

Ottawa Journal: continued support for Canada's seniors

The financial security and well-being of seniors is important to our Government and we are providing real support to Canada's seniors. Recognizing the value of community-based projects that keep seniors active and engaged in their communities, our Government is proud to deliver significant support for seniors through targeted initiatives like the New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP).

In Economic Action Plan 2014, we bolstered support for the NHSP, delivering even more support to projects benefitting seniors in communities across Canada.

The NHSP supports community-based projects that encourage volunteerism, engage seniors in their community through mentoring opportunities, expand awareness of elder abuse, support the social participation and inclusion of seniors, or provide capital assistance to improve new and existing seniors' facilities. These senior-led or senior-inspired programs are helping ensure that seniors can benefit from and contribute to the quality of life in their communities through active living and participation in social activities.

Since 2006, our Government has worked hard to improve the well-being of seniors. We have worked to eliminate elder abuse and we passed the Protecting Canada's Seniors Act to help better protect seniors and victims of elder abuse.

We have also taken strong action to put money back into the pockets of seniors. Through our targeted tax-saving measures, like pension income-splitting and increasing the Age Credit amount, we are providing significant tax relief for seniors and pensioners. Furthermore, by introducing the largest Guaranteed Income Supplement increase in over 25 years, we are helping improve the well-being of seniors across Canada. Every dollar counts and these measures are helping seniors make ends meet.

Our Government is standing up for seniors. Canada's seniors have helped build our great nation. They have and continue to contribute greatly to our society and economy and as we stay focused on the priorities of Canadians, our Government will continue to work hard to support seniors and improve the quality of life in our communities.

By David Tilson, M.P.