



County of Simcoe
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August 13, 2024

To Whom it May Concern,

On behalf of Simcoe County's Council, I am writing to express our support for Simcoe County's proposal to join the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

In 2015, a community needs assessment was conducted across the county. A report describing the results was created, highlighting priorities and major areas of attention for future planning needs. This includes 141 key priorities outlined in the "Simcoe County Positive Aging Strategy" 2017-2023, including the Planning Framework, which was designed to guide Simcoe County's municipal and community service providers in developing and delivering age-friendly infrastructure, planning, services, and programs.

The Simcoe County 2023 Age-Friendly Community Survey was recently completed to gather information and help improve the community for older adults. As we now move to analyze the results of the survey, which received over 2,500 responses, this will give us more insight into how we can support age friendly planning moving forward.

The County of Simcoe is committed to ensuring that older adults in our community can remain healthy and age in place successfully by participating in initiatives that address all aspects of wellness.

Partnerships and collaboration between municipalities and community partners have been developed to ensure we are building an age-friendly community that meets the changing needs of our older adults. The County has established a community and business based Age-Friendly Awards program, which recognizes age-friendly champions in our region.

We will continue to do as much as we can to work to ensure social participation and inclusion for all older adults, including the support of the County's proposal to join the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

Sincerely,

Basil Clarke, Warden
County of Simcoe