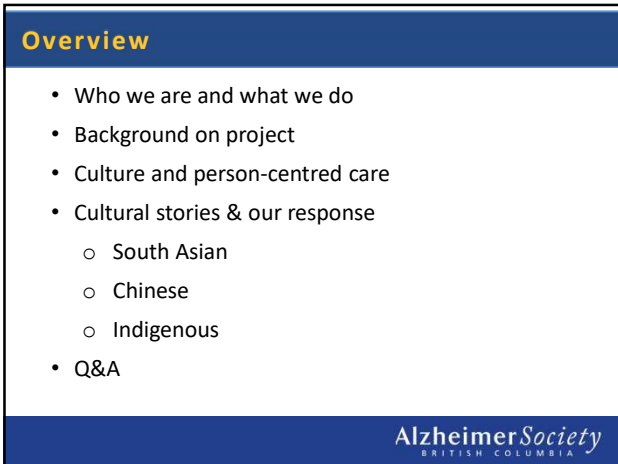




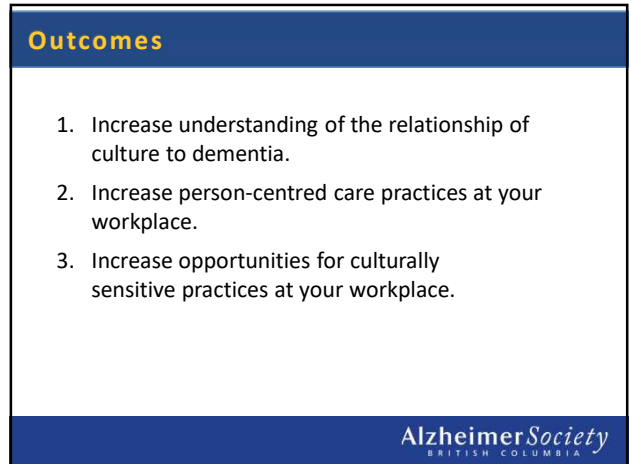
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6

What is dementia?

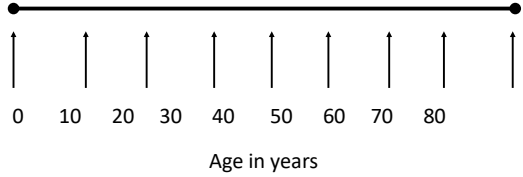
- Medical term
- Describes a set of symptoms that indicate cognitive impairment
- Progressive & degenerative
- Changes happen over time & at different rates for different people



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Age-line



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Background: One-year grant (2023-24)

- **Goal:** Expand dementia supports for people from equity-deserving communities.
- **Target audiences:** People affected by dementia personally and/or professionally.
- **Vision:** To ensure people with lived experience from equity-deserving communities have access to programming and are represented in the Alzheimer Society of B.C.'s initiatives.

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Background: Why is this important

85,000 people currently living with dementia

By 2050, this will increase to **247,300** people.

1 in 3 people living with dementia in 2050 will be of Asian origin.

Indigenous people living with dementia in B.C. will increase **286%** by 2050.

Source: Alzheimer Society of Canada (Jan. 2024). Landmark Study (Vol 2): The Many Faces of Dementia in Canada.

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Background: Why is this important

- Poorer care outcomes & access to care
- Personal safety & discrimination
- Greater psychological distress
- Re-living past trauma
- Greater risk of dementia


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Culture

Culture is:

- Learned
- Collective
 - Internally
 - Externally



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Self-reflection



Go to menti.com and enter the code: 2959 1717

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Person-centred approach

Person-centred focuses on the unique individual and their ways of being, knowing, and doing.



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Person-centred approach

Everyone has:

- Life stories
- Values
- Strengths
- Ways to connect
- Personality



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What we heard: South Asian community

"Thank you for the invitation to today's [South Asian] forum on dementia. I found the information and the discussions with the other people very helpful. Appreciate your time and effort in setting up this event."

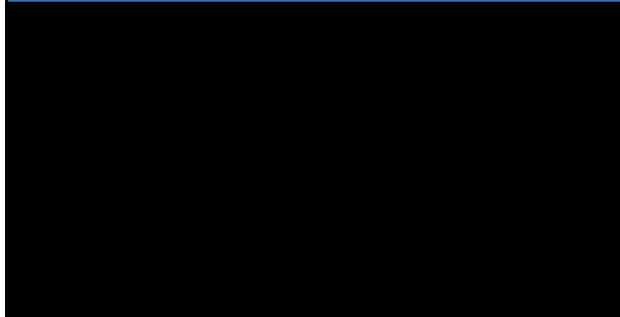
- Forum participant



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Point of view: Baljit



Baljit

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Our response



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What we heard: Chinese community


- Normal part of aging
- Stigma
- Family values
- Cultural humility
- Communication styles & language



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Point of view: Shirley



Shirley

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Our response

<https://support.alzheimersociety.ca/programs-and-services/support-for-chinese-communities>

中文資訊及服務 | Chinese-language information

Learn about how the Alzheimer Society of B.C. works with the Chinese community and access Chinese-language information.



1 2 3 4

歡迎瀏覽中語區可區海對症協會中文網站。請按以下連結查看更多中文資訊或致電 First Link+ 免費「語音化中文熱線」1-833-674-5007:

-  關於支持有認知障礙者協會 | About the Alzheimer Society of B.C.
-  簡語化教育講座及活動 | Education and programs
-  中文小冊子及單張 | Online resources

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What we heard: Indigenous communities

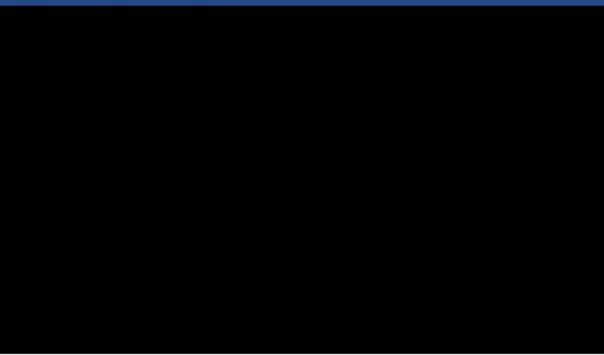
- Respect
- Acknowledgement of the past
- Culturally informed supports
- Relationships & building trust



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Point of view: Jana

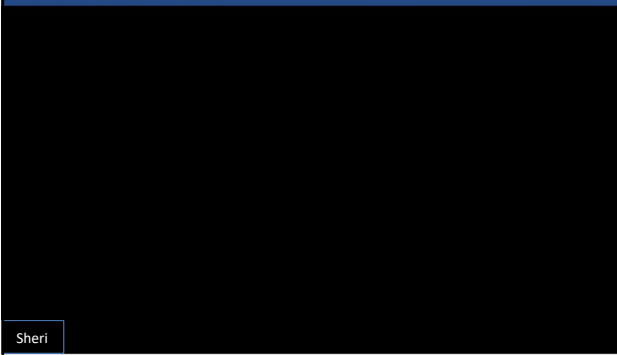


Jana

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Point of view: Sheri




Sheri

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Our response

1. Data collection
2. New position
3. Indigenous-focused consultant
4. Commissioned two Indigenous artists
5. Collaborations and community resources



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What can you do?

1. **Look internally at your resident population.**
2. **Learn about different cultures and celebrations.**
 - Internet search
 - Explore staff strengths and staff backgrounds
 - Speak to family members
 - Learn from family & resident councils
 - Reach out to volunteer organizations
3. **Approach situations with curiosity.**
 - Responsive behaviours
 - Don't make assumptions
 - Pay attention to non-verbal cues
4. **Reach out to the Alzheimer Society of B.C.**

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Food for thought

How do you (or your organization) support people with diverse lived experiences?

How can you (or your organization) apply, improve, diversify, and address gaps?

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Thank you!

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