



January 21, 2026

**RE: WHO Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Designation**

---

Dear World Health Organization,

In 2021 the Town of Penetanguishene adopted its first Age-Friendly Community Plan. Since that time, the Town has made great strides in actioning that plan and creating a community where residents of all ages can not only live but thrive.

There have been many improvements made by the Town through the 8 domains of creating a more Age-Friendly municipality. These include but are not limited to developing more age-friendly spaces such as investing in upgrades in Martin Valley Park, offering 55+ aquafit classes, partnering with the Gateway Centre for Learning to offer digital literacy programs for seniors and opening a new Senior's Active Living Centre. We are proud of our achievements but recognize that we have more work to do.

The Town's Wellness and Accessibility Committee, an official advisory committee of Council, champions the Town's plan. Their commitment is evidenced by a volunteer on the committee being recently recognized through the County of Simcoe's Age Friendly Awards.

The Town of Penetanguishene is seeking designation with the WHO Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. The Town believes that networking and being part of a global movement to make communities around the world more Age-Friendly will serve the greater good and help Penetanguishene in its Age-Friendly journey.

On behalf of the Council of the Town of Penetanguishene, it is my pleasure to formally commit the Town to a designation with the WHO and an ongoing global effort to make the world more Age-Friendly.

Respectfully,

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PENETANGUISHENE**

Doug Rawson, Mayor  
Town of Penetanguishene