

OLDER ADULT STRATEGY: HIGHLIGHTS

It's projected that Guelph will have almost 53,000 adults aged 55 years and older by 2031*. That's close to 23,000 more older adults than in 2011. The City of Guelph has developed an Older Adult Strategy using the World Health Organization age-friendly cities framework to make Guelph a great place to live and age well.

Stewarded by the Age Friendly Guelph Leadership Team, the Older Adult Strategy includes 64 recommendations and a 10-year action plan. Here are some highlights of what has been accomplished in the first 2 years.



Making Guelph buildings and outdoor spaces safe and accessible.

The City of Guelph uses Universal Design Principles that consider usability and respect the dignity of persons with disabilities when designing, renovating and constructing buildings.

Offering health and community services that fully support the wellbeing of older adults.

Guelph/Wellington Paramedic Services offers in-house Community Paramedic programming specific to identifying and supporting vulnerable individuals that are encountered in 911 responses through referrals to community services and programs.

Ensuring older adults have easy access to information about services and supports.

The City of Guelph website meets Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act standards. Content can be read by screen readers and colours are chosen to aid those with visual disabilities.

Making housing available so older adults can choose where they live as they age.

The City of Guelph is close to finalizing an Affordable Housing Strategy which recommends that the zoning by-law review consider regulatory and other barriers that might discourage the creation of affordable housing.

Making Guelph's transportation system age-friendly.

The standard for pedestrian crossing time at signalized locations is based upon a slower walking speed than most municipalities. Both audible and visual walk-don't walk signals are installed at all new signalized locations.

Treating older adults with respect.

The Guelph-Wellington Gatekeeper Project received funding from the Government of Ontario to train community members to identify at-risk older adults and make a referral.



Volunteer

with Age Friendly Guelph and help Guelph become a great place to live and age well. For information, visit guelph.ca/agefriendly

