

AGE-FRIENDLY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Date & Time: Monday April 13th, 2026 | 10:00 am

Location: Council Chambers | 341- 10th Street | For virtual attendance please notify lregier@hanover.ca within 24 hours of meeting.

1. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

2. DELEGATION

3. ADOPTION OF March 16th, 2026 MINUTES

4. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

4.1. Article in Post | Active Aging Expo Recap

4.2. Ontario Age-Friendly Communities | Aging Resources

4.3. Grey County Age-Friendly

4.3.1. Grey County Newsletter | Subscribe at <https://www.grey.ca/newsletter>

4.3.2. Grey County- Age-Friendly Business

4.3.3. Grey County Progress Snapshot 2026 |

<https://www.grey.ca/government/strategic-planning-and-studies/age-friendly-communities>

4.4. Grey-Bruce Geriatric Education Cooperative | May 20th, 2026

4.5. Healthy Communities Partnership Conference | April 27th & 28th

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

5.1. Appointment- Chair

6. ACTIVE AGING EXPO- SCG

6.1. Wrap Up

7. HANOVER AGE-FRIENDLY CONNECTIONS

7.1. Discussion | May Content

8. SPRING CLASSIC & SENIOR GAMES

8.1. Hanover Senior's Spring Classic

8.2. OSGA 55+ District Games

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1. Committee member roundtable – ‘eyes and ears’ for age-friendly notes in our community

10. NEXT MEETING – June 15th, 2026

11. ADJOURNMENT

AGE-FRIENDLY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date & Time: March 16, 2026 | 10:00 am

Location: Council Chambers and Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT Loretta Dunn | Cassondra Dillman | Kaela Sales | Karen Otterbein | Dave Hocking (Council Rep) | Pat Butler | Susanne Kunkel

OTHERS PRESENT Brandon Dobson | Lyndsay Regier

REGRETS Harold Fleet | Sandra Hong | Laura-Lee Ribey

1. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST – Nil.

2. DELEGATION – Nil.

3. ADOPTION OF THE January 19, 2026 MINUTES

Moved by K. Otterbein | Seconded by C. Dillman

THAT the minutes of January 19, 2026 meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED.

4. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Included in the Age-Friendly package emailed on March 10, 2026 and copies were available to committee members.

4.1. Memory and Aging | Alzheimer Society Grey-Bruce

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

5.1. Committee member welcome – Susanne Kunkel. Introductions were made by the committee members to welcome Susanne Kunkel.

5.2. Appointment of Chair – Deferred.

6. Active Aging Expo – Seniors Community Grant

6.1. Roles – Confirmed with the committee who is available to volunteer for the Active Aging Expo on March 24th. **ACTION:** B. Dobson will contact those available to volunteer with their roles and any additional information about the event.

7. Other Business

7.1. Committee member shared the 2026 Healthy Communities Conference. The Healthy Communities Partnership conference will bring together community leaders, service providers, planners and partners to explore how we can build a

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culture of wellness in our region. The conference will provide opportunities for strategic dialogue, knowledge sharing, and collaboration. This year's conference theme is 'Building a Culture of Wellness,' featuring keynote presentations, panel discussions, breakout sessions and ample networking opportunities. Participants will explore prevention-focused, equity informed and community-driven approaches to health and well-being. To register for this conference, click here: [Healthy Communities Partnership Conference 2026](#).

7.2. Committee member inquired if the Active Aging Expo guest speakers would be recorded and posted online. This is to be determined based on the equipment provided at the Carriage House Event Centre.

8. **NEXT MEETING** – Monday April 13, 2026 | 10:00am

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by W. Dickert | Seconded by L. Dunn
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 10:30am.



Ontario Age-Friendly Communities Outreach Program

This resource brings together key organizations across Ontario and Canada that are dedicated to advancing healthy, inclusive aging. By connecting age-friendly community initiatives to these trusted sources, it supports access to current research, practical tools, and emerging strategies. Together, these networks help communities stay informed, collaborate, and respond effectively to the evolving needs of older adults.

Ontario Research & Academic Centres

Leading Ontario-based institutes advancing research on aging, health, and community well-being. These centres generate evidence and innovations that inform age-friendly policy and practice.

[Aging, Community and Health Research Unit](#)

[Bruyère Health Research Institute](#)

[Canadian Centre for Activity and Aging](#)

[Centre for Aging and Brain Health Innovation](#)

[Centre for Education and Research on Aging & Health](#)

[Centre for Elder Research](#)

[Centre for Studies in Aging and Health](#)

[GERAS Centre for Aging Research at McMaster](#)

[Gilbrea Centre for Studies in Aging](#)

[Institute for Life Course and Aging](#)

[Laurentian Research Institute for Aging](#)

[LIFE Research Institute](#)

[McMaster Institute for Research on Aging \(MIRA\)](#)

[National Institute on Aging](#)

[Network for Aging Research](#)

[Schlegel-UW Research Institute for Aging \(RIA\)](#)

[Trent Centre for Aging and Society](#)

[York University Centre for Aging Research and Education \(YU-CARE\)](#)

Research Centers Across Canada

A network of research organizations across the country contributing to a broader understanding of aging, supporting knowledge exchange, and strengthening pan-Canadian collaboration.

[Aging Research Centre – Newfoundland and Labrador \(ARC-NL\)](#)

[Centre on Aging](#)

[Centre on Aging and Health](#)

[Brenda Stafford Centre on Aging, O'Brien Institute for Public Health](#)

[Donald Berman Maimonides Centre for Research in Aging](#)

[Edwin S.H. Leong Healthy Aging Program](#)

[The Gerontology Research Centre](#)

[Global Aging and Community Initiative](#)



Research Centers Across Canada (continued)

[Institute on Aging & Lifelong Health](#)

[Maritime Data Centre for Aging Research & Policy Analysis](#)

[McGill Centre for Studies in Aging](#)

[Newfoundland & Labrador Centre for Applied Health Research – Research Exchange Group on Aging](#)

[Nova Scotia Centre on Aging](#)

[Quebec Network for Research on Aging](#)

[SE Research Centre](#)

National & Provincial Organizations and Networks

National-level bodies that coordinate research, set priorities, and connect stakeholders across sectors to advance aging-related knowledge and innovation.

[Active Aging Canada](#)

[Age-Well](#)

[AdvantAge Ontario](#)

[The Advocacy Centre for the Elderly \(ACE\)](#)

[Alzheimer Society of Ontario](#)

[Brain X change](#)

[CARP](#)

[CanAge](#)

[Canadian Centre for Activity and Aging](#)

[Canadian Centre for Caregiving Excellence](#)

[Canadian Coalition Against Ageism](#)

[Canadian Coalition for Seniors' Mental Health \(CCSMH\)](#)

[Canadian Frailty Network](#)

[Connected Canadians](#)

[DeafBlind Ontario](#)

[Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario \(EAPON\)](#)

[Healthy Aging CORE](#)

[HelpAge Canada](#)

[International Longevity Centre Canada](#)

[Mens Sheds](#)

[National Seniors Council \(NSC\)](#)

[Older Adult Centres' Association of Ontario \(OACAO\)](#)

[Ontario Collaborative for Aging Well](#)

[Ontario Society of Senior Citizens Organizations](#)

[Provincial Geriatrics Leadership Ontario \(PGLO\)](#)

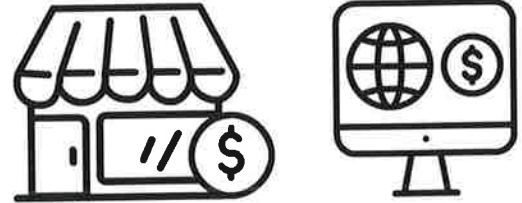
Created: March 2026

The Ontario Age-Friendly Communities Outreach Program is managed by the Centre for Studies in Aging and Health. Please share updated resources or links as they become available.

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Age-Friendly Business



What is an age-friendly business?

An age-friendly business considers people of all ages and abilities - including older adults, people with dementia, disabilities and/or injuries, and families with children. It creates a welcoming, comfortable space where everyone can shop, visit, and enjoy services.

Why become an age-friendly business?

Identifying, promoting, and improving business's age-friendly features can:

- Attract and retain customers and dedicated staff
- Provide a competitive edge and a unique marketing tool
- Grow and strengthen community connections and your reputation



What does an age-friendly business look like?

A business can consider the following no-cost or low-cost strategies:

Accessibility and Safety

- Keep entrances, exits, and aisles clear and uncluttered (e.g. free of dirt, snow, leaves, and other obstacles)
- Make aisles wide enough for walkers, wheelchairs, and/or strollers
- Secure mats to the floor

Respect

- Be welcoming and helpful to all customers and the people they care about
- Preserve everyone's dignity (e.g. falls, overwhelming behaviour, or outbursts)
- Speak clearly using a pace and tone that meets customer's needs (e.g. avoid speaking too loudly, using terms of affection like 'dear,' or showing impatience)

Comfort

- Provide sturdy seating for people waiting that include various heights, seating with and without armrests, and highchairs for young children
- Make a customer washroom available and barrier free (e.g. free of clutter, a stepstool for hand washing, a place to set personal belongings, a diaper change area)
- Offer extra customer service (e.g. a drink of water, an area to leave a stroller or walker, carry-out or home delivery service, a baby feeding area)

Visibility and Clarity

- Provide signs for locations and services (e.g. washrooms, diaper change area, pick up area)
- Make clear signs with large letters and good contrast (e.g. such as black letters on white background)
- Minimize noise and distraction (e.g. background music, scents, lights)

Start today - small changes make a big difference!

Special thanks to the Ontario Age-Friendly Communities Outreach Program and their Age-Friendly Business Infographic.

Visit our official webpage: grey.ca/agefriendlycommunities

Scan the **QR code** using the camera app on a cell phone or mobile device to access the webpage, instantly.



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Age-Friendly Grey County

Progress Snapshot 2026

A Community for Every Age and Stage of Life

Grey County's Age-Friendly Community Action Plan is a shared vision for communities where people of all ages can live, work, and thrive with dignity, independence, and belonging. Launched in 2022, the plan outlines actions across eight community dimensions, from housing and transportation to social inclusion and health services. This snapshot highlights progress made so far, by Grey County, member municipalities, and over 20 community partners.

For the full report, visit grey.ca/agefriendlycommunities

AT A GLANCE

- **700+ residents** who shaped the plan
- **119 action items** across 8 dimensions
- **Half completed, underway, or embedded** in ongoing County operations
- **20+ community partners**
- **Provincially recognized** as an Age-Friendly Community in 2026





Progress Across the Community

Action items from all eight dimensions have been initiated.

Outdoor Spaces & Buildings

- The CP Rail Trail was resurfaced to increase accessibility.
- **8 of 9 municipalities** have adopted a Community Improvement Plan.
- **232 AEDs** deployed across community locations.

Transportation

- **\$9.5M secured** to build a unified regional transit network across four counties.
- **320 new cycling signs** installed and 140 km of paved shoulders added for cyclists.

Housing

- **\$5.8M invested** through the County Housing Fund since 2021.
- Emergency housing in Owen Sound has sheltered 480 individuals, including 50+ children.

Social Participation

- An Age-Friendly logo created for Grey County and all 9 member municipalities.
- Grey County launched a monthly public newsletter in October 2025 with over **10,000 subscribers**

Respect & Social Inclusion

- 340+ individuals from 50+ organizations received EDI training through the Grey Bruce Local Immigration Partnership.
- Age-Friendly fairs held in Grey Highlands and The Blue Mountains.

Communication & Information

- The Aging Well in Grey Bruce Calendar launched August 2025 with **~ 4,000 copies** distributed.
- A Virtual Courtroom was created to improve access for all ages.

Civic Participation & Employment

- Grey County received the AdvantAge Ontario Innovation and Excellence Workplace Quality Award.
- Paid PSW training and placements continue in local LTC homes.

Community Support & Health Services

- **370+ clinical student** placements supported at Grey County LTC Homes since 2023.
- The Community Paramedicine Home Visitation Program continues to expand.



Age-Friendly Across Grey County

Town of Hanover \$35,000+ in provincial grants for a Seniors Active Living Centre and Active Aging Expo. Age-Friendly Business Initiative recognized 5 local businesses. A provincial Age-Friendly leader since 2017.

Municipality of Grey Highlands Hosted the inaugural Age-Friendly Seniors Health Fair in June 2025.

Town of The Blue Mountains Hosted an Age-Friendly Fair in September 2025, connecting residents with local services.

City of Owen Sound Home to Grey County's emergency housing, sheltering 480+ individuals since 2024, and the new Virtual Courtroom improving access to justice.

Grey Bruce Public Health Unit Delivered Falls Prevention programming and developed the Healthy Development checklist.

Grey Bruce Ontario Health Team co-created the Aging Well in Grey Bruce Calendar with local older adults and service providers.

Grey Bruce Local Immigration Partnership Trained 340+ individuals from 50+ organizations in equity, diversity, and inclusion in 2024.

Grey Bruce Elder Abuse Prevention Network Launched an elder abuse response system integrated with 211 across Grey and Bruce Counties.

YMCA of Owen Sound Grey-Bruce Received a \$25,000 provincial grant to launch the Thrive Together Social and Fitness program in 2025.

Georgian College Supports 250+ clinical student placements annually at Grey County LTC Homes.

Building on Our Momentum

Grey County has made real progress, and there is more work ahead. The review identified opportunities to deepen community partnerships, improve how we track outcomes, and advance initiatives that need additional resources or collaboration.

As Grey County grows and ages, the case for Age-Friendly planning only strengthens. By 2035, more than 1 in 3 residents will be over 65. The work we are doing today, in housing, transportation, services, and public spaces, is building the community that the future will need.

- 1 in 4 Grey County residents are currently over 65 - well above the national average
- 1 in 3 will be 65 or older by 2035
- 115,215 residents as of 2025 - up 23% since 2016

Grey County's Age-Friendly Action Plan is brought to life through collaboration across County departments, member municipalities, community organizations, and residents. Thank you to all the partners helping build a Grey County that works for every age.

grey.ca/agefriendlycommunities



The Grey-Bruce
Geriatric Education Cooperative
Proudly Presents:

**Dignity Matters: Practical Approaches to
Compassionate Palliative Care for The Older Adult
with Keynote Speaker: Dr. Harvey Chochinov**

**When: Wednesday May 20, 2026
8:30am - 4pm**

**Where: Best Western Inn on the Bay
1800 2nd Ave East
Owen Sound, N4K 5R1**



Workshop Cost: \$75 - includes lunch

Audience: All Healthcare Providers

EVENT REGISTRATION CLOSES:

May 8, 2026

**To register for this event, please use the GEC
Event Registration Link or the QR code below.**

*No refunds for registration. Must pre-register, no registrations accepted at the door.

[Click Registration Link Here!](#)



[Need help Registering? Please contact: sdavidson@alzheimergreybruce.com](mailto:sdavidson@alzheimergreybruce.com)

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CONFERENCE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

April 27th Evening

April 28th Full Day

All are welcome!

Subsidies available



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
GREY BRUCE



We're here for good.