

**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.

## Community Collaboration Grants - Great Work is Happening in Manitoba!!

Congratulations to the communities outlined in this newsletter. We have been showcasing the recipients of our Community Collaboration Grants in our newsletters. This newsletter wraps up the remaining recipients.

We believe that by sharing these stories, we can inspire other communities to embrace similar initiatives and continue building a network of age-friendly spaces. Together, we are working towards a future where every older Manitoban can thrive and participate fully in community life.

### Treherne Municipality - Well Seated!

The Treherne Friendship Center received the grant and they had four partners: the RM itself, M.I.L.E.S. for Seniors, the Chamber of Commerce and the Tiger Hills Community Foundation.

The Friendship Center is the social hub of the senior citizens of the Treherne area. The Center is used for a variety of educational, recreational and health focused events. They also serve a congregate meal program 5 days/week for those 55+ as well as to other vulnerable people in the area. For many, activities at the Center is their only social expression. Comfort and safety are the two prime reasons for their grant which is to cover the costs of purchasing 100 new chairs with arms. Most of the current chairs were old, rusty and many beyond repair. Chairs with arms are necessary for older adults to assist themselves in sitting and standing.



(L-R) Joel Wickland, Chamber, Gilles Guertin, Reeve of the RM, Shirley Brick, President of the Friendship Center, Don Fletcher, Age Friendly Consultant, John Tate, Treasurer, and Jim Hoyer, longtime member of the Center PHOTO BY DAXLEY LODWICK

### Town of Melita - ADA Ramp Project

The Town of Melita was the recipient of a Community Collaboration Grant from the Manitoba Association of Senior Communities (MASC) under the Age Friendly Manitoba Initiative. The Melita Lions Club, Melita Banana Days Committee, Penny Parade Committee and Melita Health Auxiliary provided letters of support to the Town in their application. The project is the installation of a new ADA-compliant ramp at the side entrance of the Melita Legion Hall. The ramp is an essential access point for many individuals, particularly seniors and those with disabilities. The ramp, in its current state poses a safety hazard due to wear and tear. The new ramp will feature sturdy railings, non-slip surfaces and a design that meets accessibility standards, ensuring a safe and smooth entry. Don Fletcher, MASC Consultant was on hand to present the \$10,000 grant on January 3, 2025 at the Town of Melita chambers.

The new ramp will encourage participation in community events," said Fletcher. Mayor Bill Holden said the town is grateful for the support from local organizations in this initiative, which will greatly enhance the community. Breigh Crepelee, CAO recognized Laurie Dalziel, Admin Assistant for seeking out and completing the grant application.



Back (L-R): Breigh Crepelee (Town of Melita CAO), Kelly Lewis (Banana Days Committee), Joanne Thompson (Health Auxiliary), Rhonda Verplanche (Councilor), Eleanor Renwick (Lions Club), Lynn Downey (Lions Club). Front: Don Fletcher, Age Friendly Consultant and Bill Holden (Mayor). PHOTO BY JUDY WELLS

## Municipality of Ste. Anne - Heartfelt Lunches



The Municipality of Ste. Anne, the Richer Young at Hearts Club, Richer Recreation Committee Inc., the Richer Métis Local and the Seine River Services for Seniors collaborated together, applied for and were awarded, the Age-Friendly Manitoba Community Collaboration Grant of \$9955 to begin "Heartfelt Lunches/Diners Chaleureux".

The lunches are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month until May and it is hoped it will continue after this initial run with other funding sources and sponsors. The lunches offer a healthy soup and sandwich and welcome 55+ residents from the Richer, Paradise Village, Town of Ste. Anne, RM of Ste Anne, and surrounding communities. It is an opportunity for community seniors to enjoy a sociable lunch and at the same time learn more about what is offered in the area through the monthly introduction of a community partner. The lunch cost is being subsidized by the Age-Friendly Manitoba grant and a \$5 donation at the door by those able to donate is appreciated. Besides the lunch, accessible bus transportation is offered to those in the immediate region who have no other way to get to the luncheon, by calling the Municipality of Ste. Anne to sign up. For an inter-generational experience, an invitation will be extended to students at the Richer Elementary School to join some lunches. Local musicians will be invited to play background music contributing to a relaxing atmosphere.



Cheque is presented by Louise Hutton, Age-Friendly Consultant. (L-R) Ron Vincent, President, Richer Young at Hearts Club; Mike Bernier Board Member and Heather Dean President of Seine River Services for Seniors; Dan Guetre, President, Richer Community Club Inc.; Sarah Normandeau Municipal Councillor and Darlene Larocque, Vice-Chair, Richer Metis Local.

## RM of Argyle - Obie Projector



(L-R) Donna Odell, Lana Grenier, Ayeh Arta, Don Fletcher, Marilynne Pantel, Coreen Watson, Tammy McIntosh

The Interactive Obie Projector is designed to stimulate cognitive function, improve sociability and support mental and physical health through a series of computerized interactive games on a big screen....to enhance physical movement, as well as cognitive and mental engagement. The Baldur Volunteer enrichment Assoc., wants to set the projector up in the Baldur Senior Manor (their Care Home). The project will enhance The Baldur early Childhood education and the Baldur Daycare intergenerational activity at the Home. The local school and the Baldur School will be utilizing tech savvy students to teach both the older adults as well as the younger children in the various aspects of the games in the projector.

## City of Flin Flon - Ebike Project



The City of Flin Flon, the Flin Flon/Creighton Seniors, the Flin Flon School Division and NorMan Community Services are eagerly anticipating the arrival of a Chat (rickshaw) ebike ordered through Prairie Velo in Winnipeg. We are hopeful that the ebike will be available by this summer 2025 for use by people of all ages in the Flin Flon, Creighton and Denare Beach communities.

We sincerely appreciate the support we received through an Age Friendly grant of \$10,000 which covers approximately half the cost of this bike. A cheque for this amount was sent to Prairie Velo in mid February as a 50% down payment and, with that, our order was placed. We are seeking other financial support through grants to cover the balance required.



**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)



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