



PRESS RELEASE



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Government of Canada Provides Funding for a New Horizons for Seniors Project in North Vancouver

VANCOUVER, British Columbia, April 18, 2005 — Don Bell, Member of Parliament for North Vancouver, on behalf of Ken Dryden, Minister of Social Development, today announced \$30,250 in funding from the New Horizons for Seniors program. The Government of Canada is providing funding to the North Shore Multicultural Society and the Capilano Community Services Society for their Immigrant Seniors Bridging Project and their Lower Capilano Monthly Social. These are projects that will help seniors to participate in and lead activities within their community.

"The Government of Canada is committed to strengthening and building inclusive communities that promote the active living, empowerment and dignity of seniors," said Minister Dryden. "These projects will enable seniors to share their skills, experience and wisdom with others in their community."

"We are pleased to help organizations that enable seniors to be active members of our community," said Mr. Bell. "Groups like the North Shore Multicultural Society and the Capilano Community Services Society are essential partners in helping to strengthen Canada's social foundations."

"New Horizons for Seniors has proven to be extremely valuable in promoting community activities by and in support of seniors," said Tony Ianno, Minister of State (Families and Caregivers). "Increased funding for New Horizons for Seniors in the recent budget reinforces our commitment to ensuring a high quality of life for all seniors."

The New Horizons for Seniors program provides grants to support a range of community-based projects across Canada that enable seniors to participate in social activities, pursue an active life and contribute to their communities.

Projects support broad national objectives and regional priorities. They are inspired, implemented and led by seniors in local communities. Priorities are set by those who are engaged in seniors' issues in each province and territory. Members of the review committee are in the best position to understand the needs of their communities and to know which projects they will benefit from.

Funding for these projects was provided for in the 2005 federal budget. In response to an overwhelming interest in the program, the Government of Canada announced an increase in funding to the New Horizons for Seniors program in the 2005 budget. The overall program budget will be increased to \$15 million in 2005 – 06 and will reach \$25 million by 2007 – 08.

These projects have been reviewed to ensure compliance with the Department's administration of its grants and contributions program and are subject to review under the Financial Administration Act.

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