



Canada Social Report
Provincial/Territorial
Policy Monitor

November 2012



CANADA SOCIAL REPORT



The [Caledon Institute of Social Policy](#) regularly scans provincial and territorial government websites in order to follow policy and program developments related to our core work and interests. A partial list includes: disability, education, health, housing, income security, poverty reduction, recreation, seniors and youth. This tracking is intended to inform our analysis of policy trends. Monitors can be searched on the Canada Social Report website by date, jurisdiction and category.

Newfoundland and Labrador

DISABILITY

Increased accessibility and inclusion for persons with disabilities will be further supported through new Accessible Vehicle Funding and Inclusion Grants. The province is providing \$650,000 for these initiatives, which complement the provincial strategy for the inclusion of persons with disabilities, Access. Inclusion. Equality, released earlier this year.

Accessible Vehicle Funding will help individuals and families purchase, repair and install eligible accessibility features for a new or existing personal vehicle. Up to \$25,000 will be provided to eligible applicants with annual net incomes of \$46,500 or less. Partial funding will be available to eligible applicants with annual net income between \$46,500 and \$64,000. Accessibility features include hand controls, steering devices, lifts and ramps, door alterations, left-foot gas pedals, wheelchair securing systems and customized seating.

Inclusion Grants will provide funding to nonprofit, community-based organizations, supporting the removal of barriers through two categories: Accessibility Grants and Disability-Related Accommodations Grants. Accessibility Grants are for renovating or retrofitting buildings to be more accessible through alterations such as installing automatic door openers or lowering sinks and counters. Disability-Related Accommodations Grants are intended to provide supports at community events and activities. This includes sign-language interpretation, captioning and audio support for assistive-listening devices.

<http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2012/exec/1116n09.htm>

POVERTY REDUCTION

\$870,000 released through the Provincial Homelessness Fund will enable 10 nonprofit organizations to improve services for those at risk of homelessness. Since 2009, 43 grants totalling nearly \$4 million have been provided through the Provincial Homelessness Fund to 33 nonprofit organizations. Under the program, registered non-profit groups can receive up to \$200,000 in a given fiscal year. The funding assists with the cost of developing space for support services to provide on-site outreach and promote housing stability for those at risk of homelessness.

<http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2012/exec/1115n07.htm>

Nova Scotia

HEALTH

People living with mental illness will benefit from more access to health programs in their communities with the help of new provincial funding. Consumer-led Initiative Grants are available assist groups tackling mental illness establish and run programs in their communities. Funds are distributed through a community organization and the groups may have access to the organization's staff for support.

<http://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20121105009>



Announcement of a pilot project that will allow 3,000 patients in the Capital District Health Authority to access their medical information, test results and book check-ups using RelayHealth, a secure, online personal health-record service. In partnership with McKesson Canada, the province will pilot the project over the next two years, beginning in January 2013.

<http://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20121120001>

SENIORS

The province will provide funding to district health authorities over the next two years to help more patients discharged from hospital return to their homes. Seniors and low-income Nova Scotians who need help with daily living needs such as transportation, meal preparation, errands and yard work, will receive more funding to hire people from the community for support. The Department of Health and Wellness is also adjusting fees to reflect cost-of-living increases as of December 1, 2012. Many home-care clients will now pay less for home care, home oxygen, and self-managed care. The province invested \$22 million to improve and meet the demand for home care supports in its 2012-13 Budget.

<http://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20121119002>

SOCIAL ECONOMY

Introduction of *The Community Interest Companies Act* which will allow businesses formed under the Companies Act to be designated as community interest companies. They will have characteristics of both businesses and non-profits, combining entrepreneurship with a social purpose.

<http://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20121128010>

New Brunswick

CHILDREN

Release of *Play On! Children Helping Children*, a companion piece to 2012's report *Play Matters!* Both publications focus on Article 31 of the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child* – the right to rest, leisure, play, recreation, arts and culture. The report highlights how New Brunswick children and youth are helping build stronger and safer communities in which to develop and grow. The report is accompanied by the second edition of the Children's Rights and Well-being Framework for New Brunswick. This year, the framework reports on 258 indicators of children's rights and well-being, of which more than 166 present new or updated information.

http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2012.11.1092.html

GOVERNANCE

A new community funding and equalization grant will replace the unconditional grant for municipalities, rural communities and local service districts. An amendment to the Municipal Assistance Act will be introduced this fall to establish the community funding formula beginning in 2013. Funding for municipalities and rural communities will total \$66 million.

The formula will have a core funding component of nearly \$12 million and an equalization component of about \$54 million. The changes in funding will be phased-in over three years. A one-time transition grant will be given to 25 municipalities, totalling about \$1 million to ensure they are in a position to absorb a reduction in funding or an increase in policing costs that cannot be offset through the growth of tax revenues.

HEALTH

The province announces "Live Well!/Bien Vivre!," a collaboration involving the Department of Health, the Canadian Diabetes Association and the Medavie Health Foundation. The program uses a community approach for the prevention and management of Type 2 diabetes through lifestyle changes. Launching in six locations and supported by \$1.5 million in partnership funding, the program will focus on wellness, including healthy eating, active living and mental resiliency. Residents will be able to sign up directly with a health coach or be referred by their physician. Coaches will act as mentors in each community, using one-on-one interaction to help people identify and achieve their wellness goals.

http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2012.11.1082.html

SENIORS

The Family and Youth Capital Assistance Program for renovating or refurbishing facilities to accommodate groups and various activities in communities has been amended to include a component for infrastructure projects for veterans groups. Under the program, veteran groups are able to apply for non-repayable contributions for up to 50 percent of the total approved costs to a maximum of \$50,000. Eligible costs include building materials, machinery rental and labour.

http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2012.11.1054.html

THRONE SPEECH

Major themes of the 2012-13 Throne Speech include: innovation in economic development, health and senior care, education, community protection and development, and streamlining government. Social-policy related items include:

Health and communities

- a Minister's Committee on healthy and inclusive communities will be created to provide an accountability structure within the government for seniors, persons with disabilities, youth and those living in poverty
- Live Well/Be Well – New Brunswick's Wellness Strategy Action Plan (2012-2103) will be evaluated to identify progress in its implementation through schools, communities, workplaces and homes
- further developments will be announced regarding the Action Plan for



Mental Health in New Brunswick 2011-18, A Comprehensive Diabetes Strategy for New Brunswickers 2011-2015 and the Primary Health Care Framework for New Brunswick

- a new five-year provincial health plan will be developed and implemented in 2013, and a five-year action plan for greater equity in the provision of health-care services will be released
- the government will pursue recommendations to ensure drug coverage is more accessible to all residents through a made-in-New Brunswick drug insurance plan
- in the coming year, New Brunswick's health-care partners will work with the Office of Health System Renewal to increase the system's efficiency and accountability, streamline administration and adopt health innovations.

Seniors

- recommendations for healthy aging in New Brunswick will be developed to guide government investments in community development and services to help seniors live active, healthy lives
- the government will consult seniors in developing a seniors' charter that will lay out how seniors will be treated with compassion and respect when receiving government services
- amendments will be introduced to the *Ombudsman Act* to expand the Ombudsman's powers to include services to seniors funded by the provincial government and delivered by third-party service providers
- a 1-800-SENIORS, toll-free hotline will be established for people looking for government information and services for those 65 and older
- a new dispute resolution process for the school system will be developed and implemented to provide a mechanism for open discussions between parents and educators

Education

- commitments made at the recent Provincial Forum on Learning will form the basis of a learning agenda with the goal of transforming New Brunswick into the Learning Province of Canada
- an integrated autism training strategy will be implemented to give more teachers, educational assistants and other support staff access to training on how to use evidence-based interventions to provide better services to students with autism spectrum disorder
- the government will create two provincial early childhood networks as well as early childhood networks at the local level to ensure services for young children are better integrated within communities and schools.

Income security

- the provincial government continues to urge the federal government to be more transparent on the upcoming changes to Employment Insurance, and it will continue to meet with federal counterparts to represent and defend the province and its residents
- the Task Force on Protecting Pensions will work with members and employers to move toward the new shared-risk pension model for other provincially sponsored pension plans, including the plan set out in the Public Service Superannuation Act.

http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2012.11.1115.html

Prince Edward Island

CHILDREN

Release of the Prince Edward Island Early Learning Framework for use in PEI's Early Learning Centres. The framework allows early childhood educators to create learning environments for children that are relevant to their communities, respectful of the province's diverse cultures and languages, and appropriate for children of all abilities.

<http://www.gov.pe.ca/newsroom/index.php?number=news&newsnumber=8715&dept=&lang=E>

HEALTH

A new *Public Health Act* was introduced.

<http://www.gov.pe.ca/newsroom/index.php?number=news&dept=&newsnumber=8690&lang=E>

The results of a public survey on mental health and addictions will be used to improve access to timely, coordinated government and community-based services. The survey is being launched as part of a comprehensive mental health and addictions review being conducted for government by MRSB Consulting Ltd. The report and recommendations are expected in early 2013.

<http://www.gov.pe.ca/newsroom/index.php?number=news&dept=&newsnumber=8689&lang=E>

THRONE SPEECH

The speech outlined four priorities: to create a wider range and greater number of jobs through enhanced education and training and support for the private sector; to achieve fiscal balance in a manner that treats residents fairly without imperiling economic growth and confidence; to continue to build an education system that focuses on students first; and to build on the progress being made in health care to offer improved services and care.

Social policy-related highlights of the Throne Speech include:

- progress toward the introduction of pension legislation



- new common assessments for Grade 9 literacy and Grade 11 math
- five key health priorities: access to emergency services, access to general practitioners, access to mental health and addictions services, reduced wait times for long-term care and reduced wait times for elective surgeries
- continued work on the Mental Health and Addictions Review
- new models to expand home-based supports and services
- progress toward the establishment of the Seniors Home Care Renovation Program
- increased funding for the Child Care Subsidy Program
- continued work to develop the Social Action Plan
- drafting of the *Municipal Government Act*.

<http://www.gov.pe.ca/newsroom/index.php?number=news&dept=&newsnumber=8688&lang=E>

Québec

BUDGET

Social policy-related Budget highlights:

- 4.4 million families will not pay a health tax or will see their contribution decrease
- the 20 percent heritage electricity price increase schedule for 2014 has been cancelled
- continuation of a refundable tax credit for physical, artistic and cultural activities for children
- cancellation of the postsecondary tuition increases
- creation of 28,000 new reduced-contribution child care spaces by 2016-17
- construction of 3,000 community and affordable housing units

http://www.budget.finances.gouv.qc.ca/Budget/2013-2014/index_en.asp

CHILDREN

By the end of 2016, 28,000 new reduced-contribution care spaces will be created. As a first step, the government will immediately create 13,000 new spaces. In a second step, the government will put out a new call for proposals in February 2013 for the creation of 15,000 additional seats. Projects must be submitted before the end of June 2013. The 22 regional advisory committees will conduct the analysis of projects and recommend those that best fit the needs of the community. These 28,000 new spaces will be available from 2012-16.

The internet link to this item is no longer operational.

Ontario

CHILDREN

Ontario is expanding its After School Program in Toronto's 13 priority neighbourhoods and to York, Peel, Durham and Halton regions as part of the Youth Action Plan. This expansion will help 2,100 more children and young people in 64 locations get the chance to participate in fun, safe and supervised activities.

<http://news.ontario.ca/mtc/en/2012/11/expanding-opportunities-for-youth-in-at-risk-communities.html>

HEALTH

Ontario is supporting 600 new mental health workers across the province who are helping children, young people and their families get quicker and easier access to the right mental health services and supports in schools, communities and courts. These new workers include:

- 144 nurses working in schools to support the early identification and treatment of students with potential mental health and/or addiction issues
- 260 new workers in community mental health agencies to provide youth access to services closer to home
- 21 new workers in the court system to keep youth out of the justice system and refer them instead to community-based services
- 175 additional new workers in schools, who will provide young people support to address their mental health needs.

Ontario is also enhancing supports to prevent youth suicide with a focus on early intervention and peer-to-peer support.

http://news.ontario.ca/mcys/en/2012/11/helping-young-people-with-mental-health-challenges.html?utm_source=ondemand&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=p

The province is adding more than 80 new mental health and addictions workers across the province to help almost 4,000 Aboriginal children and young people get better access to culturally appropriate mental health and addictions services.

<http://news.ontario.ca/mcys/en/2012/11/better-access-to-mental-health-services-for-aboriginal-kids.html>

YOUTH

As part of its Youth Action Plan, Ontario is supporting 21 police and community projects that will identify at-risk young people and provide active community liaisons as well as peer-to-peer strategies to combat bullying and prevent violent crime. Local police services and the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) will receive funding from the Proceeds of Crime Front Line Policing grant to carry out crime prevention projects. The grant money comes from the proceeds of crime.

<http://news.ontario.ca/mcscs/en/2012/11/support-for-communities-to-prevent-crime.html>



Manitoba

COMMUNITIES

New Active Transportation funding is now available to help rural communities start projects and improve local infrastructure designed to encourage people to use alternatives to motor vehicle transportation. Municipalities and northern communities with populations of fewer than 50,000 residents are eligible to apply to the Active Transportation Fund, made possible by a \$1 million investment from the federal Gas Tax Fund. The program provides 50 percent cost-shared funding for eligible projects up to a maximum of \$50,000 per project. Eligible projects include:

- bike racks/lockers
- bike paths
- sidewalks and other pathways for pedestrian use
- lighting and signage on trails, sidewalks and bike paths
- active transportation design/project plans that lead to future active transportation development.

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/press/top/2012/11/2012-11-27-130900-15693.html>

EDUCATION

To encourage more students to enter the trades, the province is introducing Skill Build, a program to upgrade and equip more industrial arts classrooms in rural and northern Manitoba for apprenticeship training. Over the next two years, \$200,000 will be used to upgrade facilities and buy new equipment such as plasma cutters, small-engine diagnostic equipment and welding simulators.

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/press/top/2012/11/2012-11-21-114400-15592.html>

The province has introduced legislation that would enhance the Community Schools Partnership Initiative (CSPI). There are currently 29 schools throughout Manitoba that participate in the CSPI. These schools link students and their families with services and programs such as nurse practitioners, summer and after-school programs, adult skills training and financial literacy. The legislation would establish a Community Schools Unit in the Department of Education that would help all schools participate in a community schools network to share ideas to enhance programs and services for families. A community advisory committee would be established to strengthen partnerships and provide advice to the Minister and Community Schools Unit, and co-ordinate the support of various departments that work with schools.

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/press/top/2012/11/2012-11-28-135700-15713.html>

The provincial government has introduced legislation that would strengthen parental involvement in the education system and recognize the Manitoba Association of Parent Councils as the official representative

of parent councils in Manitoba for all school divisions, with the exception of the Division scolaire franco-manitobaine. It would also require that school principals consult with the school advisory councils when preparing the annual school plan and provide parents with information on the role and function of the school's school-based parent group, their right to become member and, if a group is not established at the school, the manner in which one may be established.

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/press/top/2012/11/2012-11-29-134500-15737.html>

HEALTH

The province released a new five-year provincial cancer strategy for a more integrated and cohesive approach to cancer that involves prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, palliative care and survivorship. This follows the last five-year strategy, launched in 2007.

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/press/top/2012/11/2012-11-20-113400-15575.html>

HOUSING

The province has introduced legislative amendments to the Planning Act and the City of Winnipeg Charter that would give municipalities the authority to encourage or require new residential developments to include homes that are affordable to low- and moderate-income households.

The proposed amendments include:

- zoning bylaw provisions that would allow municipalities to either take a mandatory or incentive-based approach to requiring affordable housing
- a requirement that would have the municipality define affordable housing in the bylaw, based on local context and needs
- provisions on development agreements between the municipality and the developer that would help protect the ongoing affordability of the housing units.

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/press/top/2012/11/2012-11-26-140300-15656.html>

THRONE SPEECH

The speech focused on four areas of focus – improving the economy and job creation, enhancing health care, creating more educational opportunities and contributing to a better quality of life. Social policy-related highlights from the Speech include:

- better care for seniors with improvements to home care and 200 new personal-care home beds in Winnipeg
- faster, more convenient access to testing and treatment for cancer patients with new CancerCare hubs in rural Manitoba
- improved access to family doctors with additional nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses and dieticians for medical practices taking



new patients

- better education and training opportunities, including new primary schools and new support for high school students to transition into apprenticeships
- more support for universities and colleges to increase enrolment by promoting Manitoba as a top destination for international students
- more mentorship opportunities for students with a new after-school leaders program.

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/press/top/2012/11/2012-11-19-163300-15569.html>

YOUTH

Announcement of a new After School Leaders program that will provide mentorship and internship opportunities to children from high-needs communities through practical work experience. With the Winnipeg Jets True North Foundation as the flagship partner, After School Leaders works with organizations and businesses to give youth work experience and the chance to develop professional relationships with experts working in a number of fields including arts, communications and sports. The program will start in January 2013 with students from five Winnipeg high schools with plans to expand to other schools and communities in future years. Also announced was the creation of Manitoba's After School Network, a network of organizations that offers after-school and summer activities to tens of thousands of youth. Launching in early 2013, the After School Network will give member organizations the opportunity to collaborate on programming and share good practices.

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/press/top/2012/11/2012-11-29-114000-15732.html>

Saskatchewan

DISABILITY

New funding to the Saskatchewan Abilities Council in Regina will expand its existing facility in Regina and launch a Quality of Life day program. The province is providing \$350,000 in capital funding and will invest \$98,000 a year in operational funding.

The Quality of Life program works with individuals who require a non-vocational day program, including people with recurring behavioural challenges, declining skills and increasing age. It provides community-based opportunities to improve skills while facilitating the acquisition of new skills and the provision of support.

The original internet link to this item is no longer operational.

<http://www.abilitiescouncil.sk.ca/images/file/abilities-council-annual-report-2012.pdf>

HEALTH

Announcement of *The Social Workers Amendment Act, 2012*. The changes are designed to grant qualified social workers the ability to

diagnose addictions and certain mental health disorders. According to the Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers (SASW), there are up to 50 social workers who currently may qualify to perform diagnoses. In Mental Health, Child and Youth Services alone, 70 percent of clients have behavioural disorders that could be diagnosed by qualified social workers if this privilege is granted. The advantages of these amendments include earlier access to treatment and greater flexibility in how providers can be used to diagnose treatment of mental health disorders. The amendments also make SASW fully accountable for the authorization and regulation of social work professionals who are authorized to diagnose.

The original internet link to this item is no longer operational. <http://www.lawsociety.sk.ca/library/public-resources/saskatchewan-proclamations.aspx>

HOUSING

Effective April 1, 2013, amendments to *The Residential Tenancies Regulations, 2007*, will provide seniors residing in independent living facilities with the right to use the Office of Residential Tenancies to resolve disputes. Such facilities are exempt from the current law; the change will put them on equal footing with other rental properties. The amended regulations also contain rules regarding fixed-term tenancies. Currently, a landlord does not have to notify a tenant about plans for the property once the lease expires, such as whether landlords would be willing to continue renting or if the rent would increase. Under the new regulations, landlords are required to provide tenants with two months' notice about their intentions and tenants are given one month to respond.

The original internet link to this item is no longer operational.

<http://www.qp.gov.sk.ca/documents/gazette/part2/2012/G2201245.pdf>

INCOME SECURITY

Saskatchewan's minimum wage is going up effective December 1, 2012 from \$9.50 to \$10 per hour, which will also result in a corresponding increase to the minimum call-out pay to \$30.

The original internet link to this item is no longer operational.

<http://srv116.services.gc.ca/dimt-wid/sm-mw/rpt2.aspx?lang=eng&dec=5>

Alberta

HEALTH

Announcement of *Creating Tobacco-Free Futures: Alberta's Strategy to Prevent and Reduce Tobacco Use, 2012-2022*. Over the next three years, the program will focus on:

- introducing legislation restricting the sale of flavoured tobacco
- introducing provincial legislation to prohibit tobacco sales to minors
- enacting legislation to protect children from second-hand smoke in vehicles
- increasing social marketing around the harms associated with tobacco use



- enhancing tobacco cessation training for health professionals
- expanding workplace, school-based and community tobacco-cessation programs.

<http://alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=332981A4BDBFC-F3F0-355F-319D60560E743681>

British Columbia

ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

A further investment of \$1.8 million in the Aboriginal Training for Employment Program (ATEP) will allow more Aboriginals to access skills training programs. ATEP was introduced in 2010 with an investment of \$4 million through the Canada-BC Labour Market Agreement. By January 2012, more than 500 Aboriginal people had graduated from ATEP programs offered by 17 Aboriginal organizations. Earlier this year, contracts for 11 service providers were renewed and another \$2.9 million was invested.

<http://www.newsroom.gov.bc.ca/2012/11/expanded-program-builds-aboriginal-learners-future.html>

CHILDREN

Young people are participating in decisions that help improve the province's child welfare system and youth services. The Ministry of Children and Family Development is seeking to create policies, services and opportunities that reduce risks for vulnerable youth and are more responsive to what young people need for healthy development. For example, to bolster youth engagement practice, two of the ministry's youth advisory councils have partnered with ministry staff and the Child and Youth Care program at the University of Victoria to develop a youth engagement toolkit. The kit contains resources for ministry staff, Delegated Aboriginal Agencies and community organizations to assess, support, strengthen and sustain the practice of engaging with youth as genuine partners in the workplace. Early implementation of the toolkit has occurred in two communities and a wider release is scheduled for early 2013.

<http://www.newsroom.gov.bc.ca/2012/11/youth-voices-help-shape-child-welfare-system.html>

DISABILITIES

Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families and the community living sector are invited to participate in community engagement workshops to provide feedback on a proposed integrated service delivery model – an important step towards delivering on the 12-point plan for improving services for people with developmental disabilities. The proposed model has been developed by an inter-ministry team – including the ministries of Social Development; Children and Family Development; Education; and Health; along with Community Living BC – following extensive engagement on integrated service delivery models. The goal is to have an integrated service delivery model designed, with an implementa-

tion plan ready, by spring 2013.

<http://www.newsroom.gov.bc.ca/2012/11/progress-on-12-point-plan-with-proposed-service-delivery-model.html>

EDUCATION

Unemployed residents receiving services through the Employment Program of BC (EPBC) be eligible for up to a maximum of \$7,500 in tuition funding available to help them access skills training. Previously, tuition support was capped at \$4,000.

Launched in April 2012, EPBC is delivered through 85 WorkBC Employment Services Centres and more than 100 satellite, mobile or outreach services around the province. The goal of EPBC is to offer a full suite of employment programs to unemployed residents, including specialized populations, while ensuring access through a single door. Specialized populations include youth, people with disabilities, immigrants, francophones, clients facing multiple barriers, survivors of violence and/or abuse, Aboriginal peoples and people living in rural areas.

<http://www.newsroom.gov.bc.ca/2012/11/increased-tuition-support-for-unemployed-british-columbians.html>

Since 2001, the government has invested \$20.7 million in the Community Adult Literacy Program (CALP), helping more than 75,000 adults improve their literacy skills. In 2012-13, the province is providing \$2.4 million to support 68 community-based, adult-literacy projects in 2012-13, benefiting 6,400 residents. Since 2001, the government has invested \$20.7 million in the Community Adult Literacy Program (CALP), assisting more than 75,000 adults improve their literacy skills. CALP projects are offered in a variety of settings – schools, non-profit organizations, and native friendship and community centres – and are supported by volunteers.

<http://www.newsroom.gov.bc.ca/2012/11/helping-adult-learners-get-ahead.html>

HEALTH

New guidelines for improved dementia care are now available online. These guidelines are based on national, evidence-based, best practices and provide added support for physicians, nurses and care providers in decision-making for persons with dementia. The guidelines promote the delivery of person-centred care for those with behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia.

New information has also been added to the HealthLink BC website to help individuals with dementia and their families better understand and live with dementia, including information about the First Link program. By participating in First Link, those with dementia, their families and caregivers can receive customized information and access to helpful programs and services.

<http://www.newsroom.gov.bc.ca/2012/11/new-tools-to-improve-care-for-those-with-dementia.html>



Yukon Territory

No releases this month.

Northwest Territories

HEALTH

Release of Health and Health-Related Behaviours among Young People
NWT presents students' voices about their health and experience in NWT communities. The Health Behaviours in School-aged Children (HBSC) study is conducted every four years by Queen's University in partnership with the Public Health Agency of Canada and Health Canada. During the 2010-11 school year, the HBSC surveyed students in Grades 6 to 10 in most schools in the NWT.

http://news.exec.gov.nt.ca/wp-content/uploads/HBSC-NWT-Report-Nov_2012-FINAL-PKG.pdf

EDUCATION

Release of a new curriculum designed to help residents gain the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to better manage their personal finances.

<http://news.exec.gov.nt.ca/new-release-new-financial-literacy-curriculum-launched/>

Nunavut

No releases this month.