



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release 2012HLTH0149-002035 Dec. 17, 2012

Ministry of Health

Chinese version of BC Seniors' Guide now available

RICHMOND – The latest edition of the BC Seniors Guide with information on services, programs and tips on healthy aging is now available in Chinese, announced Minister of State for Seniors Ralph Sultan.

"The Chinese version of the BC Seniors' Guide gives more people around the province easy access to information that is relevant to seniors and their families," said Sultan. "It is a very handy booklet with updated information on services, programs, and many good tips on aging that will help service providers and families do their part in helping seniors stay in their homes longer."

In addition to updated information, the new edition of the BC Seniors' Guide includes a section on benefits. The guide also provides tips on healthy aging and encourages seniors to plan ahead for future needs.

"I get many questions from seniors about what our government offers in terms of services. Having a Chinese version of the BC Seniors' Guide will be a valuable source of information for the Chinese community," said Richard T. Lee, MLA for Burnaby-North.

"Having this information available in your own language will be most helpful and builds on our government's commitment to help our seniors," said Rob Howard, MLA for Richmond Centre.

The English version of the BC Seniors' Guide was unveiled in October. Chinese, French and Punjabi versions required additional time for translation and are available now. To receive a free copy, call 1 877 952-3181. The guides are also available online at: www.gov.bc.ca/seniorsguide

"The Chinese version of the BC Seniors Guide will be invaluable for many seniors and their families," said Kai Fun Kam. "Having all this information in one place that is quick and easy to use is very useful."

Providing easy access to all the information seniors and their families need to make informed choices about care is a key action in 'Improving Care for B.C. Seniors: An Action Plan' (Seniors Action Plan). Through the Seniors Action Plan, government is building a more accessible, transparent and accountable approach to seniors' care.

The plan contains specific deliverables to help seniors and their families navigate the health system, easily access information about care options, the creation of a provincial telephone line to report care concerns and the appointment of a seniors' advocate.

More information on the Seniors Action Plan and what has been achieved so far can be found online at: www.gov.bc.ca/seniorsactionplan

Under B.C.'s Family Agenda, government supports seniors by encouraging health, active aging so they can remain independent and enjoy active social participation. To learn more, visit: www.familiesfirstbc.ca

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