



## Responding to BC Budget 2026

In response to the BC budget, COSCO BC, of which BCRPVPA is now an associate member, has issued a [press release](#) in which President Leslie Gaudette noted, "We are truly dismayed that the 2026 budget does little to assist seniors in their day to day lives. And there is even less for the community organizations and seniors' centres which provide programs and information that enable older adults to live healthy lives and reduce demand on our over-stretched health care system."

Leslie was also quoted in several news articles about the budget:

- [CTV News](#)
- [The Tyee](#)
- [MyPrinceGeorgeNow](#)

COSCO BC will continue speaking out about the impacts of the budget for older adults.

## Message from Secretary of State Stephanie McLean

In her most recent [message to seniors](#), Stephanie McLean, Secretary of State for Seniors, offers resources for tax season and tips for improving heart health and avoiding relationship and romance fraud.

## Home Support Campaign

Long-term care waitlists in BC have grown by more than 200% since 2016, as part of a systemic failure to address the needs of an aging population. COSCO and partners are calling for the [removal of co-payments for publicly funded home support services](#), to allow older adults to remain in their homes rather than turn to long-term care.

Home support is essential to our health care system. It reduces ER overcrowding, shortens surgical wait times, and much more.

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