Support Groups & Related Organizations

Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB)  250-595-1100
2340 Richmond Road Victoria, BC V8R 4R9
Services free-of-charge to all Canadians with vision loss; vision rehabilitation and low vision services, adaptive technology resources and training, digital library services, daily living skills, safe travel skills, adjustment to vision loss courses, and volunteer services. Provides Bus Identification Cards for legally blind people.
www.cnib.ca

Pacific Training Centre for the Blind (PTCB)  250-580-4910
817A Fort Street Victoria, BC V8W 1H6
A charitable society (located at the Victoria Disability Resource Centre) which offers blindness skills training in tactile skills: including Braille; orientation and travel training with the long white cane; daily living skills such as cooking; and technology such as computer and iPhone use without sight. Free of charge, to anyone experiencing vision loss. No medical referral is required. The instructors are blind, have a wealth of lived experience to share and promote a positive approach to blindness. Training is held in a class setting, enabling students to chat with their peers and discuss concerns with others who know what they are dealing with. Students are assessed and training is individualized according to each student’s goals and abilities.
www.pacifictrainingcentre.ca

White Cane Club SHOAL Community Centre  250-656-5537
10030 Resthaven Drive Sidney, BC V8L 3G4
For those with vision impairment, this support group meets the first Thursday of the month, September - June, 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.
www.beaconcs.ca

Transportation

Transportation options and related services.

BC Transit Information

BC Transit  250-382-6161
BC Transit offers a discounted monthly pass for passengers 65 years of age or older. The passes are $45 and are available from bus pass vendors located throughout Greater Victoria.
www.bctransit.com

BC Transit Community Travel Training Victoria  250-384-7723
This free program is an individual teaching session to assist seniors, mobility aid users, and anyone with a disability or special need to use the bus in Victoria. HandyDART clients are welcome. Group information workshops are available to organizations serving seniors.

Greater Victoria & Area
BC Bus Pass Program  1-866-866-0800
Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
PO Box 9985 STN Prov Govt Victoria, BC V8W 9R6
The Bus Pass Program enables all qualified low income senior citizens and persons who are disabled to buy a yearly bus pass at an affordable price. These passes may be used on all conventional transit services but are not valid on handyDART.
www.buspass.gov.bc.ca
handyDART Registration, Information and Booking Line  250-727-7811
The handyDART is a BC Transit service for people with permanent or temporary disabilities that prevent them from using fixed-route transit without assistance from another person. This custom transit service uses specially equipped vehicles and provides door-to-door service.
www.bctransit.com

Taxi Saver Program  250-995-5618
Program allows handyDART passengers to use subsidized vouchers for taxi travel when handyDART service is not available. Passenger can book directly with a participating taxi company. Taxi Saver coupons are sold by BC Transit. To be eligible a person must be permanently registered with handyDART.
www.bctransit.com

Driving Services

Driving Miss Daisy
Victoria & Saanich .......... 250-588-4638
Westshore ..................... 250-813-0440
Fee-based assistance and accompaniment services to seniors and those with disabilities.
www.drivingmissdaisy.ca

Ferry Travel

BC Ferry Corporation  1-888-223-3779
BC Seniors travel free Monday through Thursday except holidays noted below on presentation of a BC Services Card, a BC Gold Care Card (age 65 or greater), a BC Driver’s License, a BC Identification Card, or a Birth Certificate. If you are presenting a Birth Certificate, proof of residency in BC is required. The BC Seniors discount applies only to the passenger fare. Persons with special needs may contact customer service to request assistance with boarding and disembarking.
www.bcferries.com

Medical Transfers

Coastal Companion Services  250-883-0406
Provides customized transportation for non-emergency, medically stable individuals requiring wheelchair services or simply more assistance. Operates locally and licensed to provide transportation for medical appointments, hospital transfers, social outings and group excursions.
www.coastalmedic.com

Medi-Van Canada Inc.  250-389-0948
Non-emergency stretcher and wheelchair service. Operates locally and provides services anywhere in North America.
www.medivancanada.com
Transportation

Parking Permits

Beacon Community Services
Volunteer Services  250-656-5537
SHOAL Community Centre
10030 Resthaven Drive
Sidney, BC V8L-3G4
Satellite office for Victoria Disability Resource Centre. Permanent, temporary, organizational and visitor handicapped parking permits available. Physicians signed order required. Payment by cash, debit, cheque or credit card.
www.beaconcs.ca

Victoria Disability Resource Centre  250-595-0044
817A Fort Street
Victoria, BC V8W 1H6
Permanent, temporary, organization, and visitor parking permits for persons who have disabilities that limit their mobility. Application form available at doctors’ offices, in person at our office, on our website, or by fax or email. Must be filled out by physician (signed and stamped). Processing fee of $25 in our office or $27 through the mail.
www.drcvictoria.com

Wescom Medi-Lend Society at Priory Hospital  250-478-5373
567 Goldstream Avenue
Victoria, BC V9B 2W4

Travel Subsidies

Health Insurance BC Travel Assistance Program (TAP)  250-952-2657
Alleviates some of the transportation costs for eligible B.C. residents who must travel within the province for non-emergency medical specialist services not available in their own community. Coordinated by the Ministry of Health. Application forms can be obtained from your physician or specialty clinic.
www.hibc.gov.bc.ca

Volunteer Drivers

The following agencies offer transportation by volunteer drivers for medical appointments and other activities as drivers are available.

Beacon Community Services (Sidney) .................. 250-656-5537
www.beaconcs.ca

Cancer DriveLine Society...... 778-265-0906
For patients undergoing cancer treatment only.
www.cancerdriveline.ca

Capital City (Victoria) Volunteers ......................... 250-388-7844
www.capitalcityvolunteers.org

James Bay Community Project............ 250-388-7844
www.jbcp.bc.ca

Metchosin Seniors Information Resource Centre (SIRC) ........250-478-5150
Metchosin residents only.
www.metchosinseniors.ca