

Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy

Steering Committee

Terms of Reference

A Steering Committee will be formed to oversee the development of a Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy (SAFS).

The intention of the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy is to develop a comprehensive community response to the aging population in Calgary. The strategy will consider the factors that promote healthy, active aging in Calgary and establish community wide goals and priorities.

Context

Between 2011 and 2021 the total population of Calgary is expected to climb from 1,090,936 to approximately 1,301,800. This is a 19 per cent increase. Comparatively, during this decade there will be a 56 per cent increase in seniors (age 65+) in Calgary, growing from 106,500 today to about 166,000 seniors in 2020. This amounts to three times the growth rate in the total population. For the first time in history, the number of older Canadians is projected to surpass the number of children by the early 2030s. There is a pressing need to prepare for these changing demographics. The City of Calgary has approved the development of a community wide, Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy that will involve a broad range of stakeholders including multiple levels of government, funders, businesses, community organizations, and citizens.

Purpose

The Steering Committee will oversee the development of a Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy which will be informed by reviews of research, citizen engagement and a strategic mapping process in order to develop community-wide goals and priorities for an age-friendly Calgary. The purpose of the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy will be for The City of Calgary, other levels of government, community organizations, the private sector, and older Calgarians to work collaboratively and utilize the framework developed by the World Health Organization to assist in the development of an age-friendly city.

Membership

The members of the Steering Committee have been selected based on the following criteria:

- Representative of a broad range of sectors including government, health, non-profit, private, and post-secondary/research
- Subject matter experts in the eight focus areas of the World Health Organization's Age-friendly Cities framework:
 - Outdoor spaces & buildings
 - Transportation
 - Housing
 - Social participation
 - Respect & social inclusion
 - Civic participation & employment
 - Communication & information
 - Community support & health services
- Level of decision-making authority within one's organization and influence in the community

Key Responsibilities

The Steering Committee will be responsible for:

- Setting the overall direction for the development, implementation and evaluation of a community-wide Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy (SAFS), including:
 - Determining priorities and goals for the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy based on citizen engagement, a strategy map that has been produced by local stakeholders, and research on the Age-friendly Cities framework and results in other cities.
 - Determining which priorities require the involvement of short-term working groups, and supporting the recruitment of working group members;
 - Providing feedback on recommendations and endorsing final working group recommendations as elements of the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy.
 - Contributing to the development of a Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy, with support from The City of Calgary SAFS Team.
 - Contributing to the development of an Implementation Plan, including outcomes, measures, and a collaborative reporting process, with support from The City of Calgary SAFS Team.
 - Making recommendations regarding the municipal government's role and community resources required to carry out the Implementation Plan.
 - Acting as a champion of the Age-Friendly Strategy and Implementation Plan in one's organization and sector, facilitating engagement with key stakeholders and fostering participation in the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy.
- Attendance at Steering Committee meetings between June 2014 and April 2015.

Governance and Decision-Making

As a City-led process, the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy (SAFS) and Implementation Plan development will be facilitated and led by The City of Calgary SAFS Team.

The content of the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy and Implementation Plan will be developed by the Steering Committee, with input from the Calgary Age-Friendly Advisory Committee (“Advisory Committee”), and with support from The City of Calgary SAFS Team.

Decisions will be made using a consensus model. Decisions will be considered final when all Steering Committee members:

- Have been engaged
- Have been listened to and heard
- Support the results of the decision

Supporting Resources

The City of Calgary SAFS Team will be responsible for:

- Providing the Steering Committee with background information, analysis of public engagement data, and other orientation materials
- Providing the Steering Committee with updated drafts of documents on which to make decisions
- Acting as a liaison between the Steering Committee and Advisory Committee, including supporting the Advisory Committee to present ongoing feedback to the Steering Committee
- Recruiting and supporting working groups as needed
- Drafting final documents including Council reports, the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy, and the Implementation Plan
- Ensuring compliance with the SAFS Project Charter
- Ensuring compliance with the World Health Organization’s Age-friendly Cities framework

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