



AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Terms of Reference

Age-Friendly Community Dimensions:

The World Health Organization framework for Age-Friendly Communities can be used to assess and enhance the age-friendliness of communities. The framework identifies eight aspects of community life that overlap and interact to directly affect older adults, as such:



Goal: Oversight and ongoing evaluation of Simcoe County's Positive Aging Strategy.

Objectives:

1. To engage community members to provide feedback and identify priorities included within the WHO Age-Friendly framework that focuses on the eight domains within our communities.
2. To increase awareness in communities, share best practices and identify new initiatives to help support healthy aging.
3. Committee oversight and guidance in the completion of an updated engagement study every five (5) years in Simcoe County to inform the Positivity Aging Strategy planning process.
4. To monitor and evaluate age-friendly initiatives on a short, medium and long-range planning horizon outlined within the County of Simcoe Positive Aging Strategy. Staff will provide regular progress reports to the Committee for feedback and recommendations.

5. Provide input and participation in Age-Friendly program development and annual evaluation process (examples: AFC Seniors Housing Grant, Municipal Champions Grant Program, AFC Recognition Program).
6. Identify community events and participate in promoting Age-Friendly programs and services.

Membership Responsibilities:

1. Regularly attend committee meetings and provide feedback on local initiatives and identify needs of seniors.
2. Share best practices, new initiatives both at the Advisory Committee and in their respective communities.
3. Provide input to and participate as able in engagement studies conducted every five (5) years.
4. Provide feedback and recommendations to the County regarding their Age-Friendly action plans.
5. Provide input and participate in Age-Friendly programs enhancement and new development as able.
6. To identify community events and participate in promoting Age-Friendly programs and services.
7. Participate in Age-Friendly working groups as able.

Mandated Membership:

The Age-Friendly Communities Advisory Committee will be comprised of 20-30 members. Membership will include:

- County of Simcoe Staff.
- 2 County of Simcoe Councilors appointed by Simcoe County Council.
- Representatives from senior-serving organizations.
- Representatives from disability-related organizations.
- Representatives from Seniors Advisory Committees.
- Representatives from the cities of Barrie and Orillia.
- Representatives from the Home and Community Care Support Services and Health Links Ontario
- Representatives from Francophone and Aboriginal organizations.

- Representatives from the local business community or Chamber of Commerce.
- Individuals involved with one (1) or more of the eight (8) age-friendly domains.
- Members of the public.

Term

The implementation of this committee began May 2017. The terms of the committee will be re-evaluated at the end of each year and at the end of the current County Council term.

Mandate

The committee is mandated to:

- Provide strategic direction, planning and guidance in the undertaking of Simcoe County's Positive Aging Strategy, including identification of:
 - ways in which the communities are currently accessible, inclusive and age friendly;
 - issues and barriers to age-friendliness that are present in the communities and their services;
 - opportunities to improve the accessibility, inclusivity and age-friendliness of the communities;
 - gaps and ways in which current age-friendly assets and initiatives can be expanded.
- Engage a diverse range of community residents/stakeholders to inform the development of the age-friendly assessment.
- Disseminate the results of the assessment.
- Based on the results of the assessment develop a planning framework that acts as a guide for municipalities in future development.
- Confirm project charter and monitor progress throughout the term.
- Anticipate and review project constraints and challenges and provide suggestions for improvements and resolutions.
- Act as a forum and catalyst for community collaboration around the objective(s) of making the communities more age-friendly.
- Promote the concept of age-friendly across the communities, including the private, non-profit and public sectors.

- Engage members of the business community as key partners in making work places and private sector services in the communities more age-friendly.

Working Groups

The committee has the authority to establish working groups as it deems necessary to fulfill designated functions consistent with the committee's mandate.

Meeting Process

Meetings will be held bi-monthly (every 2 months), with additional meetings held on an as needed basis, as determined by the Chair.

Members will be required to attend the Age-Friendly Advisory Committee Meetings on a regular basis, if able to. Should a member be unable to attend a meeting, the member will contact the Chair and/or the Administrative Assistant in advance of the meeting to inform of a replacement attendee.

Reporting

The committee shall report through the Chair to the County Council.