



Seniors Services Society

209-800 McBride Boulevard
New Westminster, BC
V3L 2B8

P: 604-520-6621
F: 604-520-1798

seniorsservicessociety.ca

Mission:

To encourage, inform and support the independence and wellness of the older adult.

Vision:

All older adults are well supported, adequately housed, contributing and valued in a healthy community.

SSSCENA

Seniors Services Society Is Moving!

See page 3 for details.

Seniors Services Society would like to take this opportunity to thank Ken and Betty McIntosh for their generous support.

On November 12, 2011 Ken and Betty celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary and they did so in a most thoughtful way. They and River Market hosted an event to publicly celebrate their anniversary AND raise money for SSS. We are pleased to announce that the silent auction raised \$1274!

A M A Z I N G !

On behalf of the board, staff and most importantly seniors we **THANK YOU** Ken and Betty, and wish you 40 more beautiful years of marriage!



We would also like to thank the many donors that helped make this such a huge success.

Nancie Knight
Peter Julian
Gerry Harder
Bob Osterman
Helen Bodner
John Ashdown
Jaimie McEvoy
One Source
Lowe's Hardware
Crepe Des Amis
Gino's Restaurant

KJM Urban Gardens
James Crosty-
Root Source
Circus School River Market
Paul Kang-
Edible Arrangements
Jeff Holloway-
Vancouver Canadians Baseball Club
Archie and Dale Miller-
A Sense of History



Seniors Services Society's
Housing Counsellor Training Program

See Page 7 For more details or visit our website at
www.seniorsservicessociety.ca

ADMINISTRATION



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The Fall has been extremely busy for the Board. In addition to our regular monthly meetings, a Relocation Committee was established to explore options for relocating Seniors Services Society. The Relocation Committee worked with Kara-Leigh Jameson our Executive Director and partnered with BC Housing to find a suitable location.

Finding new funding opportunities is always a challenge however; staff have been trying to think of a broader spectrum of opportunities and there are some corporate sponsorships in discussion.

Staff have performed their work exceptionally well even with the many challenges that come with the job. Without the support and assistance of our hard working volunteers we would not be able to accomplish the wonderful work that has transpired.

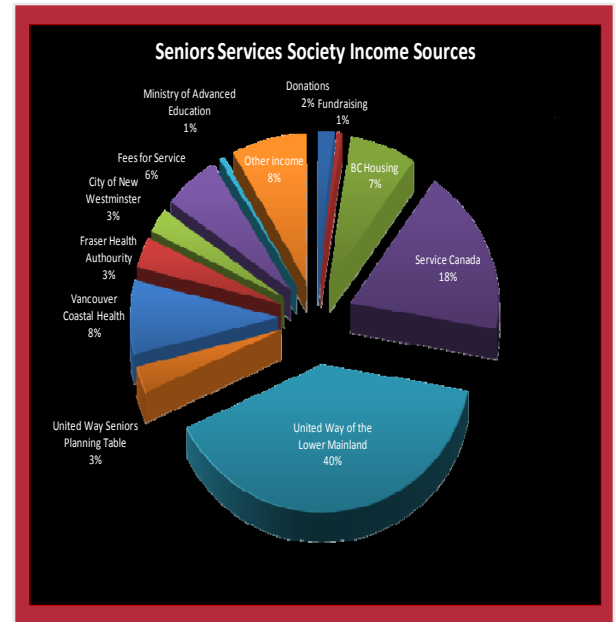
The Board, Volunteers and Staff make me proud of how well we have been able to provide programs to the seniors of New Westminister, the Lower Mainland and the Province of BC.

Thank you for your excellent work that helps **Make a Difference to Seniors.**

Ken McIntosh
Board President

THANK YOU

to all our funders who assisted us this past year to support the independence and well-being of BC seniors through our programs and services. We couldn't do what we do without YOU!



After a Fall full of events, a week of closure for agency wide program planning, and staff retreat, we are now ready for a great year in 2012.

Our *Be a Santa to a Senior* campaign is getting ready to put a smile on the faces of our senior clients in need of a little extra support this year. With the help from one of our many caring volunteers, these seniors will receive a special gift, hand delivered at the end of December.

We have some really exciting changes coming up this New Year, most notably; we just welcomed 3 new staff members to our team. Welcome Denise Wells, Philip Vu-Tran, and Helena Quo Vadis Mex!! We sadly said goodbye to Stephen Keys and Alan Hans and best wishes to Jill Ferguson on her maternity leave. Special thanks to Anna Truong for stepping up into the management role while we await Lindsay Milburn's return from maternity leave.

We continue to build new partnerships and support from local businesses and this fall we were thrilled to connect with Lowe's Hardware and Starlight Casino for building stronger programs and services for seniors in New Westminister and the Lower Mainland.

Warm wishes this winter,
Kara-Leigh Jameson
Executive Director

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Seniors Services Society Is Moving!



We are thrilled to announce a partnership with BC Housing that has opened a new door for Seniors Services Society, literally.

April 1st, 2012 Seniors Services Society will be relocating to:

750 Carnarvon Street, New Westminster.

The new location will provide the same services and supports in a much more convenient, larger and updated space.

We are also VERY proud to announce that on November 1, 2011 Seniors Services Society was thrilled to receive **\$15,000** from **Lowe's Hardware, New Westminster** to further 'beautify' the new location.



Stay tuned for 'Open House' dates.



Helena has worked in not-for-profit in administration for over 10 years. Working behind the scenes to help others is her passion in this lifetime. In her spare time she loves to travel the world and meet people from all walks of life. Her hobbies include the Art of Face Reading and Numerology Readings.

VOLUNTEERS



Volunteer Opportunities

Meals On Wheel-
Driver/Runner

Grocery Shopper

Grocery Order
Taker

Support Caller

Transportation
Program

Out & About Trips

Dining Club

Lunch Bunch

Snow Shoveling

To learn how you
can make a
difference
in the lives of
seniors in your
community
call Kelly at
604-520-6621
or visit our website
at
seniorsservicessociety.ca

Volunteer Spotlight

This is a brand new feature that will be included in every newsletter. We could not do the work we do without the hard work, dedication, and devotion of our many volunteers. The **Volunteer Spotlight** is an opportunity for us to show our appreciation to our amazing volunteers by giving each and every one of them their five minutes of fame!

Thank you, Volunteers!!!

Don Richards

Let's start by saying it is extremely challenging to sum up all that Don has done for us and our clients in a few short sentences... No, in fact, it is impossible!! Don has been a volunteer with Seniors Services Society since 2009. He started volunteering once a week as a driver for the *Meals on Wheels* program. Since then, Don has extended his time and generosity to many other programs, including *Grocery Shopping, Packing & Unpacking* for our Housing Department, as well as general office support. His experiences and perspectives have been integral to our ongoing efforts to improve our programs and services. Oh yes, let's not forget that he has become the



staffs' favourite "go-to guy" for gardening advice! Don's smiling face warms up the Seniors Services Society office every Tuesday morning for Meals on Wheels and every Wednesday morning for Grocery Shopping. He is always willing to lend a hand when we are stuck, and lend an ear when we need advice. We are so fortunate and grateful to have Don on our team.

Thank you, Don, for all that you do!



BE A SANTA TO A SENIOR

Once again this holiday season we hope to bring a little bit of holiday cheer to those seniors who are least likely to receive a gift.

It's easy to participate in this important program—
just visit one of the following merchants to purchase
a gift for a senior in your community:

London Drugs, Westminster Centre 555 6th Street
London Drugs, 7280 Market Crossing, Burnaby
Thrifty Foods, 270 East Columbia Street in Sapperton

Just pick an ornament off the tree and follow the instructions!

SUPPORT SERVICES

Support Services is all bundled up and braced for the winter months ahead! Cold temperatures, icy sidewalks, and all that white stuff means that many of our Support Services programs will see an increase in demand over the coming months. Our Meals on Wheels, Grocery Shopping, and Medical Transportation programs will play a key role in helping to maintain the health and well-being of seniors in our community as getting out becomes more difficult.

Our Medical Transportation Program has already seen an increase in client demand. Kelly Friesen, the Independent Living Coordinator, along with our amazing team of volunteer drivers, are doing an incredible job of providing safe, comfortable, and reliable transportation for seniors who no longer drive and cannot manage public transport. With the dip in temperatures and uncertain sidewalk conditions, the program will be even more critical to ensure that seniors have the help they need getting to and from medical or dental appointments. New volunteers are always welcome, so if you or someone you know has some spare time, a reliable vehicle, and a big heart, please give us a call!

December is slated to be a busy month for our bus programs as well. Tracy McEwen, our Programs Coordinator, has organized two trips to the Singing Christmas Tree performance at the Broadway Church in Vancouver, as well as a Christmas light tour around New Westminster and Burnaby. The Pantry, our newest partner in our Dining Club program, will be hosting Christmas dinner for our Dining Club members on December 13th, 14th, and 15th, while Normanna Care Home in Burnaby will be hosting our Lunch Bunch for the second year with a delicious Christmas feast!

And let's not forget our upcoming **"Be a Santa to a Senior Campaign"**! We are very proud to partner with Home Instead Senior Care[®] to provide food and gifts for low income and isolated seniors in our community who would otherwise go without this holiday season. Donations to the **"Be a Santa to a Senior Campaign"** can be made at London Drugs, Thrifty Foods or at our office at 209-800 McBride Boulevard.



Food Donations Needed!

*Many seniors will not have enough to eat this holiday season, but **you** can make a difference!*

Seniors Services Society is asking for donations of non-perishable food items to include in Christmas food hampers for seniors.

Donations can be dropped off at Seniors Services Society throughout November and December.

IMPORTANT!

Due to time and financial constraints Seniors Services Society **WILL NOT** be hosting a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner this year.

We are no longer comfortable asking our volunteers for financial assistance towards showing our appreciation.

SSS Staff are working on new ideas to show how valued our volunteers are without it being a financial burden to anyone.

If you have ideas, please feel free to drop us a line and let us know.

HOUSING SERVICES

Boy! Has it ever been busy for the housing department at Seniors Services Society! We are receiving a growing number of referrals; our Temporary Housing Program (THP) is expanding,

There has been a growing number of seniors who are homeless or at risk of being homeless; many, for the first time in their lives. There are varying reasons why a senior becomes homeless including (but not limited to) not being able to afford the rent increases or the sale of the property, disputes with building managers, or the senior not being able to live independently any longer and needing to relocate to a supportive living environment.

Our department was overwhelmed with the number of referrals for outreach services. Unfortunately, our staff could not keep up with the demand and was forced to temporarily stop taking new referrals. We plan on accepting referrals again early in the New Year.

Our United Way funded, THP program is going through some happy drastic changes! The THP is a program that provides a senior, who would otherwise be homeless, a fully furnished bachelor apartment temporarily while they search for a permanent place to call home. This program started off with just 2 units, and has grown to 14 units. We hope to double our units by the end of 2012 with the new partnership with BC Housing!

Sadly, Alan Hans is leaving Seniors Services Society. He has been an outreach worker at Senior Services for almost two and half years. Alan was born and raised in New Westminster, has a love for the written word, and is possibly one of the most dedicated outreach workers we have ever had! He is always able to find a reason to crack a joke and make us laugh even through the most challenging days. Alan will be dearly missed at SSS. We wish him well as he journeys forward to the next chapter of his life.



The only way of finding the limits of the possible is by going beyond them into the impossible.

Arthur C. Clarke

WELCOME TO THE TEAM!!



Denise Wells Outreach Worker

Denise has just joined Senior Services Society as a Housing Outreach Worker. Denise has over 14 years experience working within the social services field from Youth Care Worker, Community Outreach Worker, Shelter Support Worker to Program Director. In her spare time Denise loves nothing more than curling up with a good book.



Phillip Vu-Tran Outreach Worker

My training and education lie in the area of Social Work and Social Justice. Before joining Seniors Services, I was 2nd Lieutenant with the Canadian Army. Before this, I was with the Health Authority (VCH) in Vancouver for 4.5 years. I went back to school (UBC) so that I could work with the geriatric/ elderly population. I am quite excited to join the team over at the Seniors Services Society, and I look forward to meeting some of you in the community.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!

Housing Counsellor Training
session dates are set
March 7— April 25, 2012



“A house is made of walls and beams; a home is built with love and dreams.”

Not many people move from economics to psychiatric nursing but Lisa Luu has and could not be happier. Lisa is a third year student in the Bachelor of Science Psychiatric Nursing program at Douglas College and the recipient of the 2012 Seniors Services Society Bursary in Memory of Dorothy Stoberg. After graduating from high school, Lisa, a 28-year-old Port Moody resident, studied economics for a few years and then got a job working at a credit union. She was there five years and had no plans to leave – until she began volunteering at a long term mental health clinic. “I loved it and could see myself doing it for the rest of my life,” she says. Lisa spent another year paying off debts and saving money before enrolling at Douglas. “It was a very hard decision to give up my job and lose the security of an income but I am really enjoying my program and doing well – I have got nothing less than an A- in all my courses.” The \$486 bursary “has been a huge benefit,” Lisa says. “The books for one semester cost \$1,000 and you can’t buy them used because they are constantly being updated.

Dear Senior Services Society,

Please accept my gratitude for selecting me as the recipient of the Seniors Services Society Bursary in Memory of Dorothy Stoberg. Your generosity will help me to continue my education at the post-secondary level, providing me with additional financial support. I will be completing my 2nd year in the Psychiatric Nursing program at Douglas College this coming April. I am hoping to graduate and be registered by April 2013.

Receiving this award means a lot to me because I am currently an adult learner, and in the past I found it difficult to do well in school because I had to work full-time to pay for my tuition and household expenses for my family. Now, through the generosity of associations such as yours, I am able to finish where I left off and receive the education that I’ve always wanted.

With this award, I plan to pay for my tuition this summer. I plan on taking 3 courses, so this will definitely help reduce that expense considerably.

Thank you again for honouring me with this award. Your support is greatly appreciated.

With sincerest thanks,

L.L.



MEMBERSHIP



If you would like to **renew** your membership or **become** a member please fill out the application form below or on our website seniorsservicessociety.ca and a membership card will be sent to you.



Seniors Services Society Membership Application

Membership Fee \$12.00 per year

Name: _____

Agency Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

- Enclosed is my fee for membership
- Enclosed is my donation in the amount of _____
(Note: donations greater than \$20 are entitled to an official charitable donation receipt.)
- Please send me information about volunteer opportunities

Please send membership application to

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604-520-6621 (T) 604-520-1798 (F)

If you would prefer contact from us in another form ie. Email or faxing. Please provide us your information and we will make changes accordingly.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Fax: _____