



DIRECTOR REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Report Number: DR-BRD-057

From: Dan Rose, Director

Date: May 4, 2023

Subject: Seniors Aging in Place Support Services Information Package and Funding Proposal

PURPOSE / ISSUE:

To authorize the development of an information package and funding proposal that outlines the details of the Seniors Aging in Place Support Services program and makes a case for why it should receive funding from the Ministry of Health, including the needs statement, information on the goals and objectives of the service, the methods used to deliver the service, the expected outcomes and impact of the service, detailed budget, and information on the qualifications and experience of the organizations involved in the service.

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION: [Corporate Unweighted]

That the Regional Board authorize the development of an information package and funding proposal for the Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, to request funding from the Ministry of Health for the Seniors Aging in Place Support Services program.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

During the week of March 27, 2023, I was in Victoria on behalf of the Regional Board to attend the Municipal Finance Authority Annual General Meeting and Conference. With the help of MLA Mike Bernier, I secured a short meeting with the Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health. The main topic of discussion was funding and expansion opportunities for the Seniors Aging in Place program. He has requested the Peace River Regional District share all of the information we can provide on our Seniors Aging in Place Support Services program and is interested in how the province could help fund it. He assigned Jonathan Dube, Associate Deputy Minister, to the project. We agreed that this model has potential inside and outside of municipalities.

History

In 2021, the Regional Board adopted Seniors Aging in Place Support Services Establishment Bylaw No. 2444, 2021, to provide, through direct or contracted means or grant-in-aid to a registered not-for-profit society, or health authority, or any community agency who employ health professionals, in-home support services to seniors 65 or older living in the rural communities of Electoral Area D and a portion of Electoral Area E to allow them to reside in their homes longer.

In May of 2022, the Regional District entered a contract with the Dawson Creek Society for Community Living (DCSCL) to provide meals, providing light housekeeping and snow removal. To date, DCSCL has delivered 7863 meals and provided 1049 housekeeping and 265 snow removal services. It is anticipated there will be continued growth in the coming year as the program is promoted in the Region.

The Seniors Aging in Place Support Services function is funded through a combination of requisition and user fees. In 2023, the total budget is \$1,766,651, including \$1,520,950 in contracted services.

The 2023 estimated tax rate is \$0.1493/\$1,000 which is based on the 2023 Completed Roll from BC Assessment.

User Fees

- a) Meals - \$3.00 per meal, per person. Five freshly frozen home cooked meals are delivered weekly to each subscribed home. The menu includes 21 curated options such as:
- Roast beef with mashed potatoes, vegetables and gravy
 - Shepherd's pie
 - Ham with scalloped potatoes and vegetables
 - Chili
 - Cabbage rolls
 - Beef or chicken stir-fry
 - Baked chicken with rice and vegetables.

Seniors are free to choose and submit their preferences weekly. Food allergies and special food requirements such as gluten-free, minced or extra moist are available upon request. Meals are delivered on a prearranged day with the delivery contractor performing a social check and socializing during each visit.

- b) Housekeeping - \$12.50 per visit. Two professionals clean each home for two hours per visit, on a bi-weekly basis. The contractor provides labour, cleaning supplies, equipment and products required to complete the task. A social component is involved as many seniors experience loneliness and look forward to these visits while receiving help to complete more of the difficult household chores.
- c) Snow Removal - \$25.00 per month. Snow plow services are available from November to March and can be used by each program member up to three times a month.

Breakdown of Program Users by age who have signed up for 1 more service:

Age	# of Program Users
65-69	28
70-74	40
75-79	57
80-84	19
85-89	24
90-99	9
100-104	1
Total Participants	178

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- ☒ Advocacy
- ☒ Senior's Housing

Attachments:

1. Seniors Aging in Place Brochure

External Links:

1. [Seniors Aging in Place Support Services Establishment Bylaw No. 2444, 2021](#)