



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Joint Services Steering Committee

From: Ken Doherty, Director of Community Services

Meeting Date: February 11, 2016

Subject: Report CSSSJSSC16-003
Age-friendly Peterborough Plan Update

Purpose

A report to provide the Joint Services Steering Committee with an update on the development of an Age-friendly Plan for the Peterborough Region.

Recommendation

That the Joint Services Steering Committee endorse the recommendation outlined in Report CSSSJSSC16-003 dated February 11, 2016, of the Director of Community Services, as follows:

That the Report and presentation from Sarah Cullingham, Age-friendly Coordinator be received for information.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budget or financial implications resulting from the approval of the recommendations in this report.

Background

In March 2014, City Council passed Report C55514-001 (Appendix A), which endorsed the creation of an Age-friendly Plan in partnership with the Peterborough Council on Aging (previously known as the Peterborough Seniors Planning Table). County Council and Curve Lake First Nation Council also endorsed the creation of this plan. The Peterborough Council on Aging (PCOA) is in ongoing discussions with Hiawatha First Nations to bring them into the Age-friendly program.

Creating an Age-friendly Plan for the Peterborough Region is in recognition of the high proportion of people over the age of 65 living in the region. In 2011, there were 27,090 people over 65 years of age in the City and County of Peterborough representing 19.4% of the local population. At this time, the Peterborough Census Metropolitan Area was recognized as having the highest proportion of people over 65 in Canada. This is expected to grow to 27.6% by 2031. Making an Age-friendly Plan will proactively identify areas where the community can improve programs, services, amenities and the social environment to enhance the quality of life for an aging population.

The Age-friendly Plan is being developed using a framework created by the World Health Organization (WHO). The WHO identified 8 domains that cover most aspects that influence the quality of life for older adults. These domains are:

1. Outdoor spaces and buildings
2. Transportation
3. Housing
4. Social participation
5. Respect and social inclusion
6. Civic participation and employment
7. Communication and information
8. Community support and health services

Age-friendly Peterborough (AFP) is the subcommittee of the PCOA leading the development of the Age-friendly Plan. The membership of Age-friendly Peterborough is found in Appendix B. Sarah Cullingham was hired in September 2014 as the Age-friendly Coordinator using an Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant obtained by the Municipality of Trent Lakes along with funding through the Community Social Plan of the Social Services Division.

The project has reached a significant milestone by completing the consultation phase. Consultations were undertaken in the City, County and Curve Lake First Nation. These were in the form of a survey and focus group sessions. The survey was completed by 1084 people with another 269 people participating in 24 focus group sessions. Valuable data and local stories were collected during this process.

The most commonly cited theme areas revealed through the consultations related to:

1. Outdoor spaces and buildings
2. Transportation
3. Communication and information
4. Community support and health services

The Consultation Data Summary Report (Appendix C) highlights the findings from the consultation process. All of the data collected through the consultation process can be found on the Peterborough Council on Aging website at www.peterboroughcouncilonaging.ca.

The next stage of the project will be developing a baseline assessment for the Peterborough Region using the 8 domains listed above. This assessment will be the starting point for measuring the “age-friendliness” of the Peterborough Region. An annual Report Card will be developed using the baseline assessment.

A draft Age-friendly Plan is scheduled for late 2016 or early 2017. To reach this stage, Age-friendly Peterborough will further consult with municipal staff and elected officials, incorporate applicable findings from other plans (i.e. Municipal Cultural Plan, Sustainability Plan, Transportation Plans, etc.) and best practices from other communities who have already developed Age-friendly plans.

Submitted by,

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Attachments:

Appendix A - Report C55514-003 Peterborough Seniors Planning Table
Appendix B – Member list of Age-friendly Peterborough
Appendix C - Age-friendly Peterborough: Consultation Data Summary Report