

Edmonton and area Community-Based  
Seniors Serving (CBSS) Sector

# Network Declaration

## Frequently Asked Questions

### For Organizations

[Read the Declaration](#)

[If you wish to access the Declaration FAQs for Individuals, click here](#)

## 1. Why a Declaration?

It is a call to build a united voice and a commitment to action.

## 2. What does signing mean?

It means agreement with this call to action statement:

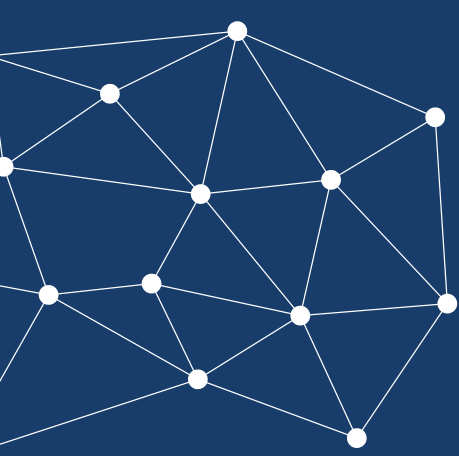
*It is imperative that the current capacity of the CBSS sector be enhanced so that collectively and continuously we progress in serving older adults within their homes of choice;*

*We call upon CBSS organizations and allies to sign this declaration affirming CBSS as an essential sector and partner, along with health and housing systems, to 'move care into the community,' in support of healthy aging.*

## 3. Who should sign?

All interested CBSS organizations and allies (individuals or organizations) Allies include funders, policymakers, decision makers, seniors (55+), service providers, businesses, leaders and volunteers/family, friends, caregivers.

Community-based seniors serving (CBSS) organizations are non-profits such as senior centers and community organizations, and municipal bodies such as Family and Community Social Services offices that provide non-medical community and home-based programs and services crucial for empowering healthy aging in the community. These include opportunities for social connectedness, mental health supports, access to affordable transportation and housing, homemaking and home maintenance, nutrition and food security supports, recreational activities, and person-centered support navigating and accessing available resources and services.



# Network Declaration Frequently Asked Questions For Organizations

## 4. How can I/we stay involved in the Network after signing?

- Attend Network Gatherings – regularly connect with others and share news of your work too.
- Join or start an action hub on a topic of interest to you.
- Contribute time and talents to Network leadership.
- Spread the word – share social media posts and promote the Network in other ways.
- Bring people to the table to help us grow the Network.
- Stay up-to-date by subscribing to the [Link Letter e-newsletter](#)

## 5. Do I need to be connected to an organization to sign?

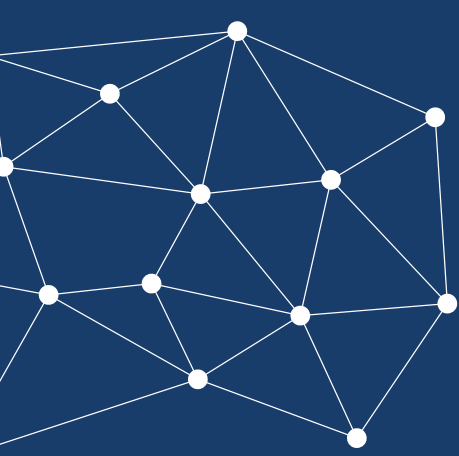
All interested individuals are encouraged to sign. You do not need to be connected to any organization.

## 6. What commitment or follow up is expected from those who sign the Declaration?

Beyond adding your voice to the message, we encourage you to take action as you are able to help fulfil the intention within the declaration.

Both individual and collective action are needed to create the intended progress.

We are very interested in what is it about the message of the declaration that speaks to you – let's connect and give that some attention.



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## **7. Who should sign on behalf of an organization?**

This will vary. Each organization decides who will sign on their behalf.

## **8. If our organization already signed, can I sign as an individual?**

Yes! More signers indicate that there is a lot of support for the message!

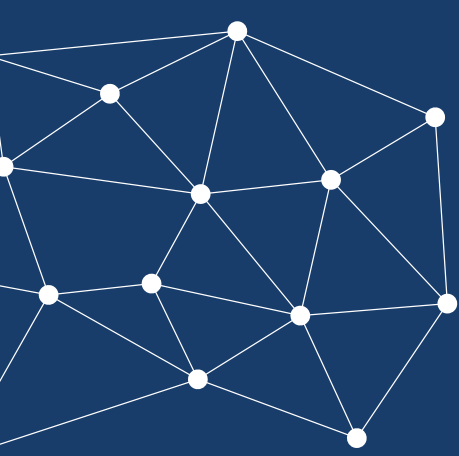
## **9. What are the next steps after signatures are obtained?**

Next steps for the keepers of the Declaration (i.e. the Network Stewardship Group) include planning and follow through on advocacy actions directed at decision makers and funders. Updates will be provided through [Link Letter](#) and at Network Gatherings.

## **10. How can I help advocate?**

You can add your signature and invite your colleagues and networks to do the same. Advocacy is conversation with peers, policy makers, government leaders and other senior serving organizations. Help spread the word!

(See Question 4 for other ways to stay involved.)



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## **11. How could signing this Declaration help my organization?**

The Declaration emphasizes the vital need to improve capacity in the CBSS sector, by working together with a unified voice alongside other organizations and stakeholders. (For example, to address program service gaps, funding issues, etc.) Signers stay visible and connected within the CBSS Network, the largest voice for increasing resources at the community level to benefit seniors.

Help for organizations within the Network may look like: resource sharing; peer support; training opportunities; timely information about funding; advocacy backing, as well as friendly tables for sharing your organization's ideas and priorities.

## **12. Do I have to go to Network meetings?**

Participation in Network Gatherings and other activities is encouraged as your time and availability allows.

## **13. Can I read the Declaration in multiple languages?**

It is currently only available in English. We'd love to be able to translate this message into multiple languages. If you or someone you know might be able to help translate, please connect with us ([info@seniorscouncil.net](mailto:info@seniorscouncil.net)).

## **14. Who are some of the other organizations that have signed?**

Follow [this link](#) to the 'signers' list on the ESCC website.