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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
2014HLTH0067-000822  
June 16, 2014

Ministry of Health

### **New Parliamentary Secretary for Seniors**

VICTORIA – Effective today, Michelle Stilwell has been appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health for Seniors, adding this role to her existing Parliamentary Secretary for Healthy Living responsibilities.

“Michelle has brought passion to her role as Parliamentary Secretary for Healthy Living,” said Health Minister Terry Lake. “I am confident that Michelle will apply the same dedication and passion as she adds the seniors’ portfolio to her role.”

Stilwell was elected MLA for Parksville-Qualicum on May 14, 2013. In addition to her role as Parliamentary Secretary, Stilwell serves as Government Caucus Chair and is a member of the Cabinet Committee on Secure Tomorrow and Treasury Board.

“I am very pleased to support Health Minister Lake with my new appointment as the Parliamentary Secretary responsible for Seniors,” said Stilwell. “I represent a constituency that has one of the highest percentages of older residents in the country and recognize the unique needs and contributions of this vital population. I look forward to working with the ministry and with the newly appointed Seniors Advocate, Isobel Mackenzie, as government continues to ensure the very best supports and care for B.C. seniors.”

Former parliamentary secretary for seniors Linda Larson will assume a new position as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Social Development and Social Innovation for Accessibility.

“One of the things I am hearing while touring the province and listening to seniors, is that their needs to be a single point of access so that seniors can easily obtain the information, services and supports they need,” said Seniors Advocate Isobel Mackenzie. “I know it will take a strong foundation of collaboration to meet the individual needs of older British Columbians and I look forward to working with the new Parliamentary Secretary for Seniors as we work together to improve seniors’ care.”

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