

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
INFORMATION BRIEFING NOTE**

**Cliff # 1047705**

**PREPARED FOR:** Honourable Terry Lake, Minister - **FOR INFORMATION**

**TITLE:** 2016 Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Seniors

**PURPOSE:** To update the Minister on preparations for the June 28-29, 2016, Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Seniors in Victoria, British Columbia.

**BACKGROUND:**

BC is the current PT co-chair of the FPT Seniors Forum and will host the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Seniors in Victoria on June 28-29, 2016. Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, is the federal co-chair. (See Appendices 1 and 2 for detail on the FPT Seniors Forum.)

The FPT Seniors Forum operates on an annual cycle which begins and ends with the Ministers' meeting. At these meetings, Ministers review the deliverables from the previous year's work plan, set priorities for the next work cycle, and confirm the next PT host and co-chair. The next PT host is expected to be Newfoundland and Labrador. Throughout the year, officials participate on monthly teleconferences and Deputy Ministers participate in two teleconferences.

**DISCUSSION:**

BC's past participation in FPT Seniors meetings has been through Parliamentary Secretaries or Ministers of State. The last meeting was held in Charlottetown, PEI, in October 2014, and Parliamentary Secretary Michelle Stilwell attended on the Minister's behalf. The agenda from this meeting is attached in Appendix 3.

*FPT Seniors Forum Priorities and Working Group Activities*

The FPT Seniors Forum annual budget of \$145,000 is established through FPT contributions which are used to support the projects and activities. The federal Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada provides permanent secretariat support.

The Forum's activities are limited by its relatively small budget. Originally, the Forum focused on sharing best practices; however, in recent years there has been a shift to the creation of products (e.g. pamphlets, information toolkits). In 2014, Ministers approved two new theme areas for the 2014-2016 Workplan (see full Workplan in Appendix 4):

- Caregiver Readiness (BC participates in an informational capacity)
- Social Isolation of Seniors, including those in Rural and Remote Communities (BC is an active participant and hosted an Ideas Exchange event in the Comox Valley on December 10, 2015 – See Appendix 5).

*Timeline and preparation for the June 2016 meeting*

- FPT officials have begun the development of proposed theme areas for the Forum's next cycle of work.

- In February 2016, FPT Ministers will receive a progress report on 2014-2016 work plan deliverables and a preliminary draft agenda for the June 2016 Ministers' meeting, including proposed themes/topics for approval.
- In late March 2016, the PT co-chair will send letters of invitation to the June 2016 Ministers' meeting to FPT Ministers.
- In May, FPT Deputy Ministers Responsible for Seniors will review all material for the June meeting prior Ministers' approval.

#### *PT Hosting Details*

The FPT Ministers' meeting will be held in Victoria at the Hotel Grand Pacific. The federal Secretariat is responsible for all major meeting arrangements, with an approved budget of \$40,000. In addition to co-chairing the meeting, BC's responsibilities include the organization and financing of social events. This typically includes a welcome reception and private dinner for Ministers, as well as an entertainment/cultural event and an event highlighting seniors in the community. The previous lead jurisdiction's budget for these activities was approximately \$8,000. Options will be presented for the Minister's approval in the coming month.

#### *Additional Information*

Ministers with dual responsibility for Health and Seniors are: Minister Glavine (NS), Minister Crothers (MB), Minister Duncan (SK), Minister Hoffman (AB), Minister Abernethy (NWT), and Minister Nixon (YK).

A number of Ministers responsible for Seniors are also responsible for Housing. BC (Honourable Rich Coleman) is the current lead of the FPT Housing Forum. For convenience of Ministers with both portfolios, it has been proposed that the FPT Housing meeting be held in Victoria on June 26-27, prior to the FPT Seniors meeting. Health and Housing officials will keep in close contact to ensure the two meetings do not conflict.

#### **ADVICE:**

BC officials will keep the Minister apprised of planning milestones for the meeting of Ministers Responsible for Seniors and will seek the Minister's approval of the agenda including the proposed theme areas and agenda topics.

Appendix 1: FPT Seniors Forum Overview

Appendix 2: FPT Structure for Seniors' Work

Appendix 3: Sample Agenda from 2014 Ministers Responsible for Seniors Meeting (PEI)

Appendix 4: FPT Seniors Forum 2014-2016 Workplan (approved by Ministers in 2014)

Appendix 5: Decision Briefing Note: Comox Valley Ideas Exchange Event

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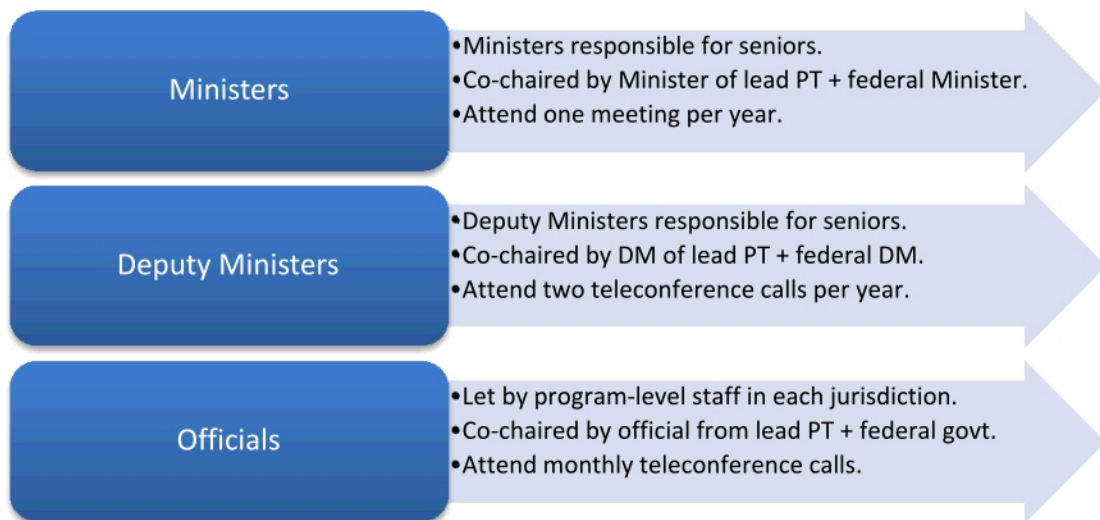
**Drafter:** Leann Cairns, Senior Policy Analyst

**Date:** February 3, 2016

# FPT Seniors Forum Overview

## The Forum

- The FPT Seniors Forum was established in 1994 with representation from the federal government, provinces, and territories for the purpose of sharing information and best practices and promoting cross-jurisdictional collaboration on seniors' issues.
- The Forum is supported by a federal secretariat that operates out of the Ministry of Employment and Social Development. The secretariat and the working group activities are funded through provincial/territorial contributions.
- The Forum operates at three levels, each with different responsibilities:



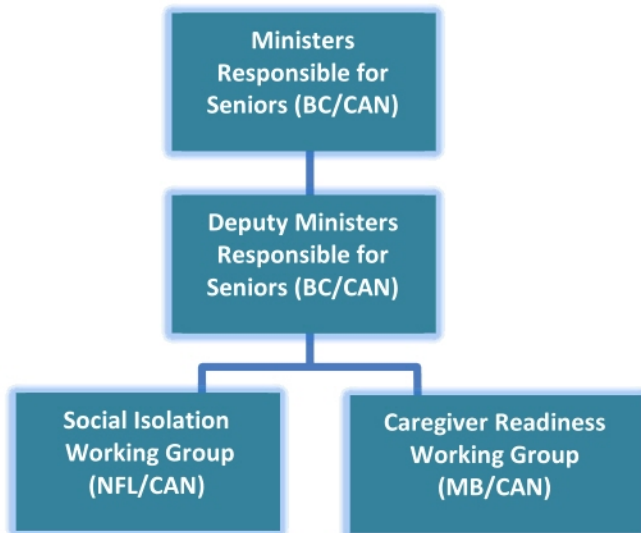
## Key Topics & Products

- Over the last 20 years, the FPT Seniors Forum has worked on a number of topics, mainly related to prevention and health promotion, including:
  - planning for aging population
  - elder abuse
  - healthy aging and wellness
  - social isolation
  - issues for older Canadians living in remote areas
  - financial security
  - planning for aging in place and older workers
  - access to technology
  - caregiving
- The deliverables completed by the Forum over the years have included:
  - pamphlets and other print materials
  - sharing of best practices/information
  - presentations, webinars and videos



# Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Structure for Seniors' Work

## FPT Seniors Forum



- This Forum focuses exclusively on seniors' issues. The scope is broader than health. Topics have included healthy aging and wellness, financial security, technology, elder abuse, etc.

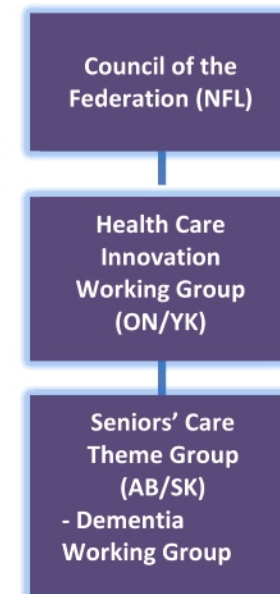
Updated: October 29, 2015

## FPT Health Forum



- At this time, there are no seniors' priority issues being addressed at the FPT Health Forum.

## PT Premiers' Forum



- PT dementia symposium via three events:
  - Spring 2015 webinar,
  - Fall 2015 in-person event in Calgary
  - Spring 2016 follow-up webinar
- Scope - Information sharing and knowledge translation among stakeholders to improve the lives of those with dementia and their caregivers.





**16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Federal/Provincial/Territorial (F/P/T)  
Ministers Responsible for Seniors**

Prince Edward Island Convention Centre  
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island  
October 15–16, 2014

**AGENDA**

**Day 1 (October 15, 2014)**

TIME	TOPIC	LEAD
9:45 a.m.	<b>Welcoming Remarks and Introductions</b> <i>(Sir John A Ballroom)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-chair Opening Remarks</li> <li>Introductions</li> <li>Approval of Agenda</li> <li>Approval of October 2013 F/P/T Ministers Responsible for Seniors Draft Record of Decisions</li> <li>Approval of Report: <i>Seniors' Access to Online Information</i> (Carry-over deliverable from the F/P/T Seniors Forum 2012-2013 Work Plan)</li> </ul>	<b>Prince Edward Island &amp; Canada</b>          <b>Alberta</b>
10:15 a.m.	<b>Planning for Aging in Place Working Group</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of deliverables</li> <li>Decisions on future action</li> </ul>	<b>Canada / Nova Scotia</b>
10:45 a.m.	<b>Older Workers and Caregiving Working Group</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of deliverables</li> <li>Decisions on future action</li> </ul>	<b>Canada / Manitoba</b>
11:15 a.m.	<b>Ministerial Discussion #1 - Caregiver Readiness: Near Seniors and Seniors</b>  Speaker: <i>Dr. Janice Keefe</i> , Mount Saint Vincent University <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The presentation will focus on the importance and benefits of caregiver readiness for both potential future caregivers and care receivers, and on strategies to reach families and caregivers before they reach a crisis situation and need support.</li> <li>Ministerial dialogue on future action</li> </ul>	<b>Prince Edward Island</b>



## Day 1 (continued)

12:15 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministers' Private Lunch (<i>Archibald Room</i>)</li> <li>Delegates' Lunch (<i>Campbell/Cartier Rooms</i>)</li> </ul>	
1:15 p.m.	<b>Ministerial Discussion #2 – Social Isolation of Seniors, Including Those in Rural and Remote Communities: Leveraging Resources and Promoting Social Innovation</b> <p>Speakers: <i>Ms. Vickie Cammack</i>, Social Entrepreneur, and <i>Dr. Norah Keating</i>, University of Alberta</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The two presentations will aim to build a common understanding of social innovation and social isolation of seniors in rural and remote communities.</li> <li>Ministerial dialogue on future action</li> </ul>	Canada
2:45 p.m.	<b>Break</b> ( <i>Ballroom Foyer</i> )	
3:00 p.m.	<b>Review of Draft Communiqué</b>	Canada
3:30 p.m.	<b>Ministerial Discussion #3 – Aging, Mental Wellness, and the Onset of Alcohol Addiction</b> <p>Speaker: <i>Mrs. Elizabeth Birchall</i>, Community Outreach Programs in Addictions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The presentation will highlight the motivations, mental health problems and factors associated with seniors and near seniors' alcohol addiction in later life, including potential prevention strategies.</li> <li>Ministerial dialogue on future action</li> </ul>	Prince Edward Island
4:15 p.m.	<b>Closing Remarks Day 1</b>	Prince Edward Island & Canada
Evening	<b>Social Event</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PEI Hospitality Night – <i>Come to the Ceilidh</i> (6 p.m. – 10 p.m.)</li> <li>Transportation will be provided to and from venue</li> <li>Attire is casual</li> </ul>	Prince Edward Island



## 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Federal/Provincial/Territorial (F/P/T) Ministers Responsible for Seniors

Prince Edward Island Convention Centre  
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island  
October 15–16, 2014

### AGENDA

#### Day 2 (October 16, 2014)

TIME	TOPIC	LEAD
8:00 a.m.	<b>Breakfast</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>F/P/T Ministers' Private Breakfast (<i>Archibald Room</i>)</li> <li>Delegates' Breakfast (<i>Campbell/Cartier Rooms</i>)</li> </ul>	
9:00 a.m.	<b>Photo Opportunity</b> ( <i>J.H. Gray Room</i> )	All
9:15 a.m.	<b>Opening Remarks</b> ( <i>Sir John A Ballroom</i> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of the day's agenda</li> </ul>	Prince Edward Island & Canada
9:30 a.m.	<b>Priority Setting – Confirmation of Future Work</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recap of what was heard on Day 1</li> <li>Confirm the Forum's 2014–2015 priorities:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caregiver Readiness</li> <li>Social Isolation of Seniors and promoting social innovation</li> <li>Aging, Mental Wellness, and the Onset of Alcohol Addiction</li> </ul> </li> <li>Table the final communiqué</li> </ul>	Canada
10:30 a.m.	<b>Break</b> ( <i>Ballroom Foyer</i> )	



**Day 2 (continued)**

<b>10:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Ministerial Open Dialogue</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Opportunity for jurisdictions to share innovative approaches to address seniors' issues</li></ul>	<b>Prince Edward Island</b>
<b>11:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Approval of the Final Communiqué</b>	<b>Canada</b>
<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Final Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Announcement of Co-host for 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of F/P/T Ministers Responsible for Seniors</li></ul>	<b>Prince Edward Island &amp; Canada</b>
<b>12:15 p.m.</b>	<b>Media Availability</b> (J.H. Gray Room)	<b>Prince Edward Island &amp; Canada</b>

**FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL (F/P/T) SENIORS FORUM  
2014 - 2016 WORK PLAN**

**New Priorities for 2014-2016 Work Plan**

<b>#1 : Caregiver Readiness: Seniors and Near Seniors.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>#2 : Social Isolation of Seniors in Rural and Remote Communities: Promoting Socially Innovative Solutions.....</b>	<b>5</b>

**PRIORITY #1: Explore ways to increase caregiver readiness for current and future Canadian caregivers.**

**Caregiver Readiness Working Group Membership:** Manitoba (Co-chair), Canada – Employment and Social Development Canada (Co-chair), Alberta, Ontario, Nunavut, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador, British Columbia (for information).

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	TARGET DATES FOR COMPLETION	RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS
<p><b>Activity 1: Develop a video, checklist and/or tip sheet to increase caregiver readiness</b></p> <p><b>Objective:</b></p> <p>Building upon the Planning for Aging in Place work, the F/P/T Seniors' Forum, in consultation with experts, will develop a variety of complimentary products (i.e. video, checklist and/or tip sheet) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>raise awareness and motivate seniors (65+) and near seniors (50-64) to consider the importance of planning for caregiving; and</li> <li>better prepare this population for the role and responsibilities of being a caregiver.</li> </ul> <p>The products could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify issues that caregivers may face when preparing for caregiving;</li> <li>Identify what facilitates such planning;</li> <li>Highlight ethno-cultural influences on planning for future caregiving responsibilities;</li> <li>Underscore the overall importance of planning for caregiving; and</li> <li>Include such topics as recognizing signs of caregiver stress and burnout, long-distance caregiving, and caring for someone with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deliverable:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A <u>video, tip sheet and/or checklist</u> that could be posted on <i>seniors.gc.ca</i>, with links to other jurisdictions.</li> </ul> <p>The products could also be disseminated by sending a mass email to relevant stakeholders, being featured on well-trafficked stakeholders' websites, and being posted on YouTube and a variety of social media sites.</p> <p>The products will be for external use, unless decided otherwise by F/P/T Ministers Responsible for Seniors.</p>	<p>Winter 2015 to Fall 2015</p> <p>Develop and design the checklist and/or tip sheet and develop video content</p> <p>Summer 2015 to Fall 2015</p> <p>Produce video</p>	<p>Up to \$20K</p> <p>(for a consultant to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify current practices and tools that raise awareness of 'caregiver readiness' that the F/P/T Seniors' Forum could promote (e.g., the work of the Canadian Caregiver Coalition and/or Vanier Institute of the Family, C.A.R.E Tool, Saint Elizabeth's Caregiver Compass, Tyze Personal Networks, PLAN Institute, Report from the Employer Panel for Caregivers (if available to the public), etc.).</li> <li>Map caregiving patterns to identify key "entry points" in the care trajectory at which to promote/prompt caregiver readiness;</li> </ul>



PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	TARGET DATES FOR COMPLETION	RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS
<p><b>Audience:</b> Seniors and near seniors.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop key messages (e.g., factors to consider, scenarios to plan, how to prepare for the unexpected) and practical information for specific “entry points” which would help inform Activity #2, proposed below;</li> <li>• Develop video content; and</li> <li>• Develop and design the checklist and/or tip sheet.)</li> </ul> <p>Up to \$20K (for video production)</p>
<p><b>Activity 2: Develop a promotional kit to increase awareness of caregiver readiness as part of National Caregiver Day and/or other relevant occasions</b></p> <p><b>Objective:</b></p> <p>To bring attention to the importance of caregiver readiness for current and future caregivers by leveraging existing awareness raising opportunities such as National Caregiver Day and/or other relevant occasions.</p> <p>To help promote recognition of National Caregiver Day across Canada.</p> <p>To increase the promotion and dissemination of the caregiver readiness tools prepared as part of activity #1 (video, checklist and/or fact sheet).</p>	<p>Winter 2015 to Fall 2015</p> <p>Complete promotional kit</p> <p>Winter 2016 (ahead of National Caregiver Day 2016)</p> <p>Implement distribution plan.</p>	<p>Up to \$20K</p> <p>For promotional kit design development and promotion</p>

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	TARGET DATES FOR COMPLETION	RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS
<p><b>Deliverable:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A <u>promotional kit</u> to coincide with National Caregiver Day or other relevant occasions. The kit would include the development of products such as posters, postcards, website button, sample media releases and tips for bringing awareness to this issue.</li> <li>• A <u>dissemination strategy</u> that details how the promotional kit (<i>and above video, checklist and/or tip sheet</i>) will be shared. This could include posting the products online on seniors.gc.ca with links to the Provincial/Territorial websites as well as sharing the products electronically with a large variety of stakeholder groups.</li> </ul> <p>The kit will be for external use, unless decided otherwise by F/P/T Ministers Responsible for Seniors.</p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Seniors and near seniors.</p>		

**PRIORITY #2: Share promising approaches that lead to innovative solutions to address social isolation among seniors, including those living in rural and remote communities.**

Find socially innovative solutions to address issues such as transportation, access to services, loneliness/mental well-being, support to caregivers, etc.

**Social Isolation and Social Innovation Working Group Membership:** Newfoundland and Labrador (co-chair), Canada – Employment and Social Development Canada (co-chair), British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island.

**Definitions:**

**Social isolation** can be defined as less social contact than an individual wishes, and that may lead to negative outcomes such as poor health, loneliness or other emotional distress.

**Social innovation** is the result of combining resources, whether financial or in the form of expertise, from a variety of sectors to generate ideas and tools that address social problems in new ways.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	TARGET DATES FOR COMPLETION	RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS
<p><b>Activity 1: Revitalize the F/P/T Seniors' Forum document: "Working Together for Seniors Toolkit to Promote Seniors' Social Integration in Community Services, Programs and Policies (2007)".</b></p> <p><b>Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide the most recent information regarding the social isolation of seniors.</li> <li>• Include a showcase of examples from programs, initiatives and/or pilots currently underway in jurisdictions that address the social isolation of seniors using socially innovative principles, international examples could also be included.</li> <li>• Suggest tips, approaches and/or lessons learned to reduce social isolation using social innovation principles.</li> <li>• Integrate a prototype design to organize facilitated "Ideas Exchange" events (see activity 2), which would include preparing evaluation forms, questions and definitions, developing a presentation template and event checklist, developing a table of content for the event report, and guidelines for reporting).</li> <li>• Validate the toolkit with an advisory board so it can be used to assess the impact that current and future programs and services are having on social isolation.</li> <li>• Validate the toolkit through activity 2 and integrate the learnings to address gaps that were identified, and,</li> <li>• Determine the optimal format of the toolkit (e.g. power point, report, factsheet, webinar) and a dissemination strategy to maximize reach to the target audience and encourage its use.</li> </ul>	<p>Winter 2016</p> <p>(Milestone: a solid draft early fall 2015 to be validated by an advisory board and through activity 2)</p>	<p>Up to \$35 K</p> <p>(Up to 25K for updating the social isolation content and integrating social innovation with a consultant, and</p> <p>Up to \$10K for design and re-configuration)</p>



PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	TARGET DATES FOR COMPLETION	RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS
<p>The reconfigured toolkit would respond to a proposed measure from the National Seniors Council Report on the Social Isolation of Seniors in Canada.</p> <p><b>Deliverable:</b></p> <p>Updated Toolkit for the 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of F/P/T Ministers Responsible for Seniors (spring 2016).</p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Seniors and near seniors, community organisations, social entrepreneurs.</p> <p>This product will be for external use, unless decided otherwise by F/P/T Ministers Responsible for Seniors.</p>		
<p><b>Activity 2: Host 3 or 4 local/regional “Ideas Exchange” events to share knowledge on the social isolation of seniors, inspire connections, and explore socially innovative ways to address the social isolation of seniors, including those in rural and remote communities.</b></p> <p><b>Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convene multisectoral participants on behalf of the F/P/T Forum (Seniors) to explore (brainstorm) ideas for social innovation related to one specific risk factor associated with social isolation.</li> <li>• Apply the toolkit (developed in activity 1) to identify strengths, weaknesses, gaps and opportunities to at least one specific risk factor that contributes to social isolation and find solutions to mitigate the risk factor(s).</li> <li>• Identify opportunities to enhance and build upon current actions and networks within communities by exploring interdependence of actions and available assets (both public and private) (i.e., New Horizons for Seniors Program pilots, Age-Friendly Community projects, or other relevant initiatives and services provided in the community). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ E.g., What would the coordination of efforts look like that could guide and sustain a new carpooling system; or establish a family caregiver network in the community?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Garner feedback on the toolkit to validate/improve the content and/or design.</li> <li>• Provide an event summary according to the prototype design developed in the toolkit.</li> </ul>	<p>Winter 2016</p>	<p>Up to \$40K (for 3-4 events)</p> <p>Cost per event to be determined based on the venue and services required.</p> <p>Up to \$10K (for consultant to: 1) provide advice to guide and support the WG and the host jurisdictions to organize the ideas exchange events, 2) to provide guidance and recommendations to develop the event reports, and 3) to draft the final report)</p>

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	TARGET DATES FOR COMPLETION	RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS
<p><b>Examples of potential events (details TBC with jurisdictions)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NL – Meeting of stakeholders involved in transportation pilot projects (<i>confirm name</i>)</li> <li>• BC – has indicated interest in hosting an event</li> <li>• MB – University of Manitoba's Centre on Aging Annual Spring Symposium (<i>tbc</i>)</li> <li>• ON – <i>tbc</i></li> <li>• Other Western Provinces, and Territories - <i>tbc</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Deliverable:</b></p> <p>A report for the 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of F/P/T Ministers Responsible for Seniors that would summarize the findings from the 3-4 events including gaps, socially innovative solutions, experiences, and the results of the evaluation of the events, and include recommendations for future action to address the social isolation of seniors including those living in rural and remote communities.</p> <p><b>Audience:</b> For internal use only, unless decided otherwise by F/P/T Ministers Responsible for Seniors.</p>		

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
DECISION BRIEFING NOTE**

**Cliff #** 1033279

**PREPARED FOR:** Honourable Terry Lake, Minister - **FOR DECISION**

**TITLE:** Federal/Provincial/Territorial (F/P/T) Ministers Responsible For Seniors Forum Social Isolation and Social Innovation (SISI) Ideas Exchange

**PURPOSE:** Provide additional information as per Minister's request and seek direction from the Minister to select a community for the ideas exchange event

**BACKGROUND:**

As per the Minister's direction (Decision Note #1026872), on behalf of the F/P/T Ministers Responsible for Seniors Forum (Forum), BC will host a one-day ideas exchange event on seniors' social isolation between November 2015 and January 2016 in a selected community. The objective is to share knowledge about risk factors and explore socially innovative solutions to address social isolation of seniors in that community.

On June 1, 2015 the Minister requested that program staff clarify if BC must hold an ideas exchange in a rural or remote community, and provide additional communities for consideration. The F/P/T SISI working group federal co-chair has since confirmed that they support BC looking at other options (i.e., urban).

Two recent initiatives have informed the selection of additional communities for consideration. The Ministry of Health and health authorities have selected 10 prototype communities as part of the primary and community care (PCC) policy paper, to focus on supporting seniors in the community and reducing hospitalizations and use of emergency services. The second consideration is the 2015–2016 New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP) grant program which will fund projects focused on addressing social isolation, for up to \$750,000 over three years. Both of these initiatives present opportunities to leverage existing work and contribute to it.

**DISCUSSION:**

A key consideration in the selection of a community to host the ideas exchange is to identify a dynamic community that will provide socially innovative solutions that can be profiled at the Forum's ministers meeting in June, 2016 in Victoria, BC. The NHSP partnered with the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation and its Innoweave initiative that presents a model of social innovation to produce a collective impact on measures of seniors' social isolation.

It is likely that this work will be profiled at the ministers' meeting, and it may be to BC's advantage to choose a community that may receive NHSP funding and is working within this model. Victoria has been mobilizing for months and working with Innoweave to submit its proposal, due July 10, 2015. There is some indication that Williams Lake may also apply for NHSP funding.



Staff consulted with Intergovernmental Relations and key informants,<sup>1</sup> and conducted an extensive review of communities using the selection criteria detailed in Appendix A. Five potential host communities have been identified: Victoria, Williams Lake, Port Hardy, Comox Valley and Kamloops. (See Appendix B for details on the strengths of these communities). A host community should be identified in June to allow for sufficient time to plan and meet federal government contract timelines.

## **OPTIONS:**

### **Option 1: Urban Option - Victoria**

#### **Pros**

- Opportunity to leverage the resources/networks of the Victoria Elder Care Foundation and its work on seniors' social isolation (NHSP applicant).
- Location facilitates planning logistics and reduces travel costs.

#### **Cons**

- Does not necessarily align with other policy direction (i.e. rural, primary and community care communities).

### **Option 2: Rural and Remote Option - Williams Lake or Port Hardy**

#### **Pros**

- Both Williams Lake and Port Hardy have been strongly recommended by the UNBC-Community Development Institute and the United Way of the Lower Mainland (UWLM), respectively.
- Supports Ministry's rural health policy paper.
- Both present interesting examples to profile at Ministers F/P/T meeting<sup>2</sup>.

#### **Cons**

- While travel in November is feasible, it may prove more challenging to these communities.

### **Option 3: PCC prototype Community Option - Comox Valley or Kamloops**

#### **Pros**

- Both are prototype communities for the PCC policy paper, and the event could contribute to work underway.
- Among the 10 PCC communities, these two are recommended by UWLM.
- Winter travel is not a major concern.

#### **Cons**

- Timing to align work may be an issue, as PCC work just commencing.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The federal government has allotted up to \$10,000 per event for eligible expenses. Host jurisdictions are to provide additional resources as needed. BC may require between \$5,000-\$10,000 which will be absorbed by the Ministry.

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<sup>1</sup>Dr. Greg Halseth, Canadian Research Chair in Rural and Small Town Studies and Director of University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) Community Development Institute (CDI); Marleen Morris, Associate Director, UNBC CDI; the United Way of the Lower Mainland Better At Home program (UWLM) ; Sabrina Dosanjh-Gantner, Lead, Healthy Community Development, Northern Health; and Jodi Mucha, BC Healthy Communities Society.

<sup>2</sup> Facing economic transition, Williams Lake is mobilizing to support seniors in partnership with UNBC -CDI. Port Hardy and surrounding communities are small, isolated towns and seniors are 25% of the population.

## **RECOMMENDATION: Option 1: Urban Option - Victoria**

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Approved/Not Approved

Terry Lake

Minister

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Date Signed

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**Date:** May 11, 2015. Revised June 4, 2015

## **APPENDIX A: Selection Criteria**

1. Demonstrates capacity to support seniors: Served by one or more programs: Better at Home, Age-friendly BC, and Community Response Networks;
2. The seniors population (65+) is equal to/greater than the provincial level (seniors were 15.7 percent of the BC population in 2011);
3. Acknowledges that seniors' social isolation is an important issue and has recently undertaken work to promote seniors' well-being;
4. The potential partner to co-host has ability to manage funding contribution, capacity to coordinate the event; and
5. Accessible for all participants during the winter of 2015-2016.

## APPENDIX B: POTENTIAL HOST COMMUNITIES

Community	Seniors Population	Selection Criteria
<b>Victoria</b>	Percentage of people aged 65 and over - 18.4%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A group of agencies that includes representation from Island Health are working together to develop an application to address seniors' social isolation on Vancouver Island under the New Horizons for Seniors Program for Pan-Canadian Projects. One of the lead agencies has indicated a strong interest in participating in the Ideas Exchange.</li> <li>The Greater Victoria Eldercare Foundation is partnering with BC Healthy Communities to develop an on-line Wellness Navigation Hub to connect Vancouver Island seniors to information and resources.</li> <li>The Greater Victoria area has received numerous Age-friendly grants and has a Community Response Network (CRN).</li> <li>Four Better at Home program sites in the region.</li> </ul>
<b>Comox Valley</b>	Percentage of people aged 65 and over - 21.1%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirmed as a good option for local partnerships by colleagues at the United Way of the Lower Mainland.</li> <li>One of ten areas of focus across the province for discussion at a Primary and Community Care Forum on June 1-2, 2015, based in part on its high frequency of seniors with moderate to complex chronic conditions.</li> <li>Has undertaken work to support senior residents through New Horizons for Seniors and Age-friendly BC initiatives.</li> <li>Served by the Comox Valley Better at Home program (which includes service to both rural and urban communities and the K'omoks First Nation) and the Comox Valley Community Response Network.</li> </ul>
<b>Port Hardy &amp; North Vancouver Island</b> (Port Alice, Port McNeil, Sointula and Alert Bay)	Percentage of people aged 65 and over for the north island Local Health Area - 25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommended for the ideas exchange by United Way Better at Home program staff</li> <li>Better at Home program coordinator is well connected and could mobilize within the community</li> <li>Experienced at working to address seniors' social isolation</li> <li>Received an Age-friendly BC grant in 2009</li> <li>Substantial First Nations population</li> </ul> <p><i>Potential challenge:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While travel in November is feasible, it may prove more challenging to these communities, which are remote.</li> </ul>
<b>Williams Lake</b>	Percentage of people aged 65 and over - 16%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommended for the ideas exchange by UNBC CDI.</li> <li>Has a Better at Home program</li> <li>Received Age-friendly BC grant in 2008, 2012, 2013</li> <li>Six grants under the New Horizons for Seniors Program</li> </ul>



		<p>from 2013/14 to 2014/15 for a range of projects to support seniors in the community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home to many seniors who have had to move to the city from outlying areas in order to gain better access to services</li> </ul> <p><i>Potential challenges:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While travel in November is feasible, it may prove more challenging to this community due to weather.</li> </ul>
<b>Kamloops</b>	Percentage of people aged 65 and over - 16.2%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended for the ideas exchange by United Way Better at Home program staff</li> <li>• Has received two Age-friendly grants</li> <li>• Has a Better at Home program and a Community Response Network (CRN)</li> </ul>