

NWT SENIORS' SOCIETY STRATEGIC PLAN 2017 – 2020

Priorities Four priority areas identified were Safety and Security, Income Security, Housing, Interagency/Team Work

Reduce the risk of abuse of the person and their home

Actions

- Talk about interagency efforts and team work at every NWT Seniors' Society meeting
- Include a residential school/ intergenerational trauma segment in the Creating Safe Communities workshops
- Launch education campaigns to make more youth and others aware of older adult abuse and the role they can play in preventing it
- Target community-based helping and protective services to increase awareness of their role in preventing older adult abuse
- Advocate for a functioning continuum of safe housing for older adults that offers adequate, appropriate, and affordable housing options including ownership, market and subsidized rentals, and assisted/supported living
- Support communities to develop educational and awareness materials on older adult abuse in the languages of the community

Encourage governments to adopt policies and programs that ensure income security for all older adults in the NWT

Actions

- Gather existing research on income and cost of living in NWT communities from the GNWT Education, Culture and Employment, unions, Alternatives North and others
- Examine the actual costs of a basket of goods and living costs in various communities relative to income to understand the current challenges facing older adults
- Review income supports for older adults to identify gaps
- Advocate for actions to address gaps in income security for older adults
- Launch a public relations campaign to raise awareness of income security issues
- Lobby for a living wage for all older adults in all NWT communities

Affordable, adequate, and secure housing for northerners

Actions

- Access existing data (e.g. the NWT Housing Needs Survey) and undertake research as required to document housing needs in NWT communities and the impacts of the lack of adequate, affordable, safe housing on older adults
- Advocate to the NWTHC and local housing organizations (LHOs) to alter policies and programs to better respond to northern housing needs
- Develop case studies and/or business plans as the basis for advocating for alternative housing models and partnerships to implement them
- Revisit the Home Ownership Assistance Program (HAP) and other past successful housing initiatives as elements of a functioning housing continuum

Support NWT Seniors' Society community and regional representatives to advocate and encourage community-based interagency groups

Actions

- Talk about interagency efforts/team work at every NWTSS meeting
- Take every opportunity to advocate for interagency work to such agencies as Health and Social Services
- Compile research to make the case for the GNWT and others to support interagency work."



Approved by Board of Directors October 5, 2017

NWT SENIORS' SOCIETY

Seniors helping seniors

1-800-661-0878

www.nwtSeniorssociety.ca