



May 5, 2022

You receive this newsletter to update you on issues and BCNU initiatives you may find important in retirement.

National Nursing Week: May 9-15

National Nursing Week is traditionally a time to recognize the nursing profession and honour the important work of our members. This year, rather than celebrate, BCNU is taking the opportunity to mourn the current health-care crisis.

Retired BCNU members are encouraged to join the call for change and participate in upcoming events taking place in Victoria next week. The events will highlight just how challenging working conditions have become for nurses and patients and demand the government commit to actionable changes that respect the value of nurses.

An evening vigil is planned for Monday, May 9, followed by a rally on the steps of the provincial legislature on Tuesday, May 10. Full details for the rally and vigil can be found on [BCNU's website](#).

BCNU Advertising Campaign: HelpBCNurses.ca

BCNU launched a new, province-wide television ad campaign in April to highlight the intense pressure nurses face amid the critical staffing shortage and the impact the deteriorating health-care system is having on members. The ads can be seen on major TV networks, digital streaming platforms, social media and transit shelters until May 15. Visit helpbcnurses.ca to watch the ad, learn more about the campaign and send a letter to your MLA asking them to use their voice to call for change and support BC's nurses.

BC Seniors Advocate Invites BCNU for Expert Consultation

British Columbia's Office of the Seniors Advocate (OSA) released its report *Every Voice Counts* in 2017. The report included results of a provincial survey of residents and family members of those in long term care. It also included the Seniors Advocate's recommendations arising from the survey.

For the next OSA survey in 2022, Michelle Sordal, Executive Councillor for Pensions and Seniors' Health and Hanif Karim, Human Rights, Equity and Health Policy Officer participated in the OSA Expert Consultation Group meeting on April 7 to plan implementation of this year's new survey. BC Seniors' Advocate, Isobel Mackenzie, will survey 27,000+ seniors living in 295 care homes, and their most frequent visitors, to learn more about their experiences and health-related quality of life living in long-term care homes.

To learn more about the 2017 survey, please visit <https://surveybcseniors.org/>. Please note this website will be updated for the 2022 survey.

BC's Low Income Seniors Gain Access to \$20 Monthly High-Speed Internet

The Canadian government announced Monday, Apr. 4 that affordable high-speed Internet will be available for low income seniors across the country, in partnership with 14 internet service providers. In BC, participating providers include Shaw, Telus and Novus.

For \$20 a month, faster speeds and doubled monthly data allotments will be made available to low income seniors. Affordable accessibility can help support connections with families and loved ones, along with increasing access to health care services and online learning opportunities.

Eligible households will receive a letter from the federal government that contains an access code. The code will be necessary to sign up securely for access to the discounted Internet offering.

If you know another retired member who did not yet receive this email, please forward this to let them know they can update their information with BCNU and be added to this mailing list by contacting Membership@bcnu.org.

Questions or suggestions? Reply to this email with your feedback for future eNewsletters.

For more information, please visit the [retired nurses](#) page on the BCNU website.

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