



CanAge*

Educational Speakers Series
**Aging Your Way: Creating an Age-Inclusive
Canada, Together**

Modifying Your Home and Vehicle to Age in Place

April 25, 2022

Most older Canadians have stated that they want to age in place instead of living in a care facility. However, in many cases the house they live in today is not the house they'll need in a few years. By making simple to moderate modifications to your home and vehicle, you'll be able to maintain your freedom and independence, continued employment, and quality of life. If you live in Ontario, March of Dimes (MOD) provides special funding to help make this happen.



Who is Eligible?

In order to apply for the Home and Vehicle Modification Program you must have a substantial physical disability that impedes mobility, and are considered to have a low income. The program is open only to permanent residents of Ontario.

What the Program Covers

If you are eligible, you can apply for a \$15,000 lifetime maximum for home modifications OR \$15,000 every ten years for vehicle modification. The Home and Vehicle Modification Program pays the selected contractor or subcontractor directly to do the renovations, which can include:

- Installing an accessible bathroom
- Adding a wheelchair ramp to the entrance of your home
- Equipping your van with a lift, wheelchair tie downs, or a ramp
- Adaptive driving controls
- Door widening

How to Apply?

First you must complete an application assessment form, available on the [March of Dimes' website](#). A helpful guide is also available to help you apply.



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CanAge Recommendations to Government

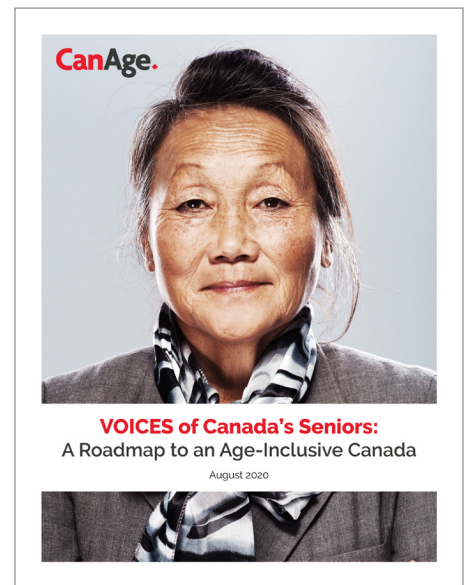
CanAge's comprehensive, evidence-based policy book is the result of an exhaustive cross-country research and consultation process. Titled [VOICES of Canada's Seniors](#), this document groups issues affecting seniors into six compass points:

- Violence and Abuse Prevention
- Optimal Health and Wellness
- Infection Prevention and Disaster Response
- Caregiving, Long-term Care, Home Care, and Housing Resources
- Economic Security
- Social Inclusion

Seniors need policy changes and flexible supports to allow them to age in place. In VOICES, aging in place falls under compass point C. Here are the related recommendations from VOICES presented to government by CanAge:

- Change the Home Renovation Tax Credit to per Person instead of per Household
- Government Land Grants and Guarantees for Seniors' Housing, Including Long-Term Care
- Update Municipal Bylaws for Age-Friendliness

[Learn more about these](#) and other CanAge [policy work](#).



Resources for Seniors



ALS Canada Equipment Program
<https://als.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Equipment-program-overview.pdf>



MS Society Quality of Life Equipment Program
<https://mssociety.ca/support-services/quality-of-life-equipment-program>



Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation Low and No Cost Modifications for Accessibility
<https://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/professionals/industry-innovation-and-leadership/industry-expertise/accessible-adaptable-housing/aging-in-place/low-and-no-cost-modifications-for-accessibility>



Ontario Renovates Program (City of Ottawa residents)
<https://ottawa.ca/en/family-and-social-services/housing/ontario-renovates-program#homeowner>

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