

Seniors Aging in Place (SAIP) Program

Helping rural seniors to maintain their at-home lifestyles through essential support services





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"It was a lifesaver, especially after surgery and during recovery. Also during the pandemic, as things were pretty lonesome."



Introduction

The Seniors Aging in Place (SAIP) Program offers support to help individuals live independently at home.

The program is available to residents who are 65 years or older and residing within Electoral Area D and portions of Electoral Area E within the Peace River Regional District.

SAIP is funded and administered by the Peace River Regional District (PRRD). The services are delivered by Dawson Creek Society for Community Living (DCSCL).

Seniors often prefer to stay in their homes as they age, a concept known as "aging in place." This is especially true in rural areas where they have built and maintained their homes, raised families and created lasting memories. These homes hold precious memories and serve as important gathering spots for generations. It's no surprise that seniors prefer to remain in these beloved spaces as they grow older.

Support for Aging in Place

The SAIP program offers tools to help seniors stay in their homes longer. It addresses common challenges such as access to healthy meals, help with household chores, social isolation and mobility issues during harsh winters.

"For me this program is too good to be true. I turn 70 this month and I'm hoping to stay in my home for as long as I possibly can."



*Select portions of Area E

History

The Seniors Aging in Place program was developed following two trial programs in 2020 and 2021, which highlighted the need to support rural seniors in Electoral Area D and parts of Electoral Area E.

The study identified snow removal, housekeeping and assistance with meals as the priority needs.

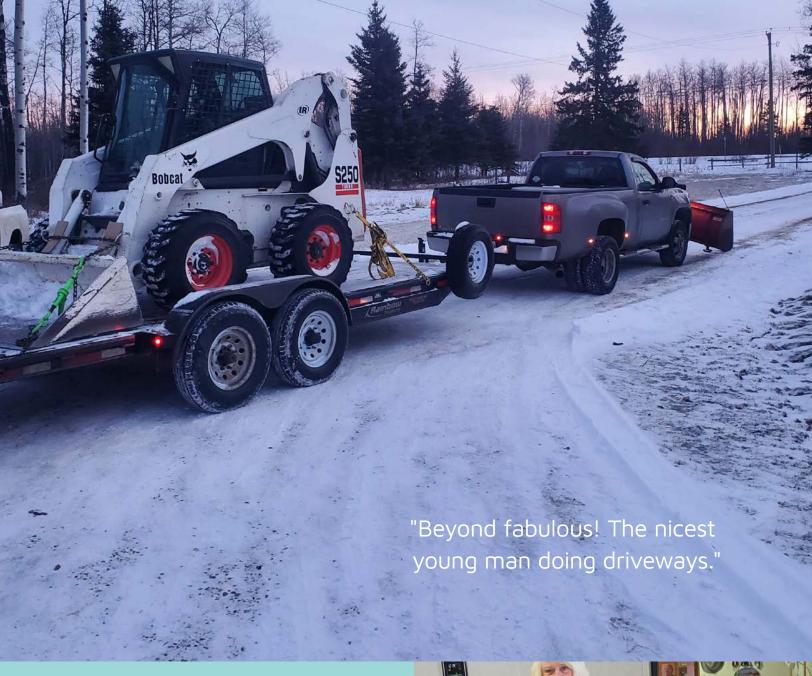
In July 2021, following a favourable region-wide referendum, the Regional Board of the Peace River Regional District adopted the Seniors Aging in Place Support Services Establishment Bylaw. The program was enacted mandating the provision of in-home support services through a qualified third party

In November 2021, a Request for Proposal led to the Dawson Creek Society fo Community Living being selected to continue delivering these essential services. Founded in 1958, DCSCL leverages its vast experience and skilled staff to effectively support the evolving needs of seniors and people with disabilities in the community, ensuring they can live independently at home for as long as possible.

As of 2024, DCSCL remains the service provider, demonstrating its ongoing commitment to enhancing the quality of life for seniors in the region.

"Couldn't be more thrilled with the program.

Done well and quick. Love the visits!"



"Very happy & satisfied.
Thankful to the housekeeping ladies, they are very special to me."



In-Home Support Services



Healthy Meals

\$5.00 per meal, per person*

Five freshly frozen home-cooked meals delivered weekly, with a customizable menu that includes over 20 curated options such as:

- Roast beef with mashed potatoes, vegetables and gravy
- Shepherd's pie
- Ham with scalloped potatoes and vegetables
- Chili
- · Cabbage rolls
- Beef or chicken stir-fry
- Baked chicken with rice and vegetables

Seniors are free to choose and submit their preferences weekly. Food allergies and special food requirements such as gluten-free and are available upon request.

Meals are delivered on a prearranged day with a delivery contractor, who also performs a social check and socializes during each visit.

"Meals are just the perfect size. I'm diabetic so they are perfect for nutrition."





Housekeeping

\$15.00 per visit*

Two professionals clean each home for two hours per visit, on a bi-weekly basis. The contractor provides the labour and necessary cleaning supplies, equipment and products required.

A social component is involved as many seniors experience loneliness and look forward to these visits while receiving help to complete household chores.



Home Maintenance, Snow Removal

\$20.00 per service*

(Max. 3 snowplow services per month)

A contractor completes snow removal at each subscribed home up to three times a month. The snow removal services are available from November to March.

*Service fees are subject to change and are established, maintained and updated through Regional District Bylaw 2483, 2022. For more information contact saip@prrd.bc.ca.



Eligibility & Application Process

The Seniors Aging in Place program is available to residents who are 65 years of age or older, and residing in Electoral Area D and portions of Electoral Area E.

Electoral Area D includes the following communities:

Arras	Doe River	Kilkerran	Rolla	Tupper
Bessborough	Farmington	One Island	Tomslake	
Cutbank	Kelly Lake	Lake	Tower Lake	

The Electoral Area E service area includes the following communities:

Groundbirch Sunset Prairie Progress Willow Valley

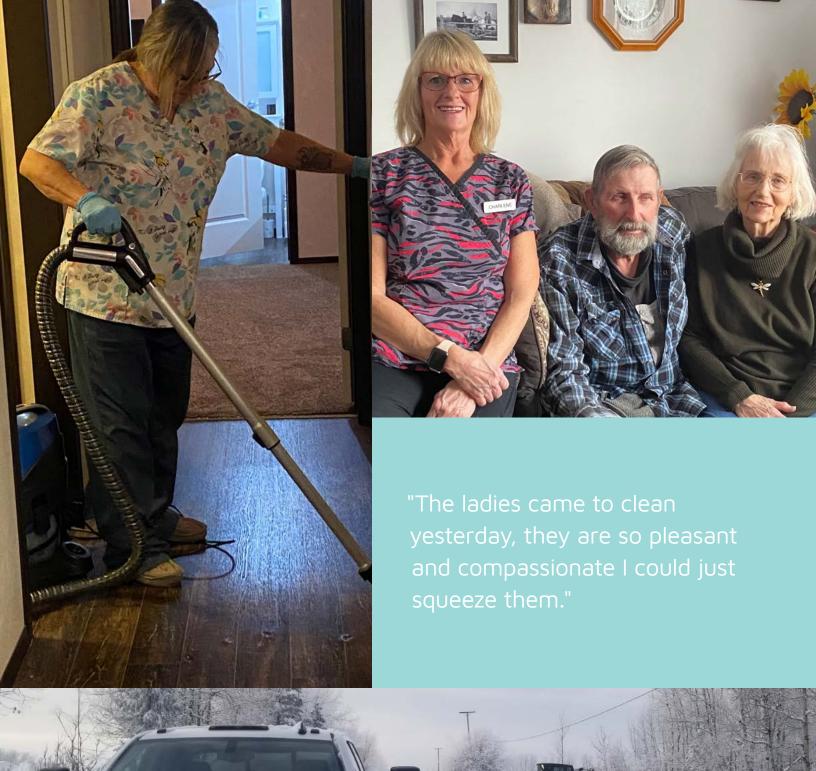
To apply for the SAIP program, eligible residents must complete and submit an application form.

Obtaining an application form:

- Print or download a fillable form at prrd.bc.ca/saip
- Receive via mail by calling 250-782-2611
- Pick up at the Dawson Creek Society for Community Living (DCSCL)

Submitting an application form:

- Email to saip@prrd.bc.ca
- Mail to Dawson Creek Society for Community Living at 1334 102 Avenue, Dawson Creek BC, V1G 2C6
- Drop off at DCSCL
- Fax to 250-782-2662



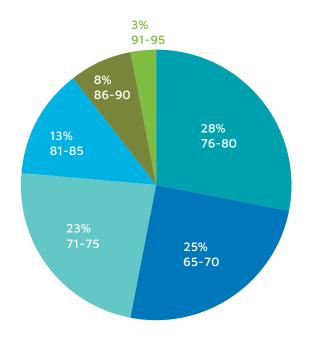


Program Enrollment: As of October 2024

The number of seniors in the program increased from 120 to 277 since 2022. This represents about three percent of the 1,300 seniors aged 65 or older in Areas D and E identified by the 2021 Canadian Census.

The majority of enrolled seniors are receiving one or more of the in-home support services with most in the 76 to 80 years old category.

If you are interested in the program please reach out to a program representative at saip@prrd.bc.ca or 250-782-2611 to learn more about receiving a services trial!



Program enrollment by age group

76 - 80 year old are the majority of the program participants.

"The girls are awesome, wonderful to chat with, they do fantastic work and are quick, thorough and efficient."

Number of seniors: 200 150 100 153 98

Program enrollment by number of services

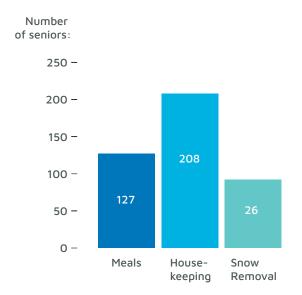
1 Service

2 Services

3 Services

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Most program participants are using only one of the three in-home services.



Program enrollment by service type

Housekeeping has the highest in-home service enrollment.

Seniors Aging in Place (SAIP) Program



