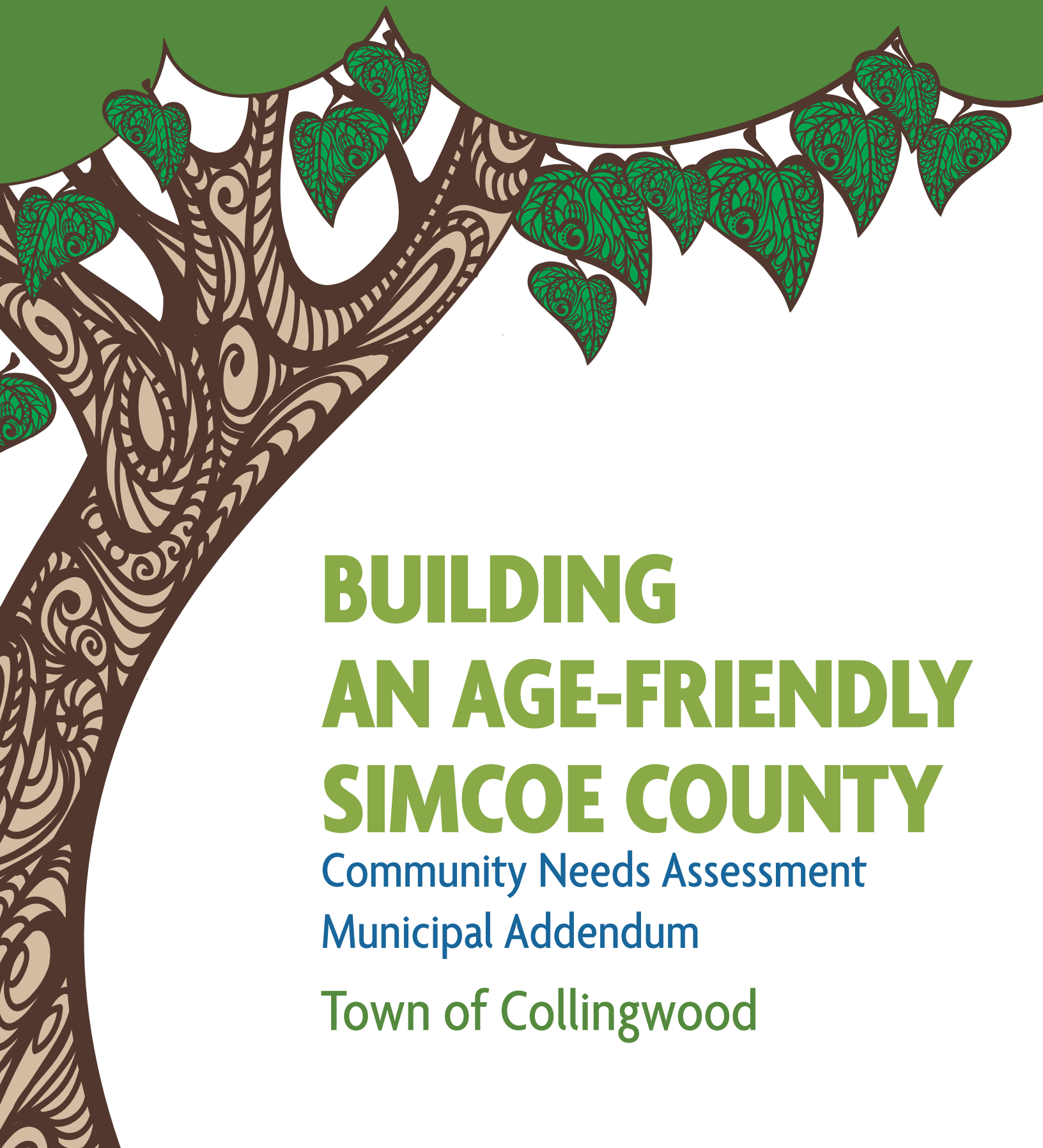




Long-Term Care
and Seniors Services



BUILDING AN AGE-FRIENDLY SIMCOE COUNTY

Community Needs Assessment
Municipal Addendum

Town of Collingwood

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Municipal Profile Introduction

The Age-Friendly Community Needs Assessment: Municipal Profile Reports are Addendums to the full Age-Friendly Community Needs Assessment Detailed Report. Based on certain limitations in knowing where all respondents of surveys came from, it is highly encouraged to use both the Detailed Report along with the Municipal Profile to inform specific Age-Friendly Community strategies within your area.

Method of Data Segmentation

These profiles provide analysis of an extract of data pulled from the responses received in the Age-Friendly Community Survey. To get specific information by area, researchers segmented the data based on answers received within Question 44 of the survey that asks, “Where do you live in Simcoe County?” Respondents who chose to answer this question were provided with a list of all municipalities and two separated cities to choose from. A Total of 71% of respondents chose to answer this question, with 29% choosing not to answer.

As in the Age-Friendly Community Needs Assessment Detailed Report, the Municipal Profiles provide analysis grouped by Age-Friendly domains. Wherever possible, additional Focus Group information is included within each domain section, along with potential recommendations.

The findings and recommendations as summarized fully in the County of Simcoe Age-Friendly Community Needs Assessment Detailed Report, along with the Municipal Profiles, will provide information for developing a

Positive Aging Strategy: Older Adults Strengthening Our Communities to be released in early summer 2025.

Municipal Analysis: Town of Collingwood

Based on 2021 census data, there are 7,435 individuals aged 65+ in this municipality, which is 30% of the total population. The Age-Friendly Simcoe County 2023 Community Survey has garnered significant feedback from Collingwood, with 99 responses. The distribution of responses primarily concentrated within the age groups of 65-74 years and 75-84 years. Interestingly, there are responses from individuals aged 85 years and above in comparison with the 55 and above population, signaling targeted data collection and participation within this segment of the aging population. Additionally, the survey highlights diverse respondent profiles, ranging from imminent retirees to caregivers, family members, and concerned citizens, providing multifaceted perspectives on the challenges and opportunities faced by older adults in Collingwood.

Findings by Domain

Respect and Social Inclusion

This segment delves into the sense of respect and inclusion experienced by participants within their community.

A sizable portion (52%) of respondents feel respected and valued in their community. This suggests that although some individuals feel respected, there are underlying concerns about the overall age-friendliness of the community. A total of 48% agree that COVID-19 has had a negative impact on their social lives. Additionally, 58% agree there are sufficient opportunities for engagement in community programs. Lastly, 35% feel decisions made in the community consider the needs of aging adults.

In terms of future aspirations among aging adults, the top four responses include: participating in physical and cultural activities (54%), and indulging in hobbies and interests (52%), spending increased time with loved ones (47%) and engaging in volunteering (42%).

Conversely, prevalent concerns regarding the future among aging adults encompass declining physical health (63%), the apprehension of losing independence (40%), declining mental health (40%), and fear of aging alone (37%).

The Key Themes in Collingwood regarding Respect and Social Inclusion are as follows:

1. Sensitivity towards language used when addressing seniors.
2. Concerns with age-related discrimination and stereotypes.

3. Mention of respect not being a current issue, but a call for educating younger people on respecting seniors.
4. Concerns about social isolation and loneliness among seniors.
5. Issues of ageism in businesses and society at large.
6. Safety concerns related to homelessness and public spaces.
7. Desire for social inclusion and meaningful engagement.
8. Awareness of a stigma towards seniors despite their valuable knowledge and experience.

To further enhance the well-being and quality of life for aging adults in Collingwood, several suggestions and information can be considered:

1. Strengthen Community Engagement Initiatives:

Develop and promote programs that encourage active participation and social connection among aging adults, fostering a sense of belonging and community support.

2. Support Mental Health and Well-Being:

Invest in mental health services tailored to the needs of aging adults, including counseling, therapy, and support groups addressing issues such as loneliness, grief, anxiety, and depression. Encourage regular social engagement and activities that promote mental stimulation and emotional well-being.

3. Ensure Inclusive Decision-Making:

Involve aging adults in community decision-making processes to ensure that their voices are heard, and their needs are considered. This may involve establishing advisory councils or committees specifically focused on aging issues, consulting with seniors on policy matters, and conducting regular feedback surveys.

4. Combat Ageism in Business and Society:

Work with local businesses and organizations to address issues of ageism and promote inclusive practices. Encourage businesses to recognize and value the expertise and experience of older adults and provide training on how to create age-friendly environments.

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Inquiring into the community's perceptions of frequently utilized outdoor spaces, the survey revealed notable trends in satisfaction levels among respondents. The top four areas of satisfaction include pedestrian crossings, signs on streets, quality of parks and trails, number of parks with satisfaction rates ranging from 61% to 86%. Conversely, dissatisfaction primarily stems from limited washroom availability in parks, inadequate seating along sidewalks, limited garbage cans along sidewalks and available water fountains in parks with dissatisfaction rates ranging from 39% to 45%.

Transitioning to indoor spaces within the locality, respondents expressed the highest satisfaction levels regarding proper lighting, availability of elevators, escalators and ramps and ease of opening doors with satisfaction rates ranging from 42% to 59%. Conversely, dissatisfaction arises from the number of accessible parking spaces and available washrooms, with dissatisfaction rates ranging from 27% to 28%.

To further enhance Outdoor Spaces and Buildings for aging adults in Collingwood, various suggestions and information can be considered:

1. Improving Amenities in Public Spaces:

To better accommodate public needs, more washrooms should be added to parks, ensuring they are well-maintained and accessible to everyone. Additionally, installing more seating along sidewalks will provide resting spots for pedestrians. Increasing the number of garbage cans along streets and in parks can help reduce littering and maintain cleanliness. Lastly,

adding more water fountains in parks will offer visitors convenient hydration options.

2. Enhancing Accessibility and Parking:

Increase the number of accessible parking spaces in public areas, ensuring they are clearly marked and located close to amenities.

3. Community Facilities and Amenities:

To support community development, the need for new community centers should be evaluated by assessing local demands and feasibility while exploring funding opportunities and partnerships to establish such facilities. Additionally, installing more park benches will enhance seating options for visitors. Regular maintenance of parkland and waterfront areas is also essential to ensure cleanliness and safety for both residents and visitors.

4. Regular Evaluation and Feedback:

Establish a system for ongoing evaluation and feedback from the community regarding the effectiveness and satisfaction with implemented measures.

Transportation

Most respondents from Collingwood can walk unassisted. The rest of the participants' mobility is either relied on by a walker, wheelchair, or similar assistive devices.

They are most dissatisfied with Taxi services (24%) and accessible parking spaces (18%) in Collingwood. People using public transportation is as low as 16% and the main reason for not using public transportation is they do not require public transportation. Furthermore, a very small group of respondents have heard about CT link services.

The Key Themes in Collingwood regarding Transportation are as follows:

1. Access to out-of-area medical services is important, highlighting the need for transportation options beyond Toronto.
2. Positive reception of LINX Transit's availability and affordability, particularly for winter travel when driving is avoided.
3. Dislike the need to book rides ahead of time, preferring more flexible options.
4. Concerns about seniors having to walk too far to reach bus stops.
5. Recognition of the necessity to learn more about public transportation for future needs.
6. Dissatisfaction with the lack of taxi and Uber services.

To address the transportation challenges faced by residents of Collingwood, particularly those with mobility limitations, as highlighted by the survey data and qualitative insights, the following suggestions and information can be considered:

1. Enhance Taxi Services and Accessible Parking:

Collaborate with local taxi companies to improve the availability, reliability, and accessibility of taxi services in Collingwood.

2. Expanding Public Transportation Options:

Work with relevant stakeholders to expand public transportation services and addressing the current unavailability that discourages its use. This may include increasing the frequency of routes, extending service hours, and enhancing accessibility features such as wheelchair ramps and priority seating.

3. Promote Awareness of CT Link Services:

Increase awareness of CT Link services among residents through targeted outreach campaigns and community engagement initiatives. Provide clear information about the services offered, eligibility criteria, and how to access them.

4. Prioritize Accessibility and Inclusivity:

Ensure that all transportation services and infrastructure are designed with accessibility and inclusivity in mind. This includes providing accessible vehicles, bus stops, and transit hubs, as well as training staff to assist passengers with disabilities.

5. Specific Requests for Service Improvement:

Highlight specific requests such as additional bus stops at key locations like Grey Rd 21 by Scandinave Spa.

Housing

This section inquired about respondents' present housing situations as well as their future housing intentions.

From the responses gathered from the residents of Collingwood regarding their housing situation, several key points emerge. The survey data indicates that 52% of the respondents live alone and 46% live with others. A total of 91% of those who live with others live with family members. This suggests a sense of independence and likely impacts their housing needs and preferences.

A significant proportion (74%) of respondents own their housing, indicating a high level of homeownership within the community. However, 20% of respondents require modifications to their household to continue living safely.

Awareness of Housing Programs

Awareness of housing-related programs, such as Simcoe County's Age-Friendly Housing Grant and Seniors Village Campuses run by the County of Simcoe, is low. Only 27% are aware of the Age-Friendly Housing Grant, and 22% are aware of Seniors Village Campuses. This highlights a potential opportunity for increasing awareness and access to supportive housing programs within the community.

The Key Themes in Collingwood regarding Housing are as follows:

1. Affordability concerns and demand for grants to assist in rent.
2. Accessibility and Aging in Place

3. Limited housing options
4. Desire for housing information
5. Concerns about rent and maintenance

Based on the statistical and qualitative data gathered from residents in Collingwood, the following suggestions and information can be considered to enhance the quality of living for the community:

1. Increase Affordable and Diverse Housing Options:

Advocate for the development of more affordable housing options, including condominium bungalows and one-floor housing with yard/garden settings, to address the growing demand and improve housing affordability for seniors.

2. Promote Smaller Home Builds:

Encourage the construction of smaller, more affordable homes suitable for downsizing seniors, addressing the shortage of smaller housing options, and facilitating independent living.

3. Increase Subsidized Housing:

Advocate for an increase in subsidized housing units with accessibility features, prioritizing government-run senior residences with easy access to assisted living or long-term care facilities as needed.

Civil Participation and Employment

According to the survey data, most respondents from Collingwood fall within income brackets ranging from \$10,000 to \$19,999, \$20,000 to \$29,999, and \$40,000 to \$49,999. The income brackets of respondents reveal a diverse economic background within the community. Those earning between \$20,000 to \$29,999 and \$40,000 to \$49,999 likely represent a mix of working individuals and retirees with pensions or other sources of income.

Most respondents are retired (82%), indicating a significant portion of the population in Collingwood is in their senior years and potentially reliant on fixed incomes or retirement savings. Among the respondents who are still working, a notable percentage (38%) are doing so out of necessity. This suggests that some individuals, particularly those in lower income brackets, may be working to supplement their retirement income or meet financial obligations.

Civil Participation and Volunteerism

A sizable portion of respondents express a willingness to volunteer, indicating a keen sense of civic engagement and community spirit.

However, barriers to volunteerism exist for some respondents, including time constraints, physical limitations, lack of interest, and unawareness of opportunities. These barriers may be more pronounced among retirees or individuals with caregiving responsibilities.

Qualitative data further highlights the challenges faced by some respondents in maintaining their volunteer commitments due to caregiving duties or health-related issues, suggesting that personal circumstances can impact individuals' ability to participate in civic activities.

Respondents express a strong commitment to community involvement through volunteering, with many highlighting their experience in various organizations and roles. There is advocacy for integrating education on civil participation and employer expectations into elementary school curricula. Accessibility concerns, health-related limitations, and the desire for specific volunteer roles are also mentioned. These perspectives emphasize the importance of promoting civic engagement and ensuring accessible opportunities for participation across different demographics.

Based on the survey data and the interconnected factors affecting respondents from Collingwood, the following suggestions can be made to address the identified challenges and promote economic stability, workforce participation, and civic engagement within the community:

1. Advocacy for Civil Participation Education:

Teaching civil participation and employer expectations to elementary school students, emphasizing the importance of civic engagement from an early age.

2. Volunteering Experience:

Several respondents mention their extensive volunteering experience in various community organizations, churches, and clubs, displaying their commitment to giving back and contributing to society.

3. Retirement and Volunteering:

Some respondents mention being retired and engaging in volunteering activities to stay active and involved in their communities during retirement.

4. Accessibility Concerns:

One respondent mentions volunteering within walking distance of their home to avoid the inconvenience of using public transportation, highlighting the importance of accessibility in volunteer opportunities.

5. Health-Related Limitations:

Another respondent mentions being unable to volunteer temporarily due to hip surgery but expresses hope to resume volunteering in the future.

6. Mention of Specific Volunteer Roles:

Some respondents specify the organizations or roles where they volunteer, such as Furry Friends, Garden Club, and hospitals or veterans' associations.

Social Participation

Based on the provided data and qualitative insights, it is evident that socialization among respondents in Collingwood, is a widespread practice, with approximately 35% engaging in social activities daily and 51% on a weekly basis.

Aside from 57% being satisfied with their current level of socializing, the top five reasons cited by participants for limited socialization are, in descending order: lack of information about events, costs, distance, event scheduling, and lack of opportunity.

Seniors in Collingwood emphasize the importance of socializing within their community while also expressing a desire for more diverse and accessible activities. They call for program expansion and updates at local leisure centers and advocate for the creation of community spaces to support vulnerable populations. Accessibility of information about events and activities remains a challenge, highlighting the need for better communication channels

To further enhance Social Participation for aging adults in Collingwood various suggestions and information can be considered:

1. Socializing within Community:

Many seniors primarily socialize with residents of their building or local community, indicating a strong sense of connection within their immediate surroundings.

2. Limited Activities in Collingwood:

Some respondents express a sense of isolation in Collingwood due to the lack of activities and opportunities compared to larger towns. They suggest a need for more diverse and accessible options, particularly for those with limited resources.

3. Need for Program Expansion:

There is a call for program expansion and updates at leisure centers in Collingwood to better serve the community's needs and interests.

4. Concerns for Vulnerable Populations:

Respondents highlight the need for more community spaces to support homeless and financially struggling individuals, especially during harsh weather conditions. They advocate for facilities with amenities like kitchen, laundry, and mental health services.

5. Accessibility and Communication Challenges:

Concerns are raised about the difficulty of accessing information about events and activities, particularly in the absence of newspapers. There's also a preference for events during daylight hours due to challenges with nighttime driving.

Communication and Information

The data highlights the mixed awareness levels regarding the 211 service among respondents. A slight majority of 61% are aware of its availability to connect them with community and social services.

Furthermore, the data reveals that the internet is a primary source of information for residents, with 96% reporting daily usage.

The Key Themes in Collingwood regarding Communication and Information are as follows:

1. Need for cheaper internet and phone carrier options
2. Absence of physical local newspaper
3. Accessibility and affordability of technology and services for seniors
4. Need in-person social events
5. Supportive of zoom calls

To further enhance Communication and Information for aging adults in Collingwood, various recommendations and information can be considered:

1. Prefer Information Dissemination Channels:
 - Internet
 - Social Media
 - Newspaper
 - Mail
 - Brochures
2. Promote Awareness of the 211 Service
3. Expand Access to Affordable Internet Services

4. Offer In-Person Social Networking
5. Offer Digital Literacy Training

Community Support and Health Services

Community Support

This section focuses on inquiries regarding the types of assistance required and the availability of such support within the community.

Improvements noticed related to local initiatives/projects in the community to support older adults over the past few years include:

1. Appreciation of services for seniors including YMCA, leisure time center, flu-virus shots and local churches
2. Lighting improvements and vaccine clinics

Concerns noted in the survey include:

1. Need for technology training
2. Challenges with the organization of recently introduced bus services in Collingwood
2. Request for in-building exercise classes and mail services.

To further enhance Community Support for aging adults in Collingwood, the following recommendation and information can be considered:

1. Further Investigate and Enhance Access to:
 - Health Services
 - Food
 - Pet care
 - Social Services
 - Virtual Communication Tools

Health Services

The Health Services section focuses on how participants feel regarding their overall health, and if they are looking for any other health service options in the community. In Collingwood, 84% of respondents rated their physical health as ranging from good to excellent, while 86% rated the same for their mental health.

Other Services the participants are seeking include:

- Doctors in Town of Collingwood
- Family Doctors

To further enhance Health Services for aging adults in Collingwood, various recommendations and information can be considered:

1. Increase Awareness of Available Services:

Address the apparent lack of awareness of available services among residents by implementing awareness campaigns and outreach efforts. Utilize various communication channels, such as local media, community events, and online platforms, to inform residents about the services and resources available to them.

2. Enhance Access to Primary Healthcare:

Respond to the demand for primary healthcare services by ensuring adequate access to family doctors and walk-in clinics within the community. Collaborate with healthcare providers to expand service offerings and improve accessibility for residents in need of medical care.

Affordability and Accessibility

In Collingwood, the top three Affordability issues faced are:

1. Food
2. Home Repairs
3. Housing Costs

In Collingwood, the top three Accessibility issues faced are:

1. Home Repairs
2. Food
3. Automobile Expenses

The Key Themes in Collingwood regarding Affordability and Accessibility are as follows:

1. Financial Instability:

The concern expressed about unforeseen expenses impacting financial stability reflects a common unease among seniors on fixed incomes. Seniors often face limited resources and may lack financial flexibility to handle unexpected costs, leading to stress and anxiety about potential hardships.

2. Limited Accessibility:

The mention of inadequate seating (benches) suggests a concern about accessibility and comfort within the community. Insufficient seating can make it challenging for seniors to rest while outdoors, limiting their ability to

enjoy public spaces and engage in outdoor activities, which can impact their overall well-being.

3. Housing Affordability:

The observation regarding high rent and lack of rent subsidies highlights a significant affordability issue faced by seniors.

4. Workforce Participation:

The statement about working until death indicates the financial strain faced by some seniors, who may feel compelled to continue working well into their later years to make ends meet.

Appendix: Survey Results

Respect and Social Inclusion

Question 1: How would you rate your agreement with the following statements. Percentage of Respondents who 'Strongly Agree' or 'Agree'

	%
My Local Area is an Ideal Place for Aging Adults to Live	67%
There are Enough Opportunities to Participate in Community Programs	58%
I Feel Respected and Valued by My Local Community	52%
The COVID-19 Pandemic has Negatively Affected My Social Life	48%
Decisions Made in the Community Consider the Needs of Aging Adults	35%
Total (n)	99

Question 2: In thinking about your future, what are you most looking forward to?

	%
Physical/Cultural Activities	54%
Enjoying Hobbies and Interests	52%
Increased Time with Loved Ones	47%
Volunteering	42%
Traveling	42%
Taking up New Hobbies	23%
Continuing Education/Workshops	21%
More Free Time in General	19%
Self-Directed Learning	13%
Sharing Life Experiences/Mentoring	7%
Other (please specify)	7%
Prefer Not to Say	1%
Total (n)	98

Question 3: In thinking about your future, what are you most worried about?

	%
Declining Physical Health	63%
Declining Mental Health	40%
Losing My Independence	40%
Aging Alone	37%
Financial Concerns	32%
Falling/Getting Injured	22%
Moving Into More Suitable Housing	21%
No One to Take Care of Me	19%
Difficulty Getting Around (transportation)	18%
Difficulty Getting Around (home)	12%
End-of-Life Care	12%
Other (please specify)	6%
Death	5%
Prefer Not to Say	1%
Total (n)	99

Outdoor Space and Buildings

Question 4: Please rate your level of satisfaction with outdoor spaces in your community on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "Very Dissatisfied" to 5 being "Very Satisfied"? Percentage of Respondents "Satisfied" and "Very Satisfied"

	%
Number of Parks/Trails	86%
Quality of Parks/Trails	84%
Signs on Streets	72%
Maintenance of Parks	61%
Pedestrian Crossings	61%
Snow Removal on Streets	54%
Safety Walking on Streets	47%
Lighting on Paths/Streets	47%
Snow Removal on Sidewalks	47%
Lighting in Parks	40%
Number of Accessible Parking Spaces Near Parks	37%
Available Garbage Cans in Parks	33%
Available Seating in Parks	33%
Maintenance of Streets	33%
Available Garbage Cans Along Sidewalks	31%
Washroom Availability in Parks	26%
Available Seating Along Sidewalks	26%
Pet Facilities in Parks	23%
Available and Easy to Use Water Fountains in Parks	15%
Total (n)	99

Question 5: Please rate your level of satisfaction with indoor spaces in your community on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "Very Dissatisfied" to 5 being "Very Satisfied"? Percentage of Respondents "Satisfied" and "Very Satisfied"

	%
Proper Lighting	59%
Ease of Opening Doors	52%
Availability of Elevators, Escalators, and Ramps	42%
Availability of Washrooms	39%
Number of Parking Spaces	38%
Number of Accessible Parking Spaces	28%
Accessible Washrooms	27%
Total (n)	99

Transportation

Question 6: Please describe your level of mobility.

	%
I Can Walk Unassisted	88%
I Use a Cane or Walker	10%
I Use a Wheelchair or Similar Assistive Device	3%
Total (n)	98

Question 7: Please identify the factors that impact your ability to travel.

Select all that apply.

	%
Access to a Vehicle You Can Drive	58%
Services and Stores within Walking Distance	47%
Access to Public Transit	32%
Access to a Friend/Family Who Can Drive and/or Assist	27%
Taxi Services	23%
Access to Community Transportation Services	11%
Total (n)	81

Question 8: Do you use Public Transportation?

	%
Yes	16%
No	84%
Total (n)	97

Question 8a: If yes, how satisfied are you with the public transportation in your community?

	%
Very Satisfied	11%
Satisfied	39%
Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	22%
Dissatisfied	28%
Very Dissatisfied	0%
Total (n)	18

Question 8b: If no, kindly check the applicable options.

	%
I Do Not Require Public Transportation	78%
It is Not Easily Accessible	14%
Other (please specify)	8%
Public Transportation is Not Available in the Area	0%
Total (n)	79

Question 9: Rate your level of satisfaction with the transportation services in your community on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "Very Dissatisfied" to 5 being "Very Satisfied"? Percentage of Respondents "Satisfied" and "Very Satisfied"

	%
Accessible Parking Spaces	24%
Taxi Services (rideshare services)	19%
Private Transportation Companies	10%
Availability of Wheelchair Transportation	9%
Total (n)	95

Question 10: Have you used any new public transportation introduced in the last few years?

	%
No	79%
Yes	21%
Total (n)	98

Question 10a: If yes, how would you rate your experience?

	%
Good	50%
Fair	27%
Poor	14%
Excellent	9%
Total (n)	22

Question 11: Have you travelled through the Simcoe County LINX transit service initiated by the County of Simcoe?

	%
No	90%
Yes	10%
Total (n)	98

Question 11a: If yes, how would you rate your experience?

	%
Good	36%
Fair	36%
Excellent	18%
Poor	9%
Total (n)	11

Question 12: CT Link is a community transportation service that provides accessible door-to-door transportation to non-emergency medical appointments for seniors and people with disabilities. Have you used CT Link? (To book a CT Link service dial 211)

	%
No	98%
Yes	2%
Total (n)	98

Question 12a: If yes, do you find this service useful?

	%
Yes	100%
No	0%
Total (n)	2

Housing

Question 13: Do you live alone?

	%
Yes	52%
No	46%
Prefer Not to Say	2%
Total (n)	99

Question 13a: If no, who do you live with?

	%
Family Member	91%
Prefer Not to Say	6%
Shared Dwelling	2%
Friend(s)	0%
Total (n)	47

Question 14: Your home is:

	%
Owned by You	74%
Rented by You	16%
Subsidized	4%
Owned or Rented by Family	3%
Community Living	1%
Prefer Not to Say	1%
Other (please specify)	1%
Total (n)	99

Question 15: Does your current living situation fit your needs?

	%
Yes	89%
No	10%
Prefer Not to Say	1%
Total (n)	99

Question 16: Do you require modifications (better lighting, wheelchair ramp, grab bars) to your household to continue to live there safely?

	%
No	80%
Yes	20%
Total (n)	98

Question 17: Have you used or are aware of funding support through the County of Simcoe Age-Friendly Housing Grant for accessible enhancements?

	%
No	73%
Yes	27%
Total (n)	98

Question 18: Are you aware of the senior village campuses run by the County of Simcoe?

	%
No	78%
Yes	22%
Total (n)	99

Civil Participation and Employment

Question 19: Are you retired?

	%
Yes	82%
No	18%
Total (n)	99

Question 19a: If no, have you planned for your retirement?

	%
Yes	55%
No	32%
Prefer Not to Say	13%
Total (n)	31

Question 20: Are you currently employed?

	%
No	74%
Yes	23%
Prefer Not to Say	3%
Total (n)	97

Question 20a: If yes, how many employers are you currently working for?

	%
One	86%
Multiple	14%
Total (n)	22

Question 20b: If yes, what is the reason for your employment?

	%
By Choice	62%
Out of Necessity	38%
Prefer Not to Say	0%
Total (n)	21

Question 21: Are you looking for volunteer opportunities within the community?

	%
No	59%
Yes	41%
Total (n)	94

Question 21a: If yes, do you know where to find the information on how to volunteer?

	%
Yes	72%
No Refer to Appendix A for Information	28%
Total (n)	43

Question 21b: If no, what barriers are preventing you from volunteering?

Select all that apply.

	%
I Don't Have Time to Volunteer	33%
I Don't Want to Volunteer	26%
Physical Limitations	21%
Health Issues	19%
Unaware of Opportunities	19%
Transportation	9%
Limited Options	7%
Criminal Reference Check	0%
Total (n)	58

Question 22: On average, how many hours a week would you consider volunteering?

	%
1 - 5 Hours	32%
6 - 10 Hours	29%
I Do Not Want to Volunteer	28%
I Prefer Not to Say	7%
11 - 15 Hours	3%
16 - 20 Hours	1%
21+ Hours	0%
Total (n)	92

Social Participation

Question 23: How often do you socialize with family, friends and others?

	%
Weekly	51%
Daily	35%
Monthly	9%
Once in a Few Months	5%
Never	0%
Total (n)	99

Question 24: If you would like to socialize more, what prevents you from doing so?

	%
I'm Happy with My Level of Socializing	57%
Lack of Information About Events	18%
Costs	17%
Distance	16%
Event Scheduling	14%
Lack of Opportunity	12%
Lack of Transportation	10%
Mobility Issues	9%
Health	6%
Safety Concerns	3%
Other	2%
Total (n)	94

Communication and Information

Question 25: How informed do you feel about the local area?

	%
Very Informed	51%
Slightly Informed	44%
Not Informed	4%
Prefer Not to Say	1%
Not Interested in Being Informed	0%
Total (n)	99

Question 26: How do you learn about what is going on in your local area?

Select all that apply.

	%
Internet	81%
Friends/Family	64%
Word of Mouth	61%
Community/Bulletin Boards	34%
Television	25%
Newspaper	22%
Radio	18%
Other (please specify)	8%
Social Media	7%
Mail	6%
Brochures	3%
Does Not Apply	0%
Total (n)	99

Question 27: Are you aware that dialing 2-1-1 will connect you to finding the right community and social services in your area?

	%
Yes	61%
No	39%
Total (n)	99

Question 28: Would you like to be more informed about the local area?

	%
Yes	75%
No	25%
Total (n)	97

Question 28a: If yes, how would you like to be informed? Select all that apply.

	%
Internet	70%
Social Media	52%
Newspaper	40%
Mail	33%
Brochures	27%
Radio	22%
Friends/Family	22%
Bulletin Boards	21%
Television	14%
Other (please specify)	3%
Does Not Apply	0%
Total (n)	73

Question 29: How often do you use the internet?

	%
Daily	96%
Does Not Apply	2%
2 - 4 Times a Week	1%
Less Than Once a Month	1%
About Once a Week	0%
Less Than Once a Week	0%
Prefer Not to Say	0%
Total (n)	99

Question 30: Since the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic, have you noticed an increase in your use of virtual communication tools (e.g., video calls, emails, telehealth).

	%
Yes	71%
No	22%
Not Sure	7%
Total (n)	99

Community Support and Health Services

Question 31: How would you describe your physical health?

	%
Very Good	36%
Good	36%
Excellent	12%
Fair	12%
Poor	4%
Prefer Not to Say	0%
Total (n)	98

Question 32: How would you describe your mental health and wellness?

	%
Very Good	38%
Good	30%
Excellent	18%
Fair	7%
Poor	6%
Prefer Not to Say	0%
Total (n)	99

Question 33: Do you have a Family Doctor/Nurse Practitioner?

	%
Yes, Within the County of Simcoe	86%
Yes, Outside the County of Simcoe	10%
No	4%
I Don't Know	0%
Prefer Not to Say	0%
Total (n)	99

Question 34: What services are you currently looking for? Select all that apply.

	%
Do Not Require	63%
Family Doctor	11%
Walk-in Clinic	9%
Other (please specify)	7%
Nurse Practitioner	5%
Other Health Professional	5%
Counsellor	4%
Prefer Not to Say	4%
Personal Support Worker	3%
Urgent Care Clinic	3%
Total (n)	75

Question 35: If virtual appointments were available in your home, would you consider using it?

	%
Yes	86%
No	14%
Total (n)	97

Question 36: What factors would encourage you to participate in virtual (video) appointments? Select all that apply.

	%
Overall Convenience	73%
Eliminate Time in Waiting Rooms	51%
Reduce the Risk of Exposure to Infection and Viruses	50%
Timesaving	47%
Ease of Access	45%
User-Friendly	35%
Lack of Transportation	8%
None of the Above	8%
Difficulty with Mobility	4%
Other (please specify)	2%
Total (n)	98

Question 37: What factors would prevent you from participating in virtual (video) appointments? Select all that apply.

	%
Lack of Personal Interaction	32%
None of the Above	32%
Technical Issues (e.g., internet connectivity, device problems)	24%
Lack of Trust in Virtual Healthcare (quality of virtual assessment)	24%
Data Privacy Concerns	19%
Difficulty Understanding or Using Technology	18%
Online Payment	18%
Total (n)	95

Question 38: Are you able to access the help you need for the services mentioned below?

	Yes	No	N/A
Income Tax Preparation	71%	7%	22%
Accessing Health Services	54%	15%	31%
Filling out Forms	52%	6%	42%
Grocery Shopping	48%	8%	44%
Banking	47%	7%	46%
Garbage Removal	47%	7%	46%
Picking up Medicine from the Pharmacy	46%	11%	44%
Transportation	46%	12%	43%
Accessing Virtual Communication Tools	45%	13%	42%
Taking Medication	44%	9%	48%
Collecting Mail or Parcels	44%	7%	48%
House Cleaning	42%	11%	47%
Delivery Service	42%	6%	52%
Affording Enough Food	41%	14%	46%
Preparing Meals	40%	11%	49%
Yard Care	39%	13%	49%
Accessing Social Services	36%	15%	49%
Pet Care	21%	14%	65%
Language Interpretation/Translation Services	18%	8%	75%
Total (n)	98		

Question 39: Have you noticed any improvements related to local initiatives/projects in your community to support older adults over the past few years?

	%
No	43%
Not Sure	37%
Yes	19%
Total (n)	99

Affordability and Accessibility

Question 40: Are you experiencing any challenges with affording the following services? Select all that apply.

	%
Food	56%
Home Repairs	54%
Housing Costs (mortgage/rent, insurance/utilities)	50%
Automobile Expenses (car repairs, gasoline, insurance)	48%
Activity Memberships (exercise/fitness class)	37%
Community Transportation Services (transportation service companies for non-urgent medical appointments, including dialysis, chemotherapy and regular check-ups)	7%
Public Transportation	4%
Total (n)	54

Question 40a: Are you experiencing any challenges with accessing the following services? Select all that apply.

	%
Home Repairs	58%
Food	39%
Housing Costs (mortgage/rent, insurance/utilities)	36%
Automobile Expenses (car repairs, gasoline, insurance)	36%
Activity Memberships (exercise/fitness class)	24%
Public Transportation	12%
Community Transportation Services	6%
Total (n)	33

Overall Satisfaction

Question 41: Considering all the age-friendly aspects we have discussed; how would you rate your overall satisfaction with living in Simcoe County?

	%
Satisfied	57%
Very Satisfied	28%
Neither	9%
Dissatisfied	5%
Very Dissatisfied	1%
Total (n)	99

Demographic Information

Question 42: What is your preferred gender identity?

	%
Female	82%
Male	15%
Prefer Not to Say	3%
Total (n)	99

Question 43: What is your age?

	%
65 - 74	53%
75 - 84	23%
56 - 64	14%
85 or Above	4%
55 or Under	3%
Prefer Not to Say	3%
Total (n)	99

Question 44: Where do you live in the County of Simcoe?

All respondents are residents of the Town of Collingwood.

Question 45: What is your marital status?

	%
Married or Domestic Partnership	40%
Divorced	23%
Widowed	19%
Single-Never Married	8%
Separated	6%
Prefer Not to Say	3%
Total (n)	98

Question 46: What is your current total annual household / family income?

	%
Prefer Not to Say	28%
\$20,000 - \$29,999	12%
\$10,000 - \$19,999	10%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	10%
\$60,000 - \$69,999	8%
\$30,000 - \$39,999	7%
\$50,000 - \$59,999	7%
\$70,000 - \$79,999	6%
\$80,000 - \$89,999	4%
\$100,000 +	4%
\$90,000 - \$99,999	2%
Less than \$10,000	1%
Total (n)	99

Question 47: Do you live in?

	%
Urban Community	87%
Rural Community	11%
Prefer Not to Say	2%
Total (n)	97