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Date: 14 May 2024

Direct Phone: 0409 865 093
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Thiago Herick de Sa
Responsible Officer for GNAFCC
gnafcc@who.int

To Thiago,

RE: APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP TO THE GLOBAL NETWORK OF AGE-FRIENDLY CITIES AND COMMUNITIES (GNAFCC)

The City of Ballarat is excited to express our desire to join the WHO Global Network for Age Friendly Cities and Communities.

We are committed to creating supportive environments that foster healthy and active ageing including planning for and responding to the diverse and emerging needs of older adults in our community.

Our commitment is demonstrated within our Ageing Well in Ballarat Strategy, developed with consideration of the WHO age-friendly approach in parallel with the feedback from our older residents about what is important to live and age well in Ballarat. Collaborating with our community members, partners and stakeholders across Ballarat, the Ageing Well in Ballarat Strategy identifies the needs, interests and aspirations of people aged 55 years and older.

Ballarat is the 4th largest inland city in Australia, and the 3rd largest Victorian city behind Melbourne and Geelong. Ballarat matches global trends in its growth of an ageing population. According to the 2021 census, our city has 113,763 residents and it is growing. There are over 34,867 people aged 55 years and over currently living within our city, which equates to 30.6% of the total population. This figure is set to grow to more than 42,222 by 2036.

We are also committed to being an active partner within the Global Network to learn from and share information, resources, and progress with network members. Our role as a key Victorian regional centre provides us with a further leadership opportunity to extend the visibility, knowledge and resources of the Global Network's age friendly approaches and environments to our collaborations with neighbouring councils.



We look forward in anticipation to becoming a part of this important network and the opportunity to link in with other communities around the world who share a common goal of being an age-friendly city.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Des Hudson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Cr Des Hudson OAM
Mayor
City of Ballarat

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Evan King". The signature is in a cursive style.

Evan King
CEO
City of Ballarat