

Seniors' Community Action Committees Provincial Working Group



December 9th, 2020 – 10:00 am

*Healthy Aging by United Way
acknowledges the
traditional, ancestral, and
unceded territories of the
First Nations of British Columbia,
on which we gratefully
work and gather.*





Healthy Aging

by United Way At home. In community.

Webinar Instructions

- Everyone will **remain muted** and **cameras will be off**
- Questions or comments can be directed using the “**Q&A**” or the “**Chat**” features.
- There will be a **10-minute question period** at the end – use the “**Q&A**” feature to ask questions at any time, and the question will be posed to during the questions period
- Webinar is recorded and posted on [Healthy Aging CORE](#) – slides will also be made available

Webinar Goals

- Showcase the SCAC Working Group
- Highlight the importance of Seniors' Planning Tables
- Showcase the suggested frameworks for a Provincial Network of SCACs
- Provide a learning opportunity to increase participants' knowledge of Seniors' Planning Tables



Presenters:

Kristine Larsen - Vernon Seniors Action Network (VSAN)

Dela Aghdasi - Healthy Aging by United Way co-op student





What is a SCAC?

A local or regional group, structured as a seniors' planning, action, and/or advisory table or committee.

Seniors' Community Action Committees

- Support the capacity of community **to collaborate, plan and mobilize to give seniors a voice**, in local planning and decision-making and to improve the lives of older adults.
- Are comprised of older adults and a cross-section of community members including; CBSS agencies, service providers, all levels of government, and members of the general public.
- Vary in characteristics such as:
 - stage of development,
 - resources,
 - capacity, and
 - scope of activity



Seniors Community Action Committee Working Group

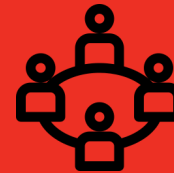
Define



Inventory
& Map



Community
Engagement



Innovation
& Strategy



SCAC Working Group

- 12 members representing a seniors' planning table from different types of communities e.g., urban, rural, remote, etc.

Southern Vancouver Island & Southern Gulf Islands Seniors Planning Table - Glenys Cavers

West End Senior's Network, Vancouver - Anthony Kupferschmidt

Delta Seniors Planning Team, Delta - Kay Dennison

Vernon Seniors Action Network, Vernon - Kristine Larsen

Tri-Cities Seniors Planning Network (TCSPN), Tri-Cities - Ken Kuhn

Golden Age-Friendly Committee, Golden - Mickey Balas

Sunshine Coast Seniors Action Network, Sunshine Coast - Michelle Bruecker

Golden Age-Friendly Committee; Golden - Lynne Romano

Semiahmoo Seniors Planning Table, White Rock & Surrey - Ramona Kaptyn and/or Kristina Sinclair

Lionsview Seniors Planning Table, Action Tables, Seniors Coalition, North Shore Vancouver— Margaret Coates

SCAC Working Group Objectives

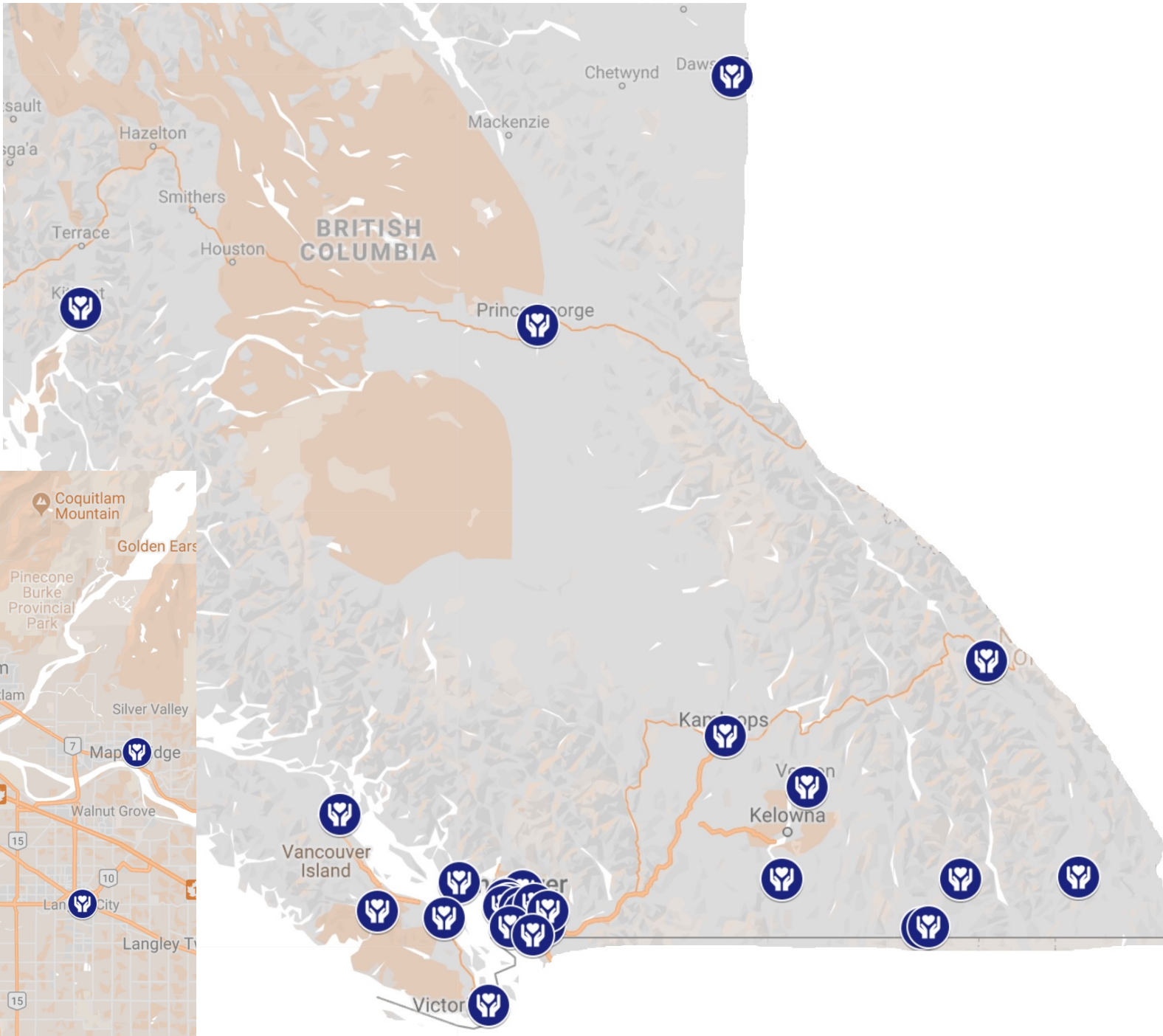
- Committed to supporting the needs and interests of seniors' planning tables across B.C.
 - Advancing the development of SCACs in BC.
 - Creating a map and inventory of existing SCACs.
 - Gather best practices and develop tools and resources to support and mobilize SCACs in BC.
 - Create a framework for a SCAC provincial network.
 - Linking SCACs with each other on Healthy Aging CORE.



Map & Inventory

- 30 known SCACs
- 46 designated Age-Friendly Communities
- 76 Better at Home

Map of SCACs in BC



- Age Friendly Rossland
- Age Friendly Nelson
- Alberni Valley Seniors Society Network
- Campbell River Seniors Network
- City of North Vancouver Senior Action Committee
- Delta Seniors Community Planning Table
- Golden Age Friendly Community Committee
- Langley Seniors Community Action Table
- Lionsview Seniors Planning Society
- Lower Capilano Seniors Action Table
- Metro Vancouver Cross Cultural Seniors Network
- Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, Katzie Seniors Network
- Nanaimo Senior Services Network
- Opportunities for Older Adults Planning Table
- Penticton Seniors Planning Table
- Prince George Council of Seniors
- Powell River Seniors Community Council
- Semiahmoo Senior Planning Table
- Seniors In Partnership (Cranbrook)
- Seniors' Independence Networking Group (Dawson Creek)
- Society for the Protection and Care of Seniors (Trail)
- South Vancouver Island & S. Gulf Islands SPT
- Sunshine Coast Seniors Planning Table
- Tri-Cities Seniors Planning Network
- Vernon Seniors Action Network
- Voices of Burnaby Seniors' Task Force
- Nainamo Seniors Task Force
- West End Seniors' Community Planning
- West Side Seniors Planning Action Table
- West Vancouver Seniors Action Table

Community Engagement

- 2019 Provincial Summit on Aging
- In-depth interviews
- Provincial Network models



Provincial Summit on Aging

Community Engagement



Where do we, as a collective of Seniors' Community Action Committees, go from here?

- Do you see a provincial SCAC as a valuable body to help leverage pursuit of sustainable funding?
- What could a provincial framework, benefiting your local SCAC, look like?

3 Themes emerged:

Funding!

Network, Collaboration & Mentorship!

Representation by older adults for older adults!



The Path Ahead

1. Continuing a province-wide conversation
2. Develop a provincial network

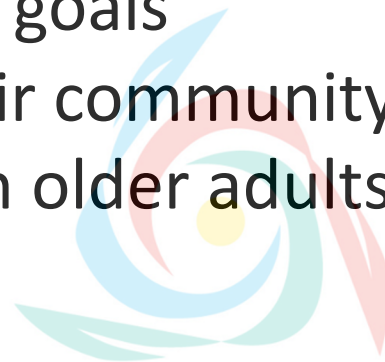
A Provincial Network – Feedback Received from SCACs

- Since October 2020, interviews have been conducted with SCACs across the province to gather information from each SCAC on updates, needs, challenges, and feedback regarding a provincial network



SCAC Specifics:

- Each planning table is unique!
- The interview also gathered information on:
 - History and development of the SCAC
 - Structure of the SCAC
 - Table's purpose/objective and goals
 - How SCACs engage within their community
 - How SCACs communicate with older adults in community



So far, 15 SCACs have been interviewed:

- West End Seniors Planning Table (City of Vancouver)
- Delta Seniors Planning Team
- Tri-Cities Seniors Action Society
- Semiahmoo Seniors Planning Table
- Golden Community Resources Society
- Langley Seniors Community in Action Table Society
- Seniors Services Society of BC (New Westminster)
- Lionsview Seniors Planning Table
- West Van Seniors Action Table



Cont'd:

- North Van Seniors Action Table
- Seymour Seniors Action Table
- Lower Capilano Seniors Action Table
- Southern Vancouver Island and Southern Gulf Islands Planning Table
- Vernon Seniors Action Network
- Sunshine Coast Seniors Planning Table



Age-Friendly Communities

Some Age-Friendly communities of these SCACs include:

- Vancouver, B.C.
- New Westminster, B.C.
- Golden, B.C.
- Southern Vancouver Island, B.C.
- Southern Gulf Islands, B.C.

SCAC Projects/Initiatives

Some examples of recent/current projects mentioned by SCACs include:

- **Semiahmoo Seniors Planning Table:**
 - Monthly lunch and learn program with speakers
 - Yearly all-day event with resource tables and small talks
 - Coffee/connect event every 2 months- for new seniors & to meet new seniors



- **Golden Community Resources Society:**

- Great Facebook Page – Golden BC Seniors Group
- Accessibility in the community (businesses, pathways in the snow)
- Weekly hot lunch program for over 100+ seniors



- **Langley Seniors Community in Action Table Society:**

- Main project: Educational Sessions
 - runs monthly, sometimes weekly
 - Examples:
 - Chat with a pharmacist – education on how to get medications during the pandemic;
 - workshop with TELUS on internet safety and identify theft)



- **Vernon Seniors Action Network:**

- Regular newsletter
- Senior's Resource Guide
- Intergenerational initiatives: collaboration with elementary schools to make Christmas cards and establish Pen Pal connections



- **Sunshine Coast Seniors Planning Table:**

- Literature Review in Isolation of Older Adults in Canada
- Creation of new action groups to focus on:
 - Technology and Transportation
- Advocacy with Minister of Seniors and BC Seniors Advocate



Involvement with Other Communities

Communities that have been noted to be represented in SCACs include:

Indigenous communities

- Métis society representation on Golden Community Resources Society

Mental Health/Substance Use communities

- Opioid committee representation on Delta Seniors Planning Team

LGBTQ communities

- Victoria Lesbian Seniors Care Society representation on Southern Vancouver Island and Southern Gulf Islands Planning Table

Local government:

- municipal, regional, MP and MLA representation on Sunshine Coast Seniors Planning Table

Funding



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Funding

Examples of funding avenues received by some of the SCACs include:

- New Horizons grant
- BC CRN
- West Vancouver Community Foundation
- Divisions of Family Practice
- District of Sechelt (Municipal Government) – Sunshine Coast



Having no sustainable funding

Not being a registered charity – excludes from many funding sources

Not being registered society

Funders not being keen to fund coordination and planning – specific services and programs are wanted instead

Funding Challenges

Being an informal/broad group

Not having a paid coordinator – volunteers spending personal time applying for funding

Writing proposals is extremely time consuming

Not having sufficient funding to realize projects or make acquisitions

Needs/Supports

An ideal amount of funding to sustain a SCAC varied from \$6000 – \$35,000 a year.

- Some examples mentioned of how sustainable funding could support these SCACs include:
 - Renting a meeting space
 - Supporting paid positions for coordination
 - Education and outreach: speakers for educational sessions, newsletter and seniors' guides



Thoughts on a Provincial Network

- Overall- strong support expressed for a provincial network
- SCACs have stated that a Provincial Network would help with the following:
 - Getting tables funding
 - Improving how tables are perceived
 - Giving more strength to individual units if there is body above them to engage with government/for profit organizations to fund issues for seniors

Thoughts on a Provincial Network – Cont'd:

- Sharing and promoting clear, consistent information, resources, and best practices
- Giving CBSS organizations a way to connect with some funding and sharing of ideas
- Sharing differing needs from communities

- Every SCAC interviewed expressed interest in participating in meetings with representatives from other tables across the province.

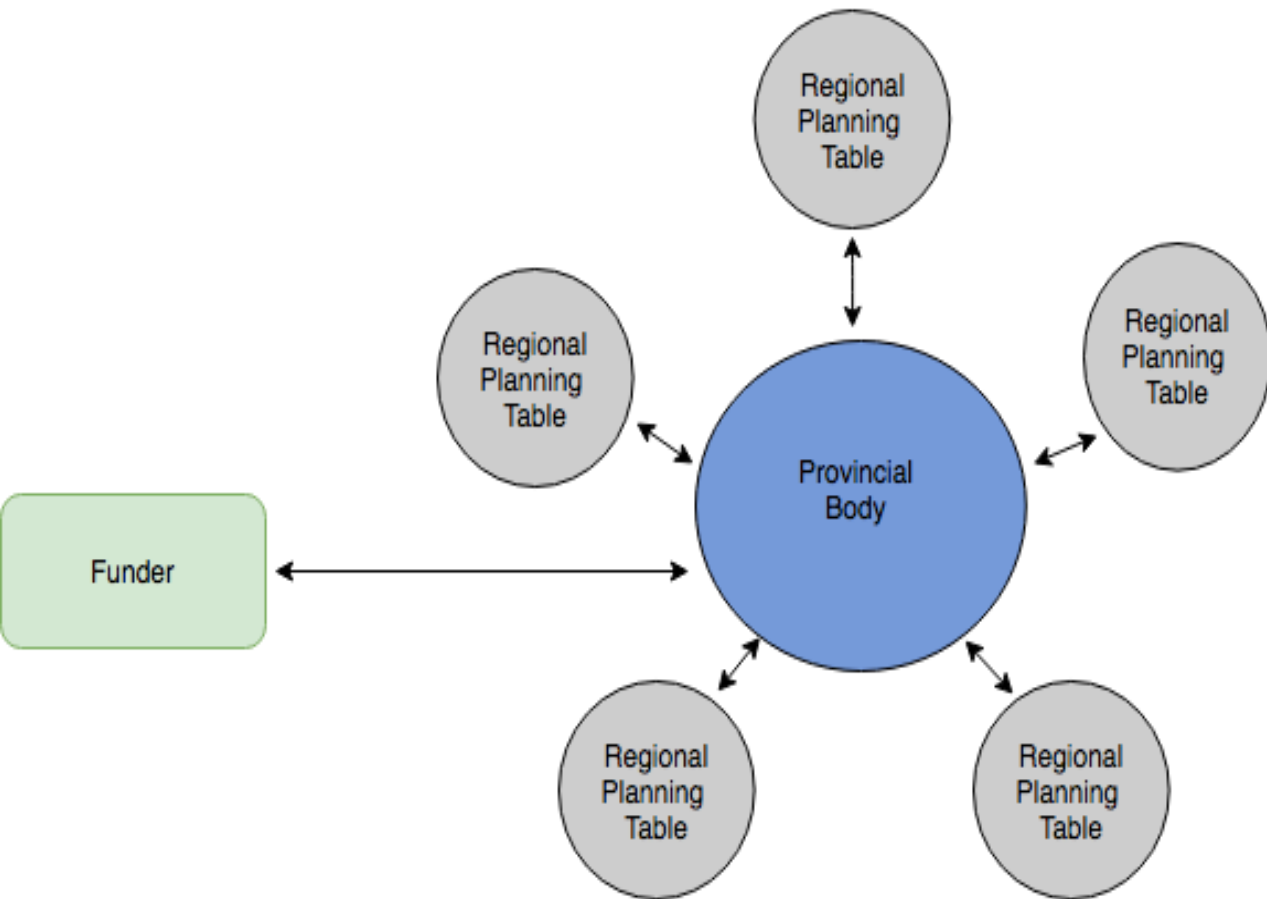


Models to Consider for a Provincial Network

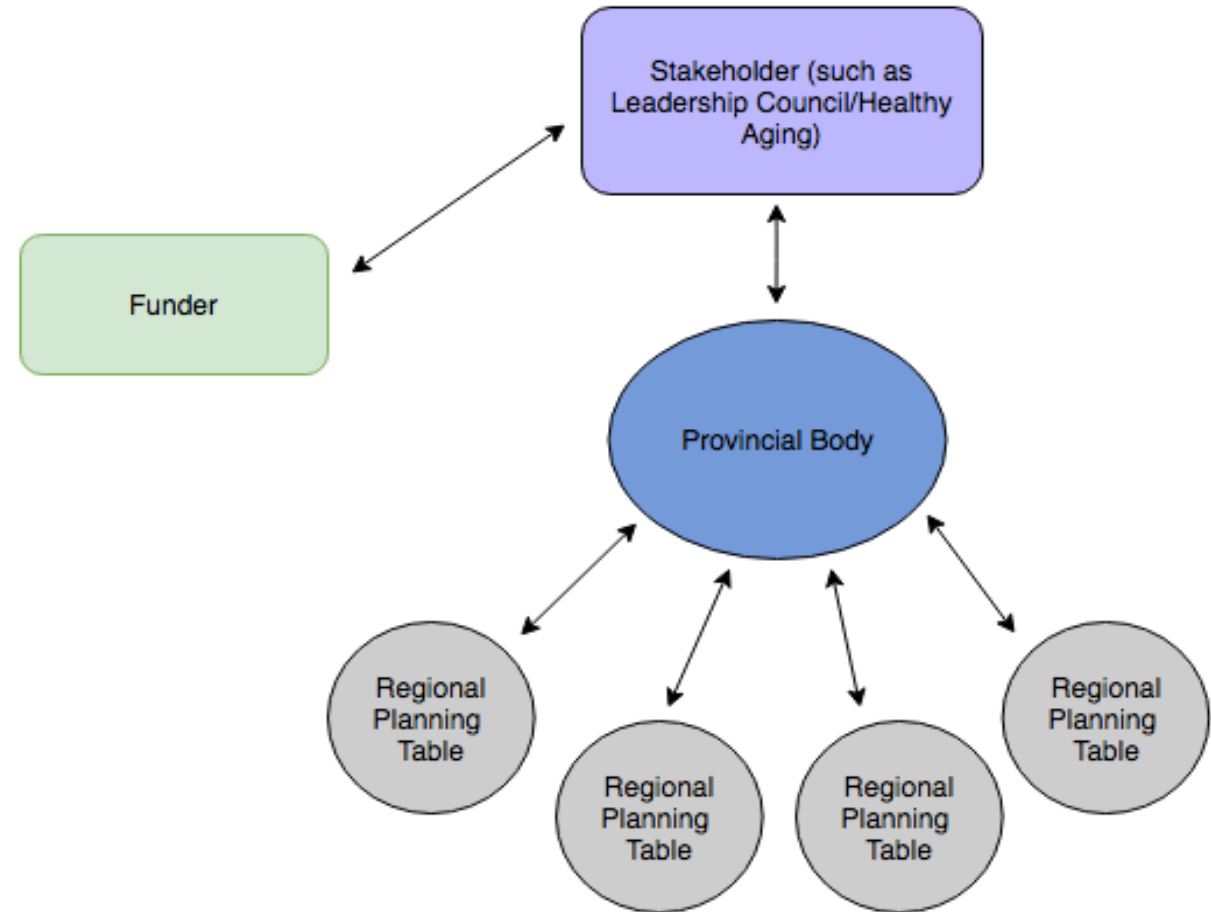
The Provincial Network

- The Provincial Network would act as a link between SCACs across B.C.
- The role in which the Provincial Network would play in decision-making for SCACs can be explored through two different models:
 - Network-based Model
 - Committee-based Model

Network-Based Model

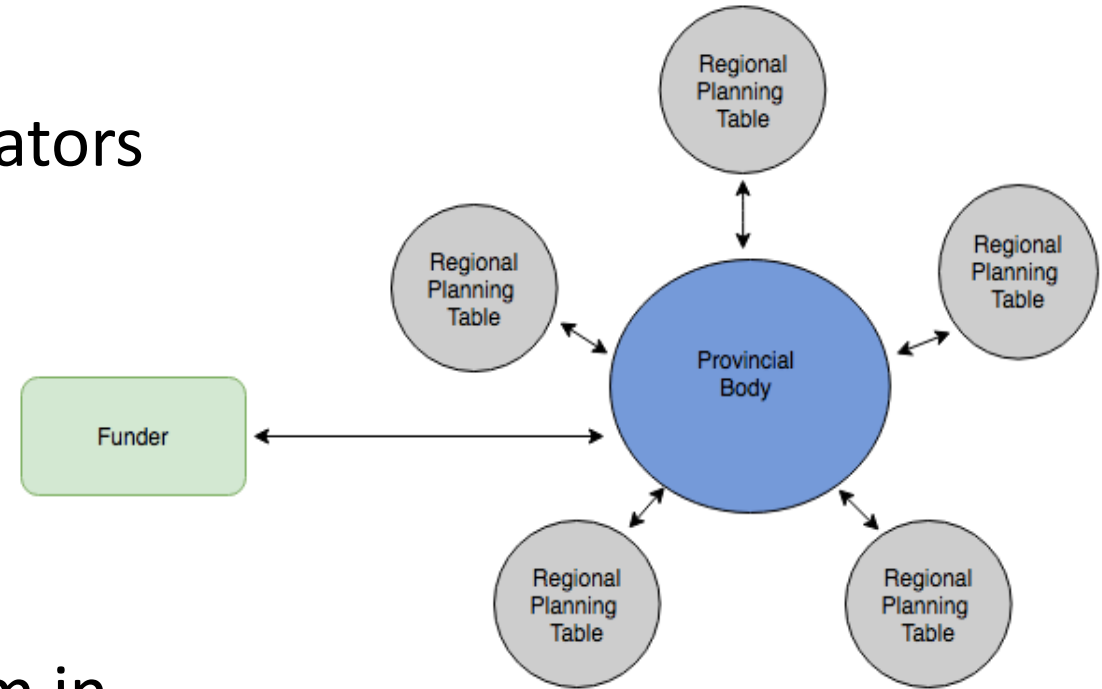


Committee-Based Model



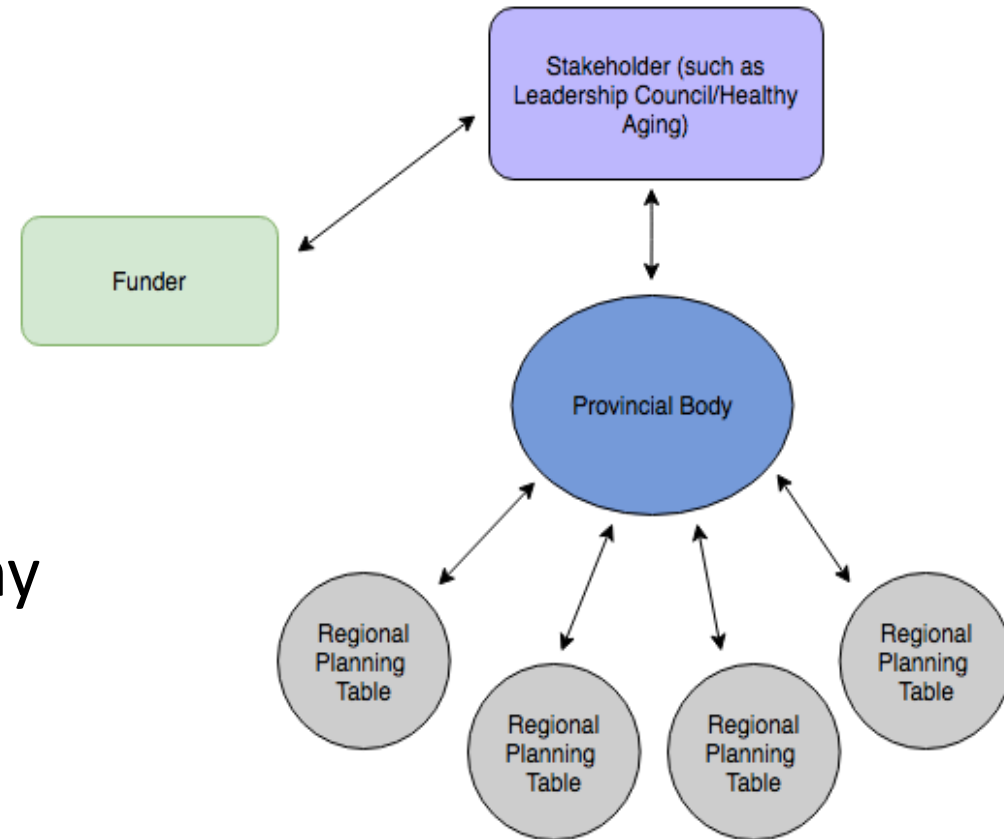
Network-Based Model

- Pros:
 - Creates existing body where coordinators are behooved of that regional body
 - Wants tables to be independent
- Cons:
 - No current administrative mechanism in place to receiving/distributing funding



Committee-Based Model

- Pros:
 - Stakeholder would have infrastructure in place to receive/distribute funding
- Cons:
 - Provincial body would have less autonomy
 - Is not direct recipient of funding.



Next Steps

healthyagingcore.ca/group/seniors-community-action-committees

HEALTHY AGING
CORE Collaborative Online Resources & Education
 BRITISH COLUMBIA

Add New

MY GROUPS MSG ALERTS

Home > Seniors Community Action Committees

SENIORS COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEES

Open group | 19 members

Group Home Discussions Resources Events Training Members

In many BC communities, groups of seniors have come together to form seniors' planning, advisory, or action tables or committees to give older adults a voice in community planning and decision making. This site is an open discussion area where these "Seniors Community Action Committees" can exchange information and ideas, share news and resources, and hold discussions on topics relevant to their operations and activities.

ADD NEW GROUP CONTENT

ABOUT THIS GROUP

LATEST ACTIVITY

SUBJECT AREA	CATEGORY	KEYWORD

Additional Resources on this topic on CORE:

- Join the open discussion group: Seniors Community Action Committees on CORE
- Search by Category or Subject Area
- Search in Resources or Group, or with magnifying glass icon in header
- Type in “webinar” to locate this and all webinars

Questions?

Thank you

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