



Mission: To facilitate healthy aging by providing leadership and encouraging collaboration in creating age-friendly places (communities) that optimize the ability of all older Manitobans to do the things they feel are important.

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR FIRST MINISTER OF SENIORS AND LONG-TERM CARE

As the first Minister of Seniors and Long-Term Care, I am fortunate to have already met with, listened to, and learned from many older Manitobans across the province. Manitoba Seniors are a high priority for our government, which is why Premier Heather Stefanson established this department to advocate for seniors' issues and improve the quality of life of all older Manitobans. Announced as a part of Budget 2022 to support that commitment, our government is investing nearly \$20 million to develop a new plan for older Manitobans.

An extensive public and stakeholder engagement process is well underway to hear from Manitobans, which will help guide this plan. One of the core tenets of the future plan will be to determine the best plans to help older Manitobans remain safely in their own homes for as long as possible, to honour their dignity and to ensure they can live as independently as they desire.

Older Manitobans are among the fastest growing segments of our population, and as we age, our social services, amenities, access to information and resources must meet the changing needs of this population.

Over 6000 people have already participated in the online part of the consultations on Manitoba's public engagement platform, EngageMB, and I encourage all older Manitobans, and those who support and work with them to do so as well. Your voice will help guide new ways to improve access to services and supports and to help Manitoba seniors maintain active and healthy lifestyles. We need your perspectives on how we can make this possible.

The first public survey is available at <https://engagemb.ca/building-a-plan-for-older-manitobans>.



Caption: L to R: Seniors and Long-Term Care Minister Scott Johnston; Connie Newman, executive director, Manitoba Association of Senior Centres; Sherry Mooney, chair, board of directors, Charleswood 55 Plus Active Living Centre; Obby Khan, MLA for Fort Whyte.

Please visit the site and share your thoughts on the experiences. Over 10,000 Manitobans over the age of 65 have already signed up for updates, and I look forward to seeing this community grow.

If you work with an organization that supports seniors, you may also consider applying to join our growing Community Engagement Network (CEN). The CENs work directly with seniors to help them to fully engage in the consultations. This may take the form of conducting focus groups, hosting round table discussions, or holding other events to listen and learn. We are enlisting the support of up to 50 community-based organizations with pre-established relationships to older Manitobans across the province. We recognize that not everyone has access to online consultations or feels comfortable sharing their views online, and CENs will provide other accessible options to help people share their perspectives.

More information on how to apply to become a CEN can be found when you complete the survey on EngageMB.

After two years of many challenges due to COVID-19, I am looking forward to developing this new plan, to

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ensure the physical, social and emotional well-being of older Manitobans.

Your participation will help ensure a diverse, inclusive and informed consultation process that is integral to shaping and implementing the plan. Older Manitobans have spent their lives helping to build our great province by creating businesses, raising their families and serving in their communities. Their voices and the voices of their loved ones and caregivers are integral to the plan being developed for older Manitobans.

Participating in these engagement surveys will bring your voice into this important conversation, as, together, we look ahead to a plan that includes your voice, your ideas, and your commitment to the best life possible for older Manitobans.

*Hon. Scott Johnston is the MLA for Assiniboia and the Minister of Seniors and Long-Term Care.*

**LIFE CAN BE HARD. FINDING HELP CAN BE EASY.**

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**211 Manitoba** Dial 2-1-1 to find services related to:

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- Domestic Violence Shelters
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- Parenting Resources
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- Income Tax Clinics
- and so much more!

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## Become a champion of elder abuse prevention! 1 in 2 people are prejudiced against older people.

Every year, on June 15th, we all join forces to remind the world that human rights don't get old.

This World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD), we're inviting Canadians of all ages to become a Champion of elder abuse prevention by pledging to stand up for the rights of older people.

**WEAAD National Webinar Event**

**Wednesday, June 15, 2022  
1:00 - 2:30 p.m. EST**

Hosted by

- Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario
- CNPEA/RCPMTA
- BC CRN
- CanAge

**WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY**  
Rights Don't Get Old

**I pledge to**  
make my community age-friendly

#WEAAD2022 #RightsDoNotGetOld WEAAD.ca

WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY



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