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FEBRUARY 2023

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[CALL TO ACTION: PHARMACARE NOW!](#)

In the last three elections, the federal government has promised that a national, universal Pharmacare program would be introduced for Canadians. The federal commission led by Dr. Eric Hoskins concluded that such a program would save the Canadian economy billions in drug costs and provide more security to those in need of pharmaceuticals, especially seniors. Join our campaign to press our representatives to keep the promise of Pharmacare.

[CLICK HERE TO MAKE AN IMPACT RIGHT NOW](#)

TAX TIPS

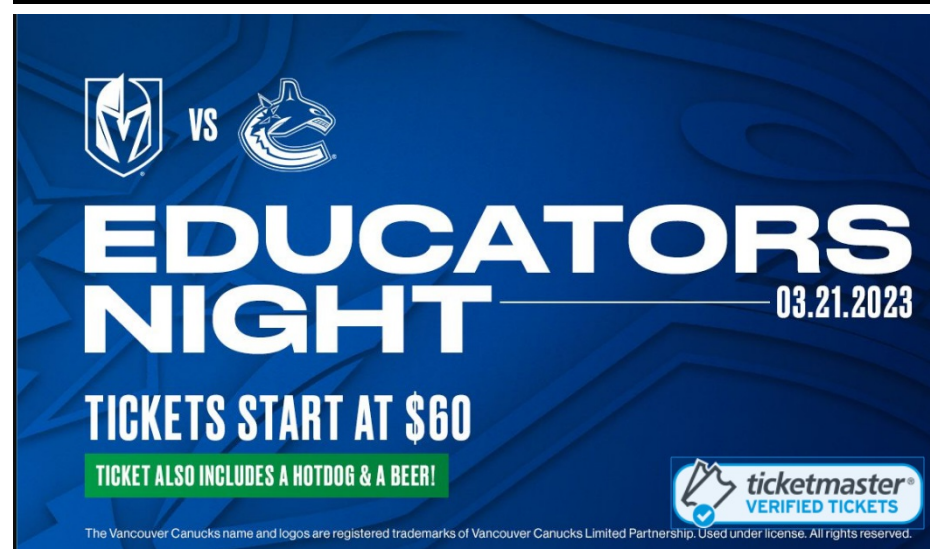
FOR RETIRED EDUCATORS

OUR ANNUAL TAX GUIDE IS NOW AVAILABLE

Learn about changes to important programs for seniors, and use our handy checklist to help you prepare and file your taxes.

VIEW BCRTA'S 2022 TAX YEAR GUIDE AT THIS LINK:

<https://bcrt.ca/tax-tips-for-the-2022-tax-year-for-retired-educators/>



LIMITED NUMBER OF SEATS LEFT!

BCRTA members are invited to the Vancouver Canucks' Educator Night on March 21, 2023.

To learn more, visit <https://bcrt.ca/canucks/>

NEW REPORTS FROM BC'S OFFICE OF THE SENIORS ADVOCATE

BCRTA'S Well-being Committee wants you to know about recent news concerning seniors in our province. In the past several months BC's Seniors Advocate Isobel McKenzie has released new reports on the how the current economy and health care system is impacting the lives of seniors in BC. You can learn more about her findings and view the complete reports at the OSA website.

On **February 23, 2023** the Seniors Advocate released her report [We Must Do Better: Home Support Services for B.C. Seniors](#) which highlights issues relevant to seniors in need. Despite recent increases in funding, the review demonstrates that the program is not keeping pace with the needs of a growing seniors' population and the service remains unaffordable to a large number of seniors.

[READ THE SUMMARY AND THE FULL REPORT "WE MUST DO BETTER"](#)

On **September 22, 2022** the Seniors Advocate released a report *SENIORS FALLING FURTHER BEHIND* which highlighted the challenges for low-income seniors in particular in a time of high inflation and soaring housing costs.

[READ THE SUMMARY AND FULL REPORT "SENIORS FALLING FURTHER BEHIND"](#)

BCRTA Advocacy Report – Bill C-228 Update

Bill C-228 is a private member's bill that seeks to protect the pensions of workers when their employer goes bankrupt. Currently many Canadians have lost part or all of their pensions because they have been viewed merely as creditors and when winding up failed companies bankruptcy regulations have favored banks and other creditors before them. The bill has been through three readings in Parliament and is now in the hands of the Senate. BCRTA has been strongly advocating for the passage of this bill.

The good news is that it has passed readings in the Senate and is headed back to Parliament.

Here is the latest news: <https://www.benefitscanada.com/pensions/defined-benefit-pensions/lack-of-viable-alternatives-to-pension-super-priority-bill-likely-to-ensure-its-passage-says-pensioner-association/>

A recent hearing by the Standing Committee on Banking, Commerce and the Economy of the Senate is available to view online at

<http://senparlvu.parl.gc.ca/XRender/en/PowerBrowser/PowerBrowserV2?>

MOVED? NEED TO UPDATE YOUR INFO? DO IT HERE:

<https://bcrt.ca/update-member-info/>



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