



Age-Friendly Notice of Motion

December 2014

KEY MESSAGES

Calgary's population is aging. The City of Calgary is leading the development of a community-wide Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy to ensure we are ready to support our citizens as they age. The Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy is being developed according to the "Age-Friendly Cities" framework created by the World Health Organization and supported by the Public Health Agency of Canada and the Government of Alberta.

This Notice of Motion is an important step in the development of the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy. In order to be recognized as an "Age-Friendly City" by the Government of Alberta and the World Health Organization, it is necessary to have a resolution passed by local government. This Notice of Motion was drafted by a working group of subject matter experts who reviewed similar resolutions from other cities. The draft was then reviewed and revised by the Advisory Committee and the Steering Committee for the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy.

Calgary seniors contribute to our communities and to our city. Older adults are a diverse population with varying life experiences, interests, education, skills and interests. Their contribution is crucial to a healthy, well rounded community.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

1. **Why does Council need to approve this Notice of Motion when there is already work underway to develop a Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy?**

The document *Building Age-Friendly Communities: A Guide for Local Action* (Government of Alberta, 2012), identifies four steps to develop local age-friendly initiatives:

1. Establish an Age-Friendly Committee;
2. ***Have a resolution passed by the local government;***
3. Conduct an age-friendly assessment of the community; and
4. Develop and implement an action plan.

On 2014 June 4, the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy Update (CPS2014-0434) report was presented to Standing Policy Committee on Community and Protective Services. Administration identified in the report that the second step, "have a resolution passed by local government", was achieved through the direction provided by Council on 2013 July 29 (CPS2013-0374) to develop a Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy and implementation plan. However, since Council direction is not the same as a resolution, this notice of motion would achieve the goal of having a resolution passed by local government.

2. What are the costs involved in being recognized as an age-friendly city?

There are no costs involved in applying for or receiving recognition as an “Age-Friendly City” from the Government of Alberta or the World Health Organization. Costs may be incurred for other activities such as costs incurred to communicate the launch of the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy or publicly celebrating age-friendly recognition. The resources committed to developing and implementing the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy are/will be directed toward achieving age-friendly results in the community. Should opportunities arise due to the designation as an “Age-Friendly City” they will be evaluated based on their merits and contribution to achieving age-friendly outcomes for the citizens of Calgary.

3. What is the current status of the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy?

The stakeholders involved in the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy have created a vision, principles and goals that we will be presenting to the Standing Policy Committee on Community and Protective Services on 2014 December 10. The strategy and implementation plan will be brought before Council in 2015 June.

4. Who is involved in creating the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy?

The Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy is currently being developed by a Steering Committee with support from The City of Calgary Project Team. The Steering Committee makes decisions about the direction and content of the strategy, and includes members from the province, non-profit organizations, Alberta Health Services, the University of Calgary, and the private sector. An Advisory Committee of Calgary seniors and working groups comprised of subject matter experts also provide input.

5. What is the scope of the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy?

The scope of Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy is quite broad. Local priority issues areas were determined through a public and stakeholder engagement process. They include:

- Commitment to effective implementation of the strategy;
- Transportation;
- Housing;
- Participation and wellbeing;
- Elder abuse prevention and response;
- Employment and financial security;
- Access to information; and
- In-home support and safety.