



Kent Kirkpatrick
City Manager / Directeur municipal

July 29, 2011

FCH/ALC
Main Building
WHO
Avenue Appia 20
1211 Geneva 27
Switzerland

To Whom It May Concern:

We are pleased to write this letter confirming the City of Ottawa's commitment towards the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-friendly Cities process. As is the case of cities worldwide, Ottawa's older population is aging. In the next 20 years, the number of residents over the age of 65 years old is projected to more than double, making up 22% of the total population by 2031.

We are aware that several challenges and opportunities come with population aging. Our goal is to ensure that our structures and services are accessible and inclusive of today's older residents, while preparing to welcome the future generation of seniors.

Much preparatory work towards this goal has been completed over the last several months. We are now in a position to hear directly from Ottawa's older residents, first at a Mayor's Seniors Summit scheduled for October 3 and later through a number of community consultations set to begin in October.

Great interest and enthusiasm for this undertaking has been generated in the community as well as within the City of Ottawa. A designation of Ottawa as a member of the WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities would greatly contribute to the momentum already generated.

Older residents are a vibrant and vital segment of the Ottawa population. We believe that the time to invest and act is now. We thank you for your consideration of the designation of Ottawa as a member of the WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Jim Watson, consisting of a stylized 'J' and 'W'.

Jim Watson
Mayor

A brown ink signature of Kent Kirkpatrick, consisting of a stylized 'K' and 'K' followed by a long horizontal line.

Kent Kirkpatrick
City Manager