

Age Friendly Elliot Lake

Final Report & Action Plan



Figure 3

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Acknowledgements

The work summarized in this report was the result of collaboration between the City of Elliot Lake, the Age Friendly Working Group, the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, Laurentian University, the community members of Elliot Lake. The Elliot Lake Age Friendly Action Plan was funded by the Age Friendly Community Planning Grant through Grants Ontario.



Funding provided by:

Executive Summary

An Age Friendly community adapts its structures and services to be accessible to and inclusive of older people with varying needs and capacities (World Health Organization, 2007). Not only does an Age Friendly community benefit older people, but people of all ages.

In June 2015, the City of Elliot Lake received the Age Friendly Community Planning Grant. This grant was used to create the Age Friendly Elliot Lake Action Plan through focus groups, public consultations and survey of the community. This Action Plan is to help improve Elliot Lake's age-friendliness and overall quality of life for community members. The five year plan outlines strategies and goals to improve Elliot Lake in eight key areas:

- Outdoor Spaces & Buildings
- Transportation
- Housing
- Social Participation
- Respect & Social Inclusion
- Civic Participation & Employment
- Communication & Information
- Community Support & Health Care Services

The Action Plan contains short, medium and long term goals. Each of these goals includes action step(s), timeframe and resources required to accomplish the goal.

Close to 500 people responded to the survey. The survey was limited to those who lived or worked in Elliot Lake. Age of respondent's ranged from teens to nineties. However 36% of respondents were in their fifties or sixties and were primarily female overall.

The results of the survey, which are outlined in this report, identify the current age-friendliness of Elliot Lake and provide information regarding the gaps and the needs in the community to make the City more age-friendly.

This report will address the steps followed in order to create the Age Friendly Elliot Lake Action Plan. This included research, focus groups, community based survey, and public consultations, as well as meetings with the Age Friendly Working Group.

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Introduction

History of Elliot Lake

Elliot Lake is truly unique, in its population and the beautiful and vast nature that surrounds it.

Established in 1955 after uranium was discovered in the area, Elliot Lake became a booming mining town with a population of 20,000. In the late 1980s, with the Cold War over and interest flagging in uranium, the mines began to close. Over 4,500 layoffs devastated the City. Instead of accepting defeat, the City managed to band together, and create a new primary industry---residents.

Vacant homes were marketed and sold or rented to retirees, who've been retiring to Elliot Lake since the early 1990s. Due to retirement living, cottaging, tourism and some entrepreneurial business people, the City of Elliot Lake has rebounded and has managed to maintain some infrastructure that was designed for a booming mining community and the population has stabilized at approximately 10,000.

How Age Friendly is Elliot Lake?

Given the history of Elliot Lake the move to re-establish the community from mining to retirement resulted in a City that had one of the highest average age populations in Canada and planning for older adults was a requirement for success. This resulted in Elliot Lake being well on the way to being an Age Friendly community.

Healthcare

The community of Elliot Lake is equipped with facilities to provide a continuum of care, from acute hospital care and health clinic care, to assisted living and home care services. The community is also served by a full complement of medical professionals and services including optometrists, opticians, dentists, denturists, chiropractic clinics, and other health and wellness services.

There are a number of specialized health care suppliers and services within the City. There are a variety of services that offer safety and convalescent aids, oxygen services, medical supplies, valet services and home care. There are a number of agencies that deal with emotional support and counselling services as well as substance abuse counselling.

Accessibility

The City of Elliot Lake is committed to reviewing its practices, processes and policies with respect to removing barriers for persons with disabilities. Under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, the City of Elliot Lake established the Accessibility Advisory Committee, to assist the City in identifying and eliminating barriers.

Emergency Services

The City of Elliot Lake is well prepared to respond to emergency situations. The City is home to a fire hall, ambulance base station and full complement police services. In addition, the City is well serviced by response agencies and has a very detailed Emergency Management Plan supported by a staff coordinator. This plan can be accessed through the City's website, www.cityofelliottlake.com, or by contacting City Hall, 705-848-2287.

Transit and Transportation

The community has an excellent local public transit system. A new transit schedule was produced December 19th 2016. Transit service is provided by municipally owned and maintained accessible buses. The fleet includes accessible busses as well a specialized transit for those with special needs. In Elliot Lake 95% of residence are within a 5-minute walk of a bus stop.

In addition to the transit service provided by the municipality, there are also taxi services, personalized transportation, vehicle rental services and shuttle services provided to Greyhound bus service.

Groups, Clubs and Activities

Elliot Lake offers a wide range of groups, clubs and activities for people of all ages; whether it's walking/hiking programs, organized/unorganized sports, various clubs, camps, or special events, there is always something happening in Elliot Lake for people to join and be a part of.

Arts, Culture, Facilities and Outdoor Spaces

Elliot Lake has a vibrant and active arts and culture community. From the visual arts to theatre to music and dance, and everything in between. Elliot Lake is home to a gallery, museum and theatre all at the Lester B. Pearson Civic Centre. There is also an arena and outdoor ice rink, a municipal pool, multiple beaches, boat launches, sport fields and courts, parks and playgrounds, and an abundance of trails.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to identify the process followed to establish the Age Friendly Elliot Lake Action Plan, and will summarize the results derived from the survey.

Recommendations are intended to provide useful tools accessible by all sectors of the community including citizens, businesses, organizations, and service providers.

Timeline of Age Friendly Elliot Lake

- In 2015 the City of Elliot Lake received the Age Friendly Community Planning Grant. This grant was used to create the Elliot Lake Age Friendly Action Plan. Once the grant was received, more research on Age Friendly communities was initiated and this resulted in planning the focus group sessions with service providers, agencies, organizations, activity groups, and business owners.
- In January 2016 the City of Elliot Lake partnered with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM). The partnership provided assistance with the facilitation of focus group sessions, drafting and distribution of the survey, and collection of the resulting data. The survey was reviewed by the Ethics Review Board at Laurentian University and received ethical approval.
- The Age Friendly Working Group was also established concurrently. This group was comprised of three volunteers and a City staff member.
- In August 2016 the survey was deployed throughout the community with the assistance of NOSM summer students. Four public consultations were held in addition to the survey.
- In September 2016 data collected from the survey was analyzed.
- October 2016 to April 2017 a final report was drafted in addition to Elliot Lake's Age Friendly Action Plan. This plan was reviewed by the Age Friendly Working Group to gain feedback and make changes if necessary before presenting it to the Economic Development Standing Committee.
- In April 2017 the final report and Age Friendly Action Plan was presented to Elliot Lake's Municipal Council for review and approval.

Goal

There are two main goals of the Age Friendly Elliot Lake project. The first is to acquire designation as an Age Friendly Community by the Province of Ontario and the World Health Organization (WHO). The second is to improve Elliot Lake's overall accessibility and inclusiveness of people with varying needs and capacities. Successful recognition as an Age Friendly Community will allow the City to advertise as such, increase opportunities for research, potential job creation, networking, partnerships and funding opportunities.

Age Friendly Survey Methodology

The survey was intended to reach as many people as possible throughout Elliot Lake who live and/or work in the community. The sample size that was required for the survey was determined by an online program called Raosoft. The sample size required was 372. The number of respondents that completed the survey was 478.

The survey was created through focus group sessions focused on the eight key areas that the WHO identifies (outlined on Page 2). There were nine separate focus group sessions held on a one time basis. One key area, Community Support & Health Care Services, was split up into two focus group sessions as this was a large spanning group with many potential participants. Those invited to the focus groups were carefully selected by City staff. Individuals included business owners, organizations, private sectors, agencies, and activity groups. The focus groups were meant to gain information and feedback from the eight age friendly areas. From that information, a survey was created for the completion by community members to gain feedback and input. The survey was a tool to help identify the needs and the gaps in the community.



Survey Design

The survey was designed by City staff, partners at the NOSM office in Elliot Lake and the Age Friendly Working Group.

The survey was divided into the eight key areas that the WHO identifies and under each of the eight areas there were questions that were derived from information gained from the focus group sessions.

The questions were straight forward and gave the options 'Yes', 'No', 'I don't know', and 'Not applicable'. Some questions included the respondents gender, age, household income, whether the person lives or works in Elliot Lake, as well as questions pertaining to groups, services and activities in the community and which ones they have heard of or are a part of. The survey also contained comment sections after each grouping of questions for people who wanted to elaborate on their answers. It should be noted that any additional comments written beside survey questions on the paper based copies were inputted into survey monkey in the comment sections.

The survey was available to the community for two weeks in August. The survey was available online or paper based and it was available in both Official languages.

There were pick up and drop off locations for the paper based survey; City Hall, the Civic Centre, and the Pool. As well, for a week the City staff member in charge of the project along with NOSM summer students were at various locations in Elliot Lake, including Retirement Living apartment buildings activity rooms discussing the project and distributing the survey.

There were four public consultations held. These consultations were for people to gain more information and ask questions about the Age Friendly Elliot Lake initiative and to complete the survey if desired.

In order to more accurately read the survey data it was decided that the options 'I don't know' and 'Not Applicable' be removed from the analyses giving a truer percentage to the questions, leaving only 'Yes' and 'No' answers, and of course the comment sections.

The survey did what it was meant to do. It identified needs in the community. The results of the survey were the building blocks for the Age Friendly Elliot Lake 5 Year Implementation Action Plan.

The survey questions related to physical and social environments within Elliot Lake and have been grouped within each of the eight areas of age-friendliness as identified by the Age Friendly Elliot Lake Action Plan. Table 1.0 defines each of the eight areas:

Table 1.0

8 Areas of an Age Friendly Community	Definition
Community Support & Health Care Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of services that help promote, protect, and maintain independence and mental and physical health should be available and accessible to people of all ages and health statuses
Respect & Social Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community attitudes of respect and recognition to the role older adults play in our society are critical to establishing an age-friendly community. Age-friendly communities foster positive images of aging and intergenerational understanding to challenge negative attitudes
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal mobility is affected by the condition and design of transportation-related infrastructure such as signage, traffic lights and sidewalks. Access to reliable, affordable public transit becomes increasingly important when driving becomes stressful or challenging
Outdoor Spaces & Buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhoods that are safe and accessible enable outdoor activities and community engagement. This involves removing barriers that limit opportunities for people with mobility challenges or disabilities. It also involves allowing older adults to participate in social activities or to access important health and social services and businesses
Civic Participation & Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civic engagement involves activities that enable older adults to contribute to their community, such as volunteering, becoming politically active, voting and working on committees. Age-friendly communities enable older adults to remain employed or find new employment. This also

	benefits employers who recognize the experience and commitment that older employees bring to the workplace
Communication & Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age-friendly communities ensure information about community events or important services is readily accessible and in formats that are appropriate for older adults. An age-friendly community also recognizes the diversity of older adults and promotes outreach initiatives to non-traditional families, ethno-cultural minorities, newcomers and Aboriginal communities
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The availability of appropriate, affordable housing with a choice of styles and locations and that incorporates flexibility through adaptive features is essential for age-friendly communities
Social Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interacting with family and friends is an important part of positive mental health and community awareness. Social participation involves the level of interaction that older adults have with other members of their community and the extent that the community itself makes this interaction possible

*The eight areas of an Age Friendly community are ordered as they are in Elliot Lake's Action Plan.

*Definitions for 8 Areas of an Age Friendly Community came from <http://agefriendlyontario.ca/afc-guide-8-dimensions>

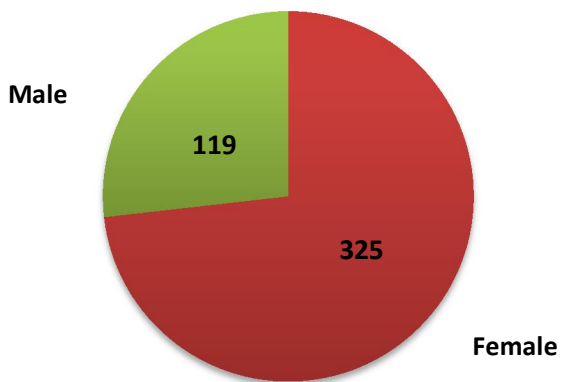
Age Friendly Survey Results

Who completed the survey?

Only people who live or work in Elliot Lake were eligible to complete the survey.

The following charts show the demographic characteristics of survey respondents.

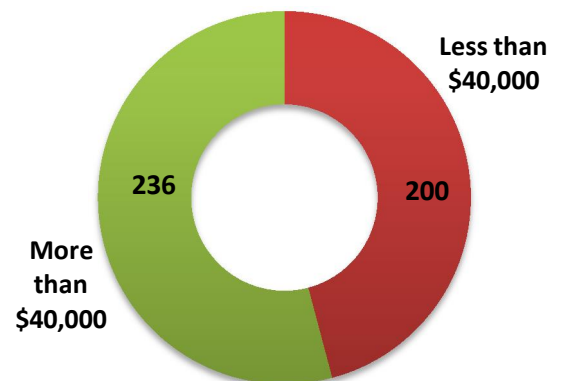
Gender



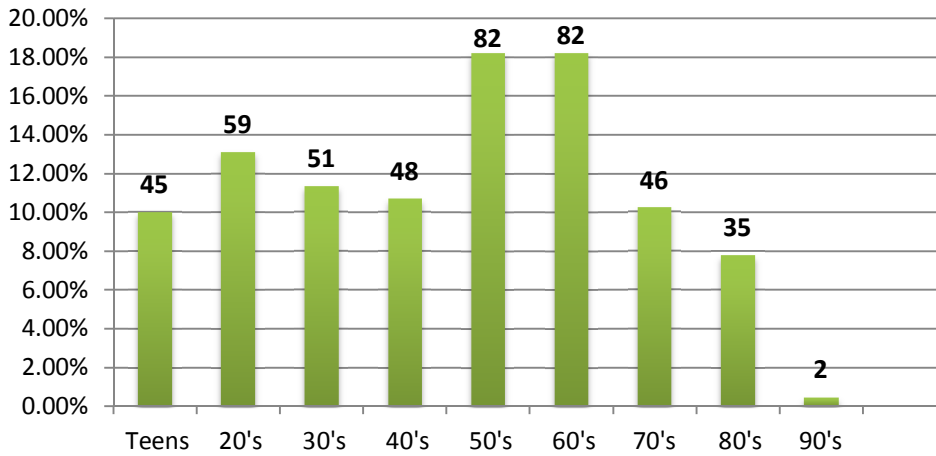
Gender- More women than men responded to the survey, as 72.71% were female and 26.62% were male.

Household Income- Because there were only two options for income, results were almost even. Where 45.87% of respondents had a total household income of less than \$40,000 and 54.13% of respondents had a total household income of more than \$40,000.

Household Income



Age

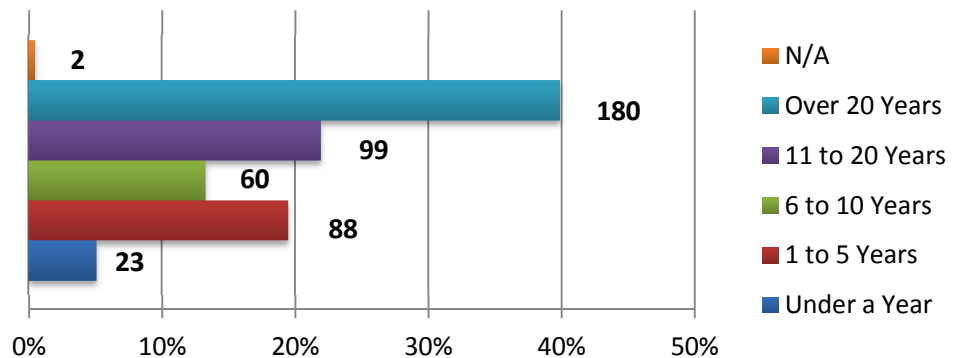


Age- People from their teens and older completed the survey, however the average ages were people in their 50's and 60's, each at 18.22%. And there was a focus on the senior population.

Years Lived in Elliot Lake

Lake- 39.82% of respondents lived in Elliot Lake over 20 years compared to 5.09% of respondents who lived in Elliot Lake under a year. There were also respondents who lived in Elliot Lake 1-5 years, 6-10 years, and 11-20 years.

Years Lived in Elliot Lake



Each action item was given a timeframe in which it is to be completed; Short Term (1-2 Years), Medium Term (3-4 Years), Long Term (5 years+), and Ongoing (Continuous). Timeframes were chosen based on the needs of the community but also based on what the City would be able to accomplish each year. The action items and time frames have to be attainable otherwise the goals will not be fulfilled. Because the Action Plan is a living document, some of the timeframes may change based on resources required. For example, funding may not be available for an action item until a certain year.

Some action items may start in one year but end in another. Action items may take more than one year to complete.

Some action items came specifically out of additional comments from surveys.

Stated in the *Survey Design* portion of this report, in order to more accurately read the survey data it was decided that the options 'I don't know' and 'Not Applicable' be removed from the analyses giving a truer percentage to the questions, leaving only 'Yes' and 'No' answers, and the comment sections.

Recommendations are offered for each age friendly area based on the survey results.

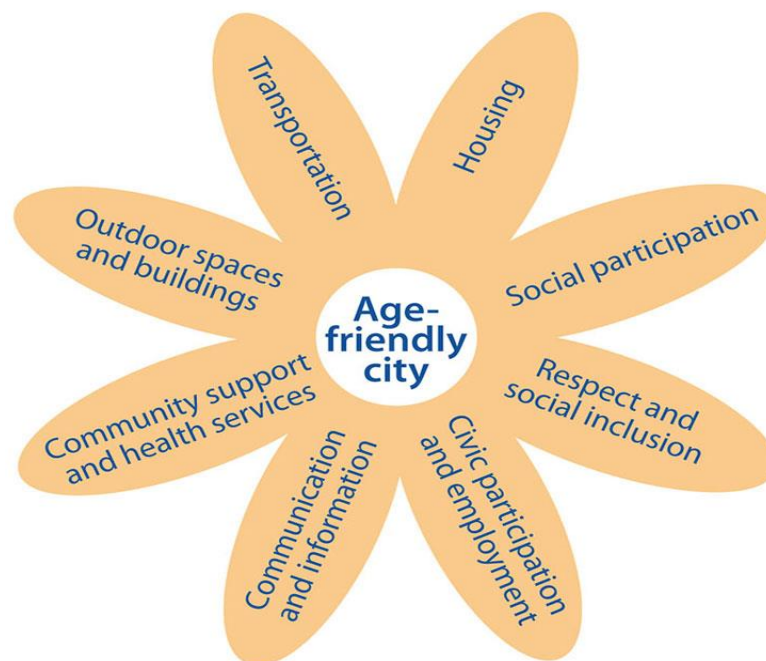


Figure 1

Summary of Findings:

The results of the survey indicate that there are areas for improvement within all eight age friendly areas. Key improvements to Elliot Lake will result in becoming more age friendly. Results show that although Elliot Lake does already have some age friendly aspects, there is room for improvement in each of the eight areas. The survey was a baseline assessment to help focus attention on specific issues that can be prioritized in the 5 Year Age Friendly Implementation Action Plan.

How will we know if we are becoming more Age Friendly?

The successful completion of the focus group sessions, survey and public consultations (baseline assessment models) ensures that Elliot Lake has a good sense of where the community is in terms of age friendly. The survey results can be referred back to and provide a snapshot in time which may be used to measure future success and progress. An annual review of accomplishments and comparative analysis from baseline results will be completed to ensure the community is moving toward the targeted goal. A survey may be administered once the Age Friendly Elliot Lake Action Plan has been fully implemented.

It is recommended that separate working groups be formed to engage in identified areas of the Action Plan. This will enhance productivity, and input from community members to achieve results from varying perspectives.



Links to the City of Elliot Lake's 2015 Strategic Plan

The Action Plan aligns with the City of Elliot Lake's Strategic Plan through the following goals and actions;

- Economic Development and Diversification, Stabilization, and Investment Readiness
 - Continue to foster retirement opportunities
- Development of Strong Partnerships
 - Support the local business community
 - Identify projects that require partnerships and the communities that will be impacted
- Health and Community Wellness
 - Give priority to Health Care Provider Recruitment and Retention Process
 - Support the hospital's redevelopment plan
 - Develop an Aging in Place Strategy
 - Provide activities and promote healthy lifestyles through recreation for all age groups

Links to Elliot Lake's Economic Development & Diversification Strategy

The Action Plan aligns with the Economic Development & Diversification Strategy through the following goals;

- Goal 1: Shape The Institutions of Tomorrow, Today
- Goal 2: Building a "Network of Networks"
- Goal 3: Nurture the Built Environment
- Goal 6: Making Aging in Place a Reality (Not Just a Promise)

Conclusion

The Age Friendly Elliot Lake initiative has been successful in including the community as a whole in creating a straight forward and effective Action Plan for implementation and evaluation of age friendly improvements over the next five years. The survey was one tool used to define the Action Plan with a total of 478 respondents; there were also one-on-one and group discussions that took place with older adults and committees.

In addition to the survey, there were also focus group sessions held with service providers, organizations, activity groups and businesses, and four public consultations for people who had questions or comments about Age Friendly Elliot Lake and/or the survey.

The information gained from this process is essential as a starting point for creating a cohesive age friendly community. Moving forward, the results of the survey will continue to inform and enhance Municipal planning, local partners and volunteer groups. Activity groups, businesses, service providers, organizations, and corporations are encouraged to use this information and take part in the Age Friendly Elliot Lake initiative, by improving or reviewing internal practices or partnering with the Municipality on implementation of goals where applicable. The Age Friendly Elliot Lake five year implementation action plan is a community plan, and it is with the participation and interest from community members that Age Friendly Elliot Lake will flourish.

"Design for the young and you exclude the old, design for the old and you include everyone"- Bernard Isaacs

References

Figure 1. MAV-Age Friendly Communities. Digital image. *Municipal Association of Victoria*. 2017. Web. 12 April 2017.
<<http://www.mav.asn.au/policy-services/social-community/ageing-disability/ageing/Pages/age-friendly-cities-communities.aspx>>

Figure 2. Elliot Lake: 5KM G1. Digital image. *Dark Pines Photo*. 2 October 2012. Web. 7 November 2016.
<<https://darkpinesphoto.wordpress.com/2012/10/02/elliott-lake-5km/>>.

Organization, W. H. (2007). *Global age - friendly cities: A guide*. Geneva World Health Organization.

Figure 3. Steed, Alan. "Why We Love Elliot Lake!" *You Tube*. You Tube. 11 October 2014. Web. 12 April 2017.
<<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZNw0JLaPVc4>>



Figure 2



Age Friendly Elliot Lake

5 Year Implementation Action Plan



AGE FRIENDLY ELLIOT LAKE - IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

This five-year Action Plan represents the next step in Elliot Lake's journey to becoming a designated Age Friendly community. The plan builds on various initiatives and operations currently underway in Elliot Lake, and identifies other areas in the community that need to be addressed. Everyone in the community has a role to play improving the age friendliness of Elliot Lake, from young to old.

As Bernard Isaacs said;

"Design for the young and you exclude the old, design for the old and you include everyone"

Implementation of the Plan

In order to implement most of the action steps in this plan there must be a partnership between citizens, organizations, businesses, service providers, volunteers and the City of Elliot Lake.

Select action steps in this plan may overlap with existing community planning documents such as the City of Elliot Lake's Strategic Plan and Economic Development & Diversification Strategy. It is recommended that the action items in this plan be considered, and integrated into other community planning processes.

It is to be noted that this action plan is a 'living' document and will be reviewed and evaluated on a year to year basis to monitor the progress that has been made in becoming more age friendly, and to track implementation of the five year plan.

For reference: Short Term= 1-2 Years, Medium Term= 3-4 Years, Long Term= 5 Years +, Ongoing

Please note: This is not intended to represent a final list of resources required. These projects will be finalized as a first step of their implementation.



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1. COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND HEALTH CARE SERVICES		
ACTION ITEM(S)	TIMEFRAME (SHORT, MEDIUM, LONG TERM, OR ONGOING)	RESOURCES REQUIRED
1.1 PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT STRATEGY		
Review and update the Physician Recruitment framework to include Healthcare Professionals and to support healthcare development	Short Term	TBD
1.2 BUILD FEASIBILITY OF NEW HOSPITAL		
Investigate the feasibility of new hospital and offer assistance if and where needed	Short Term	TBD
1.3 PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELLNESS		
Promote and support Health and Wellness (i.e. Workshops)	Ongoing	Community Services Department
1.4 AMENDMENT TO CITY ZONING BY-LAW		
Amend City Zoning By-law No. 96-16, section 3.34 Home Occupation to include Adult Caregiving in the home	Medium Term	No Cost
1.5 NAVIGATING OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM, INCLUDING COMMUNITY SUPPORT		
Develop an educational series on how to navigate the healthcare system	Medium Term	TBD



ACTION ITEM(S)	TIMEFRAME (SHORT, MEDIUM, LONG TERM, OR ONGOING)	RESOURCES REQUIRED
1.6 VULNERABLE PERSONS PLAN		
Develop a vulnerable persons plan, which includes an investigation into developing a phone or visitor "check-in" service for isolated persons	Short Term	TBD
1.7 WALK-IN CLINIC		
Investigate the need for a walk-in clinic in Elliot Lake	Short Term	TBD
1.8 SMOKING BY-LAW		
Identify where No-Smoking signs are needed on outside of buildings and advocate for the enforcement of Ontario's Provincial smoking By-law: Smoke-Free Ontario	Short Term	By-law Enforcement Division
2. RESPECT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION		
ACTION ITEM(S)	TIMEFRAME (SHORT, MEDIUM, LONG TERM, OR ONGOING)	RESOURCES REQUIRED
2.1 INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAMMING		
Create intergenerational programs to connect youth and seniors	Medium Term	TBD
2.2 AGEISM AND RECOGNIZING SENIORS IN A POSITIVE WAY		
Assist in alleviating the stereotypes of Ageism in Elliot Lake and identify key areas of focus for a campaign and identify partners	Medium Term	TBD
Recognize Seniors Day (October 1) and Month (June) annually and have City Council make a proclamation	Short Term	TBD



3. TRANSPORTATION		
ACTION ITEM(S)	TIMEFRAME (SHORT, MEDIUM, LONG TERM, OR ONGOING)	RESOURCES REQUIRED
3.1 REVIEW OF TRANSIT SCHEDULE AND ROUTES		
Review bus schedule hours & bus routes	Short Term	Infrastructure Services/ Community Services Department
Feasibility of Sunday bus service	Short Term	Infrastructure Services/ Community Services Department
3.2 ACCESSIBLE BUSSING		
Review current accessible transit programs	Short Term	Infrastructure Services/ Community Services Department
3.3 OUT OF TOWN TRANSPORTATION		
Increase public awareness of out of town transportation that already exists and that is available	Short Term	TBD



4. OUTDOOR SPACES & BUILDINGS		
ACTION ITEM(S)	TIMEFRAME (SHORT, MEDIUM, LONG TERM, OR ONGOING)	RESOURCES REQUIRED
4.1 IMPROVE ACCESS TO WASHROOMS IN PARKS AND/OR ALONG TRAILS		
Investigate and review operations of outdoor facilities	Short Term	Infrastructure Services/ Community Services Department
Investigate if and where more public washrooms are needed throughout the community	Medium Term	Infrastructure Services/Community Services Department
4.2 IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF PARKS		
Re-evaluate and improve quality and aesthetics of dog park	Short Term	Infrastructure Services/ Community Services Department
Review quality of all playgrounds, fields and courts and make recommendations for optimization	Medium Term	Infrastructure Services/ Community Services Department
Review cleanliness of parks and trails	Short Term	Infrastructure Services/ Community Services Department
Review enforcement of animal by-laws, especially at parks and on trails	Short Term	Community Services Department/By-Law Enforcement Division
4.3 IMPROVE QUALITY OF CITY FACILITIES		
Review accessibility of facilities to meet or exceed AODA and building code	Short Term	Community Services/ Infrastructure Services/ Building Department



ACTION ITEM(S)	TIMEFRAME (SHORT, MEDIUM, LONG TERM, OR ONGOING)	RESOURCES REQUIRED
4.4 INCREASE SIDEWALKS, ACCESSIBILITY OF BUILDINGS & PARKS, ROADS		
Continue to support accessibility of public spaces	Long Term	Funding
Evaluate and improve accessibility of waterfront areas, including accessibility of docks	Medium Term	TBD
Repair existing sidewalks, and determine where more sidewalks are needed	Long Term	Infrastructure Services
Identify roads that require repair or replacement	Long Term	Infrastructure Services
Develop a biking route	Long Term	TBD
Investigate and improve the accessibility of parks where required	Short Term	Infrastructure Services/ Community Services Department
Install pieces of equipment in parks that can be used by those with varying needs and abilities, including special needs	Long Term	TBD
Increase accessibility of beach areas by creating pathways for water access	Long Term	Infrastructure Services/ Community Services Department
Maintain existing public benches and increase number of public benches along walkways and trails	Short Term	Funding
Improve Wayfinding signage- Label trails within community, (i.e. Cross Country Ski trails, ATV trails walking/hiking trails), identify premium trails that are accessible, and identify Age Friendly trails that are within City limits	Short Term	Community Services Department



5. CIVIC PARTICIPATION AND EMPLOYMENT		
ACTION ITEM(S)	TIMEFRAME (SHORT, MEDIUM, LONG TERM, OR ONGOING)	RESOURCES REQUIRED
5.1 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION		
Educate the public about services available in regards to business support and development within the City	Short Term	Community Services Department
5.2 ATTRACT AND ENCOURAGE NEW JOBS AND BUSINESS		
Encourage and promote job and business retention and expansion within the community through partnerships and networking	Short Term	TBD
Attract and retain professionals	Medium Term	TBD



6. COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION		
ACTION ITEM(S)	TIMEFRAME (SHORT, MEDIUM, LONG TERM, OR ONGOING)	RESOURCES REQUIRED
6.1 UPDATE CITY'S WEBSITE		
Review and update City website to make it more user friendly and accessible (AODA Standards)	Short Term	Information Systems Administration
6.2 CREATE AND INFORMATIVE GUIDE FOR ELLIOT LAKE		
Create a package for community with listings of clubs, organizations, businesses, medical information, schools, churches, housing, etc., and review and update if necessary on an annual basis	Ongoing	Community Services Department
6.3 AWARENESS OF ELLIOT LAKE'S EMERGENCY PLAN		
Increase awareness and knowledge of Elliot Lake's Emergency Plan	Short Term	TBD
6.4 USE EXISTING BUILDINGS AND SPACE TO PROMOTE DIFFERENT INFORMATION		
Increase use of existing infrastructure and space to promote information including programing (library, City Hall, Civic Centre, Collins Hall, Health Centres, etc.)	Short Term	No Cost



7. HOUSING		
ACTION ITEM(S)	TIMEFRAME (SHORT, MEDIUM, LONG TERM, OR ONGOING)	RESOURCES REQUIRED
7.1 ACCESSIBLE HOUSING MODELS		
Support potential housing models/options/best practices for older adults and work with public and private sectors to develop living options	Medium Term	TBD
7.2 LONG-TERM CARE		
Support the need for hospice services, assisted living programs and long term care needs	Long Term	TBD



8. SOCIAL PARTICIPATION		
ACTION ITEM(S)	TIMEFRAME (SHORT, MEDIUM, LONG TERM, OR ONGOING)	RESOURCES REQUIRED
8.1 PROGRAMMING IN CITY FACILITIES		
Continue to explore opportunities to merge facilities and renew them under a new fully accessible, barrier free multi-use complex that offers Age Friendly programming aimed at healthy active living	Medium Term	Community Services Department
8.2 ACCESSIBLE EVENTS		
Review, develop and implement accessibility plan for events (AODA Standards)	Short Term	Community Services Department
8.3 ARTS AND CULTURE		
Continue to support and maintain Arts and Culture in Elliot Lake	Ongoing	Community Services Department
8.4 IMPROVED ADVERTISING		
Review inclusivity of events and activities in community. Create a City policy with guidelines for advertising for events for increased awareness and inclusivity (AODA Standards) and advertise benefits and availability of Welcome Cards	Short Term	Community Services Department
Advertise for events in both Official languages	Short Term	Community Services Department



Action Plan Summary - Progress Checklist

Short Term (1-2 Years)	✓
Review and update the Physician Recruitment framework to include Healthcare Professionals and to support healthcare development	
Investigate feasibility of new hospital and offer assistance if and where needed	
Develop a vulnerable persons plan, which includes an investigation into developing a phone or visitor 'check in' service for isolated persons	
Investigate the need for a walk-in clinic in Elliot Lake	
Identify where No-Smoking signs are needed on outside of buildings and advocate for the enforcement of Ontario's Provincial smoking By-law: Smoke-Free Ontario	
Recognize Seniors Day (October 1) and Month (June) annually and have City Council make a proclamation	
Review bus schedule hours and bus routes	
Feasibility of Sunday bus service	
Review current accessible transit programs	
Increase public awareness of out of town transportation that already exists and is available	
Investigate and review operations of outdoor facilities	
Re-evaluate and improve the quality and aesthetics of dog park	
Review cleanliness of parks and trails	
Review enforcement of animal by-laws, especially at parks and on trails	
Review accessibility of facilities to meet or exceed AODA and building code	
Investigate and improve the accessibility of parks where required	
Maintain existing public benches and increase number of public benches along walkways and trails	
Improve way finding signage, label trails within community (i.e. Cross Country Ski Trails, ATV trails, walking/hiking trails), identify premium trails that are accessible and identify Age Friendly trails within city limits	
Educate the public about services available in regard to business support and development within the City	
Encourage and promote job and business retention and expansion within the community through partnerships and networking	
Increase awareness and knowledge of Elliot Lake's Emergency Plan	
Increase use of existing infrastructure and space to promote information including programming (library, City Hall, Civic Centre, Collins Hall, Health Centres, etc.)	
Review, develop and implement accessibility plan for events (AODA Standards)	
Review inclusivity of events and activities in community	
Create a City policy with guidelines for advertising events for increased awareness and inclusivity (AODA Standards)	
Advertise benefits and availability of Welcome Cards	
Advertise for events in both Official languages	
Review and update City website to make it more user friendly and accessible (AODA Standards)	

Medium Term (3-4 Years)	✓
Amend City Zoning By-law No. 96-16, section 3.34 Home Occupations to include Adult Caregiving in the home	
Develop an educational series on how to navigate the healthcare system	
Create intergenerational programs to connect youth and seniors	
Assist in alleviating the stereotypes of Ageism in Elliot Lake and identify key areas of focus for a campaign and identify partners	
Investigate if and where more public washrooms are needed throughout the community	
Review quality of all playgrounds, fields and courts and make recommendations for optimization	
Evaluate and improve accessibility of waterfront areas including accessibility of docks	
Attract and retain professionals	
Support potential housing models/options/best practices for older adults and work with public and private sectors to develop living options	
Continue to explore opportunities to merge facilities and renew them under a new fully accessible, barrier free multi-use complex that offers Age Friendly programming aimed at healthy active living	
Long Term (5 Years +)	✓
Continue to support accessibility of public spaces	
Repair existing sidewalks, and determine where more sidewalks are needed	
Identify roads that require repair or replacement	
Develop a bike route	
Install equipment in parks that can be used by those with varying needs and abilities, including special needs	
Increase accessibility of beach areas by creating pathways for water access	
Support the need for hospice services, assisted living programs and long term care needs	

Ongoing	✓
Promote and support Health and Wellness (ie. Workshops)	
Create a package for community with listings of clubs, organizations, businesses, medical information, schools, churches, housing, etc., and review and update if necessary on an annual basis	
Continue to support and maintain Arts and Culture in Elliot Lake	

