001
Email: lions_view@telus.net
www.lionsviewseniorsplanning.com

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

Morning Star Seniors Safe House

1. **Welcome – Trish Alsop**
2. **Land Acknowledgement**

At Lionsview, we recognize with gratitude that our work takes place on the unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples, the St'at'imc, Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), and səliłwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh). We honour their histories, cultures, and ongoing leadership, and we remain committed to building community in ways that respect and uplift these lands and their caretakers.

3. **Attendees:**

Lionsview Seniors Planning Society: Margaret Coates, Wallis Dixon, Lindsay Macklin, Barry Goodwin

Hollyburn Community Services Society: Veronica Traille, Destiny Doherty, Mary Sorrenti, Vamika Mendiratta.

North Shore Neighborhood House: Trish Alsop, Lea Howard

North Shore Community Resources: Anne-Marie Jamin, Cindy Bouvet

City of North Vancouver Library: Rakhshanda Ansari

BCCRN: Joanne Cooper

City of North Vancouver: Lisa

Silver Harbour Seniors Centre: Annwen Loverin

Bowen Island Community Health Centre: Colleen O'Neil

Capilano Community Services Society: Austin Neaves

Alzheimer's Society: Amelia Gillies

Next meeting:

January 20, 2025 at 12:00pm (Location TBD)

4. Presentation by Hollyburn – Vamika Mendiratta & Destiny Doherty

Overview: Hollyburn Community Services focuses on safe, affordable housing and is staffed by individuals with lived experience.

Youth Programs

- **Youth Safe House:** Provides a safe, supportive, and confidential space for vulnerable youth to stay while accessing guidance and resources for a more stable future.
- **Life Success:** Offers personalized support, life skills, and resources to help vulnerable youth achieve stability, independence, and long-term success.
- **Education Navigation:** Assists youth in overcoming barriers to learning through individualized guidance, advocacy, and resources to support educational goals and future pathways.
- **Re-wire for the Trades:** Provides hands-on training, mentorship, and support to prepare youth for careers in the skilled trades.
- **Hockey Heroes:** Engages vulnerable youth through hockey, promoting confidence, teamwork, and life skills in a supportive, inclusive environment.

Victim Support Program

Supports individuals experiencing intimate partner violence, family violence, criminal harassment, and sexualized violence.

Seniors Services

Seniors Housing Outreach Program: Provides housing and social-service support for North Shore residents experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Services include needs assessment, assistance with personal goals and life skills, and connections to housing and appropriate services. Case management is client-centered and trauma-informed, with a focus on financial literacy, income supports, and mental-health supports. Education is provided on specialized life skills such as budgeting, simple tax preparation, and end-of-life planning.

- **Q:** What does case management look like?
- **A:** If clients have a diagnosis, they are referred to the appropriate service or program. If they do not have a diagnosis, they are connected with psychiatric supports and then community care.

Homeless Prevention Program: Focuses on preventing housing loss for individuals and families at risk due to crisis or transition.

Reaching Home: Federally funded program supporting seniors 50+ experiencing homelessness through a wraparound approach. Uses a vulnerability assessment to prioritize clients based on factors such as history of homelessness, mental health challenges, trauma, and substance-use history. Provides one-on-one support, assistance with applications, transit support, landlord mediation, and referrals to community and health resources.

The Coalition is funded, in part, by the District of North Vancouver, the District of West Vancouver, the City of North Vancouver, the Policy and Enforcement Branch of the BC Gaming Commission and through other funding sources

Canada–British Columbia Housing Benefit (CBCHB): A BC Housing benefit for individuals not eligible for rental assistance.

Supporting Seniors to Remain Housed: Offers longer-term interventions for seniors with chronic tenancy issues through dedicated support (Mary).

Community Housing

- **Jinju Below-Market Rental:** 20 units offered at subsidized rental rates, priced at 25% below the average market rent.
- **Hollybrook Affordable Rental Housing:** Affordable and subsidized housing for families and seniors. Rental pricing is based on family composition and gross income, with some subsidized units and additional affordable below-market options.

Morningstar Seniors Safe House

Purchased and renovated with \$3.9 million in provincial funding and now operated by Hollyburn. The name symbolizes hope, renewal, and new beginnings.

- The home supports up to 8 seniors needing a safe temporary place before transitioning to permanent housing, often due to loss of a partner, increased rent, or declining health.
- Residents receive support securing long-term housing, accessing income assistance, connecting to healthcare, and navigating community services.
- Seniors must be fully independent to stay.
- The home is run and supervised by the Hollyburn team using a collaborative case-management approach alongside clients' existing mental-health workers, social workers, and other professionals as needed.
- Eligibility criteria are currently being developed and will be released soon.

Questions regarding housing support can be directed to Mary Sorrenti.

***More information can be found at the Hollyburn website: <https://www.hollyburn-society.ca>**