Boomers, Zoomers & Super-Centenarians: Changing Demographics and the Mature Adult Housing Market in Canada

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>2001 N (000)</th>
<th>% of Pop. 65+</th>
<th>2011 N (000)</th>
<th>% of Pop. 65+</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>% of Pop. 65+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65-69</td>
<td>1,133.6</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td>1,495.8</td>
<td>30.9</td>
<td>2,140.4</td>
<td>32.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>70-74</td>
<td>1,009.2</td>
<td>26.0</td>
<td>1,112.7</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>1,745.7</td>
<td>26.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>75-79</td>
<td>813.7</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>879.7</td>
<td>18.2</td>
<td>1,181.6</td>
<td>17.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>516.1</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>666.2</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>756.8</td>
<td>11.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>281.8</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>422.5</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>472.5</td>
<td>7.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>90+</td>
<td>134.1</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>269.0</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>373.6</td>
<td>5.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,888.6</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>4,845.9</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>6,670.6</td>
<td>100.0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Oldest Old

• Fastest growing segment of the 65+ population are those aged 85+
• Number aged 85+ in Canada will double between 2001-2021
• 2011 Census: 5825 Centenarians (4870 female; 955 male)
Some 65+ are frail
Others are healthy and very active (e.g. 1984 Trans-Canada bicycle tour)
Some are wealthy
Some are not

• Especially unattached older persons
Poverty Rates, Couples Aged 65+, Canada, 1980-2001

Important Facts

• Use of long-term care and other health services is concentrated among the eldest of the older population (Evans, McGrail, Morgan, Barer & Hertzman 2001).

• At any point in time, only about 7% aged 65+ live in institutional settings (e.g. nursing homes, hospitals)
Where do the rest Live?

ANSWER: The vast majority, in Private households
### Structural Type of Dwelling for Population Aged 65+ in Private Households, by Age Group and Sex, Canada, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Structural Type</th>
<th>Total 65+ (%)</th>
<th>65-74</th>
<th>75-84</th>
<th>85+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single-detached house</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low-rise apt</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High-rise apt (5 or more stories)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semi-detached house</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Row house</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apt. in duplex</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moveable dwelling</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other single-attached house</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Shelter-care continuum

• Independent (occupied by about 90% of persons aged 65+)
• Supportive housing
  http://www.bchousing.org/Options/Supportive_Housing/SSH/SSH
• Assisted Living
  http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/assisted/about/
• Residential Care (7%)
Diversity – a key theme

• Contrary to the images cast by proponents of apocalyptic demography, seniors are not a homogeneous group. They come in a variety of sizes, shapes and ethnic and cultural backgrounds, they vary in socio-economic status and in health and functional status and, in the housing and the support services they require.
Diversity will increase in the future

- Eg. More people with HIV/AIDS are surviving to be old. Same is true for people with congenital and acquired mental and/or physical disabilities
- There will be more centenarians and super-centenarians (Men – over age 105; women over age 107)
What are the Implications for Shelter and Services Planning?

• A range of housing and tenure options as well as services are needed to meet the needs of 4 groups:
  – The well elderly (more and more of whom will identify as Zoomers as the Baby Boomers age!!)
  – The frail elderly
  – Functionally disabled elderly
  – The ill elderly
• Last year’s Friesen conference focused on residential care

http://www.sfu.ca/grc/friesen/

• The focus this year is on the housing end of the shelter-care continuum.
The 6 “A’s” to remember in developing shelter for seniors

• Accessible
• Affordable
• Appropriate
• Attractive
• Acceptable
• Alternatives