



## SENIOR CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION OF B.C. Resolutions For Presentation to the 2015 AGM



### **PROVINCIAL**

#### Number 1

*Submitted by Beaver Valley Senior Citizens - Branch 44*

WHEREAS: Private for profit clinics are taking advantage of patients in B.C. with dozens of these clinics suspected of overcharging patients for medically necessary care, and

WHEREAS : Not only is this unfair to patients, it is against the law., and

WHEREAS: Instead of following laws that ensure Canadians receive health care based on need, not ability to pay, private for profit clinics are trying to establish two-tier health care – and they're hoping you won't notice, and

WHEREAS: B.C. is ground zero for the expansion of private for profit clinics in Canada, and

WHEREAS: Evidence from around the world shows that private for profit clinics like the Cambie Surgery Centre in Vancouver, do not relieve pressure on the public system, instead, they make wait times longer.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Government of British Columbia enforce its own laws regarding private for profit clinics to protect patients and our public health care system.

*Moved by Beaver Valley Branch 44. Seconded by Castlegar Branch 46 - Carried*

#### Number 2

*Submitted by Kaslo Seniors - Branch 81*

#### **TRAVEL:**

WHEREAS winter travel in the Kootenays is hazardous due to avalanches and poor road conditions, and

WHEREAS the cost of paying for a vehicle and driver, including purchasing overnight accommodation, is expensive, and

WHEREAS hospitals continue to discharge seniors in the middle of the night when no public transportation is available.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Health Authorities in British Columbia work with seniors' organizations to develop a comprehensive travel policy, especially for remote and rural areas of B.C.

*Moved by Cranbrook Branch 11. Seconded by Nelson Branch 51 - Carried*



## SENIOR CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION OF B.C. Resolutions For Presentation to the 2015 AGM



### Number 3

*Submitted by Kaslo Seniors - Branch 81*

#### **NEEDLE EXCHANGE:**

WHEREAS a free needle exchange program is available for drug addicts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The government of British Columbia institute a similar free needle exchange program to include diabetics and seniors.

*Moved by Cranbrook Branch 11. Seconded by Trail Branch 47 - Defeated*

### Number 4

*Submitted by Kaslo Seniors - Branch 81*

#### **COST OF MEDICAL CARE:**

WHEREAS the high cost of BC Medical Premiums, Prescription Drugs and Eye Exams, as examples, is making healthcare unaffordable for seniors, and

WHEREAS when seniors cannot afford to pay for prescriptions, medical treatments, etc., they end up in hospital.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Government of British Columbia increase the medical financial support, especially for low and fixed income seniors.

*Moved by Midway Branch 117. Seconded by Cranbrook Branch 11 - Carried*

### Number 5

*Submitted by Kaslo Seniors - Branch 81*

#### **SMART METERS:**

WHEREAS many seniors and others have expressed that the installation of smart meters is an invasion of privacy and a possible health risk.

THEREFORE BE IS RESOLVED THAT: The Government of British Columbia instruct B.C. Hydro and Fortis BC to make the Smart Meter Program optional for seniors at no additional cost.

*Moved by Kaslo Branch 81. Seconded by Passmore Branch 116 - Defeated*



## SENIOR CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION OF B.C. Resolutions For Presentation to the 2015 AGM



### Number 6

*Submitted by Maple Ridge – Branch 149*

WHEREAS there are complaints about the elderly taking up hospital beds, and

WHEREAS This may be so. However, it is not their fault, but the fault of mismanagement of funds which cut back on home care, and

WHEREAS It used to be that with a small output for home care, they were able to remain in their home, maintaining their dignity, and

WHEREAS This cutting back on home care did not save money, just the opposite, it cost more. (clearly a case of trying to save a dime only to end up spending a dollar). In addition to ignoring the humane aspect, it does not make monetary sense.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Government of British Columbia along with all the Health Care Regions in B.C. make every attempt to ensure that those seniors needing home care, so they can stay out of hospitals, be given the needed hours.

*Moved by Maple Ridge Branch 149. Seconded by Cranbrook Branch 11 - Carried*

### Number 7

*Submitted by Maple Ridge – Branch 149*

WHEREAS When the Federal Government increases an income tax rate, the Provincial Government seems to follow. However, when in 2006, the Federal Government increased from one thousand dollars to two thousand dollars the deductible amount for Pension Income allowed a senior citizen, The Provincial Government did not follow with a deduction of their own in this category, and

WHEREAS The members of the Senior Citizens' Association of British Columbia have requested the Provincial Government for a proportionally increase of \$500.00 since then, and

WHEREAS Many seniors retired before the enormous inflation rise, with their pensions set then, and

WHEREAS Being on those fixed incomes they find the still rising inflation cause a hardship.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Provincial Government of B.C. follow the Federal Government and give relief in this category to at least \$500.00. And that this increase be implemented for the 2016 taxation year.

*Moved by Maple Ridge Branch 149. Seconded by Beaver Valley Branch 44 - Carried*



## SENIOR CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION OF B.C. Resolutions For Presentation to the 2015 AGM



### FEDERAL

#### Number 8

*Submitted by Maple Ridge – Branch 149*

WHEREAS Many known criminals have been in Canada illegally for years and years, using the legal system to prevent their deportation, and

WHEREAS This results in enormous costs to the tax payer, lengthening the time before Canadian criminals can be brought to trial, and

WHEREAS While lawyers are getting richer and richer, this useless tying up of the courts deny law abiding citizens from their right to access justice through the legal system in a reasonable time, and

WHEREAS This even effects the court time available for Family Court, affecting the most vulnerable, our youth.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Government of Canada implement STRICT immigration laws to deport these criminals and ENFORCE them NOW.

*Moved by Maple Ridge Branch 149. Seconded by Cranbrook Branch 11 - Carried*

#### Number 9

*Submitted by Maple Ridge – Branch 149*

WHEREAS The Governments, neither Federal or Provincial DO NOT provide all that is necessary for the health and welfare of the people, both old and young, and

WHEREAS Many organizations try to help cover this lack of care by solicitation, and

WHEREAS Those who make donations to these organizations can claim only a small portion of their donations for deduction on their income tax, (less that 15%), and

WHEREAS Donations towards politicians or political parties are given a much higher rate for deduction, and

WHEREAS As a rule, the seniors making donations have been doing so for years and still feel an obligation to continue helping, even though they might find it difficult.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Federal Government allow Old Age Pensioners to claim the same amount for their donations to the organizations named above as is allowed for donations to politicians or political parties.

*Moved by Maple Ridge Branch 149. Seconded by Beaver Valley Branch 44 - Carried*

#### Number 10

*Submitted by Maple Ridge – Branch 149*



## SENIOR CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION OF B.C. Resolutions For Presentation to the 2015 AGM



WHEREAS When the Income Splitting was implemented, it helped those raising families, and

WHEREAS In regards to the elderly, with their families raised, it was a benefit to a couple but there was no allowance benefiting the single person, and

WHEREAS A single person with only one income has expenses much higher proportionally. Most household expenses are the same regardless of the number in the house. Ie: cable, insurance, phone, heating, property taxes, etc.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Under both Federal and Provincial non-refundable tax credits, a new Category be added, that it be 'single' Old Age Pensioner and that the amount be at least Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) to help those seniors living on just **one** income.

*Moved by Maple Ridge Branch 149, Seconded by Trail Branch 47 - Carried*

### Number 11

*Submitted by Burton – Branch 124*

WHEREAS Rural areas have no hope of attracting young families without internet access, and

WHEREAS Rural areas require unlimited internet access for business ventures to take hold and remain economically viable, and

WHEREAS Rural educational opportunities are broadened for all citizens living in those areas, and

WHEREAS Medical information available online is invaluable to seniors and families researching conditions and medications.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: We ask the Federal Government to subsidize high speed internet access in all rural areas.

*Moved by Burton Branch 124, Seconded by Cranbrook Branch 11 - Carried*

### Number 12

*Submitted by Burton – Branch 124*

WHEREAS It has become evident that the cost of living is increasing, as exemplified by the reported 35% increase in the cost of food, increases in power rates, telephone, transportation, TV, cell and computer fees, medical premiums and medications in Canada over the past few years, as well as a decline in the purchasing power of the Canadian dollar.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and Old Age Security (OAS) be indexed with immediate effect to accommodate this increased cost of living, which contributes to the hardships experienced by seniors on fixed incomes.

*Moved by Burton Branch 124, Seconded by Cranbrook Branch 11 - Carried*