

March 15, 2018

Dr. Margaret Chan
Director-General
World Health Organization
Avenue Appia 20
CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland

Dr. Margaret Chan:

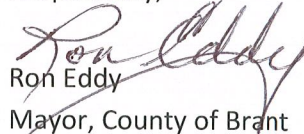
As Mayor of the County of Brant, I extend my full support to the County's application to join the World Health Organization Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities & Communities. The County of Brant is a friendly, engaging, healthy and welcoming municipality, located in Southern Ontario and home to approximately 35,000 people. The County represents a number of vibrant communities, with diverse identities and a mix of urban and rural lifestyles.

In 2008 the County of Brant worked closely with community partners to generate a conversation, and plan for an Age-Friendly Community, culminating in the Master Aging Plan, a guide used for strategic planning. This Plan will be implemented, monitored and evaluated through the collaborative efforts of various government and community partners. Since 2008, an Implementation Action Plan was developed to link goals and strategies to the original Master Aging Plan with suggestions for its continued evolution.

In 2015 & 2016 the County of Brant partnered with the Grand River Council on Aging, City of Brantford, and Six Nations of the Grand River to develop an Age Friendly Community Summit Series. The summit offered 8 sessions focused on identifying opportunities to enhance age friendly planning for outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation, social participation, civic participation & employment, housing, community support & health services, respect & social inclusion and communication & information. A formal report was launched in May 2017, where needs, priorities and results were shared from the 8 community sessions.

We are proud of our efforts, and look forward to continuing this momentum in making the County of Brant an Age Friendly Community. Membership in the World Health Organization Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities & Communities presents an exciting opportunity for the County of Brant to participate in sharing approaches, enhancing access to knowledge, facilitating collaboration and strengthening partnership to develop sustainable practices to build a community for all ages.

Respectfully,


Ron Eddy
Mayor, County of Brant