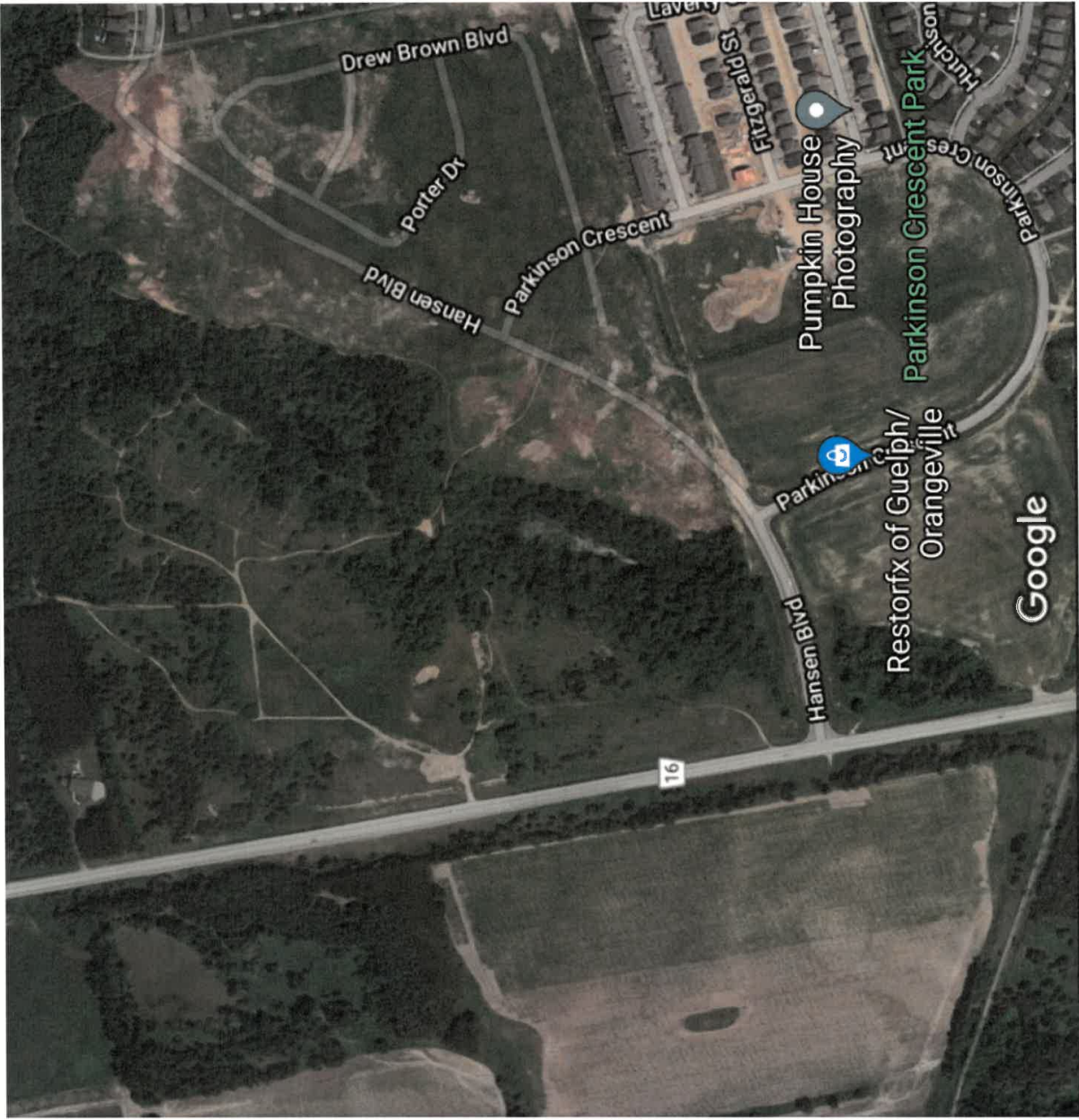




HEADWATERS SENIORS CAMPUS

ORANGEVILLE

June 17, 2021





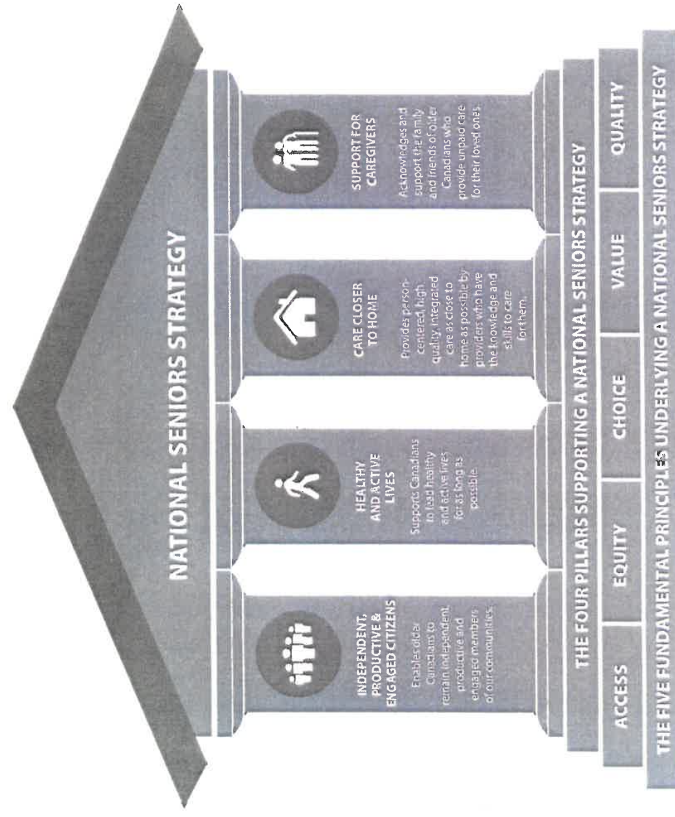
AN EVIDENCE-INFORMED NATIONAL SENIORS STRATEGY FOR CANADA

SECOND EDITION | JANUARY 2016

ALLIANCE FOR A
NATIONAL SENIORS STRATEGY



INTRODUCING THE FOUR PILLARS AND FIVE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES SUPPORTING A NATIONAL SENIORS STRATEGY FOR CANADA



Town of Orangeville Age-Friendly Community Action Plan

Preparing for an older
population 2016-2019



Committed To Becoming More Age-Friendly

Orangeville Canada

City population: 27975 16.37 % over 60 Joined Network in 2017

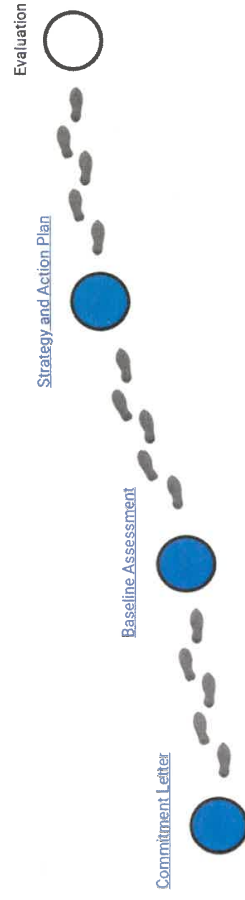


The Town of Orangeville is pleased to have its Committee of Council, the Orangeville Seniors Committee, in partnership with the Public Library, implement the age-friendly initiative. Each year during the month of June, the Town participates in the Canada-wide Seniors Month and Seniors Week to honour and highlight the contributions of senior residents through free social and leisure events and information sessions. In preparing its action plan, the Town engaged its senior residents through a comprehensive Seniors' Survey and follow-up focus groups. Moving forward, and building on its existing strengths, the Town will focus on five priority areas in its age-friendly planning: 1) Reducing social isolation; 2) Integrated cross-departmental planning; 3) Strengthening accessibility with an age-friendly lens; 4) Building age-friendly awareness and supports in the private sector; and, 5) Addressing ageism across all sectors.

Work is already underway in each of these five priority areas. The Library launched the Tech Help @ the Library program for seniors needing one-on-one assistance with their mobile devices. The Dufferin Prevention Network for Elder Abuse (DPNEA) launched the Dufferin Seniors Circle, a Facebook page aimed at reducing social isolation among seniors through information-sharing and posting of events. The Orangeville Seniors Sub-Committee for the Age-Friendly initiative undertook a review of numerous municipal plans and policies in an effort to raise awareness of age-friendly procurement, public works, land use, arts and culture planning, and economic development. In 2016, a partnership was struck between Access Orangeville - the Town's Committee of Council for Accessibility - and the Orangeville Seniors Committee to engage in an urban planning research project with Dr. Lewis from the University of Waterloo. The Committee hosted its first age-friendly Business Outreach and Information Session. Orangeville is reducing ageism by promoting intergenerational events, such as the flagship GrandPals Program that was initiated by a local teacher champion.

Age-friendly Journey

Cycle 1 (2017 - Current)





Orangeville's five priorities for an age-friendly community are outlined below:

...Priority #1 - Reducing Social Isolation...

- Reaching out to vulnerable older adults (e.g., cognitive deficiencies, physical injuries or disabilities, financial insecurity, single or widowed) with support, greater awareness of resources, and innovative opportunities to participate in the community
- Connecting seniors with other seniors through technology (Facebook, other social media)
- Connecting seniors with each other through peer support program

...Priority #2 - Integrating Cross-Departmental Planning...

- Embedding age-friendly lens into departmental planning through representation on committees, providing feedback on public surveys, providing feedback on municipal plan reviews
- Ensuring that public surveys, open houses, and municipal events are designed with both accessibility and age-friendliness in mind

...Priority #3 - Strengthening Accessibility with an Age-Friendly Lens...

- Developing partnerships with Access Orangeville to mutually support goals for greater accessibility for all residents of all ages
- Prioritizing infrastructure and public works initiatives that will help seniors to "age actively"
- Using technological tools to improve community planning and decision-making

...Priority #4 - Building Age-Friendly Awareness & Supports in the Private Sector...

- Addressing issues of ageism in customer service, marketing and communications
- Building age-friendly awareness through outreach sessions
- Developing recognition programs that reward innovative age-friendly business initiatives
- Bridging public and private sector efforts to build age-friendly supports in the community

...Priority #5 - Addressing Ageism Across All Sectors...

- Reviewing communications and media from community partners
- Helping community partners improve age-friendly visibility in employment, education, and community events
- Training and educating employees about the varying needs and abilities of seniors



According to the Global Age-Friendly Cities Guide, there are eight categories or dimensions of an age-friendly community. These are features of a community's structures, environment, services and policies that influence the process of active aging.

Physical Environment



Outdoor Spaces and Buildings: "The outside environment and public buildings have a major impact on the mobility, independence and quality of life of older people that affect their ability to 'age in place.'" p. 12



Transportation: "Being able to move about the city determines social and civic participation and access to community and health services." p.20



Housing: "There is a link between appropriate housing and access to community and social services in influencing the independence and quality of life of older people." p. 30

Social Environment



Respect and Social Inclusion: "Many [seniors] feel they are often respected, recognized and included, while on the other hand they experience lack of consideration in the community, in services and in the family. This clash is explained in terms of a changing society and behavioural norms, lack of contact between generations, and widespread ignorance about ageing and older people." p. 45



Social Participation: "Participating in leisure, social, culture and spiritual activities in the community, as well as with the family, allows older people to continue to exercise their competence, to enjoy respect and esteem, and to maintain or establish supportive and caring relationships." p. 38



Civic Participation and Employment: "An age-friendly community provides options for older people to continue to contribute to their communities, through paid employment or voluntary work if they so choose, and to be engaged in the political process." p. 51

Personal Well-Being



Communication and Information: "Staying connected with events and people and getting timely, practical information to manage life and meet personal needs is vital for active ageing." p. 60



Community Support and Health Services: "Health and support services are vital to maintaining health and independence in the community. Many of the concerns raised by older people deal with the availability of sufficient good quality, appropriate and accessible care." p. 66

