

Literacy grant aids seniors

MORNING STAR STAFF

Local seniors will be able to improve their literacy skills as a result of a provincial grant.

The provincial government is providing \$40,000 to the Literacy and Youth Initiatives Society of the North Okanagan and Okanagan College for the senior education team literacy program.

"The importance of reading is vital at any stage of your life," said Tom Christensen, Okanagan Vernon MLA.



Tom Christensen

"This new program will allow seniors to enhance their standard of life and give them the tools they need to better understand any of their personal health concerns."

The program is designed to bring literacy support to 45 seniors at the Schubert Centre, the Halina Centre and the Saddle Mountain Place Senior Centre.

Other seniors residences will be encouraged to use these services, and outreach tutors will visit those who cannot leave their homes to attend the program.

The program will focus on medical awareness, as well as literacy for fun.

Seniors will start a permanent health journal,

and learn about their specific medical conditions. They will also take part in such activities as drama, music, oral traditions and autobiographies.