

Valley East Priority Report

THE TIME FOR ACTION IS NOW-DIVIDED WE FAIL OUR SENIORS

Affordable Housing for Seniors

VECAN Senior Committee has now taken on a new challenge: demanding solutions from our civic leaders. We are providing the voice for the many Valley East Seniors who believe that the most pressing domestic issues facing them, today, is Health Care and Housing. We strongly believe that affordable, quality health care and housing are fundamental rights for all Valley East seniors. The system must be improved by making these two major issues both affordable and accessible. We need to stop laying blame, to welcome possible solutions to the problem, and to move forward on recommendations that have been presented by various stakeholders over the last few years.

While we procrastinate, costs for senior care are climbing through the roof. Even more so today, seniors are being faced with an economic environment that makes it impossible to meet even the very basic needs, such as affordable housing.

This year, the City of Greater Sudbury is celebrating its 125th anniversary, 4 years after Valley East celebrated its centennial. It is time for our City leaders to address the needs of all of the citizens who created this great city. Concerned residents are saying that enough is enough: the Canadian dream should not be limited merely to the healthy and the wealthy. Every senior deserves quality of life. Unfortunately, many of the elderly waste precious energy being concerned about their lives today, and facing tomorrow's future with apprehension.

It is time, now, for our leaders to stand up and address those problems. Now is the time for ACTION.

Key Points of Discussion

- Recommendations by the City of Greater Sudbury Action Planning for Sudbury's Golden Opportunity.. Findings and Recommendations; for the Mayor and Council Committee on Seniors Issues, ----April 2004
- The Mayor and Council Advisory Panel on Seniors Issues: Challenges of Aging and Building Linkage, May 1st 2008
- Senior Survey in Valley East conducted by VECAN
-Summary report and recommendations
- Provincial recommendations, the French component by Eva Mazerolle
- The types of housing for affordable housing that is working in other provinces, especially Alberta and British Columbia

Valley East Seniors, with the support of Healthy Aging Partnerships, senior groups, available governmental capital grants, and the municipality could be living in affordable housing right here in the Valley. We know that most of them do not want to leave this community they call "home". We look forward to this happening in the not too distant future, because time is crucial to the aging population in the Valley. The field on Elmview, next to the Library, would be ideal for an Assisted Living Residence.