

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.



Building a Stronger Municipality Through Collaboration

In an increasingly interconnected world, the importance of collaboration within a community cannot be overstated. Working together not only enhances the quality of life for residents but also fosters a sense of belonging and shared purpose.

Has Your Municipality Applied for the Latest Community Collaboration Grant?

Many of our Age Friendly municipalities are collaborating effectively within their jurisdictions. For those of you that would like to enhance relationships even more, here are some steps that can guide you towards enhanced collaboration....

Identify Common Goals

The first step in fostering collaboration is identifying common goals that resonate with the community. This could range from improving local parks, organizing community events, or addressing issues like safety and cleanliness. Bringing together voices through meetings or surveys can help pinpoint what matters most to residents. When individuals see their interests reflected in a shared vision, they are more likely to invest their time and resources.

Establish Communication Channels

Effective communication is the backbone of any collaborative effort. Municipalities can set up platforms such as social media groups, newsletters, or dedicated websites to facilitate the exchange of ideas and information. Regular updates, open to facilitate the exchange of ideas and information. Regular updates, open discussions, and feedback loops ensure that everyone feels included and informed, fostering a culture of transparency and trust.

Encourage Volunteerism

One of the most rewarding aspects of community collaboration is volunteerism. Creating opportunities for residents to contribute their skills and time can lead to meaningful connections and a stronger sense of ownership. Organizing volunteer days for local clean-ups, food drives, or mentorship programs can engage community members while addressing local needs.



Celebrate Diversity

A successful municipality is often a melting pot of cultures, ideas, and perspectives. Embracing diversity can enhance collaboration by bringing different viewpoints to the table. Celebrating cultural events, art festivals, or potluck gatherings not only enriches the community experience but also builds bridges among residents, fostering mutual respect and understanding.

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Build Partnerships with Local Organizations

Partnering with local nonprofits, schools, and businesses can amplify the impact of collaborative efforts. These organizations often have resources, expertise, and networks that can support community initiatives. By pooling resources and knowledge, communities can tackle challenges more effectively and create larger-scale projects that benefit everyone.

Recognize and Reward Contributions

Acknowledging the efforts of individuals and groups within your municipality can motivate continued participation. Simple gestures like thank-you notes, public recognition at community events, or awards can go a long way in making volunteers feel valued. When residents see that their contributions make a difference, they are likely to remain engaged and inspire others to join.



Collaboration is not just a buzzword; it's a fundamental principle that can transform communities. By working together towards common goals, establishing open communication, and celebrating diversity, municipalities can create a thriving environment where everyone feels empowered and connected. The journey may require effort and commitment, but the rewards—a stronger, more cohesive municipality—are well worth it!

National Seniors Day is October 1

In communities with aging populations, it is essential to adjust to the increasing number of elderly individuals who possess diverse functional abilities. A person's capacity to carry out everyday tasks and participate in daily life is influenced not only by their abilities but also by the social and physical environments they live in. Creating supportive surroundings is crucial for assisting older adults in maintaining their activity levels and independence as they age.

The National Day of Older Persons is an occasion for all Canadians to join in celebrating older adults across Canada—whether a parent, a co-worker, a neighbour or a friend. The Government of Canada is proud to acknowledge the contributions older adults in Canada have made and continue to make to our families, communities and society.

It is easy to show your respect and gratitude for the older adults in your life. There are many ways to thank seniors for their contributions and to show them just how much they are appreciated. Here are just a few:

- say "thank you"
- visit, call or connect via video-messaging, and take some time to say "hi"
- run errands for a senior
- help with some outdoor chores
- take a walk together
- send an e-postcard or post a message on the Seniors in Canada Facebook page

For more information, visit <u>Canada's National</u> <u>Seniors Day website.</u>

How will your municipality acknowledge this day?



Our consultants are ready to work with you!

Connect with Connie Newman at **(204) 792-5838** or <u>info@manitobaseniorcommunities.ca</u> and <u>hello@agefriendlymanitoba.com</u> or visit our website: <u>www.agefriendlymanitoba.com</u>



