

Services to Seniors Coalition – North Shore

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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Notes

Tuesday, January 17, 2023
12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

By Zoom

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

Seniors Transportation Challenges and Possible Solutions

Presentation will include **Transportation Working Group, BEST/UWBC and Senior led “Seniors on the Move” Group along with a discussion regarding North Shore transportation gaps in services.**

Beverly Pitman, PHD Senior Regional Community Developer, United Way, BC

Kate Hosford SFU PHD Candidate, Faculty of Health Sciences

The presentation will be an overview of Seniors Transportation Initiatives in B.C. in the context of the North Shore Coalition.

This will include:

- A case for how transportation is offered.
- Provincial Working Group overview and Seniors on the Move
- Key findings from promising models that exist in Seniors Transportation
- Seniors' transportation services on the North Shore.

BC's population is aging. We are currently experiencing 1 in 5 people are over the age of 65. By 2040, more than 1 million people over the age of 75. This is the average age of when seniors start experiencing mobility issues and people start to think about giving up their driving privileges.

Transportation is a key determinant of health and enables seniors to age in place and stay connected with their community.

Provincial Working Group on Seniors Transportation:

Taking action through:

- Provincial consultation on driving cessation
- BC wide transportation survey
- Inventory and case study research

5 Focus Areas:

- Increase transportation to medical appointments.
- Increase Public transportation for seniors.
- Advocate for more inclusive paratransit
- Support seniors through driving cessation
- Pedestrian Safety

Case Study Research had 2 objectives:

- To profile successful promising models of Seniors Transportation in BC.
- To learn what facilitates or impedes the success of these services.

There were 6 cases studied:

- Step up “N” Ride Society – Dawson Creek
- Zunga Bus – Powell River
- RCRG Volunteer Drive Program – Richmond
- Collingwood Seniors Shuttle – Vancouver
- Seniors “Go Bus” – North Vancouver
- There were 3 takeaways from the study.
 - \$ from government is intermittent and inefficient.
 - Must be reliable service – ideally 5 days/week.
 - Transportation services that work well for seniors benefits everyone.

Seniors On the Move is a system change project that aims to:

- Engage seniors
- Increase awareness of challenges and solutions
- Increase transportation options for seniors
- Ease transition from driving to other options.

An extensive list of Seniors Transportation Services on the North Shore is available on the Lionsview Website: Coalition meeting on Transportation.

Conversation on Transportation: Led by Annwen Loverin and Sue Carabetta

Parkgate - Kelsey – has an access bus that takes seniors to local malls

Seniors can access this by calling. Will pick up door to door.

My Parkgate Break is providing transportation for participants

NSNH – Trish = Weekly bus outings offered. Neighborhood house is renting their bus to local seniors groups.

Seniors Hub – Melanie – Shopping bus Tues/Wed/Thur provides door to door service. Popular.

Cap Services – Stephanie – Increase in numbers of medical appointment rides. They are also serving West Van residents.

NSCR

Better at Home – Sue Volunteer driver pool is shrinking due to ageing out. Currently offering rides to medical appointments

SOS Volunteers tend to extend themselves (one offs) to seniors requiring support. Kindness of Community!

North Shore Emergency Management – John -Transportation is a big gap during and after a major emergency (fire, flood, etc.). Public busses are available during the event to keep people warm.

Another challenge, post home emergencies, is how to support people move their stuff.

Transportation for seniors wanting to go to warming/cooling center's is limited or non-existent.

BEST –Bev - BEST has received funding from UBCM to raise awareness through a media campagne around transportation for seniors during emergencies.

Transit Training courses for seniors will be offered through BEST. This is currently successful in Victoria.

TransLink CEO – perhaps they could attend a working session on Transportation.

Lonsdale corridor – Could there ever be a free shuttle that goes from the Quay to 23rd.

Next meeting: February 21, 2023 – topic will be Food Security

Dr. Tammara Soma – SFU food lab

Rubina Jamal – North Shore Table Matters

Margaret Broughton, VCH Dietitians

Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society acknowledges and honors 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?? (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.