



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, June 11, 2015

Nelson and Creston residents urged to make their communities more dementia friendly

Nelson, B.C. — Residents in Nelson and in Creston will have an opportunity to learn how they can make their communities more dementia friendly with upcoming education from the Alzheimer Society of B.C. These events are co-presented by Nelson-Creston MLA Michelle Mungall. Sixty per cent of people with dementia live in the community by themselves or with a caregiver. Although many people with dementia live well in the community for quite a long time, staying engaged in the activities a person once enjoyed can become more difficult as their cognitive abilities change. Meanwhile, stigma, as well as social and physical barriers, can make it harder for people with dementia to feel supported and remain involved in their communities.

People with dementia often face challenges when going shopping, doing their banking, eating out at a restaurant or going to their local post office. They may also have difficulties using transportation, going on holidays, maintaining social contact or enjoying hobbies out in the community.

However, with information, compassion and community engagement, there is an opportunity to change this. Dementia Friends education, which is open to the public, will help everyone to take part in creating accessible, inclusive spaces for people with dementia.

Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2015
Time: 6 – 7:30 p.m.
Location: Creston Valley Seniors' Hall
810 Canyon Street
Creston, B.C.
To register: Please RSVP at 1-877-388-4498

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2015
Time: 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Location: Senior Citizens' Association of B.C.
Branch 51, 717 Vernon Street
Nelson, B.C.
To register: Please RSVP at 1-877-388-4498

For more information on dementia-friendly communities visit alzbc.org/dementia-friendly-communities

Interviews and photos available upon request.

Media contact

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About dementia

Dementia is a term that describes a general group of brain disorders. Symptoms include the loss of memory, impaired judgment, and changes in behaviour and personality. Dementia is progressive, degenerative and eventually terminal. Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia accounting for almost two-thirds of dementias in Canada today.

About the Alzheimer Society of B.C.

The Alzheimer Society of B.C. provides a provincial network of support and education for families impacted by dementia and people concerned about memory loss. Communities across the province count on the Society for support services, information and education programs, advocacy to improve dementia care in B.C. and to fund research to find the causes and cures. As part of a national federation, the Society is a leading authority on the disease in Canada.



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