



# BC Association of Community Response Networks

*Stopping Adult Abuse and Neglect...Together*

## **Community Based Support for Older and Vulnerable Adults**

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**“766,000 Canadian seniors more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  million were abused in one year”**

***...2016 National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly***

# Who is the BC CRN?

- Provincial umbrella organization.
- Supports development of coordinated community responses.
- Provides education, resources.
- Provincial, national, international initiatives.





# BCCRN's Vision

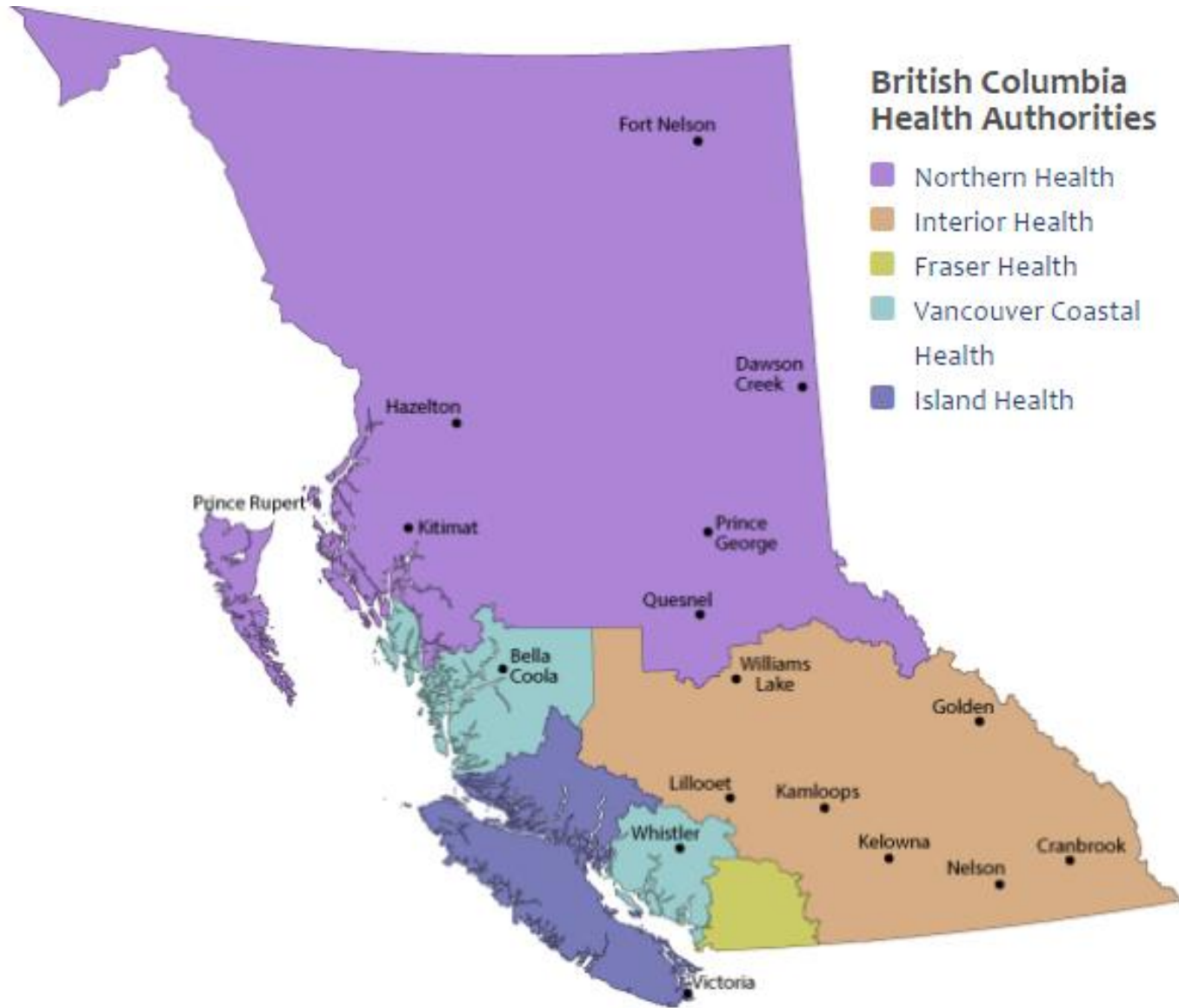
Safe communities where adults are valued, respected, and free from abuse and neglect





## What is a local CRN?

- ▶ Community Response Networks are diverse groups of concerned citizens who work together to create a coordinated community response to adult abuse and neglect.



Currently there are **89** active CRNs **260** communities.

# Seniors in Abbotsford (2021)

- 28,110 residents over 65
  - 65 to 69 years: 8,385
  - 70 to 74 years: 7,310
  - 75 to 79 years: 5,040
  - 80 to 84 years: 3,610
  - 85 years and over: 3,770

## Immigrant Population in Abbotsford



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**India:** Almost six out of ten (59%) recent immigrants were born in India.

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**Philippines:** A distant second, accounting for 6% of recent immigrants.

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**Syria:** Representing 4% of recent immigrants



# Barriers to Access

- Role reversal and status demotion
- Intergenerational tension
- Sponsorship dependency & isolation
- Filial piety – complex and overrated
- Health beliefs





“Children are not willing to take the responsibility. ...No one has the time and everyone is selfish, no? ...Only dollars, dollars, dollars, that’s it” (Punjabi senior).

“The majority of us, ... we’re afraid sometimes to ask for help, because ... [our children] would say, ‘Okay, now you have to go to the hospital.’ ... In a nursing home, you have to struggle a lot. ... It’s not easy” (Hispanic senior)



# Dependency

- ▶ Low income
- ▶ Immigration status
- ▶ High cost of housing
- ▶ Cultural aspects:
  - ▶ 25% live with relatives vs 5% general population
  - ▶ Shame
  - ▶ Family dignity



# Culturally Responsive CRNS

- APNI Community Response Network (South Asian)
- Chinese Community Response Network
- Fraser Valley East Indigenous Elders Community Response Network
- LOVE Community Response Network
- Francophone Community Response Network



Thank you for your time.

**Together, We Can Make a Difference!**

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