

Mission: To facilitate healthy aging by providing leadership and encouraging collaboration in creating age-friendly places (communities) that optimize the ability of all older Manitobans to do the things they feel are important.



## MANITOBA - A GREAT PLACE TO GROW OLD! Celebrating Manitoba's Age-Friendly Communities

Our province boasts 92 municipalities that are age-friendly, strengthening the ability for Manitoba residents to age in place. The Age-Friendly 2.0 initiative has been a great success, lending to a renewed sense of energy and revitalization among communities.

We're encouraged and excited by the interest expressed by new municipalities to embark on their own Age Friendly journey. Collectively, these efforts are making Manitoba an even better place for older adults to live. Have questions on how to get started? Our consultants are ready to assist you!

## The Milestone Approach to Action Applications Received!

We are happy to announce that nine municipalities have submitted milestone applications, indicating their commitment to the age-friendly pathway.

Applications are submitted once the five milestones are attained...

1. **Community Engagement Milestone** - Establish an Age-Friendly Committee that includes the active engagement of older adults.
2. **Municipal Council Resolution Milestone** - Secure a local municipal council resolution to actively support, promote and work toward becoming Age-Friendly.
3. **Action Plan Milestone** - Establish a comprehensive and concrete plan of action that includes a community consultation developed with older adults.
4. **Public Awareness Milestone** - Demonstrate commitment to action by publicly posting the action plan.
5. **Measuring Outcomes Milestone** - Commit to measuring activities and reporting publicly on action plan outcomes.

## The Milestone Approach to Action Provincial Recognition & Grant Dollars

Those municipalities that are successful in the application process have the opportunity to receive provincial recognition as well as a small grant.

Once recognized by the Province, additional recognition comes from the Public Health Agency of Canada and the World Health Organization.

[Click here](#) to view the application online or get in touch with us for more details.

## Community Collaboration Grant UPDATE!!

We are excited to announce that we have received 35 Community Collaboration grant applications. We want to express our gratitude to all the applicants for their hard work and dedication. In the upcoming days, one of our team members may reach out to confirm some necessary information.

As we review the applications, we are impressed by the diversity of projects and the range of organizations represented. It's inspiring to see so many groups working together to address important issues and make a positive impact in their communities. We wish all the applicants the best of luck and look forward to supporting the selected projects. Stay tuned for updates on the final decisions. We are on track to notify all applicants of our decision by February 14th.

Be sure to pause and acknowledge all the incredible things happening in your community. Remember, it's not just about completing tasks, it's also about celebrating achievements!



Are you familiar with TONS? TONS is a volunteer driven network that focuses on three main areas:

## 1. Community Outreach

- Objectives within this area focus on developing and enhancing relationships with current transportation providers in the public and private sector as well as distributing the research results and recommendations.

## 2. Education / Awareness

- Objectives within this area focus on increasing the awareness of public and private transportation options as well as providing current and relevant information via our website and newsletter.

## 3. Rural transportation

- Objectives within this area include the development of a stakeholder network, the creation of a comprehensive inventory of mobility resources and the integration and coordination of transportation services (including Handi-Van) in rural Manitoba.

Recently, TONS hosted a “Think Tank” presentation with special guest, Michel Durand-Wood from the Glenelm Neighbourhood Association. This was an amazing presentation! It was incredible to hear from Michel about their grass roots approach to reimagining mobility in Elmwood (Wpg). We feel that all community decision makers or those community champions who are looking for new perspectives on addressing what Michel refers to as “downstream and upstream transportation challenges from a grass roots level” would benefit from viewing this presentation. [Click here to view it!](#)

TONS - a valuable partner when it comes to supporting Age Friendly initiatives! For more information, check out their [website!](#)



Encouraging and promoting the value of filing tax returns is essential to support members of your community. Any effort made towards this goal is highly beneficial. Feel free to share the messaging below....

## WHY EVERYONE SHOULD FILE TAX RETURNS

- **You may be eligible for a refund.** This is only available by filing
- **You may be eligible for benefits or credits payments.** Filing a tax return will ensure that the CRA is using the most accurate information to calculate benefit and credit payments. You could be eligible for certain benefit and credit payments, such as the Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax (GST/HST) credit, the Canada child benefit (CCB) or the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS).

Effective January 1, 2024, Community Financial Counseling Services (CFCS) will take on responsibility for the publication of the Get Your Benefits booklet - a very valuable resource you may be interested in obtaining.



**Our consultants are ready to work with you!**

Connect with Connie Newman at (204) 792-5838 or [info@manitobaseniorcommunities.ca](mailto:info@manitobaseniorcommunities.ca) and [hello@agefriendlymanitoba.com](mailto:hello@agefriendlymanitoba.com) or visit our website: [www.agefriendlymanitoba.com](http://www.agefriendlymanitoba.com)



Like this newsletter? Please share it with others in your community.

To read our past newsletters, click here: [www.agefriendlymanitoba.com/newsletters-resources-faq/](http://www.agefriendlymanitoba.com/newsletters-resources-faq/)