



An Age-Friendly Simcoe County

Barrie Seniors Advisory Presentation



An Age-Friendly Simcoe County



Presenter and Introductions

Age-Friendly County of Simcoe

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Age-Friendly Project Lead

Jane Sinclair, General Manager, Health and Emergency Services, County of Simcoe, Age-Friendly Lead.



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WHO Age-Friendly Initiative

Age-Friendly Community planning is a global effort led by the World Health Organization (WHO). The County of Simcoe is proud to join this world movement.



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Background – Age-Friendly Communities

The **WHO** identified **Eight Dimensions** to assess a city's environment, services and policies that reflect the determinants of active aging.





LONG TERM CARE
AND SENIORS SERVICES

2018-2023

Age-Friendly Planning Framework

Simcoe County Positive Aging Strategy:

Older Adults Strengthening our Communities



Let's build an Age-friendly Simcoe County together by valuing and supporting older adults in our communities, and, at the same time, celebrating diversity, refuting ageism and reducing inequities by recognizing their contributions to our region



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Background

2007: World Health Organization (WHO)
“Global Age-Friendly Cities: A Guide that outlines the framework for creating age-friendly communities”

2013: Ontario Seniors Secretariat:
“Finding the Right Fit: AFC Planning Guide”

2015: AFC Grant – Simcoe County

2016: Simcoe County - AFC Project Steering
Committee / Needs Assessment

2017: Positive Aging Strategy/Planning Framework



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Programs and Services Supporting Seniors
in Simcoe County during Covid- 19

Supporting Seniors during Covid-19



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Simcoe's AFC Website

DEPARTMENTS

Long Term Care and Seniors Services▼

What We Do

Accreditation

Age-Friendly Community ▼

Age-Friendly Guide

Age-Friendly Community
Highlights

Age-Friendly Meetings

Age-Friendly News

Age-Friendly Public Engagement

Age-Friendly Resources

Building a Seniors Campus

Georgian Village and Manor

Building an Age-Friendly Simcoe County



Would you like to change font size on your desktop?
Hold down the Control or Apple Key and press + or -



[Click to view age-friendly resources and helpful links to services](#)

2018-2023 Simcoe County Positive Aging Strategy: Older Adults Strengthening our Communities

[Simcoe County Positive Aging Strategy](#)

simcoe.ca/age-friendly



Ontario

LOOK FOR US AT AN
UPCOMING EVENT
IN YOUR COMMUNITY



Resources

[Age-Friendly Resources and
Helpful Links to Services](#)

Related Links

[Age-Friendly Community
Highlights](#)

[Age-Friendly Community Pro
Committee](#)

[Age-Friendly Guide](#)

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Programs and Services Supporting Seniors in Simcoe County during Covid 19

211 Ontario can help you find support during COVID-19.

211 Ontario is your primary source of information on government and community-based social services.



When you don't know
where to turn.

Quand tu ne sais pas
vers qui te tourner.



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Programs and Services Supporting Seniors in Simcoe County during Covid 19



Emergency Management
Simcoe County

GROCERY AND PHARMACEUTICAL DELIVERY OPTIONS

Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic, if you are in need of groceries, pharmaceutical supplies or other services, please phone 211 or go visit 211ontario.ca.

**When you don't know
where to turn.™**



211 Ontario can help you find grocery stores and pharmacies that are open and offering delivery service, as well as programs and services in your community that may be helpful to you during these trying times.

211 exists to connect people to urgent needs and essential services. 211 is multilingual and operates 24/7, so please call or email if you are unable to access needed supplies or services.



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Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant

The Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant program is recommended within the Simcoe County 2018-2023 Positive Aging Strategy.

In 2018, County Council approved \$500,000 in annual funding towards this annual program

This year, the 2021 Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant program was released on June 1 with a deadline of June 30th. The County received 103 applications in 2021 as compared to 54 in 2020, 76 in 2019 and 30 in 2018. The majority of accessibility projects applied for by individuals were to convert bathrooms, walkways and to add stair lifts and grab bars.

Due to the increase in application numbers, the total funding amount awarded exceeded the \$500,000 allotted annually as there were funds left over from previous years. The total funding amount awarded was \$654,058.08 to applicants from across all municipalities of Simcoe County.



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Age-Friendly Municipal Grant Program

During the 2020/2021 budget process, Council approved \$50,000 to be allotted annually for the Simcoe County Age-Friendly Municipal Grant Program. The program is developed to assist local municipalities of the County of Simcoe to support aging populations through conducting age-friendly community needs assessments and undertaking projects that enable seniors to age in place. Applications are accepted for either;

Stream 1: Conducting Community Needs Assessments, or,
Stream 2: Undertaking Projects That Enable Seniors to Age in Place in Their Community. This year we also included COVID related projects.



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Age-Friendly Business Guide and Recognition Program

The Age-Friendly Business Guide and Recognition Program, was created to inform businesses of the rapidly aging population in Simcoe County and to explain how by being age friendly, businesses can broaden their customer base, increase their competitive edge and serve a fast-growing market. It also speaks of ageism, the preconceived ideas that shift quality of service and changes how an employee interacts the moment a mature adult enters a business. The guide includes an accessibility assessment process highlighting the importance of ensuring the physical environment of a business is easy to navigate.

On hold until 2022



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Technology

How did we use
technology differently
throughout the
pandemic?



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Technology

- Virtual Calls to family and friends.
- Virtual Volunteering
Church Service, Bingo, 1:1 Visits.
- Promotion of virtual programming throughout the community. i.e., libraries, seniors groups, VON exercise programs, grocery pickup services.



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Key Learning and Pressures We
Face Supporting Seniors

Key Learning and Pressures We Face Supporting Seniors in Simcoe County during the Pandemic.



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Key Learning and Pressures We Face Supporting Seniors

County of Simcoe Long Term Care homes and Seniors Services were directly impacted in the following ways.

- Residents feeling social isolated.
- Depression and anxiety.
- Social distancing and missing human contact.
- Fear.
- Unable to get grocery when there is no family support.



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Key Learning and Pressures We Face Supporting Seniors

How we offered support to our residents.

- Virtual visits.
- Outdoor family visits.
- 1:1 programming and emotional support.
- Recreational programming was moved into hallways to allow for physical distancing with reduced program sizing.
- County staff social worker.



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Key Learning and Pressures We Face Supporting Seniors

Challenges seniors faced living independently in the County of Simcoe.

- Feeling social isolation.
- Depression.
- Technology challenges.
- Transportation to vaccine appointments.
- Residents living in rural areas/communication.



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Key Learning and Pressures We Face Supporting Seniors

How we offered support to our residents living in the community.

- Promotion of local service groups on the County's website.
- 211 information website.
- Vaccine transportation – seniors housing
- Community Paramedicine support in COVID-19 testing and vaccination



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What opportunities are
we exploring to enhance
Age-Friendly in
Simcoe County?



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Simcoe Manor Redevelopment

- 60+ Adult Lifestyle Community
- Amenities to Support Health & Vitality
- Offering Choice of Housing & Care Options
- 160 LTC beds
- 42 Retirement Living Rental Units
- 40 Life Lease/Market Rentals
- 32 Affordable Housing Units
- 32 Supportive Housing
- 12 Town Homes/12 Garden Homes
- 9 Unit Co-Housing “Golden Girls”
- Community Centre (Bee Hive)
- Adult Day Program (VON)
- Child Day Care
- Medical Office, Physio, Tenant Spaces
- Restaurant
- Fitness Centre / Pool
- Library Branch



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Simcoe Village Site Plan



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Simcoe Manor Redevelopment

- Simcoe Manor Redevelopment (Beeton)
- Acquired 20.6 Acres of Property
- Final Business Plan Approved
- New 34 LTC Beds – Council Approved to Proceed May 2021
- Anticipate Opening in **2024**



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- Age-Friendly business tool kit.
- Reaching seniors in rural areas.
- Return of in person programs, safely.
- Bench program.



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County of Simcoe

Thank you!

Contact information

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Visit our Website at:

www.simcoe.ca/age-friendly

