

**Update: Seniors**

<b>Initiative Title:</b>	Seniors
<b>City Council Lead(s):</b>	Councillor Sloan
<b>Department Lead(s):</b>	Rob Smyth, Community Services

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**Objective:**

This initiative's objective is to continue to target programs and services to specific segments and issues of the seniors' community.

**Key Outcomes, Projects or Activities and their Status as of May 2013:**

The current Seniors initiatives and their status are:

- City of Edmonton's Aging in Place Pilot Projects were completed in June 2012 and supported over 5000 seniors in two demonstration site over 22 months. A final report and video were developed to highlight learning and accomplishments. As a follow-up from the Aging in Place Pilot Projects, two new community bus routes were launched in September 2012 in Southeast and Mill Woods, a Community League Seniors Liaison Job Description was developed and four multigenerational games kits are available for community events.
- Construction for the new Mill Woods Seniors Activity Centre began in spring 2013 and is scheduled to open in fall 2014. The Mill Woods Seniors Activity Centre will be on the second floor of the new Mill Woods Library. The ground breaking event is on May 24, 2013.
- Creative Age Edmonton became incorporated as a new non-profit society in 2013. The Creative Age Festival is a key project of Creative Age Edmonton, Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council will continue to be the fiscal agent of Creative Age Edmonton in 2013, and the City of Edmonton continues to provide support to this new governance structure/ Creative Age Festival. The fourth successful Creative Age Festival was held in 2012 featuring arts cafes and a Theatre Festival (FEST). A fund development coordinator was hired to start exploring ongoing sustainable funding for Creative Age Edmonton. Plans are under way for the 2013 Creative Age Festival which will be held from June 4 – 9, 2013.
- The Vision for an Age Friendly Edmonton was officially launched in September 2012 with a Champions Event, hosted by Mayor Mandel, for 60 key community, government and business leaders. Other accomplishments include engaging over 90 stakeholders to establish the Steering Committee and nine working groups, two Age Friendly Workshops for 100 community groups/ city staff (with keynote speaker, Dorian Block, from New York City), resource/ financial support from the City of Edmonton, and the Vision for an Age Friendly Edmonton Five-Year Workplan.
- In response to the increasing number of seniors in Edmonton, Community Services established a new Seniors Team through reassignment of existing City staff. The

team continued to provide support to the internal Seniors Transportation Committee and worked with Mayor's Seniors Liaison.

- A Three Year Business Case for Door through Door Seniors Transportation Collaborative Shared Services Model was developed in partnership with the City of Edmonton, service providers and other stakeholders. City funding was approved for the first year of a three year implementation plan to help establish a new collaborative model and build the capacity of three door-through-door non-profit seniors' transportation providers. A status report will be presented to Community Services Committee on May 28, 2013. Alberta Health also provided one year funding for this project to support software, evaluation and share learning's to communities across Alberta.
- In September 2012, Edmonton hosted "Grey Matters", the annual provincial seniors' conference, with 400 delegates from across Alberta. The conference was co-hosted by Alberta Health and the Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council, in partnerships with City of Edmonton, Alberta Motor Association, Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton, Alberta Council on Aging, Westend Seniors Activity Centre and other stakeholders.
- Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council completed an interim evaluation and funding was provided to support Core Services, Seniors Assisted Transportation and Outreach Projects.
- Exploratory discussions were held with Pilgrims Hospice for the provision of community based hospice.
- In fall 2012, a report was presented to Community Services Committee to highlight how City departments are supporting the Edmonton Seniors Declaration.
- The City of Edmonton's Services for Seniors Guide was updated in December 2012 and distributed to seniors' organizations, key stakeholders and City facilities.
- Mayor Coffee Parties were hosted in November 2012 at five seniors' centres to provide information on the City budget and obtain feedback from Edmonton's seniors.
- Eight surplus school sites were assigned seniors housing projects. Public meetings were held in those eight areas.
- City staff supported Calder Seniors Centre with their capital renovation plans.
- South West Edmonton Seniors Association (SWESA) became incorporated as a non-profit organization, hosted their first fair in fall 2012, held first AGM in April 2013 and have submitted an application to be considered for Emerging Seniors Centre Funding.
- Transition Plans began for Northgate and Central Lions Seniors Centres to become a community-based seniors centre. City staff will continue to support the boards and senior centre staff in this process.
- Seniors Centre Investment Program was increased by \$200,000 in 2013 to address increased operating and program expenses of seniors centres.

**Future Steps:**

- To continue to support Creative Age Edmonton, 2013 Creative Age Festival and any arising policy development for inclusion in Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council (ESCC) and city policy frameworks.
- To work with ESCC and seniors centres to initiate the Seniors Centre Investment Program Interim Review.
- To support Northgate and Central Lions Seniors Centres with their transitional plans.
- To continue to support the Door through Door Collaborative Project.
- To support Mill Woods Seniors Activity Centre through staffing and resource support as they move towards opening their new centre in September 2014.
- To continue to support SWESA with their needs assessment and demographic analysis.
- To provide support to Calder Seniors Centre with their renovation plans, needs assessment and board develop support.
- To provide support to the Vision for an Age Friendly Edmonton five year plans. To support three Age Friendly Business/ Community Pilot Projects.
- To support effectiveness and coordination of seniors' services by supporting core services, outreach services, central seniors' telephone line, and snow/ home support projects.
- To compile and disseminate current seniors trend analysis and demographic information.
- To develop a City of Edmonton Seniors Strategy to highlight how the City of Edmonton will supports seniors, the Edmonton Seniors Declaration and the Vision for an Age Friendly Edmonton. An internal Seniors Committee/ Leadership Team will also be established to increase coordination and communication among City staff.
- To provide an update on Edmonton's progress to World Health Organization and present at the International Age Friendly Cities Conference in Quebec City, in fall 2013.
- To continue to liaise and support Pilgrims Hospice with their partnership model and future capital plans.