



# INFORMATION REPORT

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| <b>TO:</b>                | Chair and Members<br>Healthy and Safe Communities Committee  |
| <b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>    | April 9, 2018  |
| <b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b> | Hamilton's Age Friendly Plan (CES14053(c)) (City Wide)   |
| <b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>  | City Wide  |
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| <b>SIGNATURE:</b>         |  |

## Information:

### Background

The City of Hamilton's vision is to be "the best place to raise a child and age successfully". Council endorsed Hamilton's Age Friendly Plan in September 2014, with a five-year implementation plan.

The Plan was developed with three core partners: City of Hamilton, Hamilton Council on Aging and the Seniors Advisory Committee. Since 2015, the Plan has guided municipal decision-makers, staff and community stakeholders in addressing the needs and priorities of older adults in the city. Hamilton is also part of the World Health Organization's (WHO) network of Age Friendly cities and communities, which aims to make cities more inclusive for all ages.

### Hamilton's Age Friendly Plan

Age Friendly Hamilton is organized into 7 goals, 25 objectives and 101 actions. The goals are:

1. Housing
2. Getting Around Greater Hamilton
3. Communication and Information
4. Health and Community Services
5. Social Participation
6. Civic Engagement, Volunteering and Employment
7. Age Friendly Public Service

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Since 2015, 39 out of the 101 Age-Friendly Plan actions have been completed or consolidated with similar actions, representing about 40% actions completed to date. 51 actions are currently in the planning or implementing stages. The remaining 11 actions are under feasibility review and their status will be determined by 2019. It is expected that 25 actions will be implemented or completed in 2018.

| <b>Goal</b>                                 | <b>Actions</b> | <b>Completed / Consolidated</b> | <b>Planning/ Implementing</b> | <b>Under Review/ Reassessment</b> |
|---|----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Housing                                     | 18             | 7                               | 10                            | 1                                 |
| Getting Around Greater Hamilton             | 24             | 9                               | 14                            | 1                                 |
| Communication & Information                 | 15             | 7                               | 5                             | 3                                 |
| Health & Community Services                 | 9              | 4                               | 5                             | 0                                 |
| Social Participation                        | 13             | 5                               | 7                             | 1                                 |
| Civic Engagement, Volunteering & Employment | 4              | 0                               | 3                             | 1                                 |
| Age-Friendly Public Service                 | 18             | 7                               | 7                             | 4                                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                | <b>101</b>     | <b>39</b>                       | <b>51</b>                     | <b>11</b>                         |

**2017 Key Achievements of Hamilton's Age Friendly Plan:**

Progress

- Two information brochures were developed; one to educate and encourage property owners to install home adaptations for their aged tenants, and the other to provide information about home adaptations for tenants as they age.
- The Age-Friendly Hamilton Plan received \$8,000 in funding to facilitate pedestrian safety workshops for seniors. To date, five workshops have been facilitated with 108 participants.

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- “Let’s Get Moving” initiative was launched by Hamilton Council on Aging. The two-year project is aimed at promoting various modes of mobility for seniors to get around Hamilton.
- A comprehensive guide of community services available for older adults was developed in both online and in print format. The consolidated guide will help seniors to better understand community services available in Hamilton.
- The Hamilton Seniors Isolation Impact Plan continues to be implemented. The plan is administered by a collaboration of seven agencies funded over a 3-year period to reduce isolation among seniors in Hamilton. Since the inception of the project in April 2016, 650 seniors have been served with 85% of attendees indicating now being more connected to services and programs.
- A Seniors at-Risk community collaborative was established to address systemic issues and barriers impacting vulnerable seniors in Hamilton.
- A new Customer Service Model was implemented through a partnership of the City’s Recreation Division, Information Technology, Customer Contact Centres and Municipal Centres.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) recertified Hamilton as one of the networks of cities and communities that are Age-Friendly. The recertification highlighted on the success of 2017 Hamilton’s Senior of the Year Awards.

The full 2017 Age-Friendly Hamilton Community Progress Report is attached as Appendix A to Report CES14053(c).

#### Community Engagement and Collaboration

Ongoing engagement efforts have continued through outreach and public engagement initiatives. The outreach built great collaboration between the City of Hamilton, community partners and seniors. Below are highlights of some of the 2017 initiatives:

- Staff and Hamilton Council on Aging held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Age Friendly Symposium, which hosted 200 older adults and 15 exhibitors. The event provided an opportunity to highlight progress with Hamilton’s Age Friendly Plan.
- Staff participated in seven seniors’ information events and engaged close to 600 older adults.
- Staff assisted with planning and participated in the Annual Seniors Kick-off, which hosted over 700 older adults and 50 exhibitors.

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- Staff facilitated the participation of 30 seniors from the Hamilton Mountain Mosque and Afghan Association of Hamilton to take part in the Tall Ships event on Canada Day.

#### 22<sup>nd</sup> Senior of the Year Awards

The City of Hamilton hosted the Annual Senior of the Year Awards on June 13, 2017. Close to 500 guests and 34 nominees attended, with 9 award categories presented. Nominees came from all 15 wards in Hamilton and represented various ethno-cultural communities.

#### **2017 Seniors Trends and Statistics**

According to 2016 census data, there are now more seniors than children for the first time in the Canadian history (5.9 million for 65+ compared to 5.8 million for 14 years and under). Seniors' population is expected to double over the next two decades.

The City of Hamilton's population of 65+ increased between 2011 and 2016 by 17.9% (81,000 to 93,000). Life expectancy is also on the rise as evidenced by the number of seniors over the age of 100. The 2016 census recorded 8,230 seniors who were 100+, a 41.3 per cent over the 2011 figures. By 2051, it is estimated that there will be close to 40,000 seniors of 100 years and over in Canada. This rapid growth rate will have a profound impact on everything from government budgets, pensions, healthcare, labour market, consumer trends and social services.

Social isolation for seniors is also a growing problem. The Hamilton Social Isolation Impact Plan has estimated that 12,000 isolated seniors live in the Greater Hamilton area. Identified risk factors include living alone, older age (80+), poverty, and compromised health status or disability.

#### **2018 Hamilton Age-Friendly Priorities and Next Steps:**

The trends and statistics highlighted above continue to reinforce the need to support seniors in Hamilton. The work will require strategic collaboration between the City of Hamilton, community partners and key stakeholders. Some of the priority initiatives for Hamilton's Age-Friendly Plan in 2018 include:

- Develop a Communications and Engagement Strategy to better engage with seniors from diverse stakeholders, Indigenous residents, ethno cultural groups and rural communities.
- Develop a marketing plan to communicate the availability of services and programs for older adults in numerous languages, thus improving access to information for all older adults.
- Liaise with various City departments and community organizations for ongoing tracking and reporting seniors-related actions that align with Hamilton's Age Friendly Plan.

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- Support the Seniors At-Risk community collaborative, which is identifying priorities and actions that will improve inclusion and access to supports for vulnerable seniors in Hamilton.
- Collaborate with the voluntary sector to seek funding opportunities to work in privately owned apartment buildings, and establish programs and practices that will reduce social isolation and help connect seniors to services.
- Facilitate an event with key stakeholders addressing ageism in the workplace with the goal of decreasing misconceptions of older adults in the workforce through educational workshops.
- Host the annual Age Friendly Symposium to inform older adults, seniors and community partners on the progress of Hamilton's Age Friendly Plan.
- Facilitate ongoing workshops for older adults and seniors on pedestrian safety and various modes of mobility for getting around in Hamilton.
- Coordinate a Seniors Volunteer Fair promoting volunteer opportunities, which will increase volunteerism and develop volunteer capacity of older adults and seniors in Hamilton.
- Deliver the Cyber Seniors project, which is an intergenerational pilot program where seniors are introduced to iPad technology and learn to create and share video stories.
- Host the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Senior of the Year Awards and introduce a new "youth award category" recognizing a youth age 15-24 who has voluntarily contributed to the seniors' population, and who is a role model for other youth in Hamilton.

### **Appendices and Schedules Attached**

Appendix A to Report CES14053(c): 2017 Age Friendly Hamilton Community Progress Report