

Support for an Aging Population

Government is committed to advancing the initiatives under SHIFT: Nova Scotia's Action Plan for an Aging Population that will help older Nova Scotians stay involved and connected to their communities, promote healthy living, and keep older adults in the workforce.

Government also recognizes that as our population ages, there is a need for our communities, social programs, and workplaces to adapt.

Budget 2017–2018 includes

- \$395,000 to establish a social innovation lab focused on aging
- \$50,000 for a community Internet/digital literacy training project for older adults
- \$30,000 to work with partners to promote entrepreneurship for older adults
- \$25,000 to host a conference on aging in Fall 2017
- \$175,000 to expand the Seniors Safety grant program
- \$74,000 added to the Age-Friendly Community grant program
- \$310,000 more to provide the seniors property tax rebate, helping older Nova Scotians stay in their homes longer
- \$1.8 million to increase ACCESS-Ability grants for community buildings and open a new grant program for small businesses to become more accessible
- \$38 million, in partnership with the federal government, to increase access to and improve affordable housing options, with many initiatives focused on supporting older adults
- \$5.1 million more for home care initiatives, including an increase for the self-managed care program and expansion of the caregiver benefit program
- \$3.2 million to increase food budgets and enhance recreational programming for residents in long-term care facilities
- \$3.7 million more to provide additional orthopedic surgeries and offer prehabilitation services that help patients prepare for a successful surgery
- \$7.9 million to meet the needs of Nova Scotians age 65 and older enrolled in the Seniors Pharmacare Program