

## Requirements for Recognition as an Age-Friendly City

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### **Age-Friendly Cities Recognition from the World Health Organization**

The World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities provides a worldwide platform for sharing information and best practices about how to respond to the needs of aging populations at a municipal level. Currently, 258 cities and communities in 28 countries are members of this network. The following requirements must be met in order to be recognized as an age-friendly city by the World Health Organization:

**1. Establishment of mechanisms to involve older people throughout the Age-Friendly Cities cycle**

Older adults have been involved throughout the process of developing Calgary's Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy, and will continue to be involved in its implementation.

- ✓ Engagement: Consulted through focus groups and telephone survey
- ✓ Strategy development: Involvement on Steering Committee, Advisory Committee, and working groups
- ✓ Implementation: Involvement on Steering Committee, Steering Committee Executive, and Action Teams

**2. Development of a baseline assessment of the age-friendliness of the city**

- ✓ The public engagement process, which used the methodology developed by the World Health Organization, fulfills this requirement

**3. Development of a three-year city-wide action plan based on the findings of the assessment**

- ✓ The Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy and Implementation Plan meets this requirement

**4. Identification of indicators to measure progress against the plan**

- ✓ Draft indicators have been developed for each population-level result
- ✓ Final indicators will be confirmed through the development of an evaluation plan by 2015 Q3

A completed online application, as well as a letter from the Mayor and municipal administration indicating commitment to a cycle of continual improvement is required for the application to be accepted. Applications for recognition by the World Health Organization as an Age-Friendly City are processed quarterly.

## **Age-Friendly Alberta Recognition Program**

The Government of Alberta also recognizes communities that are working towards becoming more age-friendly. Requirements for recognition are as follows:

### **1. Establish an age-friendly committee**

- ✓ The Steering Committee meets this requirement

### **2. Have a resolution passed by your local government**

- ✓ On 15 December 2014, Council adopted NM2014-44, which stated that City Council would commit to Calgary becoming an Age-Friendly City upon approval of the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy in 2015 June, and that The City of Calgary seek official designation as an Age-Friendly City from the World Health Organization and the Government of Alberta

### **3. Conduct an age-friendly assessment of your community**

- ✓ The public engagement process, which used the methodology developed by the World Health Organization, fulfills this requirement

### **4. Develop and implement an action plan**

- ✓ The Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy and Implementation Plan meet this requirement. Implementation does not need to be complete in order to receive recognition.

Benefits of recognition through Age-Friendly Alberta include:

- An award of \$1,000 to support the development of a sign or plaque for display in the city or a celebration of your community's success;
- National and international recognition for the city's commitment to becoming an age-friendly community;
- Written acknowledgement of the city's accomplishment; and
- Promotion of the city's activities on the Age-Friendly Alberta website.

The Age-Friendly Alberta Recognition Program also supports Alberta communities that apply for recognition from the World Health Organization as an Age-Friendly City.