

2024 Kitimat Age-Friendly Action Plan (Revision from 2018)

DRAFT	*New or Revised Action 2024	Green highlight = Age Friendly Committee support required
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ACTION #	ACTION/GOAL	RESPONSIBLE LEAD	RESPONSIBLE SUPPORTS	PRIORITY	ACTION STEPS	UPDATES	STATUS	DATE OF COMPLETION	COMMENTS
OUTDOOR SPACES AND BUILDINGS									
1.1	Acknowledge and recognize the diverse needs of seniors and citizens that may have a disability or mobility issue; include those in the planning, development, regulations and public infrastructure design in the District of Kitimat moving forward.	DOK- Community Planning and Development	Advisory Planning Commission, Downtown Design Panel , Age-Friendly Committee, 50+ Society , Accessibility and Inclusion Committee, Housing Committee	high		Awaiting updates from Planning	Ongoing		
1.2.a.	Improve the condition of the walkway network throughout the community to reduce uneven pavement and cracks on walkways to help minimize tripping hazards.	DOK- Engineering	Accessibility and Inclusion Committee	high			Needs Review		
1.2.b.	Improve the condition of curb standards around public infrastructure and walkways (e.g. paint curbs , use transitional curbs tha allow for easy wheelchair and scooter access.	DOK- Engineering	Accessibility and Inclusion Committee	high	In 2024 curbs improvements will be focused around City Centre.	Curbs continue to be evaluated on a yearly basis and improvements continue to happen.	Ongoing	2030	
1.3	Ensure leaves, tree needles, snow and ice removal efforts are done in a timely manner and take into consideration the needs of seniors using mobility devices. Clear snow in a way that does not block senior's access to and from home.	DOK- Public Works	Better at Home (KCDC) (e.g. snow and ice removal) Accessibility and Inclusion Committee	medium		Public Works sends out the sidewalk and street sweeper as soon as we can in the spring and run them periodically throughout the summer and fall. Snow removal operations are done when it is snowing at 3" level. We do these to the best of our abilities in all areas of town.	Ongoing		
1.4	Improve overall access to public buildings, facilities, and parks for people of varying abilities.	DOK- Community Planning and Development	Downtown Design Panel, Accessibility and Inclusion Committee	high		Awaiting updates from Planning *The visitor centre was upgraded with a lift and a ramp recently. Also another ramp was added at the back door @ the Riverlodge.	Needs review		
1.5	Increase the number of benches throughout the District.	DOK-Leisure Services	Age-Friendly Committee	medium		In 2021 D of K undertook bench replacement program as well as additional community benches. (Minimum 10 per year) We are currently in year 3 of 3 and we will have completed replacement of all old benches, plus the addition of benches along Lahakas Blvd & Quatsino sidewalks. 5 were replaced in 2024. in 2024 will be adding the 'Happy to Chat' benches in the community. Will reassess new locations in 2025.	Ongoing	2024	Happy To Chat benches pushed to spring/summer 2025.
1.6	Ensure safe crossings in busy traffic areas of the city (e.g. use high visibility crossings and post highly visible signage for all, updated curb cuts using universal design standards)	DOK-Engineering	Traffic Committee, Accessibility and Inclusion Committee	high	In 2024 install three additional RRFB at selected crosswalks	In 2023 seven (7) crosswalks received new Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) that improve the safety of these crosswalks	Ongoing	2025	

1.7	Provide accessible public washrooms in key areas of the community.	DOK-Leisure Services	Age-Friendly Committee	high		<p>Portable washrooms (Poly John) are provided in the following locations each summer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Dog Park (1), * Mountainview Square (2) * Lower City Centre Parking Lot (2) * Kitimat River Pumphouse (1) * Cable Car riverbank access (1) * Giant Spruce riverbank access (2) * Accessible fishing area (1) * Riverlodge Ball field # 1 (1) * Shooting range (2) * Two permanent toilets have been installed at Minette Bay Park. <p>Cemetery LS Department has asked for funding to install a permanent pit toilet at the cemetery. Funding was not provided in 2024 and will be asked for again in 2025</p>	Ongoing		<p>LS-Ongoing program to continue into 2024. Council to consider permanent toilet at Cemetery as part of 2024 budget deliberations. If no permanent toilet install portable toilet to be installed at Cemetery. *AFC notes that the portable washrooms have not been accessible.</p>
1.8	<p>Offer incentives to business owners to improve overall accessibility of private building infrastructures throughout the community to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * accessible entrances (e.g. ramps, no steps) * automated door openers * accessible parking 	DOK-Economic Development	Chamber of Commerce, Accessibility and Inclusion Committee	medium		<p>We offer up to \$5,000 (50% of project costs) to do renovations to the outside of businesses through the Business Façade Improvement Program (funded by NDIT). Ramps and accessibility improvements are eligible under the program.</p> <p>We also offer a 50% reduction in municipal property taxes if a building owner within commercial centres invests at least \$50,000 in improving the appearance of their building. This is through the Commercial centre Revitalization Tax Exemption program. Accessibility improvements are eligible as long as they are affixed to the building and improve its appearance. The program is running until 2027.</p>	Ongoing		<p>Chamber comment- I think it would be great if the age-friendly committee took a page out of our business walks committee and have a group go around and ask 3 - 4 questions on how accessibility can be achieved and more importantly what does that mean to them. Is it physical, audio, visual. We could do posters, stickers and educate at the same time as find ways to fund. AFC comment- Look into opportunities to educate business owners on how they can be more accessible to seniors and persons with disabilities.</p>
1.9	Identify walkways network gaps to ensure connectivity between community places.	DOK- Community Planning and Development, Engineering	Downtown Design Panel	medium		<p>Awaiting updates from Planning Kitimat Transportation Plan was adopted by Council. In 2022,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * As a part of the Haisla Bridge Replacement Project, a new walkway will fill the gap in the walkway network by connecting Kuldo Boulevard and RadleyPark. * A new walkway along Quatsino Boulevard connecting downtown to the Bill Rich Soccer Fields. * A new crosswalk on Nalabila, by Wakita Avenue. This connects Wakita Av. to the community. <p>There has been upgrades on the Sumgas walkway between Columbia and Okanagan. There was a walkway created between Yukon and Skeena street.</p>	Needs review		

1.10	Update the Official Community Plan to reflect the above measures	DOK- Community Planning and Development	Advisory Planning Commission	medium		Awaiting updates from Planning	Needs review		
1.11	Create options for citizens to report on public safety concerns in outdoor spaces and buildings (e.g. provide for comments online, written format and over the telephone)	DOK		medium			Needs review		
TRANSPORTATION (INCLUDING TRAFFIC SAFETY)									
2.1	Marketing and promotion to further educate seniors and persons with a disability or mobility issue of the availability and usage of the Handy Dart program.	BC Transit, DOK		high		Handy Dart is managed by BC Transit. A BC Transit representative will be presenting to Council on March 13, 2024, DOK will touch base on this item and report updates.	Ongoing		
2.2	Extend Handy Dart hours of operations into the evenings and improve communication with the users who rely on this service.	BC Transit, DOK		high		The custom transit service (Handy Dart) hours were increased to match the conventional system hours. Interruption to service hours may occur due to events such as weather or staffing challenges experienced by the operator.	Ongoing		AFC-Current HandyDart hours on BC Transit website for Kitimat Regional Transit shows 7:00am to 10:00pm, Everyday, including holidays. When I called there it said 9:15-6:30pm, everyday- must phone 24 hours in advance.
2.3	Conduct an accessible parking study to identify where and how to add more accessible parking spaces throughout the city	DOK-Engineering	Private and public lot owners, Accessibility and Inclusion Committee, Traffic Committee	low		No Updates - District of Kitimat Parking lots continue to be evaluated and if funds become available a third party will be hired to complete a study.	Ongoing		
2.4	Improve signage for accessible parking spaces (e.g. signage in front of or beside stall, not just pavement paint markings)	DOK-Engineering	Traffic Committee	medium		Sign evaluation for lower and upper city parking lots were complete in 2023 and new signage will be upgraded in 2024 to provide further clarity.	Ongoing		
2.5	Engage local taxi owners to discuss: * Option of wheelchair friendly van Unreliable service User friendly practices for seniors Ethical fares for rides (e.g. charging per person instead of per ride)	DOK, Local taxi companies		high		The current cab companies do not offer wheelchair accessible taxi's. They acknowledge that it is something they are working towards.	Needs Review		
2.6	Provide a bus/shuttle from Kitimat to the Regional Airport.	BC Transit, DOK	private companies	high		BC Transit Regional Service Priorities 2023-2028 would include the priority to improve the service frequency of the 11 Terrace/Kitimat Connector. Implementing this priority would require coordination with the Regional District of Kitimat Stikine and City of Terrace. This priority adds four additional trips in both directions on weekdays. All of the new trips would utilize the airport routing. These trip times would be traveler due to variabilities in flight schedules. aligned with flight times, but we cannot guarantee it will work for every traveler due to variabilities in flight schedules. Two additional trips on Saturday to align with flight times. Also the introduction of Sunday service that would mirror Saturday service.	In progress		
2.7	Explore the feasibility of adding smaller buses to travel within the region.	BC Transit, DOK	Traffic committee	low			Needs Review		

2.8	Review the current transit travel information systems by improving and adding on-board visual aids and audio notifications and by enhancing displays at bus stops.	BC Transit, DOK	Traffic committee	medium		BC Transit launched NextRide in August 2022. As part of that program, the transit stops are announced to passengers and persons at the bus stop. There is a sign on the bus that visual announces each stop on the route.	In progress		
2.9	Explore the feasibility of offering a program or supports that helps older adults transition from being drivers to non-drivers.	BC Ministry of Transportation	BC Transit, Traffic Committee	low			Not started		None at this time. BC provides the Senior's Supplement and BC Bus Pass to eligible low-income seniors residing in BC.
2.10	Prioritize the needs of seniors and person's with accessibility concerns in snow clearing protocols around bus shelters.	DOK Public Works	Accessibility and Inclusion Committee	high			Needs Review		
2.11	Increase number of covered bus shelters around the community	BC Transit, DOK	Age-Friendly Committee	high	Age-Friendly Committee needs to put a formal request to Council asking for this to be considered in budget discussions.		Needs Review		
2.12	Additional bus service to Haisla Nation, Cable Car and Terrace for appointments	BC Transit, DOK,	Haisla Nation	high		* BC Transit to introduce Sunday service to Haisla Nation and improve Improving weekday service frequency to approximately 120 minutes throughout the day * Improvements to the service frequency of the 11 Terrace/Kitimat Connector- this priority adds four additional trips in both directions on weekdays. All of the new trips would utilize the airport routing. Two additional trips on Saturday to align with flight times. Also the introduction of Sunday service that would mirror Saturday service.	In progress		No changes to Cable Car at this time.

HOUSING

3.1	Use incentives to encourage apartment building owners to improve accessibility in existing buildings.	DOK- Community Planning and Development	Housing Committee, Accessibility and Inclusion Committee, Kitimat Valley Housing Society	high		Awaiting updates from Planning	Ongoing		
3.2	Develop a dementia village and care facility	BC Housing, DOK- Community Planning and Development Northern Health, Kitimat Valley Housing Society	DOK, Kitimat Health Advocacy Group, BC Housing	high		Awaiting updates from Planning Project planning is underway and project has been turned over to BC Housing. The facility will have 12 beds.	In progress	The anticipated opening date is March 2026 (subject to change of course based on construction etc.) The facility will have 12 beds.	
3.3	Explore opportunities for seniors to access reliable and affordable handyman services and increase access to Better At Home services	Kitimat Community Development Centre- Better At Home	Age-Friendly Committee	high		The Better At Home program does not currently offer handyman services as they cannot find a person for this job.	In progress		Is it possible for AFC to team with BAH/CDC to provide handyman services access for other seniors in the community?

3.4	Explore accessible, affordable and sustainable housing models that are Age-Friendly by researching innovative home sharing initiatives such as intergenerational housing, co- housing, Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities (NORC's) and flexible housing alternatives for increased options for the community.	DOK- Community Planning and Development, Kitimat Valley Housing Society	Housing Committee, Age-Friendly Committee	high		Awaiting updates from Planning	Ongoing		
3.5	Incentivize the development of affordable housing by collaborating with local developers to educate and explore options to meet the housing needs of the aging population.	DOK- Community Planning and Development, Kitimat Valley Housing Society	Housing Committee	high		Awaiting updates from Planning	Ongoing		
3.6	Create a guide for seniors to plan and access resources and financial supports available for improving home safety and making home accessibility upgrades.	DOK	Kitimat Community Development Centre, Age-Friendly Committee , Kitimat Valley Housing Society, Chamber of Commerce , Accessibility and Inclusion Committee	medium		Kitimat Chamber of Commerce will set up a meeting with the responsible supports to put a plan into action.	In progress		
3.7	Investigate waiving building permit fees for seniors to improve seniors ability to 'age in place' through home improvement projects to improve home safety and accessibility.	DOK- Engineering and Community Planning and Development	Accessibility and Inclusion Committee, Housing Committee	medium		Awaiting updates from Planning * RE waiving fees for seniors doing improvements on their homes- Engineering commented they are very open to looking at this, but will have to review this in 2025.	Ongoing		
3.8	Investigate alternative housing options such as: *more assisted living spaces *tiny homes *multigenerational housing *senior only housing	DOK- Community Planning and Development, Kitimat Valley Housing Society		high		Awaiting updates from Planning	Needs Review		
3.9	Prioritize accessible housing options for seniors and consider offering subsidies for accessibility improvements that will allow seniors to 'age in place'	DOK- Community Planning and Development, Kitimat Valley Housing Society	Accessibility and Inclusion Committee	high		Awaiting updates from Planning	Needs Review		
RESPECT, SOCIAL INCLUSION AND CULTURAL SAFETY									
4.1	Identify and celebrate the contributions of senior members of the community (e.g. community award).	Age- Friendly Committee	DOK, Leisure Services Advisory Committee	low		LSAC-The Leisure Services continues to manage the Distinguished Citizen Awards which are given out each July 1st. Currently, there is no specific award for seniors, although it's estimated that 60-70% of these awards are given to seniors. It was noted that for a specific 'senior' award, this would need to be brought forth and approved by Council.	Ongoing		Engagement showed seniors feel they are being recognized. Is the AFC interested in bringing forth the idea of a specific 'senior' award?

4.2	Expand Chamber of Commerce's welcome package to include information about community resources, services and social opportunities for seniors. Consider having other community agencies share this information with their clients (e.g. KCDC, DOK, KVHS, KGHF, TSW, KCSS and other agencies)	Chamber of Commerce	DOK, Kitimat Community Development Centre , Age-Friendly Committee, Kitimat Valley Housing Society , Kitimat General Hospital Foundation, Tamitik Status of Women , Kitimat Community Services Society, Accessibility and Inclusion Committee	medium		* The Leisure services Department does not provide any input on the program other than the provision of drop in passes for new persons to the community. * Kitimat Chamber of Commerce will invite input from the Responsible Supporters(e.g. KCDC, DOK, KVHS, KGHF, TSW, KCSS and other agencies) to a session to discuss what they would like to add.	Ongoing		
4.3	Encourage businesses to adopt a senior appreciation day.	Chamber of Commerce	DOK, Leisure Services Advisory Committee	low		The Chamber Director will encourage this with the business community.	Not started		
4.4	Adopt a yearly Age-Friendly Business Award	DOK Economic Development	Chambe of Commerce	low		The Chamber Director will investigate adding a 'senior' category to the Business Excellence Award (BEA) The 2024 committee will discuss for this year's event.	In progress		
4.5	Create intergenerational opportunities for seniors to mentor and pass on their knowledge to younger generations in the community and workplace.	Age- Friendly Committee	Schools, Chamber of Commerce , Business Community, Kitimat Valley Education Society	low		The Chamber is suggesting a casual coffee house where seniors can share with business members. Would want support from Senior Association on this.	Ongoing		Two ideas: An opportunity for an Intergenerational Day project. There is also National Mentoring Month in January of each year.
4.6	Encourage, educate and develop opportunities for the business community to become more accessible and inclusive to seniors	Chamber of Commerce, Accessibility and Inclusion Committee	Age-Friendly Committee	high			Needs Review		
SOCIAL WELL-BEING AND PARTICIPATION									
5.1	Identify and provide outreach support to socially isolated members of the community	Better At Home, Northern Health	DOK, Kitimat Health Advocacy Group , Community Churches, 50+ Society , Age-Friendly Committee	high		BAH- provides wellness calls to our senior clients, and we are working on getting some social projects with other organizations off the ground but those are also still a work in progress. NH- For those in the community who are in need of long term care assessments or who have been assessed and are awaiting a bed, we have social workers connecting with these people in the community to provide more of a case management function in hopes to mitigate any issues before they become crises.	Ongoing		

5.2	Develop a marketing plan for promotion of community events that does not strictly rely on social media or technology and instead targets the use of more Age-Friendly means such as television (local channel 10), newspapers, radio or community boards. Consider conducting a study/or survey to see how to seniors in the community want to be reached.	DOK- Economic Development	Chamber of Commerce, Age-Friendly Committee	low		The District has run a communications survey over the last two years that aims to learn what the community's preference is for communication and where residents typically get information from the District. This year's survey was mostly completed by seniors and the results showed a preference for communications through social media and the website. We plan to have this survey annually and will adjust our communication channels as needed based on survey results. It is worth noting though that the District typically uses a mix of digital and non-digital advertising mediums to get messages out.	Ongoing		How was the communications survey completed? Seniors that don't have or use computers or social media would not be able to access the survey.
5.3	Collaborate across agencies to increase programming and services for seniors (e.g. social, health, recreational)	Age- Friendly Committee, Interagency Committee		medium			Needs Review		
COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION									
6.1	Install a community board near City Centre that operates as a looping system to keep seniors and other community members up to date on social activities and events that may be taking part in the community	DOK	Downtown Design Panel, Leisure Services Advisory Committee , Age-Friendly Committee	high		Funding was provided for the digital sign in 2022, although it was taken back to deal with costs related to road paving. It has not been reallocated (provided again) in either 2023 or 2024 by Council. The item of an electronic sign is still on the capital list for future funding. It is the Leisure Services Department's hope it will be provided in 2025.	Not started		Loss of local TV station for updates on community events has affected older seniors access to community information. *Centralized community board that provides updates to community would benefit ALL ages.
6.2	Distribute local information and resource guides to health care providers and community hubs (e.g. 50+ Society, recreation centres, Kitimat Hospital and doctor clinics/offices).	Age- Friendly Committee	Chamber of Commerce, Kitimat Health Advocacy Group	low			Not started		
6.3	Develop a printed guide for Kitimatian seniors that lists relevant information and services; available in large lettering format and different language options.	Chamber of Commerce	DOK, Age-Friendly Committee	low	1) Michelle mentioned that this may already be offered through a programs through TSW, Michelle to connect with TSW on this, check if still offered.		Not started		
6.4	Ensure District of Kitimat newsletter provides information about events and activities one month or more in advance.	DOK-Economic Development		medium		DOK Newsletter is sent out quarterly. Copies are also available in print at various locations around the community. Most events do not advertise as early as a month in advance. However, when information on District-led events are available that far in advance, an ad is placed in the Newsletter for them. The Council meeting schedule is typically advertised a month ahead regardless.	Ongoing		Newsletter is delivered quarterly.

6.5	Explore the creation of a 'community corner' section for seniors on the District website that provides up- to-date information on community events and activities.	DOK-Economic Development		medium		The District has a community calendar on the website that can be updated by community members with details of upcoming events. Events that staff are aware of are added to the calendar. However, a more comprehensive calendar of events is hosted on the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce website.	Needs Review		Comments that advertising is needed to get the word out to seniors-a seniors corner on DOK website would assist seniors that use technology. As with much of communication that is done via technology, it does not reach seniors that do not have access or use technology.
6.6	Schedule regular community forums that provide informational updates on the progress of the Age-Friendly Action Plan and allow for continued input from seniors. Publish this information in an annual progress report.	DOK, Age- Friendly Committee		high	1) Michelle to enquire with BCCRN to see if funding may be available for this. 2) Ask Council for annual funding of hours from DOK to do this on a yearly basis. 3) Look into sharing of AFC minues with 50+ Centre so that senior membership can be kept in the loop.		Needs Review		Current review and update of AF Action Plan in 2024 was made possible via a grant from BC Healthy Communities- any further work on these actions will need the dedicated support of an AF Coordinator that can liason with leads/supports to action items within the Age-Friendly Action Plan.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND EMPLOYMENT									
7.1	Create an integrated system for seniors to gain access to volunteer opportunities in the community.	Age- Friendly Committee	DOK and Kitimat Chamber	low		DOK- The District, as part of the Leisure Services Guide, includes a lists a community directory – which would connect people to various service groups and community groups. This is printed in the fall leisure guide and is listed on the DOK website under Recreation and Leisure- Clubs and Community Groups' CHAMBER- The Chamber recently held a volunteer fair. There was 13 booths set up and 50 people in attendance. The Chamber will also be setting up an online volunteer opportunities fair guide for people seeking volunteer opportunities in the community.	Ongoing		
7.2	Ensure DOK commissions/committees have representation from older adult community members.	DOK, Age-Friendly Committee	ALL advisory committees and commissions	low	1) Check with Inclusion and Diversity Committee on this action.	Chelsea Rinquinha accepted invitation as a new youth member of the AFC- joined in September 2024.	In progress		2) AFC to take steps to include a youth position on the committee- COMPLETED
7.3	Raise awareness of ageism and Age-Friendly practices amongst the business community.	Chamber of Commerce and DOK Economic Development	Age-Friendly Committee and Business Community	high	1) Nanci to meet with Chamber Director to discuss actions that can support this.	ECO DEV- The Façade Improvement program provides grants to put in accessibility improvements to businesses. Businesses considering improvements in accessibility are encouraged to apply for other available grants in addition to the Business Façade Improvement grant. We are open to collaboration with the 50+ Association to fill in other gaps where possible.	Ongoing		
7.4	Develop an internal communications guide to ensure all District departments are communicating in an Age-Friendly way.	DOK		low		This action may be considered as part of the District Accessibility and Inclusion Plan. The District did adopt a Communications Policy in June 2023	Needs Review		

COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND HEALTH AND WELLNESS SERVICES

<p>8.1</p>	<p>Develop strategies to promote the recruitment and retention of health care professionals at all levels to the community.</p>	<p>Northern Health recruiter based KGH DOK Recruiter and Retention Coordinator</p>	<p>Kitimat Health Advocacy Group</p>	<p>high</p>	<p>1) Explore initiatives for job fairs that provide access to all types of positions in health care. 2) Network with highschool to support on career workshops or career days. 3) Michelle to follow up with Rotary Club on ways to reduce barriers for students to attend workshops.</p>	<p>DOK Recruiter and Retention Coordinator has been hired NH- This is through the Medical Affairs department. We do not have any information on this at this time. KHAG continues to subsidize rent for professionals in 2 houses in our community. Northern Health- Not sure if this is a strategy that NH recruitment would take on? -KHAG started support for a Lab Manager recently for 6 months at \$500.00 per month. -In it's 2023 Budget it is hoped that the DOK will sustain and increase KHAG Supports to Northern Health to recruit and to augment training and retention incentives for all types of Health Care Professionals ranging from LPN's, RN's, Specialty Services and even GP's and Dr. Specialists. At the same time, the DOK through Budgetary supports to KHAG, supports multiple NHA houses in the community to attract and support the acquisition of short term, Contract Agency Nurses as well as providing incentives for Nursing Professionals to move to Kitimat.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>		<p>Delta King bringing a hearing specialist to town starting June 5th at Delta King Place treatment room. Appointments made through Amplify in Terrace. Discussion on how to reduce barriers for highschool students to access career workshops. UNBC considering a condensed nursing degree program.</p>
<p>8.2</p>	<p>Increase in dementia care training and services.</p>	<p>Northern Health Kitimat Valley Housing Society</p>	<p>Service Providers, Kitimat Health Advocacy Group</p>	<p>high</p>	<p>1) Check with Walsham-ECO DEV on possible incentives for attracting private home care business to the community.</p>	<p>NH- Ongoing offering of dementia education for staff who work at MVL. Goal is to have every staff member trained. -KHAG supports NHA in its acquisition and retention of several recent graduates of the Health Care Access Program (Coast Mountains College) and their recruitment to Mountainview Lodge and the Home Support Network in Kitimat. KHAG Directors sit on or sit in on Kitimat Valley Housing Society Board Meetings as well as serving on the Kitimat General Hospital Foundation in total support of the NHA/BC Gov./ Kitimat Valley Housing Society proposed Kitimat Dementia Care Cottage. If called upon, KHAG will augment the recruitment and retention of Multi-Level Care Professionals for both Mountainview Lodge, the proposed Dementia Care Cottage Development and even Kitimat Home Support Services.</p>	<p>In progress</p>		

8.3	Increase the number of home health care providers.	Northern Health	Kitimat Health Advocacy Group	high		NH- Health care assistant program being offered (HCAP) seats are on going and being utilized to train more home support staff. KHAG-As repeated above under 8.2, KHAG is in support of the Health Care Access Program under NHA Direction.	In progress		
8.4	Implement a grocery delivery service for those who are unable to shop on their own.	Better At Home (KCDC)	Local grocery stores, Age-Friendly Committee	medium		BAH already offers this service to senior clients and is working to encourage clients to access this service, which has been a challenge.	In progress		Finds ways to advertise the BAH services- consider ways that don't rely only on technology (high likelihood of seniors not using technology in older years)
8.5	Increase access to the number of assisted living spaces, multi-level care spaces for the community through the support of dementia care.	Northern Health	Kitimat Health Advocacy Group, Kitimat Valley Housing Society	high		NH- No ability to increase space at MVL. Dementia House building is moving ahead. -KHAG sits in on and supports the efforts of Kitimat Valley Housing Society and the Kitimat Hospital Foundation in support of the new planned Kitimat Dementia Care Cottage Project and will actively support the recruitment and retention of trained personnel for this facility, if called upon by NHA to do so.	Ongoing		Discussion on: the repurposing of the current transition house to be used as group home for seniors or respite. - Investigate ways to support seniors staying in their homes longer. - Include KVHS on possible ways to support senior housing in the community.
8.6	Implement educational programs that support training seniors in acquiring the skills to access virtual care services.	Northern Health	Kitimat Health Advocacy Group	high			Needs Review		
8.7	Explore ways to increase overall access to medical services (e.g. specialists, testing)	Northern Health	Kitimat Health Advocacy Group	high			Needs Review		