

ABBOTSFORD **AGE-FRIENDLY** ASSESSMENT REPORT

APPENDIX A: Identification of Key Strategies



APPENDIX A: IDENTIFICATION OF KEY STRATEGIES & SUGGESTED LEADS

OUTDOOR SPACES AND BUILDINGS

PROPOSED STRATEGY	SUGGESTED LEADS
<p>1. Identify locations to improve physical connections between neighbourhood parks and other local destinations through sidewalks, bike routes, and off-street trail connections.</p>	<p>Planning & Development Services Parks, Recreation and Culture Engineering & Regional Utilities</p>
<p>2. Review and/or create trail guidelines for accessibility provisions such as width, grade, surface materials, way finding and consider adopting an accessible trail standard for some trails.</p>	<p>Parks, Recreation & Culture Engineering & Regional Utilities</p>
<p>3. Review park washrooms and ensure a standard amount of park washrooms are wheelchair friendly.</p>	<p>Parks Recreation & Culture</p>
<p>4. Explore grant funding to retrofit identified locations to make them more age-friendly.</p>	<p>Age-Friendly Working Group Community Development</p>
<p>5. Consider expanding the bench donation program to include public spaces, trails, and well used connectors between neighbourhoods and central destinations.</p>	<p>Engineering and Regional Utilities Parks Recreation and Culture</p>
<p>6. Make available the Building Access Handbooks 2014 from the Provincial Government to developers. (BUILDING ACCESS HANDBOOK 2014 http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/faring-natural-resources-and-industry/construction-industry/building-codes-and-standards/guides/2014_building_access_handbook.pdf)</p>	<p>Planning & Development Services (Buildings) Engineering & Regional Utilities (Public Space)</p>

TRANSPORTATION

	PROPOSED STRATEGY	SUGGESTED LEADS
7.	Create a comprehensive direction system that is easy to understand and navigate for pedestrians, cyclists and transit users. Signage and mapping should be located at regular intervals along pathways and transit corridors, and could include real time information. Facilitate this through public art and urban design (<i>Abbotsford Official Community Plan 2016, Part III - 3 – 3.</i>)	Engineering and Regional Utilities Parks, Recreation and Culture
8.	Work to improve bus stops and waiting areas to make them more comfortable for people.	Engineering and Regional Utilities
9.	Support initiatives providing alternative transportation options such as shuttles, volunteer driving programs, and development of a cooperative bus program between areas of high density senior living neighbourhoods.	Age-Friendly Working Group and partnership organizations
10.	Review parking standards and consider designated senior parking especially at facilities offering seniors services, with wider stalls located near building entrances.	Planning and Development Services Parks and Recreation Facilities
11.	Consider the increased use of motorized scooters when reviewing road, sidewalk, and trail design standards.	Parks, Recreation and Culture Planning and Development Services Engineering & Regional Utilities
12.	Advocate for enhancements to alternative services such as HandyDart to meet the increasing demands.	Age-Friendly Working Group
13.	Develop neighbourhood level maps to assist with trip planning, especially to key destination areas.	Planning and Development Services Engineering & Regional Utilities

HOUSING

PROPOSED STRATEGY

SUGGESTED LEADS

14.	Implement any revisions and recommendations to Master Plans that will increase appropriate housing options for older adults.	Planning and Development Services
15.	Advocate and support to ensure that coop and subsidized housing units are rented to older adults who have a socioeconomic need.	Age-Friendly Working Group
16.	Create a landlord outreach program, outlining the benefits and ways to reach older adult renters and encouraging renting to older adults.	Age-Friendly Working Group Community Partners
17.	Create opportunities for presentations on the Residential Tenancy Act for older adults so both landlords and renters know their rights under the law.	Age-Friendly Working Group
18.	Advocate to the Provincial and Federal government for more resources for affordable housing.	Age-Friendly Working Group
19.	Continue to work with BC Housing to identify ways to increase affordable housing in Abbotsford.	City Manager's Office
20.	Ensure that information is available on the different types of housing and supports that are available as older adult's needs change over the lifespan.	Age-Friendly Working Group

SOCIAL PARTICIPATION

PROPOSED STRATEGY

SUGGESTED LEADS

21.

As the population of older adults grows, expand the social and recreation programs available to meet the expanding demand.

Parks Recreation and Culture

Community partners

22.

Encourage organizations to consider the needs of older adults when planning all types of special events across the city.

Communications and Marketing

Community Development

23.

Assess the needs for more seniors gathering centers, and look for partnership opportunities to co-locate different types of programming.

Parks, Recreation and Culture

Community Partners

24.

Increase and support groups that provide peer to peer mentoring/ mentorships.

Age-Friendly Working Group
Community Partners

25.

Ensure that working older adults have access to older adult programming after the work day ends, for example, on evenings and weekends by reviewing local schedules.

Age-Friendly Working group
Community Partners

26.

Use the neighbourhood association structure to create phone trees for information sharing between interested residents and older adults about local events and activities

Community Development
Age-Friendly Working group
Community Partners

27.

Create community resources to make it easier for event and program organizers to bridge language and culture barriers, making programs more inclusive.

Community Development
Age Friendly Working Group
Community Partners

RESPECT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

PROPOSED STRATEGY

SUGGESTED LEADS

28.

Foster a community culture where older people are valued and acknowledged for both their past contributions as well as present.

Age-Friendly Working Group

29.

Explore ways to increase intergenerational sharing and knowledge such as by specific programming and events to foster mutual understanding.

Parks, Recreation & Culture
Age-Friendly Working Group

30.

Consider creating or enhancing "Adopt-A-Senior" programs to bridge residents who volunteer to older adults.

Community Partners

31.

Support programs and educational materials to encourage respectful behavior, understand diversity, and combat ageism.

Community Partners
Age-Friendly Working Group

32.

Implement more recognition programs for older adults, and support initiatives such as Seniors Week, International Day of Older Persons, Grandparents Day, as well as encourage the inclusion of Grandparents in Family Day.

Age-Friendly Abbotsford
Working Group
Community Partners

CIVIC PARTICIPATION AND EMPLOYMENT

PROPOSED STRATEGY

SUGGESTED LEAD

33.

Enhance and assess the City volunteer portal experience to ensure that older adults are not facing barriers to participating. Ensure there are roles that take into the needs of older adult volunteers.

Parks, Recreation & Culture

34.

Consider an employer knowledge building campaign of the benefits of hiring older workers. Consider creating a specific job posting site to identify employment positions for older adults who want to remain in or re-enter the workforce.

Community Partners
Business Community
Partners

35.

Assess the ways the City and other organizations reach out to engage focus groups and committee make-up to ensure there are no barriers to older adult participation so that they have ways to contribute to planning and decision making.

Community Development
Community Partners
Age-Friendly Working Group

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

PROPOSED STRATEGY

SUGGESTED LEAD

36.

Engage in community outreach to find out where the best places and ways for seniors information to be disseminated. Create information trees to extend out to seniors networks, the municipality and older adult organizations and gathering places. Include larger places of worship with large senior's populations. Create a volunteer team to gather and disseminate information once a month or as deemed appropriate.

Age-Friendly Working Group

37.

Consider creating seniors information kiosks in prominent locations where older adults frequent. Ensure that the kiosk information is kept up to date.

Community Development
Community Partners

38.

Assess the possibility of an interagency coordinator for Age-Friendly work to help build communication, connections and partnerships between agencies, organizations and government contacts.

Age-Friendly Working Group
Community Partners

39.

Promote key health and services resources such as bc211 and the nurse line to older adults.

Age-Friendly Working Group
Community Partners

40.

Ensure that tips and training are available to front line staff in various roles throughout the community to engage with those who may have difficulty – such as after a stroke or injury.

Age-Friendly Working Group
Community Partners

41.

Create lists of places to access translation services, as well as create a team of volunteer translators in the community.

Age-Friendly Working Group
Community Partners

42.

Provide information through various mediums (TV, newspapers, inserts, etcetera) to ensure that technologically adept seniors, as well as those who prefer more conventional forms of communication will be able to stay informed.

Age-Friendly Working Group
Community Partners

COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND HEALTH SERVICES

	PROPOSED STRATEGY	SUGGESTED LEAD
43.	Back efforts to bring more health care service providers, geriatric specialists and general practitioners to Abbotsford.	Community Partners Economic Development
44.	During the community planning process, consider the proximity of housing for seniors and health care services in neighbourhoods.	Planning and Development Services Fraser Health Authority
45.	Advocate for enhancement and increased access to home support services or other in-home health services.	Age-Friendly Working Group
46.	Support and promote Age-Friendly information to be readily available on various community organizations websites.	Age-Friendly Working Group
47.	Support and assist community organizations to promote free programs for older adults.	Age-Friendly Working Group
48.	Enhance connections throughout the city in creating, maintaining, and distributing information regarding prevention of health issues, and especially how to access health-care in alternative ways to hospital visits, when appropriate.	Fraser Health Age-Friendly Working Group