



MAYOR DON IVESON
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April 11, 2018

Ms. Alana Officer
The WHO Age-Friendly Cities Secretariat
World Health Organization
Department of Aging and Life Course (ALC)
Avenue Appia 20
1211 Geneva 27

Dear Ms. Officer,

I am pleased to offer my support of Age Friendly Edmonton's membership in the World Health Organization.

Statistics Canada projects that by 2024, seniors will make up 20 per cent of the Canadian population, a change which will necessitate a shift in policy priorities for all orders of government. Co-led by the City of Edmonton and Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council, Age Friendly Edmonton (AFE) is a partnership of over 90 organizations committed to building a city that values, respects and actively supports the well-being of seniors.

In 2017, Age Friendly Edmonton completed its five year work-plan and began to shift focus to raising awareness of issues affecting seniors and ensuring AFE programming is sustainable and consistent over the long term.

AFE Projects completed in 2017 include:

- The Age Friendly Edmonton Storybook, a collection of stories about how Edmontonians bring the concept of "age friendly" to life;
- New seniors fitness equipment installed in Capilano Community Park;
- The Age Friendly Edmonton Health & Wellness Forum in October 2017;
- A full day symposium/workshop and hackathon to share the wealth of knowledge gathered through AFE research and projects and to develop more applied collaborative efforts;
- LIFT Drive Happiness, a program which provides assisted transportation and independence to seniors, offered in partnership with the Lifestyle Helping Hands Seniors Association;
- The Home for Life building program, a public-private collaboration offering seniors the opportunity to plan and build a home that will accommodate their unique needs and health considerations as they age; and
- The 211 Seniors Information Phone Line that gives seniors easy access to information about programming in their communities, organized in partnership with the Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council.

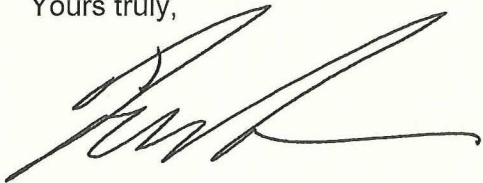
Edmonton

Looking forward into the rest of 2018, the Age Friendly Edmonton team will continue to enhance the Age of Wisdom Cultural Network and Information and Communication Network, both of which will help connect seniors to services and social connection in their communities.

The work of Age Friendly Edmonton is helping to make our city a more inclusive and supportive place. Membership in the WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities will help the program team build on their previous work by connecting with the experience and wisdom of policy experts and enable them to share lessons and best practices from our city's efforts with other partners in the network.

I fully support the renewal of Age Friendly Edmonton's membership with the World Health Organization, and hope that our city will continue to be involved in this productive partner network.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Iveson', written in a cursive style.

Don Iveson
Mayor