Age-Friendly Niagara Network (AFNN) 2018 Impact

Vision: A caring community that optimizes opportunities for overall well being to enhance quality of life as people age.



A Community for All Ages

www.agefriendlyniagara.com



Implementing the Niagara Aging Strategy and Action Plan (NASAP)

Goal #1

Elevate the

profile, level

of leadership

engagement

people in the

community

of older

and

Goal #2

Facilitate an

active and

lifestyle for

positive

all older

people

Goal #3

Optimize the

health and

wellness of

older people

Goal #4

Goal #5

Improve access and utilization of services and i

supports

Improve and maintain a supportive infrastructure

Action Group 1

Community
Engagement
and
Communications

Action Group 2

Recreation, Learning and Leisure

Action Group 3

Improved
Services,
Systems and
Infrastructure

Throughout 2018, 3 Action Groups gathered evidence to support advocacy on optimizing access to:

- a range of suitable housing options for older people of all income levels:
- health and human services for vulnerable people (transportation and technology);
- opportunities to increase physical literacy; and
- relevant information to support wellness and community belonging.

2018 MILESTONES

May AFNN Forum - Fifty-nine (59) people from across

Niagara gathered in Welland to review and build on promising
practices for sustaining community-driven Age-Friendly planning
action across Niagara. A panel discussion examined Niagara-focused
wellness research with older adults.

Participants collectively identified priorities for AFNN sustainability:

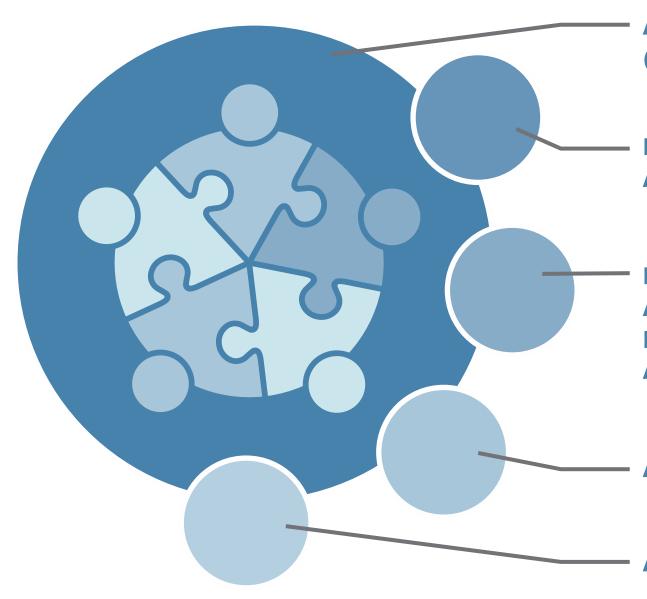
- Emphasize inter-generational scope
- Engage; collaborate; communicate; align strategically
- Build business case for investment in AFNN, to sustain momentum
- Continue to strengthen leadership, governance, infrastructure at both regional and local levels
- June Niagara-wide Forum connected local municipal Seniors and Age-Friendly Advisory groups A total of 41 leaders from 9 local municipalities unanimously agreed to work together to increase impact. They agreed to meet, at least annually; and identified three (3) opportunities to work together:
 - (1) Create a mechanism for information-sharing;
 - (2) Advocate on issues of common concern; and
 - (3) Collaborate to share and strengthen access to resources.

September outreach to municipal election candidates -

AFNN distributed a 2-page Brief to all candidates in the October 2018 municipal election. It outlines the contributions older adults make to our community, the ways in which Niagara has already made progress toward becoming age-friendly, and what candidates can do to help champion this work.

3rd Age volunteer leadership training - First steps were taken to create a tool for enriching volunteer experience for older people in Niagara who want to contribute to the community in meaningful ways. Partners include Leadership Niagara, INCommunities and Niagara Health.

Working Together to Build a Caring Community as People Age



Age-Friendly Niagara Network (AFNN)

→ The **Age-Friendly Niagara Network (AFNN)** includes over 380 people who have an interest in an age-friendly Niagara.

Local Municipal Seniors and → **Age-Friendly Advisory Committees**

Seniors Advisory and Age-Friendly Committees work at
 the local municipal level to advocate for the interests of older people and age-friendly principles in their communities.

Niagara Aging Strategy and Action Plan (NASAP)
Implementation
Action Groups

→ Three Action Groups consist of people working together to advance strategies based on the 5 goals of the Niagara Aging Strategy and Action Plan (NASAP).

AFNN Leadership Council

→ The AFNN Leadership Council includes over 15 volunteers who oversee and plan network-level activities.

AFNN Collaborative



The Collaborative includes 5 core partners who oversee the management of the 2017-2019 OTF grant to begin implementing the NASAP:

- Age-Friendly Niagara Network
- Community Support Services Niagara
- Niagara Connects
- Quest Community Health Centre
- Welland Senior Citizens' Advisory Committee

Age-Friendly Niagara Network, c/o Niagara Connects 264 Welland Ave., St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 2P8 905-688-6236

www.agefriendlyniagara.com info@agefriendlyniagara.com



A Community for All Ages



