

Program

Agency Awareness and Connections Breakfast

Abbotsford ACCESS (Action-oriented Community Collaborative for Equitable Supports and Services) is a network of local partners and an initiative of the City of Abbotsford's Housing, Homelessness and Community Development team focused on addressing complex social issues with a multi-agency approach. Partners include government, community agencies, law enforcement and business.

Seniors in our Community Financial Hardship and Housing Issues

Date: May 29, 2024

Time: 9:00 – 11:00am, *Doors open at 8:00am*

Location: **Ag-Rec Gallery – Gate 2 at the Abbotsford Exhibition Park, off Haida Drive
32470 Haida Drive**

8:00am Doors open, breakfast, informal networking

9:00am Welcome and Opening

Emcee: Trina Enns, Seniors' Community Connector, Social Prescribing Program, **Archway
Community Services**

9:05am Agency Updates

9:10am Networking Exercise

Presentations

9:30am Aging in Uncertainty, Indira Riadi, Regional Community Developer, **United Way British Columbia**

9:42am Shelter for Seniors, Jesse Wegenast, **Sparrow Care Community Society**

9:54am Demographic focused programing, Jas Cheema, Regional Mentor, **BC Community Response Networks**

10:06am Government Programs Supporting Seniors, Brenda Giesbrecht, Citizens Services Specialist, **Service Canada**

10:18am Programing Supporting Seniors, Ray Reynolds, Manager, Program Delivery **BC Housing**

10:30am Benefits and Credits for Seniors, Arsi Ahmed, Community Volunteer Income Tax Program and Benefits Outreach Officer, and Indigenous Services, Western Region, **Canada Revenue Agency**

10:42am Low Income Seniors supports, Larry Jhaj, Community Integration Supervisor, **Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, Community Integration System**

10:54am Feedback activity: Seeking the perspectives of Seniors; What do you need? What do you want?, Shelley Canning, Director, **Centre for Education & Research on Ageing, University of the Fraser Valley** and Ann Marie Leijin, Chief Executive Officer, **Maplewood Care Society**

11:00am Concluding remarks, evaluations