

Advancing a Provincial Healthy Aging Agenda

Research Affinity Group on Aging
Issues

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Agenda



- Background
- Perspectives on a Healthy Aging Plan – Summary of Consultations
- Provincial Healthy Aging Policy Framework
- Provincial Healthy Aging Implementation Plan – Year 1: 2007-2008

Background



- Commitment made by Government in 2003
- Ministerial Council on Aging and Seniors
- Interdepartmental Working Group
- Provincial Advisory Council on Aging and Seniors
- Aging and Seniors Division

Background



- Cross – government initiative
- Discussion Paper & Seniors Profile
- 17 consultations – over 1000 participants
- Provincial Forum
- Numerous briefs and submissions
- Plan consisting of 3 documents

Demographic Imperative



2007

- 36.5% over age 50
- 13.9% over age 65
- 3.4% over age 80

2017

- 46.5% over age 50
- 20.8% over age 65
- 4.1% over age 80
(20.5% increase)

Demographics



- We now have the highest median age in Canada (41.3 in 2006).
- In 2006 baby-boomers turned age 60.
- First province to have more deaths than births!

Healthy Aging



A lifelong process of optimizing opportunities for improving and preserving health and physical, social and mental wellness, independence, quality of life and enhancing successful life-course transitions.

Health Canada (2002)

Vision



For individuals, families, communities and society as a whole to foster healthy aging in order to achieve optimal health and well-being.

Principles



- Dignity
- Self-fulfillment
- Social inclusion
- Independence
- Safety & Security
- Fairness

Perspectives on a Healthy Aging Plan – Summary of Consultations



- Summary of ‘what we heard’
- Includes results of the consultations, forum, submissions and preliminary research.
- Approved by Ministerial Council in December 2006.

Provincial Healthy Aging Policy Framework



- 6 priority directions, 28 goals, numerous actions
- 5 year plan
- Involves many partners
- Goal: Create an age-friendly province

Priority Directions



- Recognition of Older Persons
- Celebrating Diversity
- Supportive Communities
- Financial Well-Being
- Health and Well-Being
- Employment, Education and Research

Employment, Education and Research



- **Goal 26:** Employers improve planning for an aging workforce.
- **Goal 27:** Knowledge of aging and the impact of population aging are brought into the work, education and research environments.
- **Goal 28:** Improved knowledge of aging and seniors is reflected through evidence gained through research.

Implementation Plan

Year 1 2007 - 2008



- Support working group to explore research models, develop a research framework and promote research on aging and seniors (\$50,000 - Health and Community Services).
- Support research in prioritized areas including medication use, living and aging with disability; seniors' mental health and addictions; and abuse and neglect of older adults (\$250,000 - Health and Community Services).
- Develop and maintain a comprehensive aging and seniors' profile (\$50,000 - Health and Community Services).

It is not old age that is at fault but
our attitude toward it.

(Cicero)