

Services to Seniors Coalition – North Shore

Notes

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

By Zoom

1. **Welcome: by Trish Alsop (2 minutes)**
2. **Land Acknowledgement (1 minute)**
3. **Introductions (5 minutes)**
4. **Presentations – introductions Margaret Coates**

Speakers:

1) North Shore Community Resources - Caitlin & Yola

NSCR is currently giving presentations about responding to extreme heat events and how to stay safe and healthy. Presentations include information regarding the best places to go during such events, how to put together a DIY cool kit and what to include. The presentations also have a quiz section for which there is a prize. Said prize being their emergency response resource bags (aka the swag bags).

NSCR is also in the process of finishing their friendly visiting cards that aim to spark conversation on preparedness and response to extreme weather events and emergencies.

Conversation:

Susan asked, “how the cards will be distributed?”

NSCR responded, “There are several groups that will be sent cards for distribution sometime in the near future.”

Margaret asked, “Will the resources be shared online?”

NSCR responded, “That is currently under discussion, but it is a possibility to look out for.”

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
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North Vancouver
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Email: lions_view@telus.net
www.lionsviewseniorsplanning.com

2) Dr. Penny MacCourt – Action for Reform of Residential Care (ARRC)

ARRC is looking into how we can create change to prevent the existing deficits within care homes recently uncovered in the wake of the Covid pandemic. By exploring and reporting on their findings, as well as including their recommendations for how to move forward, it is hoped that positive change can be enacted in response. Lately people and groups supporting the cause have been losing steam and so there is a need for greater / renewed support from organizations.

During the pandemic and following it to this day, there are major repercussions affecting the care of seniors and individuals in care facilities. Lockdowns limited their access to the outside world and each other forcing isolation. Limits on how many facilities workers could be employed at created a shortage of staff, and this was further exacerbated by burnout and other effects of the pandemic. All of these resulted in poorer quality of life for those living within care facilities.

There is little coverage of this issue, and few are aware of the struggles because the only ones observing the problem are those living and working in the facilities as well as their families. As such there is a need for individuals and organizations removed from the facilities to join the charge and bring attention to the problem. ARRC is organizing letter campaigns to try to increase awareness and action around the matter.

To help support or learn more about the cause go to arrcbc.ca

Conversation:

Margaret has offered to share the slides presentation with the attendees of the coalition meeting.

Pam is wondering if/where it may be acknowledged that not everyone living in long term care facilities are seniors.

Dr. MacCourt replied that they will take this under consideration and investigate the issue.

Other announcements

Seniors Hub: Currently hiring for a new replacement for Anita. If you know of anyone who may be interested and qualified to fill the Seniors Hub Coordinator position, please share our job posting with them.

Sue (Intergen NS): Currently looking into what we can do to better build an intergeneration community.

Inge Schamborski: Announced this will be her last coalition meeting and will be stepping down from her current position, moving towards focusing more on the respite program.

Next meeting: September, Topic – Alzheimer’s Month (Amelia and colleague), results of survey of the Coalition (Margaret)

We have had an offer from Erica from Amica to have an on site, in person meeting at their facility in Edgemont Village.

Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society acknowledges and honours that we live and work on the unceded territories of the Coastal Salish people, including the St'at'imc, S?wxwú7mesh (Squamish), x?m??k??y??m (Musqueam) and s?l?ilw?ta?? (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.