

## **Seniors Task Force Meeting Notes December 4, 2019**

List of attendees attached

1. Meeting opened with Lekwungen Land Acknowledgement – provided by Lisa Mercure
2. Discussion regarding the kinds of things to be captured in the meeting notes. It was decided the discussion topic and any action items would suffice.
3. Nov 20 meeting notes - There were a couple questions raised / clarification requested on some of the stats provided by Denise (UVic) regarding the income and dispersion of same for seniors.  
**Action:** Denise will follow up with more details and references of data.
4. Discussion regarding representation of groups on task force. It was decided that at this point, there would be no more members added to the task force but that task force members could reach out to other groups (i.e. interfaith group) and ask for comments on the draft action plan.
5. Kimberley presented the World Health Organization Framework of topic areas as one possible way to organize the action items. The task force adopted the framework as our categories. One question arose on how to show the connections of the topic areas to each other. There are infographics on the WHO Age-Friendly website that we could use to demonstrate this.
6. Round table discussion on the topic areas. Recommendations will be added to the Draft Action Plan.

### ***Outdoor Spaces and Buildings***

- a. Lighting
- b. Wheelchair ramps – accessing commercial buildings - advocacy
- c. Revisit building codes to accessibility
- d. Bicycle rules enforcement / register and plate every bike /education program
- e. Visual aids built into sidewalks /textured surfaces assist visually challenged residents

### ***Transportation***

- a. Bus shelters and seats at bus stops – advocacy role
- b. Longer crossing times for crosswalks
- c. Medians in middle to provide safe space to wait
- d. Transit passes – review eligibility access for low income seniors  
- add a secondary level of income for an annual bus pass program (provincial program)
- e. Responsible bus ridership among international students

### ***Housing***

- a. Wider range of options of housing opportunities – looking at other countries and how they manage public and private housing
- b. Review the Housing Policy to see if there is anything that can be added specific to seniors housing
- c. Program to refit houses with ramps and accessible items like toilets, shower holds etc.

### ***Respect & Social Inclusion***

- a. Review city standards for font size for publications
- b. Emergency preparedness program – check to see if in tune with needs of seniors
- c. Cultural competency practices of the local indigenous population will increase participation of this demographic

### ***Social Participation***

- a. Help support the seniors centres / keep them running - is core funding sufficient?
- b. Advocacy function to help with seniors who are tenants
- c. Retrofit washrooms at seniors centres to accommodate mobility scooters
- d. Canada Day celebration – music could be geared to wider diversity /encourage more age-friendly music performances at public events.

We will continue with this discussion for the rest of the topic areas at our next meeting. In the meantime, task force members are encouraged to share the draft and email additional comments to Kimberley who can add recommendations to the draft action plan. (*Updated Action Plan attached*)

## Engagement Update

- Last week of January for events
- First town hall 2020 will be devoted to this work – date tbd after we confirm dates in seniors centres.
  - **Action:** Kimberley to discuss and confirm dates with seniors centres and Native Friendship Centre before next meeting
- Accept written feedback through email/website
- Discussion on format – one possibility is to have the events open house style using display boards and sticky notes; create one set of boards per topic area outlining the topic area on one, and the draft action items on a second one. We will need volunteers from the task force to staff each board and talk to attendees and add comments on sticky notes to the boards. Another option would be more of a workshop style where participants would be led through one topic area at a table and add comments; could participate in up to 3 tables in the allotted time. Kimberley pointed out that if the City is successful in obtaining the Age-Friendly Plan grant, that a big portion of that work would be engagement. We want to be careful to get the right balance and not create a situation of engagement fatigue
  - **Action:** Kimberley will discuss with Head of Engagement and come back to the next meeting with guidance from that discussion.

## Next meetings

- Tuesday Jan 7, 12:30 lunch, 1-3:30 meeting
- Monday Jan 13 10am breakfast, 10:30-1pm meeting

Discussion regarding remote participation if members are unable to attend in person. The City can accommodate a conference call and Kimberley will check on technical requirements to accommodate a Zoom or Skype call.

**Seniors Task Force**  
**December 4 Check In Sheet**

Nominee	Please ✓ beside your name
Suzanne Mills	✓
Darlene Strandlund	✓
Natasha Van Bentum	✓
Henry Au	✓
Margaret Cox	Regrets
Kate Day	Regrets
Carol Turnbull	✓
Kim Dixon	✓
Anne Logie	✓
Kaye Kennish	Regrets
Mavis DeGirolamo	✓
Don Monsour	✓
Lynn Mullally	✓
Tracy Ryan	✓
Gail Snider	Regrets
Ron George	✓
Judy Elk	✓
Lisa Mercure	✓
Bat-Ami Hensen	✓
Denise Cloutier	✓
Elizabeth Borycki	Regrets
Wendy Young	Regrets
Cindy Trytten	Regrets

Councillor Ben Isitt                    ✓  
 Councillor Geoff Young                ✓  
 Kimberley Stratford                    ✓

Captioning provided by Island Deaf and Hard of Hearing