

CanAge Connections

CanAge is Canada's national advocacy organization for older adults. We work to advance the rights and well-being of Canadians as we age in order to live vibrant and connected lives. This is the November edition of our monthly newsletter.

November is Financial Literacy Month!



This year marks the tenth anniversary of Financial Literacy Month in Canada! [Canadian Financial Literacy Database](#) from the [Financial Consumer Agency of Canada](#) offers educational resources about how to:

- **Keep track of your money**
- **Minimize debt**
- **Reassess financial goals**
- **Protect yourself from financial fraud**
- **Set up an emergency fund**
- **Understand financial products and services**

FCA's Free Financial Webinars

**November 2nd 2020,
10:00am-10:45am EST**

Virtual launch event for the 10th anniversary of Financial Literacy Month. [Register online.](#)

**November 10th 2020,
1:30pm-2:30pm EST**

Attend the live webinar - Managing money and debt: important things you should know. [Register online.](#)

Additionally, you can register for the FCA's [Virtual Launch](#) and [free webinars](#) about financial management. Now, more than ever, while so many are struggling financially due to COVID-19, it's important to make informed decisions and plans. We'll share more information about that later in the newsletter. Tools and resources can be accessed below.



**Budget
Planner**

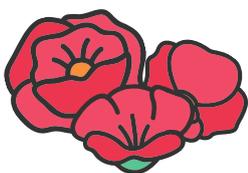


**Canada's Financial
Literacy Database**



**More tools and
calculators**

Veterans' Week November 5-11th 2020



Learn how you can honour our veterans this November at Veterans.gc.ca.

More great news for older adults...

The Ontario Ministry of Health has announced that, starting mid-October 2020, Ontario's publicly-funded shingles immunization program for seniors aged 65-70 will transition to Shingrix, which is more effective in fighting shingles. This is a big win for older adults in Ontario, and was Recommendation #52 in our [VOICES of Canada's Seniors: A Roadmap to a more Age-Inclusive Canada.](#)

We hope other provinces follow suit!

Government Relations

Where are we now?

With the launch of VOICES of Canada's Seniors: A Roadmap to An Age-Inclusive Canada, the CanAge Advocacy and Policy team has been hard at work meeting with government leaders from every party reviewing how the Roadmap can be used to help individuals, communities, provincial/territorial and federal governments make Canada an age-inclusive country. Given the upcoming seasonal intersection of the "triple threat" of flu, pneumonia and COVID-19, we discussed necessary changes to the long-term care sector and the need for equal access to immunization for older Canadians.

Meetings

Our conversations covered many areas of VOICES and focused on the following topics:

- the importance of uptake of vaccinations for all older adults;
- the urgent need for the Federal Government to buy enough supply of high-dose flu vaccinations for all provinces and territories, not just for those in long-term care homes;
- designate Immunocompromised Status to Seniors 60+;
- the importance of best-in-class flu, shingles and pneumonia vaccines to be administered regularly and on a schedule to all older Canadians not just those in LTC since 92% of seniors are not in LTC;
- prioritize understanding of the intersection of staying healthy and preventing pneumonia especially during the time of COVID19.

Pre-Budget Submissions

CanAge both engages in policy and advocacy. Advocacy is the active persuasion, lobbying or campaigning to make a third-party decision-maker, often government, care about your goal, rationale, and methods and take a step towards implementation. To that end, one of the things we do at CanAge is try to get our goals included in Federal/Provincial/Territorial budgets. To start that process, we make submissions to the pre-budget processes of the provinces, territories, and federal government. On October 16, we sent in our Ontario pre-budget submission in which we made 12 recommendations to the honourable Rod Phillips, Ontario's Minister of Finance. They included recommendations from all 6 of the VOICES letters.

In the News

CanAge is the go-to organization when journalists seek comment about the issues affecting older Canadians. Here are some recent highlights.

Huffington Post Canada

Staff shortages are a "systemic issue" at hard-hit Ottawa care home families. Laura Tamblyn Watts said the confinement of residents in their rooms "simply can never happen again." To ensure it doesn't, essential caregiver policies are critical, she said.

[Read more at CanAge.ca/media](https://www.canage.ca/media)

CBC News

Toronto doctors slam Manitoba's health minister for saying care home deaths are unavoidable. "These deaths are absolutely avoidable. Change is needed now," wrote Tamblyn Watts.

[Read more at CanAge.ca/media](https://www.canage.ca/media)

CFRA Talk Radio

CanAge CEO Laura Tamblyn Watts outlines the danger of insurance companies not covering infection control. These policies are coming up for renewal within months. What happens if these facilities close?

[Read more at CanAge.ca/media](https://www.canage.ca/media)

For full media coverage visit [CanAge.ca/media](https://www.canage.ca/media)



CanAge Fellows Thought Leadership Program

Featuring Kerry Baisley

CanAge Fellow Kerry Baisley is a member of the Métis Nation of British Columbia. He has recently left retirement to return to Vancouver Coastal Health to work with staff and families during the COVID-19 pandemic, and has also accepted a position as Missioner for Indigenous Justice with the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster.

Kerry's work has included interaction with a broad spectrum of clients in a wide range of settings. He worked with Emergency Child Welfare including time as the social worker at the Vancouver Police Department. He has extensive front-line experience as a social worker in long-term care, and was a social development officer in the Yukon with the federal government in the 1980s. He was the first manager of health care decisions with the Public Guardian and Trustee of BC, where he played a major role in developing policies regarding Substitute Health Care Decision Making. Kerry retired as Director of Client Relations and Risk Management at Vancouver Coastal Health in Richmond BC.

Kerry describes himself as naturally curious. He had the great opportunity to work as a student intern at the UBC Museum of Anthropology. This ignited his interest in different cultures and different ways of perceiving the world. Kerry believes that problem identification is at the heart of effective action and applies this philosophy to his work.

Kerry looks forward to exploring ways he can work within the CanAge family to provide multi-dimensional support and expand opportunities for Canada's Seniors!



More Information

Read more about our partners and team members at CanAge.ca/team.

You can also access helpful tools on our website at CanAge.ca/resources.

Partnership Inquiries:
partnerships@canage.ca

How To Manage Financial Requests from Your Adult Children

CanAge Tips with Laurie Campbell, Financial Expert

There's an old adage that says 'never a lender nor a borrower be' and while this may have held some weight in days gone by, it isn't always possible anymore.

The reality is that many seniors are in a difficult situation when they find their adult children in need of financial help. At some point seniors in this situation may feel that they are being taken advantage of. CanAge Fellow and financial expert Laurie Campbell offers tips for seniors when their children are asking for financial support. Learn more at CanAge.ca/resources.



Events Roundup

CanAge Conversations: Champions for Change

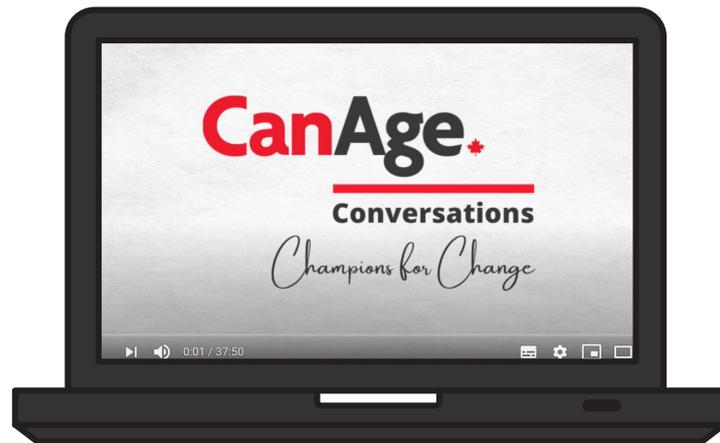
In case you missed it: on October 23, the CanAge team launched our new edition of CanAge Conversations: Champions for Change. With this set of programming, CEO of CanAge, Laura Tamblyn Watts hosts fireside chats with influential and inspiring people who work tirelessly in the field of aging. Learn more at CanAge.ca/champions.



Hosted by
Laura Tamblyn Watts



Champion for Change
Margaret Gillis



In this episode, Laura spoke with Margaret Gillis, President of the International Longevity Centre Canada, about her career as an advocate, how she took on the World Health Organization, why she is passionate about the rights of older adults, and what brought her to Windsor Castle. Watch the episode on our YouTube channel! CanAge.ca/youtube.

Stay tuned...

November 4th, 1:00pm Eastern: Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario Financial Security

The webinar series "Money Tips for Difficult Times" will provide seniors with practical tips on how to plan for emergencies, what to do and not do when managing your money/assets and an opportunity to discuss the impacts on investments. [Register here](#).

November 5-11th 2020: Veterans' Week

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the end of the second World War. Veterans Affairs Canada offers great content and resources that honour those who sacrificed to serve. We especially enjoy the Faces of Freedom stories. In addition, those of you struggling with homeschooling will enjoy their impressive Veterans Week Learning Resources.

All November: City of Toronto Caregiver Strategy Focus Groups

If you are a caregiver, or have been in the past, for someone living with Alzheimer's and dementia, the Alzheimer's Society invites you to take part in a virtual focus group to provide input and direction in the development of the City of Toronto Caregiver Strategy. This is also open to people outside of Toronto. [Learn more](#).

We'd love to get your feedback! Tell us what you liked in this issue and what you'd like to read about in upcoming newsletters at newsletter@CanAge.ca.

You Asked, We Answered

Q.

How can I avoid being a victim of cyber-crime?

A.

Canadians lost at least \$130 million dollars last year in cyber-crime and related fraud, as reported by the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre. CanAge asked **IBM Associate Security Partner Ray Boisvert** how we can avoid falling victim to cybercrime. He offers the following tips.



- Nobody, nobody, and I mean nobody should ever be granted access to your account usernames and passwords. If anyone asks for it while conducting online or telephone business or in a conversation, deny them that very privileged access. This could also include family members.
- Skepticism is your greatest ally. Certainly, legitimate news agencies and certified websites, such as financial institutions, are to be trusted. The trick is to navigate the internet yourself to get there, as opposed to clicking on a link that was sent to you by someone you are not sure of.
- Keep your computer “healthy”. Computer hygiene refers to ensuring that your computer system has the latest operating system updates, including all the software programs you run. It also means activating your security settings on your computing device and mobile phone.
- If you ever feel uncertain about an email you responded to or a call you received, please tell a loved one or a friend. And never hesitate to report an incident, suspected or verified, to law enforcement officials. There is no shame in being safe.

For overall security and safety measures for older adults, Mr. Boisvert pointed us to the [RCMP Seniors Guidebook to Safety and Security](#) and the [Canadian Centre for Cyber Security](#).

Have a question for CanAge? Submit it via newsletter@CanAge.ca.

FREE 1 Year CanAge Membership

We'd love to have you join CanAge for **FREE** for **1 year**. You can become a member of CanAge at **NO COST** to you.

Visit CanAge.ca/join to

Join Us!

We are currently building a robust portfolio of benefit partners for CanAge members. We want to learn what you'd like us to provide in terms of membership discounts and opportunities, custom-curated experiences, and of course what issues are important to you, that we should advocate for.

If you would like to be part of our CanAge Community, participating in online events, online surveys, and polls, as well as other CanAge initiatives, then take advantage of this founding membership offer. We'd love to have you be part of CanAge. Visit CanAge.ca/join.