

# Age Friendly Cities



ST. JOHN'S

# What is an Age Friendly Community?

An age-friendly community:

- RECOGNIZES citizens for their skills and abilities;
- UNDERSTANDS and meets the needs of citizens;
- RESPECTS the decisions and lifestyle choices of citizens;
- PROTECTS those who are vulnerable;
- RECOGNIZES citizens for their contributions
- RECOGNIZES the importance of INCLUSION

Government of Canada, 2016

# World Health Organization (WHO) and Age Friendly World

- The WHO identify age friendly as **fostering healthy and active ageing**
- **Age-Friendly World** creates a place for people and organizations all over the world to share what they know and learn from others.
- Age friendly environments allow people to:
  - age safely;
  - be free from poverty;
  - continue to develop personally;
  - contribute to their communities while retaining autonomy, health and dignity

Age Friendly World, 2021

# WHO Domains to Becoming Age Friendly

- Developed in 2006 where cities from around the world came together and gathered information
- Created the Global Age-Friendly Cities Project

# WHO Domains to Becoming Age Friendly

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

# Why join the WHO Global Network?

- City profile will be listed on the WHO Age-Friendly World webpage
- Increases the visibility and showcase the work being completed by the City of St. John's
- Provides connections to cities and communities worldwide with a focus on age-friendly
- Membership will signal a commitment by the City to share experiences, achievements and lessons learned with other cities and communities.



# Benefits of Membership

- Access to information sharing and support from a global community
- Recognition, visibility and promotion
- Opportunities for collaboration
- No membership cost
- St John's would be a leader in age-friendly WHO membership in the province

# Progress to Date

- An Age-Friendly sub-committee was formed from members of the Seniors Advisory Committee
- Sub committee assessed the 8 age-friendly domains through engagement of City of St. John's staff from various departments and division i.e. Housing , Parks, Human Resources etc.
- Identified 6 key recommendations
- Regular information notes and updates are provided during Seniors Advisory Committee meetings to ensure members and council are updated on this initiative.



# Recommendations

- Development of age-friendly policy
- Improved Communication
- Intergenerational Programming
- Housing
- Voice of Seniors
- Diverse Representation

# Next Steps

- Letter of support from Mayor Breen to the WHO identifying commitment and endorsement from the City to be an age-friendly city.
- Staff and committee will work with Engage St John's on any public engagement required to meet recommendation outcomes.
- Review of how Age-Friendly Cities supports and integrates with the Healthy City Strategy
- Submit application for membership to WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities

# Decision for Council

- To support and affirm the continuation of the process to apply to the World Health Organization for the membership of the City of St. John's as an Age-Friendly City

Thank You



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