



CONNECTING SENIORS ACROSS OUR COMMUNITIES

August 2018



Collective Impact

Partners are ramping up for a busy fall! Seniors on the Move is speaking at the North Shore Seniors Fair on Sept. 8, Seniors Hub is speaking to the Vancouver Division of Family Practice on Sept. 27, partners are participating in the MOSAIC Seniors Connect Event on Sept. 29, and we're holding our next Partners' Gathering on Oct. 23.

We're also prepping for the [Canadian Association on Gerontology \(CAG\) Conference](#) in October. Allies in Aging is one of nine Pan-Canadian New Horizons for Seniors Projects to reduce social isolation. Learn about their different approaches at a pre-conference session on

Thursday Oct. 18: ["Reducing Seniors' Social Isolation Through Collective Impact: A Cross-Canada Forum"](#).

On Friday Oct. 19, three Allies in Aging representatives will present a symposia session on our ["Collective Impact Approach to Reduce Seniors' Social Isolation: Practice, Policy and Evaluation"](#) (CAG registration required).

Community Connections

Seniors Hub has reached and connected more than 4500 seniors through partner programs, community events, and door-to-door canvassing.

Welcoming Seniors' Spaces partners say they feel more equipped to work with seniors at risk of isolation due to the knowledge-sharing and support through Allies in Aging.

Volunteer Impact workshops kick off on Sept. 13 (see event schedule below).

Seniors on the Move (SOTM) is aiming to offer more transit training and a driver cessation workshop in November. SOTM participant surveys highlight the importance of transportation for connection and well-being:

- *"Transportation service is wonderful. I have profound gratitude and love for the driver; she is an angel. It is an incredible program - comforting...where and what would we do without volunteers! The volunteer introduced me to the seniors centre for the 95cent movie, share my life, socialize with human beings; volunteers are heroes."*
- *"Wonderful to have SOTM Driver; I have congestive heart failure which is troublesome; I have kidney problems and am diabetic; SOTM driver is a lifesaver especially during winter as cannot go out on scooter"*
- *"Big help with everything; social outing is good to get out of home; practical - taking to places I would not be able to go on my own..."*

[Check out our website!](#) Learn about projects, access resources, and find training events.

Project Story: Seniors Hub

Earlier this summer, about 15 people joined a Neighbors' Gathering Party for seniors at Coleopy Park, a subsidized housing site with 58 units for low-income seniors and families. In addition to fun activities, they learned about community services.

Mary, a senior resident, led a chair exercise activity. At the beginning, she was not very confident and forgot some movements. A Neighbourly Together volunteer provided gentle guidance until Mary resumed her leadership role. Mary was empowered by nice feedback from the group and hopes to run a chair exercise group in the building if possible.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat. Sept. 29, 10:00 - 2:00: MOSAIC Seniors Connect Event

Burnaby, Bonsor Recreation Centre, 6550 Bonsor Ave.

FREE: Connect with community agencies and enjoy cross-cultural entertainment.

VOLUNTEER IMPACT Workshops (Free. Pre-registration required.)

Thurs. Sept. 13, 11:30 - 3:00: Managing Pain

Vancouver, Sunset Community Centre, 6810 Main St. [Click for information and to register.](#)

Tues. Sept. 18, 11:30 - 3:00: Companionship Grief

North Vancouver, 2121 Lonsdale Ave. [Click for information and to register.](#)

Thurs. Oct. 18, Diversity & Inclusion (Registration will open soon.)

Burnaby, Bonsor Recreation Centre, 6550 Bonsor Ave. [Click for information and to register.](#)

Call 604-988-5281 to be added to our mailing list for workshop updates.

Allies in Aging collaborates to connect seniors across our communities through leadership, outreach, transportation, training and advocacy.

More than thirty organizations are working together to connect seniors to supports and services. Our focus is on seniors 75+ who are at risk of isolation due to disability, low income, language or cultural barriers.

www.alliesinaging.ca

Check out the [Allies in Aging Partner Map](#) for a snapshot of partners and programs.

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