

Val Wilson

Leading-Edge Living— Seniors Style

If I had known I was going to live this long, I would have taken better care of myself!

Anon

BC Notaries like to engage in continuing education. On March 10, a Vancouver hotel ballroom burgeoned with Notaries who were taking a day-long professional seminar called “Canada’s Aging Demographic – Challenges and Opportunities.”

The four CSA presenters offered a broad overview on Seniors trends, health, social aspects, resources, money and the new retirement, abuse and exploitation, communicating with seniors, and how Seniors’ issues affect the BC Notary’s practice—now and into the future.

- 80% of the wealth in Canada today is in the hands of seniors.
- By 2016, there will be more people in Canada over age 65 than children under 14.

This is a *very* good time to strategically position *your* business to best serve Seniors and the upcoming Boomer wave. You and your staff can retrain to understand the level of service and professionalism that seniors require from your company.

Baby Boomers—born between 1945 and 1957—are tomorrow’s Seniors. The first wave of this “silver tsunami” turns 60 this year. They will revolutionize the way people work and retire.

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With longevity studies confirming *the longer we work, the longer we live*, the face of successful retirement is already changing. Says Tammy Hoolsema, “As a Notary, my goal is to encourage my clients to embrace that phase of life—including strategies to balance pleasure with work you love. It’s okay to have a passion for career interests, even after retirement age.”



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We may choose *not* to retire—as we advance in years and wisdom.

- The more we mature, the more we *lead with our right . . . our right brain*. All decision-making is done in the right brain. It’s heart over head.
- The way we assimilate information changes—we become more conservative.
- We value *relationships* more.
- And *simple* is better. We want to uncomplicate our lives.

There is much to discover *about* and *from* the group we call Seniors.

Some of the more established cultures on our planet honour their elder citizens. Wayne Braid, Executive Director of The Society, notes that “North American culture can learn many things from our South Asian neighbours who respectfully celebrate and care for their parents, grandparents, and loved ones as they move into that next stage . . . the second life.” Our First Nations people also highly respect their elders.

The Senior Years can provide a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a Second Childhood and new lifestyle choices. We can devote our attention to health, diet, folks, pets, hobbies, education, exercise, or a fresh field of endeavour.

Remember: *Age is like a bank account. You withdraw in later life what you have deposited along the way.*

Ka-ching! ▲



The Society’s Secretary/Executive Director Wayne Braid (third from left) and President Ken Sherk (fifth from left) with CSA presenters Amy D’Aprix, Barry LaValley, Rhonda Latreille, and John Crawford