

Sechelt Residents 50+ Survey 2009

SECHELT SENIORS AGE 65-79

According to the 2006 census, there are upwards of 1550 Sechelt residents between the ages of 65 and 79—this in addition to 600 residents aged 80 and over. Combined, seniors 65+ make up more than a quarter of Sechelt's population, nearly twice the provincial and national figures.

Today's seniors are living longer, and living larger, than previous generations. They shop, travel, recreate, volunteer and socialize, and their homes are very important to them. Agencies and organizations in Sechelt that serve the seniors population need to know more about how to provide the activities, supports, housing and services that older adults want and need. By filling out this survey, you can help make Sechelt more senior-friendly.

Please mark the appropriate answer to each question. **Your answers are anonymous and confidential, and your privacy protected.**

First, tell us a bit about yourself:

1. How **old** are you? 65 – 69 _____ 70 – 74 _____ 75 – 79 _____
2. Are you **female** _____ or **male** _____?
3. Where do you **presently live** in Sechelt? (Mark one only)
 - _____ Downtown Village
 - _____ Wilson Creek
 - _____ Selma Park/Davis Bay
 - _____ West Sechelt
 - _____ West Porpoise Bay
 - _____ East Porpoise Bay
 - _____ Sandy Hook/Tuwanek
 - _____ Sechelt Indian Government District
4. What **kind of dwelling** do you presently live in? (Mark one only)
 - _____ Single detached house
 - _____ Duplex
 - _____ Mobile home
 - _____ Apartment
 - _____ Townhouse or rowhouse
 - _____ Suite in private residence
 - _____ Other (specify) _____

5. **How long** have you lived in your current dwelling?
 1 year_____ 2-5 years_____ 6-10 years_____ 11-15 years_____ longer_____
6. Do you **own**_____ or **rent**_____?
 Or do you have some other arrangement? (Please specify)

7. Do you live in an **age-limited (55+)** complex or strata? Yes_____ No_____
8. Do you live in **Greenecourt**? Yes_____ No_____
9. Does **anyone else live** in your dwelling? (Mark one only)
 _____my spouse/partner
 _____other family members
 _____I share with friend/housemate
 _____I live on my own
 _____other (specify)_____
10. Do you have any **family members** living nearby?
 _____ No
 _____ Yes, in Sechelt
 _____ Yes, on the Sunshine Coast
11. Do you have any **pets**? Yes_____ No_____
12. Do you **expect to live in Sechelt** the rest of your life? Yes____ No____ Maybe_____
13. Do you ever **think about moving** from your current home? Yes_____ No_____
14. If yes, approximately **when in the future might you move**?
 1 year_____ 2-4 years_____ 5 years or longer_____
15. Supposing you were to move, **what would you be looking for**? (Mark one only)
 _____I plan to live in my current home indefinitely
 _____A larger detached house, perhaps with a suite
 _____A smaller detached house
 _____A mobile home
 _____A townhouse or rowhouse
 _____A bed-sitting room or bachelor suite
 _____A one or two bedroom apartment
 _____A garden suite, granny flat or coach-house
 _____Any accessible housing all on one floor or with an elevator
 _____Supportive seniors housing like Greenecourt in Sechelt
 _____Assisted living or care in a facility like Christenson Village in Gibsons
 _____A full-service seniors residence like Amica in West Vancouver
 _____Other (specify)_____

16. Do you currently **get help**, either paid or from friends and family, for any of the following tasks? (Mark all that apply)

- yard work
 other outdoor maintenance (gutters, windows, decks, driveways etc.)
 routine housecleaning
 shopping for and preparing meals
 laundry, changing bed-linens
 dressing, bathing, other personal grooming
 taking medications
 handling the mail and paying bills

17. Would you consider **hiring help** to maintain your home and yard?

- No, not needed
 No, I can't afford it
 Yes, if workers are reliable and trustworthy and rates are moderate

18. If you get help, **who provides** it?

- family members help with _____
 neighbours help with _____
 paid services help with _____
 Home Support helps with _____
 other (specify) _____

19. How many **cars** are there in your household?

None _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ more _____

20. How many **drivers** are there in your household?

None _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ more _____

21. How often do **you drive a car**? (Mark the nearest frequency)

Most days _____ 1-3 times/week _____ 1-3 times/month _____ rarely/never _____

22. How often do **you ride a bike**?

Most days _____ 1-3 times/week _____ 1-3 times/month _____ rarely/never _____

23. How often do **you hike or walk** on Sechelt's walking paths and trails (e.g. Davis Bay or Trail Bay waterfront, Kinnikinnik Park, Hidden Grove)?

Most days _____ 1-3 times/week _____ 1-3 times/month _____ rarely/never _____

24. How often do **you get out**?

Most days _____ 1-3 times/week _____ 1-3 times/month _____ rarely/never _____

25. What are your usual **destinations** in Sechelt? (Mark all that apply)

- Library
 Seniors Activity Centre
 Church
 Post Office
 House of family member or friend
 Aquatic Centre
 Trail Bay Mall (Clayton's)
 Tsain Ko Mall (Extra Foods)
 Office of doctor, eye doctor, dentist, other medical professional
 Pharmacy
 Physiotherapist, massage therapist, yoga, fitness centre
 Hairdresser or barber
 Veterinarian
 Stores in Davis Bay/Wilson Creek area
 Stores in downtown Sechelt
 Bank, accountant, financial advisor
 Eldercollege at Capilano University
 Raven's Cry Theatre, Rockwood, Seaside Centre, Art Gallery
 Restaurant
 Pub or Legion
 Trail Bay waterfront walkway
 Davis Bay waterfront walkway
 Other destinations (specify) _____

26. Are there any **places** in Sechelt that you **tend to avoid**? (Please specify)

- Difficult to get to _____
 Difficult to get around in _____
 I feel unsafe there _____
 Other _____

27. **How do you get around** in Sechelt? (Mark all that apply)

- I drive myself
 A friend or family member drives me
 I walk to nearly every destination that matters to me
 I take the bus that runs in and around Sechelt
 I take a taxi
 I call HandyDART
 I use a motorized scooter
 Other (specify) _____

28. Do you have **difficulty getting around**? Yes _____ No _____

29. If yes, **what makes getting around difficult** for you?

30. How would you **rate Sechelt's infrastructure**?

Local roads: adequate_____ safe _____ poor_____

Sidewalks: adequate_____ safe_____ poor_____

Intersections and crosswalks: adequate_____ safe_____ poor_____

Walking trails: adequate_____ safe_____ poor_____

Sechelt Library: accessible_____ hard to access_____

District of Sechelt offices: accessible _____ hard to access_____

Aquatic Centre: accessible_____ hard to access_____

Visitor Information Centre: accessible_____ hard to access_____

Any other comments? _____

31. How often do you **travel outside** the Sunshine Coast? (Mark the nearest frequency)

1-3 times/week_____ 1-3 times/month_____ 1-3 times/year_____ rarely/never_____

32. Where do you **travel to**? (Mark all that apply, and specify frequency and/or duration)

_____ Vancouver _____

_____ Elsewhere in the lower mainland _____

_____ Elsewhere in B.C. _____

_____ Elsewhere in Canada _____

_____ The U.S. _____

_____ Mexico _____

_____ Abroad _____

_____ Somewhere warm and sunny during the winter rainy season _____

33. Do you use a **computer**?

_____ No

_____ Yes, I use it to (mark all that apply):

_____ email friends and family

_____ research topics of interest (health, travel, science, family history, other)

_____ play games

_____ see videos, read blogs

_____ do internet banking

_____ keep up with the news

_____ use social networking sites (Facebook, Twitter, MSN Messenger)

_____ order goods and services online

_____ other (please specify) _____

34. Are you currently **employed or self-employed**?

No

Yes, full-time

Yes, part-time

35. What was your approximate **household income** last year (before taxes)?

- Below \$20,000
 \$20,000 - \$29,999
 \$30,000 - \$39,999
 \$40,000 - \$59,999
 \$60,000 - \$79,999
 \$80,000 - \$99,999
 Above \$100,000

36. If you have any **concerns about your future** in Sechelt, what would they be? (Mark all that apply)

- No concerns
 Not having enough money to cover my/our needs
 Getting proper medical care
 Finding suitable and affordable housing
 Being unable to get around if I couldn't drive
 Being on my own if my spouse/partner died or needed care
 Other (please specify) _____

37. What do **you like best** about being a senior in Sechelt?

38. What's **missing or needs attention**, in your view, to ensure a good quality of life for **Sechelt seniors**? (Please specify)

39. What would **you like more information** about? (Mark all that apply)

- Federal and provincial government programs
 Local recreation and education programs
 In-home medical and personal care
 Housing options for seniors
 Financial assistance for seniors
 Transportation options for seniors
 Home maintenance services for seniors
 Other (specify) _____

40. How should agencies, service organizations and other helpers **let you know** about supports and services? (Mark all that you regularly notice and respond to)

- Brochures at Home Support office on Inlet Avenue
 Seniors One-Stop Information Line (604-741-0726)
 Service B.C. office in Teredo Square
 Newspaper ads and inserts in Coast Reporter, The Local
 Local radio
 Local television
 Mailings through the Post Office
 Email
 Websites
 Regularly scheduled presentations at the Seniors Activity Centre
 Other (specify) _____

41. Do you have **any other comments, suggestions or concerns** around ways to make **your life better** as a senior in Sechelt? (Use the back of this page if needed)

Thank you!

Please drop off your completed questionnaire by **December 10** to one of the following locations:

- District of Sechelt front desk, 5797 Cowrie St., 2nd floor
- Sechelt Library, 5797 Cowrie St., main floor
- Sechelt Seniors Activity Centre, 5604 Trail Avenue
- Capilano University, 5627 Inlet Avenue
- VCH Home Support and Seniors Information, 5630 Inlet Avenue
- Visitor Information Centre, Seaside Centre, Ocean and Teredo

Or mail to: 50+ Survey, Planning Dept., District of Sechelt, P.O. Box 129, Sechelt BC V0N 3A0.

For further information about this survey, go to www.secheltseniors.ca

Or contact the survey project leader, Sue Jackel, telephone 604-885-2348, email suejackel@dccnet.com.

If you need assistance filling out this survey, or help in returning it to one of the drop-off locations, please ask a friend or neighbour to help. Or, contact the project team through the telephone number or email above. Your participation in this survey is very important.

Please feel free to pass along an extra copy of this survey to a friend or relative who lives in Sechelt. Be sure to select the right survey by age bracket. We appreciate your interest and support.