

December 21, 2018

World Health Organization
Regional Office for the Americas
Age Friendly Community
525 – 23rd Street NW
Washington, DC 20037
USA

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Annual Report re: Town of Pelham – Age-Friendly Community and World Health Organization: Summary of Activities from June 2017 – December 2018

The Town of Pelham, as an Age-Friendly Community has had an enthusiastic and successful eighteen months of continuing its commitment to older adults, who are residents of our community, as well as an inclusive commitment to all.

Based on the 2016 Census, with a population of 17,000, the older adult population was 7,100. The Town of Pelham has strived to become an Age-Friendly community.

Town of Pelham Achievements – June 2017 – December 2018

- The Town of Pelham was successful in their application to the Ministry of Seniors Accessibility to have the Meridian Community Centre designated as a Seniors Active Living Centre.
- The Town of Pelham, in consultation with its community, designed, constructed, and opened the Meridian Community Centre. The official opening was September 15, 2018. Pelham has been accepted as a member of the OACAO (Older Adults Centre Association of Ontario). Examples of Age-Friendly programming, which reflect World Health Organization Principles, include multi-recreational activities, cultural activities including theatre and a focus on wellness, including music/dance and an accessible walking track. A Seniors' Information and Activating Living Fair was held on September 25, 2018;
- The Town of Pelham Committee of Council appointees and residents, volunteer for all major of Town projects, such as: the award-winning Summerfest, Canada Day, and for Meridian Community Centre programming. Another example, Slow

Office of the Mayor



Roll, is a wellness event, which encourages individuals to tour parts of Pelham by bicycle. Supported by volunteers, the majority of the participants are older adult women, enjoying the safety of this supervised event.

- As one of the Advisory Committees of Council, Pelham Seniors' Advisory Committee (PSAC), in its Goals and Initiatives for 2018, assumed responsibility to advocate for issues of concern for resident older adults. Motions to Council and community conversation, focused on the urgent need for affordable housing and public transportation. In July 2018, Council provided site plan approval to Parkhill Properties Corp. for a 10-storey, 96-unit residential apartment building. Sixty percent of the units are to be affordable housing units. It is anticipated that Parkhill will be starting construction of the apartment building in 2019 and that it will take a year to complete with the first tenants hopefully moving in late 2020 or early 2021. This is an exciting project for the Town. The other principal focus was on local transportation. The Town of Pelham secured funding for an initial local public transit and accessible service. A second funding opportunity was secured and PSAC actively supports continuing staff efforts to maintain transit service in our community.
- Emphasis on advertising the Town of Pelham services and activities had increased with a dedicated website (<https://www.pelham.ca/en/about-us/Pelham-Seniors-Advisory-Committee.aspx>). PSAC has updated its information brochure to be distributed to 15 sites in Pelham.
- The Town of Pelham, through the efforts of PSAC and other Committees of Council is a member of a number of Age-Friendly organizations, including Age-Friendly Niagara Network, Niagara Community Foundation and many others. Age-Friendly information from post-secondary educational facilities including Brock University, Sheridan, and Ontario Institute for Studies in Education – University of Toronto (OISE), are shared routinely with all partners both within the Town and the Niagara Region.

As the new Mayor of Pelham, with the incoming Council, one of the first agenda items approved, on the occasion of the Inauguration of December 3, 2018, was a call for applications from residents of Pelham interested in serving on the Advisory Committees of Council, 2019-2022. This included reinstating PSAC.

It is with pleasure that this office submits this summary of the Age-Friendly work being continued in accordance with the Principles of the World Health Organization. The Town of Pelham looks forward to our continued partnership.

Best Regards,



Mayor Marvin Junkin
Town of Pelham