Sage Seniors Association

FALL 2025

A LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF BERNICE SEWELL AT SAGE

This November, Sage Seniors Association proudly celebrates a truly remarkable milestone: Bernice Sewell's 25th work anniversary with the organization. As our longest-serving team member and current Director of Operations, Bernice has left an indelible mark on Sage, shaping our mission, our programs, and our values over the past quarter-century.

Bernice's journey with Sage began humbly in a temporary, part-time coordinator role at what was then known as the Society for the Retired and Semi-Retired. Tasked with launching a new initiative to support seniors experiencing abuse, Bernice laid the groundwork for what would become Canada's second Seniors' Safe House. Starting with just two suites, her pioneering vision and determination helped grow the program to its current 11-suite capacity, providing vital shelter and support for older adults in crisis.

A Registered Social Worker by training, Bernice was soon promoted into management and eventually assumed her current role as Director of Operations. Throughout her career, she has been a driving force behind many of Sage's most innovative and impactful initiatives. From co-developing the Seniors Abuse Helpline and Edmonton's Hoarding Coalition to leading programs like PEGASIS, Dragonfly, HAAI, Truly Yours, Peer to Peer, Life Enrichment, Ageing to Sageing, Legal Systems Navigation, and Social Prescribing—her fingerprints are on nearly every corner of Sage's work.

Bernice also forged a long-standing partnership with the Multicultural Health Brokers Co-op and helped create Sage's holistic model of care. She recognized early on that the challenges seniors face are often deeply interconnected, requiring an integrated and compassionate approach. Under her leadership, Sage's programs have evolved to prioritize not only services, but systemic advocacy, inclusion, and anti-oppressive practice.

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BUILDING HOURS

Mon -Thurs 9:00- 4:00pm Staff work off-site on Friday

Please note that Sage will be closed on the following days:

Tues Sep 30
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Mon Oct 13
Thanksgiving Day

Tues Nov 11
Remembrance Day

Holiday Break Dec 25 – Jan 4

15 Sir Winston Churchill Sq Edmonton, AB T5J 2E5

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KAREN MCDONALD



As we move into fall, I find myself reflecting on what makes Sage such a special place: the people who give their time, energy, and heart to building this community. This season, we also mark a

very special moment in our history—celebrating the anniversary of Bernice Sewell. For 25 years, Bernice has been a guiding light at Sage, helping shape programs, supporting countless members of our community, and reminding us of the power of compassion in action.

I want to take a moment to thank our volunteers. Whether you're welcoming people at the front desk, leading activities, or quietly working behind the scenes, you are the heart of Sage. Your generosity makes it possible for so many to find connection and belonging here.

This summer's Annual General Meeting also gave us the chance to welcome new board members into our circle, and to thank those who completed their terms. Their thoughtful leadership stewarded Sage, and I'm especially grateful to the board for their hard work this year in completing a full rewrite of our bylaws—an important task that will support our future growth.

And now, I'm looking forward to our Open House on October 29. It's one of my favourite events of the year, because it brings us together—old friends and new—to share stories, information, and hopefully some laughter too. I hope you'll join us because it's those moments of connection that make Sage truly shine. Together, we make Sage a community.

Karen McDonald

NOVEMBER IS FALLS PREVENTION MONTH

Falls are the leading cause of injury-related hospitalizations among older adults in Canada.

DO MORE TO HELP PREVENT FALLS:

Move your body

Organize winter readiness for slippery and icy conditions

Remove hazards from your living environment

Emphasize the importance of personal health

Visit findingbalancealberta.ca for resources and information that can help you prevent falls.

Beyond Care Living Inc. Home Health Care Services

At Beyond Care Living, we go above and beyond for you! We are an Approved Agency with Blue Cross Invoicing Program and provide services in Edmonton and surrounding areas at affordable rates.

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- Palliative Care
- Light House Keeping



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Email: info@beyondcarelivinginc.ca Visit: www.beyondcarelivinginc.ca

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTEERS

We are currently looking for volunteers to assist with Customer Service Reception, income tax preparation for the 2026 tax season, and various Life Enrichment programs, such as Games lead, Karaoke leader, MOOC/presentation leader, Outings leader, and more. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jade at volunteer@mysage.ca or 780-701-9017.



From left to right: Judith Knight, Alan Stewart, and Carol Dube at our drop-in photo session.

CAPTURING WELLNESS & WISDOM: PHOTO SESSIONS AT SAGE

For the second year in a row, Sage hosted drop-in photo sessions celebrating the vibrancy and individuality of older adults in our community. This year's sessions didn't just focus on capturing great images—they also sparked meaningful conversations.

Our Canada Summer Jobs students connected with participants, asking thoughtful questions about what brought them to Sage and what wellness means to them as they age. While each story was unique, common themes emerged: the importance of staying active, building relationships, and trying new things.

"I had so much fun talking with each person they shared such great stories and advice!" one student shared.

A big thank you to Alan Stewart, who returned as volunteer photographer, along with assistants Walter and Carol, for helping bring these moments to life.

Keep an eye out: the cover of the 2026 Seniors' Services Directory will feature portraits from these sessions - to be revealed at our Open House on October 29!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Secretary/Treasurer

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Rain Bautista Diana Elniski Danielle Perrault Fayaz Rajabali Anne Smith Michael Solowan Joanne Cave Edwin Ryan

Marisa Redmond Kendrea Sicotte Paul Taylor RaeChelle-Faith Ankamreddy

PHONE

Main Switchboard	780.423.5510
Fax	780.426.5175
Life Enrichment	780.423.5510
Safe House Intake	780.702.1520
Social Work Services	587.773.1764
Volunteer Services	780.701.9014
Donations and Advertising	780.701.9006

Email info@mysage.ca
Online www.mysage.ca
Facebook Sage Seniors Association

...continued from the cover.



Bernice Sewell

Her unwavering dedication to equity and her deep belief in community collaboration have helped shape Sage into the organization it is today. Bernice has always championed the idea that seniors deserve services rooted in dignity,

respect, and culturally responsive care.

Reflecting on her 25 years, Bernice shared that she feels profoundly grateful to work in a place where her values align so closely with her day-to-day efforts. She considers it a privilege to have journeyed alongside so many passionate colleagues, volunteers, and community members—and to have earned the trust of the seniors who walk through Sage's doors in search of connection and support.

From all of us at Sage:

Congratulations, Bernice! Your leadership, passion, and integrity have transformed countless lives—and our organization. We are endlessly thankful for all that you have given over these 25 extraordinary years.

NOVEMBER IS: FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION MONTH

As a community, we can work together to build healthier relationships and increase awareness of warning signs and resources. Help is available for those in need. For more information on shelters, info lines, awareness events, and other supports, please visit www.alberta.ca/family-violenceprevention-month

RESOURCES:

Alberta Council of Women's Shelters 24-7 hotline 1-866-331-3933

Family Violence Info Line 780-310-1819

Edmonton Seniors Abuse Line 780-454-888





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LIFE ENRICHMENT PROGRAMMING

Life Enrichment programs are free unless a cost is indicated. A Sage membership is **not** required to participate. For more information, visit our website to see the **Monthly Life Enrichment Calendar** or call Rachel at 780-701-9016.

The café is a space where you can sit, visit, play games, relax, and enjoy outside food and beverages. The space is available Monday to Thursday between 10am and 2pm. Please remember to sanitize your hands frequently.

ZOOM PROGRAMS: DROP-IN

Zoom Meeting ID: 657 878 2877 **Toll-Free Phone-in:** 1.855.703.8985

Zumba Gold with Carina Fridays

Fridays 1pm-2pm

Virtual Men's Shed

1st & 3rd Fridays of the month 11am-12pm

HYBRID PROGRAMS: DROP-IN

Zoom Meeting ID: 657 878 2877 **Toll-Free Phone-in:** 1.855.703.8985

Tai Chi with Master Ken

Mon 9:30-11:00am

Sage Auditorium or on Zoom

Aging Out of AISH Learn about the changes that happen when a person turns 65 and no longer qualifies for AISH, and the supports available.

When: Nov 25 10:30am Where: Sage Room or Zoom

Sage is partnering with PALS to offer a Computer Basics course, and we need a volunteer instructor! Training and teaching materials will be provided.

Interested? Contact us at volunteer@mysage.ca or 780-701-9017 for details.



DID YOU KNOW?

There are four key vaccines for seniors: COVID, flu, pneumonia, and RSV. Here's how to book yours today!

Booking immunizations at a pharmacy

- Use the Alberta Vaccine Booking System online
- Call Health Link at 811
- Contact your local pharmacy

Booking immunizations at an AHS clinic

- Use Connect Care online
- Calling Health Link at 811

ZOOM PROGRAMS: PRE-REGISTER

To register for a program, please call Rachel at 780-701-9016 or email life@mysage.ca.

Zoom Meeting ID: 657 878 2877 **Toll-Free Phone-in:** 1.855.703.8985

Connecting Though Writing Workshops with Adele Pre-register by the Friday before the series begins.

Mondays 2:15-3:15pm
Series 1: Nov 3, 10, 17, 24
Series 2: Dec 8, 15, 22

Better Choices, Better Health Workshops

Free six week workshops presented by Alberta Health Services: learn lifelong skills to help manage pain and/or your chronic condition, healthy eating and becoming more active, how to talk to your health care team, and more! Call 825-404-7460 (press 3) to register.

Virtual Chronic Pain Workshops Option 1: Sep 18 & Oct 23 1-3:30pm Option 2: Oct 19 & Nov 23, 6-8:30pm

COMPASS for the Caregiver (by Caregivers Alberta) This four week education program helps caregivers balance their own well-being with the challenges of caregiving, and is facilitated by someone who understands those challenges. Cost is \$55 (can waive fee, income depending). Visit www.caregiversalberta.ca or phone: 780.453.5088 to register.

When: Sept 5-26 (more dates coming soon)

HYBRID PROGRAMS: PRE-REGISTER

To register for a program, please call Rachel at 780-701-9016 or email life@mysage.ca.

Zoom Meeting ID: 657 878 2877 **Toll-Free Phone-in:** 1.855.703.8985

Aging with Pride A group for LGBTQ2S+ seniors and allies. Contact Rachel at life@mysage.ca or 780.701.9016 for details.

When: Mondays 1-2:30pm Where: Sage Room or Zoom

Device and Computer Help with Dennis Do

you have questions about how to use your device or a computer? Our volunteer Dennis can help! Contact Sage reception at 780-423-5510 to request an appointment. He can help over the phone/computer or book an in-person appointment at Sage on Wednesdays between 1:00-3:00pm. Drop-in help is available on Wednesdays 1-3pm in the Sage computer lab.

Uke n' Sing If you like strumming on ukeleles, or singing along to familiar tunes, this group is for you. Returning in the Fall!

When: Tues 11:45am-1:00pm

COMING SOON!

2026 Sage

DIRECTORY OF SENIOR SERVICES

will be available at our Open House on Oct 29



SAGE DROP IN OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, October 29, 2025 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Sage Seniors Association
15 Sir Winston Churchill Square



IN-PERSON PROGRAMS AT SAGE

PRE-REGISTER

To register for a program, please call Rachel at 780-701-9016 or email life@mysage.ca.

Let's do Lunch Pre-register by the Wednesday before. Must be able to walk to the restaurant from Sage or meet at the restaurant. Meet at 11am at Sage (or 11:30am at restaurant). Pay for your lunch + ETS.

When:

- Oct 20 O'Byrnes Irish Pub 10235-101st
- Nov 17 Buco 10423-101st
- Dec 15 Old Spaghetti Factory 10220-103st

River Cree Casino Outing Includes voucher for lunch and a \$5 gambling voucher. The bus can hold some walkers but no wheelchairs. Cost is \$5. Depart Sage at 9:30am and 2:00pm departure from River Cree. Must stay for the entire four hours to get deal.

When: Oct 15, Nov 19, Dec 17

Ballroom Dance with Melissa

Tues 11:15-12:45pm

Practice is Wed 9:00am-9:45am

Modern Line Dance with Nancy

Class A: Mon 11:30am-1:00pm

Wed 11:45am-1:15pm

Class B: Mon 1:15pm-2:45 pm Wed 1:30-3:00pm

Fun & Fitness with Mykieng

Thurs 11am-12:00pm

Book Club A great opportunity to meet new people and share your love of reading. Group will meet each month to discuss that month's book and get the book for the following month. Will be using book club kits from Stanley Milner Library.

When: Last Mon of the month 10-11:00am

Introductory Computer Classes In these free 15 weeks of classes, learn how to use the mouse and keyboard, navigate websites using the internet, recognize scams and stay safe online, and connect with loved ones through social media and video calls.

When: TBA

Where: Sage Computer Lab

Indigenous Canada is a 12 lesson Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) from the Faculty of Native Studies at the UofA that explores the different histories and contemporary perspectives of Indigenous peoples living in Canada. Cost is \$5 to cover course handouts. Registration deadline is Sept 24.

When: Thurs 10-12pm, Oct 2-Dec 18

Ernest's at NAIT - Student Showcase Buffet Lunch Choose from an impressive array of delectable dishes prepared by Culinary Arts students for a great price. The meal features fantastic creations that the students have learned in class. Cost is \$40.00 per person (includes tax and gratuity). Must pre-pay cash at Sage to register. Space is limited. Theme is 'Winter Holiday'.

When: Dec 12

Meet at restaurant at 11am

DROP-IN PROGRAMS

Karaoke Korner Mon 11:15-12:30pm on Sage Main

Mindful Colouring & Doodling Tues and Wed

Crib Games with Jim and Axcella Tues 1pm & Wed 11:30-1pm

Dominoes Mon 10:30am-12pm

Raye Dolgoy Bridge Club Wed 12pm-3pm

Mahjong Lessons
Thurs 10am-11:30am

Zumba Gold with Carina Tuesdays Tues 1-2:00pm

Gentle Yoga with Sydney Wed 1-2:00pm

Busy Fingers & Crafts with Carol Tues 9:30am-12:00pm

Coffee Group Wed 10:15am-11:30am

Join us for a Christmas Party! sponsored by Aging with Pride

Enjoy some festive fun with live music from Northern Heart, cake, and refreshments. Everyone welcome!

Date: Monday, December 15 1:00-2:30pm



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IN THE COMMUNITY

Community Animators from Sage offer support to community-driven activities around the city. Join us for events, activities, and gatherings such as *Seniors' Drop-ins* where you can join other seniors for coffee, conversation and activities. Contact the Community Animator in your area to find out what is happening, or to let us know what you want to see in your community!

Opportunities in Northwest Edmonton

For more info, contact Jan at itworek@mysage.ca or 780-809-9404

Seniors' Drop-ins

Woodcroft Public Library

13420 114 Ave 4th Tuesday of the month 10:30am

Castle Downs Public Library 15379 Castle Downs Road 2nd Tuesday of the month 1:30pm

Ahtlone Community League

13010-129 Street 1st Friday of the month 10:30am

Dovercourt Community League

13510 Dovercourt Avenue (back entrance) Various Tuesdays 10:30am Contact Jan for more information

Opportunities in northeast Edmonton

Contact Marian at menow@mysage.ca or 780-701-9014.

Seniors' Drop-ins Evergreen Community Centre

31 Evergreen Park NW 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month 10:30am-12:00pm

Clareview Rec Centre 3804 139 Ave Every Wednesday 10:00am-12:00pm In the room next to the C5 office

Amity House 9213 146 Ave NW Every Wednesday 1:00pm-3:00pm

Kilkenny Community League

14910 72 St NW 1st and 4th Tuesday of the month 10:00am-12:00pm

Community crafts 6:00pm-8:00pm 2nd Friday of the month

Delton Community League

12325 88 St NW 1st and 3rd Monday of the month 1-3:00pm

Opportunities in Southwest Edmonton

For more info, call Theresa 780-809-9405

Golden Years Cinema

Relive the magic of Hollywood's golden era with free screenings of classic films at the Whitemud Crossing EPL branch. Connect with fellow seniors over popcorn and learn about Sage and other community resources.

Roman Holiday (Rated PG) Fri Sept 12, 2:00pm

Rear Window (Rated PG) Fri Oct 10, 2:00pm

12 Angry Men (Rated PG) Fri Nov 14, 2:00pm

Christmas in Connecticut (Rated G) Fri Dec 12, 2:00pm

Seniors Community Resource Fair

Join Sage Seniors Association and Edmonton Public Library for a Seniors Community Resource Fair. Fri Oct 3, 10:00 - 2:00 p.m. Whitemud Crossing Branch (4211-106 St)

Beyond the Rental Agreement

Focus Groups
Are you thinking about getting a renter?
Tues Oct 28 10:00-12:00 pm
Lois Hole EPL Callingwood
17650-69 Ave Edmonton
Refreshments Available

Opportunities in Southeast Edmonton For more info, contact Chris at cbullough@mysage.ca or 780-701-9010

Cultural Men's Shed

Join a group of men from various cultures coming together for friendship and to increase their understanding of Canadian culture while sharing their traditions.

Meet Wednesdays 12:00pm at Sage.

Amazing Elders Drop-In

This group shares interests and go on field trips to enhance their learning. Everyone is welcome. September start. Fridays 1:00pm-3:00pm C5 Northeast Community Hub

Seniors' Drop-in

14017 Victoria Trail

Every 2nd Friday 2:00pm-3:00pm Edmonton Public Library Capilano Branch 9915-67 St NW

Senior ACTRA Group

If performing and writing are your passion, this group is for you! Meets monthly.

International Day of the Older Person

Join us at Sage as we celebrate seniors with some live entertainment, goodies, and refreshments!

Wed, Oct 1 at 1:00pm

SENIORS SESSIONS with Sage



Sage Seniors Association is offering two **free** presentations in one afternoon.



NUTRITION FOR OLDER ADULTS

&
DOWNSIZING AND DECLUTTERING

Two dates and locations:



OCTOBER 21 1:00pm-3:30pm Kirk Centre 13535 122 Ave

OCTOBER 30 1:00pm-3:30pm Glenwood Community Hall 16430 97 Ave

Pre-registration requested, but drop-ins welcome.

TO REGISTER:

Call: 780.446.3964 or Email: jtworek@mysage.ca www.mysage.ca



Save the Date

Edmonton Public Library and Sage Seniors Association invite you to attend our second Seniors Community Resource Fair.

> FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Whitemud Crossing Branch 145 Whitemud Crossing Shopping Centre, 4211-106 St







Wills Week. October 6-10.



Free expert advice on wills and estates. Online and in-person sessions.

Details at ecf.ca/wills-week.



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