

A non-profit society governed by local volunteers dedicated to the health and wellness needs of our community.

Local health matters

Pender Harbour Health Centre transportation spotlight

In May, the Sunshine Coast Resource Centre's "Be the Change" project focused on access to transportation on the Sunshine Coast.

In April, you may have seen the Pender Harbour Health Centre featured in a "Be the Change" video on Facebook where we identified that transportation access is one of the main barriers for local residents to access adequate health care.

Further we also heard from many community members during our Community Needs Assessment community engagement in April that transportation and access to adequate transportation was an important need in the community.

Given the above we wanted to share some of the transportation supports that the health centre offers and let the community know that we are always advocating with community partners for better transportation options, and looking for funding and grants to provide better transportation supports.

At present, transportation support for community

members of the PHHC is provided by volunteer drivers through our Better at Home program and our PHHC volunteer driving program.

The Better at Home program offers support to seniors aged 60-plus between Halfmoon Bay and Egmont.

One of the programs offered by BAH is the transportation program where seniors can call and request transportation for both grocery shopping and medical needs from a BAH volunteer driver.

To access this service, please call BAH co-ordinator Haida at 604-212-2232 who can explain the program in more detail.

Haida ideally needs a week's no-

tice to schedule a driver to support the request.

The PHHC volunteer driving program offers transportation support to any patients connected to the PHHC.

This program is intended to get patients to appointments that support the social determinants of health, such as driving to medical appointments, visits to government agencies, and providing access to co-ordinated social programs.

To access this program please call PHHC social worker Neora at 604-883-2764 and she can help with access to this program.

The PHHC is always looking for more volunteers to support our programs.

Our volunteers drive their own vehicles (mileage reimbursed) and can also access the PHHC accessible bus (pictured). If you are interested in becoming a volunteer driver, please reach out to Haida at Haida.bolton@penderharbourhealth.com or John at john.rathbone@penderharbourhealth.com for more information.



The Pender Harbour Health Centre's accessible minibus is used to transport community members.

**Better
at Home**

United Way helping seniors remain independent.



NEW TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM COMING TO PENDER HARBOUR

The Pender Harbour Health Centre is excited to announce that we were recently successful in a grant application to United Way for funding to support a new transportation program offered from the PHHC. This program will aim to connect seniors in Pender and the surrounding communities with Sechelt given the lack of transportation and transit options currently.

We are currently in the program development stage, and we are working with our partners at United Way and the Sunshine Coast Healthy Aging Community Collaborative to rollout this new program in the summer of 2024. We thank United Way for supporting the PHHC and the community with this new funding.

Please watch out for further announcements in the Harbour Spiel, PHHC website and our Facebook page in coming months.

We are excited to launch this new program!