



# **WEBINAR: Age-Friendly Niagara Council Update & Launch of Older Adult Infolink**

Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021



# Welcome & Agenda



- **New Strategic Direction of Age-Friendly Niagara** – Dominic Ventresca, Chair of the Age-Friendly Niagara Council
  - Information about older adults in Niagara
  - About Age-Friendly Niagara and new structures
  - Age-Friendly Actions and Successes
- **Age-Friendly Niagara Actions** – Mary Wiley, Niagara Connects
  - Niagara Aging Strategy and Action Plan
- **Introduction and Overview of Older Adult Infolink** – Rachel Gillmore, Project Liaison
- **Questions & Answers** - All
- **Closing**



# Older Adults in Niagara

- Of the almost 450,000 people living in Niagara region, about 36% are older adults (55+ years of age), compared to 30% for all of Canada. (Stats Can, 2016)



A Community for All Ages

# Age-Friendly Niagara

**Age-Friendly Vision:** An Age-friendly Niagara – A community for all ages.

Older adults are empowered and making a difference in Niagara's progress as a World Health Organization (WHO) Age-Friendly Community.



A Community for All Ages

# Age-Friendly in Niagara

## World Health Organization's (WHO) Eight Domains of Age-Friendly Communities

The Age-Friendly Niagara Council AFNC is committed to increasing awareness of the eight domains through partnerships and shared learning, knowledge and planning

- Outdoor Spaces and Buildings
- Transportation
- Housing
- Social Participation
- Respect and Social Inclusion
- Civic Participation and Employment
- Communication and Information
- Community Health and Support Services



A Community for All Ages

# Age-Friendly in Niagara

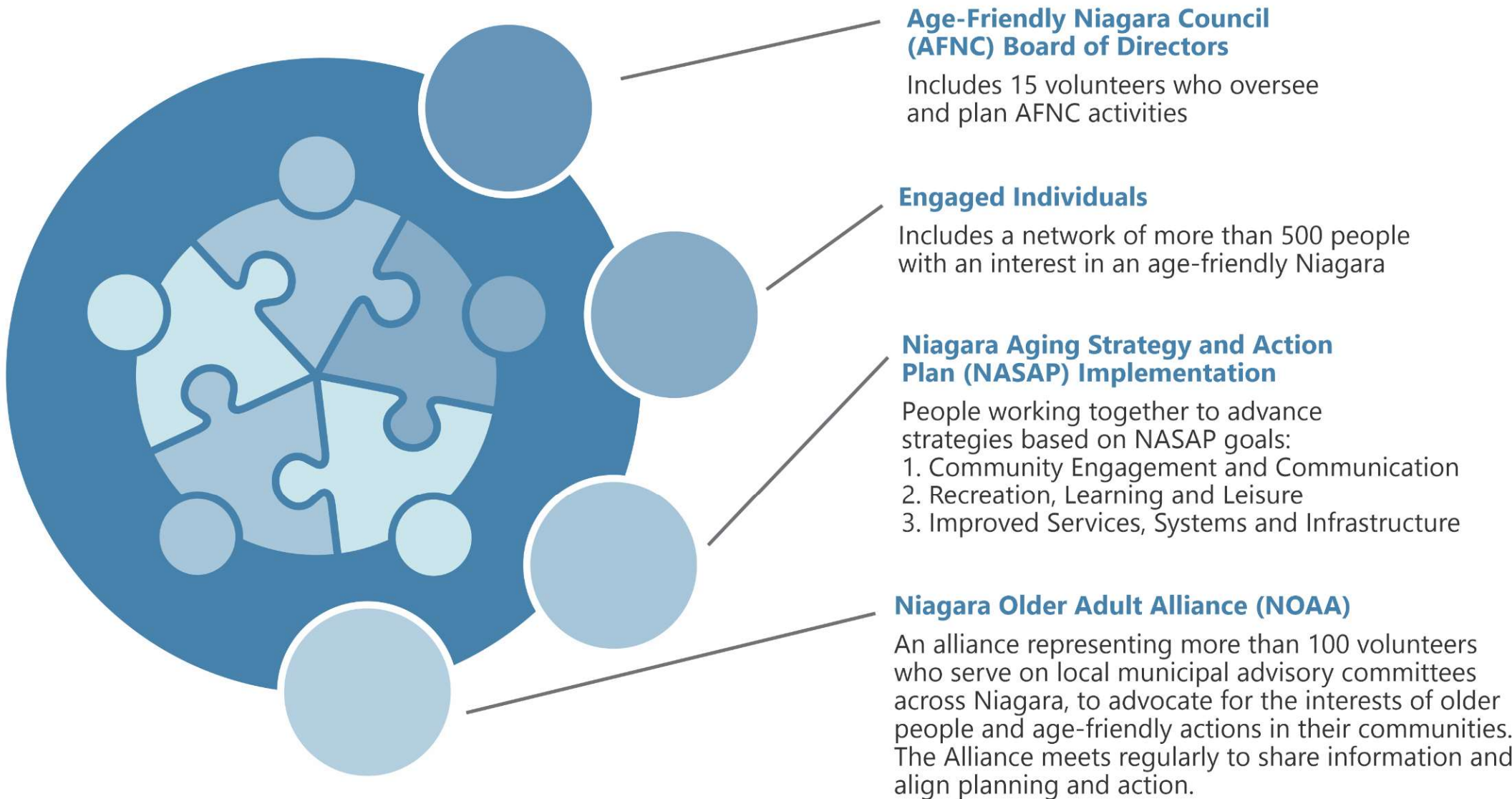
## About Us

- Age-Friendly Niagara Network, including more than 500 people, led by a Leadership Council has been growing for ~12 years
- In partnership with Niagara Connects/INCommunities, the Network obtained 2021 Ontario Seniors Community Grant Program funding to develop a roadmap to become a council on aging
- As of September 2021, the Network transitioned to becoming a council on aging named Age-Friendly Niagara Council (AFNC)
- AFNC recently organized a virtual exhibit at the International Federation on Ageing (IFA) global conference in Niagara Falls highlighting the work of the AFNC and other age-friendly focused groups in Niagara



A Community for All Ages

# Age-Friendly Niagara - Levels of Action





## Age-Friendly Niagara Actions

- Significant work was done 2015-2019 to launch and begin enacting the Niagara Aging Strategy and Action Plan, with Niagara Connects acting as Backbone Support in a collective impact approach
- Some successes of actions coming out of NASAP include:
  - Multiple community forums (e.g., affordable housing, age-friendly developments featuring Hazel McCallion)
  - Focus groups on social, recreational and cultural needs
  - Recommendations to local municipal councils (e.g., font size on road signs, accessible walkways with benches and washrooms)
  - Age-Friendly Business Guides
  - Electoral Campaign Brief for candidates
    - Hosting COVID-19 Online Roundtable Meetings



A Community for All Ages



# Poll #1

In what role are you participating in this webinar today?

- ☐ Older Adult
- ☐ Family/Caregiver of an older adult
- ☐ Service Provider
- ☐ Researcher
- ☐ Municipal staff
- ☐ Elected official
- ☐ Multiple roles
- ☐ Other



A Community for All Ages

# Age-Friendly Niagara Actions

- In partnership with Niagara Connects, engaged the Niagara-wide community in implementing the [Niagara Aging Strategy & Action Plan \(2015\)](#) as a “living document” with 5 overarching goals and 100 actions
  - Assessed priorities involving over 500 people in Niagara
- 5 Community Goals
  1. Elevate the profile, level of **leadership and engagement** of seniors in the community
  2. Facilitate an **active and positive lifestyle** for all seniors
  3. Optimize the **health and wellness** of seniors
  4. Improve **access and utilization of services** and supports
  5. Improve and maintain a **supportive infrastructure**



A Community for All Ages

# Age-Friendly Niagara Actions – Next Steps (2019)

- Advance strategies based on NASAP goals:
  1. Community Engagement and Communication
  2. Recreation, Learning and Leisure
  3. Improved Services, Systems and Infrastructure
- Includes *“development of a community resource compiling services, organizations, and programs geared toward older adults, their family and caregivers, and local service providers”*
- In Dec. 2020, the Age-Friendly Niagara Network, in partnership with INCommunities/211 and Niagara Connects, was awarded a grant from the Niagara Community Foundation, to develop this new resource



A Community for All Ages



Content on this site is organized using the **Living in Niagara** categories facilitated by Niagara Connects. See below for a list of these main categories and a brief description of what they include.

✚ Arts, Culture and Heritage

✚ Community Belonging

✚ Community Safety

✚ Economic Prosperity

✚ Environment

✚ Health & Wellness

✚ Housing & Shelter

✚ Learning & Education

✚ Recreation and Sports

✚ Transportation & Mobility

✚ Work and Employment

Data powered by



## Welcome to the Older Adult Infolink!

This site is presented through collaboration between **INCommunities/211** and the **Age Friendly Niagara Council**. INCommunities/211 has developed this site to allow for easier, enhanced and more centralized access to information about community services for older adults in Niagara. Older Adult Infolink is made possible through generous funding from the Niagara Community Foundation. Site content is guided by important action priorities of the Niagara Aging Strategy and Action Plan (NASAP) – [https://www.agefriendlyniagara.com/wp-content/uploads/2018-06-22\\_AFNN\\_Placemat\\_2018.pdf](https://www.agefriendlyniagara.com/wp-content/uploads/2018-06-22_AFNN_Placemat_2018.pdf). It is designed for older adults, their care givers and family, as well as service providers supporting older adults.

Programs and services listed are shared from the 211 data collection and are not meant to be an exhaustive list of resources available to older adults. The site is based on information that is regularly reviewed and updated through 211. Ongoing work is done to ensure that the information is kept updated and reflective of what is currently available in the community. If you are aware of a program or service that you feel is missing, please consult the 211 inclusion/exclusion policy ([link to our inclusion policy](#)) and, if you feel it meets inclusion, please provide information [here](#).

Not finding what you're looking for? Reach out to us by dialing 2-1-1 on your phone, or emailing [gethelp@211ontario.ca](mailto:gethelp@211ontario.ca)

NOT FINDING WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR? CALL 211!



### Local Community Leisure Guides in Niagara

- Fort Erie
- Grimsby
- Lincoln
- Niagara Falls
- Niagara on the Lake
- Pelham
- Port Colborne
- St. Catharines
- Thorold
- Welland
- Wainfleet
- West Lincoln

# Older Adult Infolink

- Content on this site is organized using the sectors from Niagara Connects' [Living in Niagara](#) quality of life report. These sectors are used to identify the following categories on the site:

- Arts, Culture and Heritage
- Community Belonging
- Community Safety
- Economic Prosperity
- Environment
- Health & Wellness
- Housing & Shelter
- Learning & Education
- Recreation and Sports
- Transportation & Mobility
- Work & Employment



A Community for All Ages



Central South Region<sup>®</sup>  
Ontario



# Older Adult Infolink

## Categories and Subcategories

### Arts, Culture and Heritage

#### Arts, Culture and Heritage (Display All)

This category includes programs, services and sites related to creative expression and a diverse range of arts and cultural expression, as well as opportunities to engage with local history/Niagara's heritage. This includes but is not limited to: local museums, artist centers, historical sites and organizations, theatre, and performing arts.

- Museums, Heritage, Galleries and Historical Societies
- Public Libraries
- Theatre and Music

### Community Belonging

### Health & Wellness

#### Health & Wellness (Display All)

This category provides health and human services within Niagara, including those related to physical and mental wellness. This includes but is not limited to: hospitals, walk in clinics, home health care services, falls prevention, physiotherapy/rehabilitation, condition specific care (e.g. foot care, dementia services, cancer services), support for addictions and substance use, general wellness support, bereavement, and abuse/violence related services.

- Abuse/Violence Related Support
- Addictions Support
- Bereavement Support
- Condition Specific Care and Health/Disability Support Groups
- Dementia/Alzheimer Supports and Services
- Falls Prevention Programs/Education
- Hospitals and Diagnostic Imaging/Radiology
- Home Health Care, Palliative Care, Respite Care and Homemaker Assistance

# Older Adult Infolink

## Categories and Subcategories



[Click here to return.](#)

### Arts, Culture and Heritage (Display All)

- Museums, Heritage, Galleries and Historical Societies
- Public Libraries
- Theatre and Music

### Community Belonging (Display All)

- Advocacy and Advisory Groups
- Indigenous Services
- Members of Parliament
- Newcomer Settlement Services
- Outreach Services
- Public Libraries
- Social Clubs and Friendly Outreach Services
- Senior Centres
- Volunteering
- Warmlines and Crisis Lines

## Health & Wellness

### Hospitals and Diagnostic Imaging/Radiology

#### Barclay Diagnostic Imaging - Ontario Breast Screening

589 Lake St  
Suite 104 St Catharines, ON  
L2N 7L6

An Ontario Breast Screening Program site for early detection of breast cancer in

Screening includes two-view mammography. Screening results are sent to both Women who receive normal results are automatically recalled for their next screening. Women who receive abnormal results are referred to their doctor for further investigation and additional tests.

Public speaking, brochures, video and displays available.

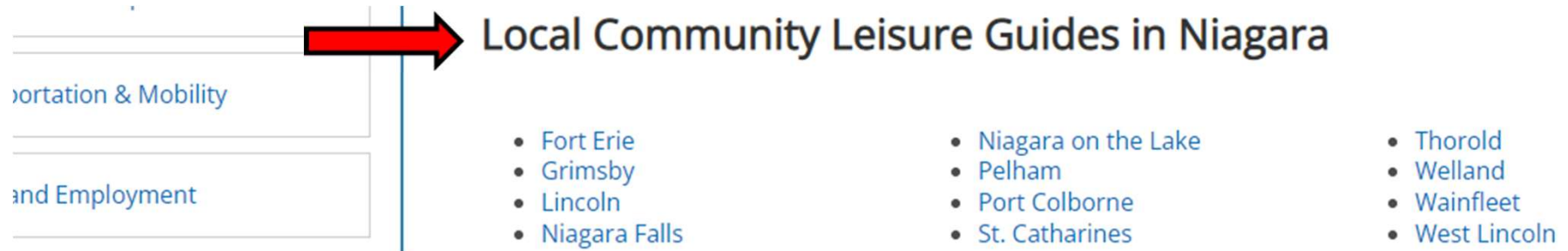
[www.barclayimaging.com](http://www.barclayimaging.com)



# Older Adult Infolink

## Local Community Leisure Guides in Niagara – External Links

Guides are found at the bottom of the home page



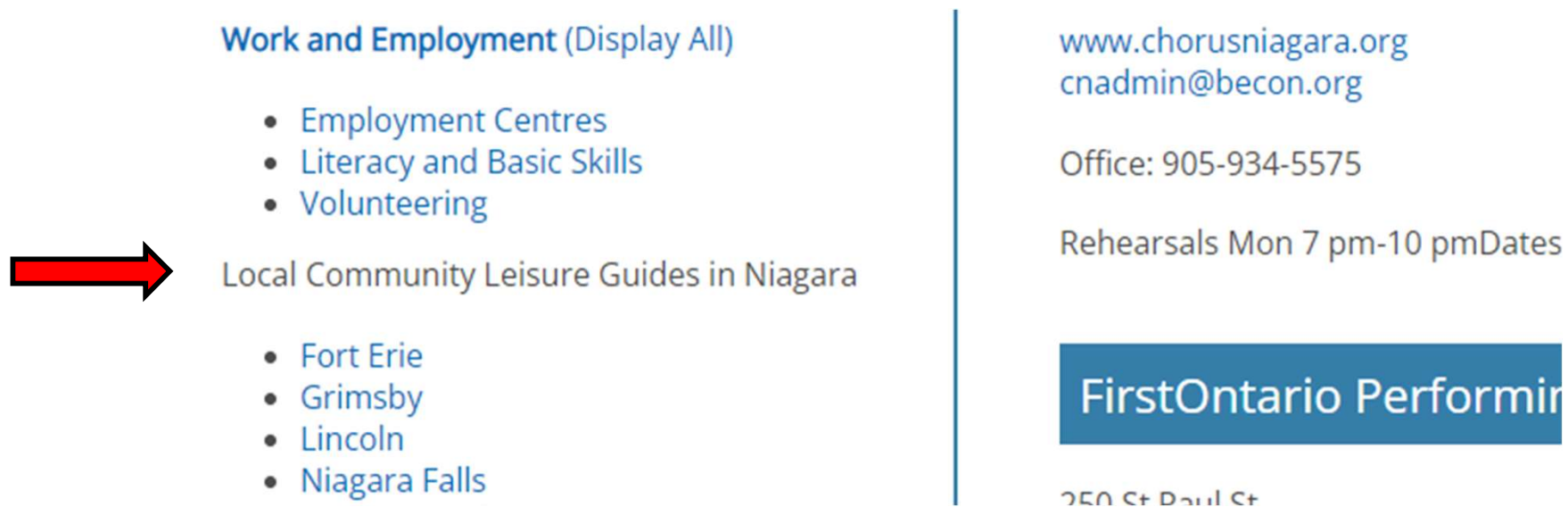
Transportation & Mobility

Work and Employment

**Local Community Leisure Guides in Niagara**

- Fort Erie
- Grimsby
- Lincoln
- Niagara Falls
- Niagara on the Lake
- Pelham
- Port Colborne
- St. Catharines
- Thorold
- Welland
- Wainfleet
- West Lincoln

Guides are also found at the bottom of the Category & Subcategory List on the left side of the screen



**Work and Employment (Display All)**

- Employment Centres
- Literacy and Basic Skills
- Volunteering

**Local Community Leisure Guides in Niagara**

- Fort Erie
- Grimsby
- Lincoln
- Niagara Falls

[www.chorusniagara.org](http://www.chorusniagara.org)  
[cnadmin@becon.org](mailto:cnadmin@becon.org)

Office: 905-934-5575

Rehearsals Mon 7 pm-10 pm Dates

**FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre**

250 St Paul St

# Poll #2

Do you think having centralized access to community information is beneficial for older adults in Niagara?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure



A Community for All Ages

# Age-Friendly Niagara Council

## Next Steps

- Currently completing a brief “how to” video to help users of the Older Adult Infolink
- Age-Friendly Niagara Council (AFNC) to be recognized and funded by local government, lead non-profit organizations and businesses
- Nurture the Niagara Older Adult Alliance (NOAA) of municipal Seniors/Age-Friendly Advisory Committees who are sharing lessons learned and best practices



A Community for All Ages



***Questions??***



A Community for All Ages

***Thank you for joining us!***

Have a question? Feel free to reach out – [info@agefriendlyniagara.com](mailto:info@agefriendlyniagara.com)



A Community for All Ages