

Penticton – Seniors Profile

Penticton has long been identified as a community where people come to retire because of the desirable climate and amenities. The forefront issue at every level of our communities, including Penticton, is our aging population and the looming tsunami of individuals who will become older adults.

At this point in time, the senior population, those individuals who are 65 years plus is 25.8 % in Penticton. Statistic Canada Census (2006) reports that this is over 11% higher than the provincial percentage. In other words, Penticton is already being impacted by an aged population and in a few short years the front end “baby boomers” will be of retirement age by 2011. Our community over the next 20 – 30 years will be profoundly impacted by the greying population, so the question is are we prepared for the impact on individuals, community, and social and health services?

Demographics

In Canada, statistics reveal the aging trends:

- Canadians have the one of the highest life expectancies in the world. Average man will live to 82.4 years and women have an expectancy to live to 85.8 years. After retirement year of 65, most will live in good health for approximately 13 years. (Source: Canadian Institute Health Research - Institute of Aging 2008)
- Prevalence of chronic conditions is increasing: in 2005, 91% of seniors reported one or more chronic conditions (up from 87% in 2001) Source: CIHR 2008
- The Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute, 2002 reports that physical inactivity levels in Canadian older adults is a concern because 68% of women and 53% of men 55 years plus are inactive.

In Penticton, statistics reveal an even larger aging growth trends:

- The Population of Penticton is now 31, 909 and the greater Penticton population is 43, 313 (Statistic Canada, Census 2006)
- 38% of Penticton residents are 55 plus years (56% women and 44% men) and almost 54 % are over 45 yrs old.
- 1/3 of the total income from all sources include pensions and investments, therefore making Penticton the third largest retirement center in BC on an income per capita basis. (City of Penticton Community profile)
- Residential property in greater Penticton is consistent with provincial average with 70 % of properties being owner occupied, and 30 percent being rented (Census 2006)

Population Age Distribution

Age Grouping (yrs)	Male	Female	Total
45 - 49	1,195	1,385	2,585
50 - 54	1,110	1,260	2,370
55 - 59	1,040	1,085	2,125
60 - 64	815	1,000	1,815
65 - 69	775	925	1,705
70 - 74	870	970	1,840
75 - 79	800	1,000	1,795
80 - 84	600	900	1,505
85 +	495	895	1,390
Total			17,130

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2006

Population Projections for Okanagan Similkameen

Age	2010	2015	2020	2025	2031
0 - 14	10,744	11,670	12,888	13,076	12,526
15 - 24	9,514	8,607	7,848	8,298	9,715
25 - 34	10,018	10,904	10,102	9,178	8,422
35 - 44	8,832	10,339	12,809	13,670	12,627
45 - 54	12,640	11,459	10,781	12,351	15,106
55 - 64	12,377	13,837	14,161	13,096	12,652
65+	21,841	23,856	26,387	29,139	31,476
Total	85,966	90,672	94,976	98,808	102,524

Seniors Living Arrangements

Age	65 - 75	75 - 84	85 +
Institutional	2.2 %	8.2%	31.6%
Spouse	54.4%	39.9%	16.2%
Children/grandchildren	18.9%	16%	15.8%
Alone	28.2%	33%	33.7%
Other	3%	2.8%	2.6%

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2001