

An Age Friendly Action Plan for Cambridge

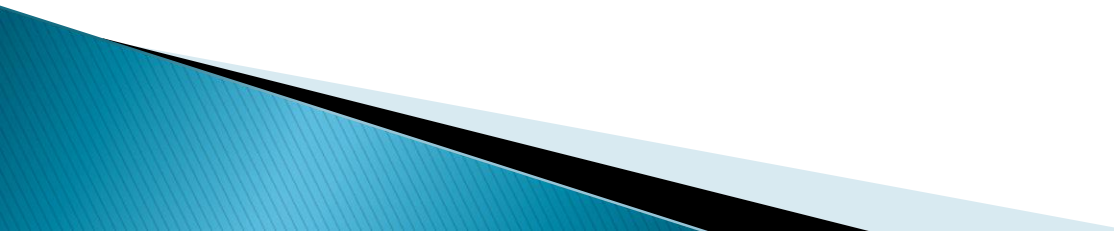
A community-driven strategy



Funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation



Background

- ▶ What does an Age Friendly Community look like?
 - ▶ Why build an Age Friendly Cambridge?
 - ▶ Project History (2010–2013)
 - ▶ Why do we need an “Action Plan”?
- 

The Process

April 2012

- **Launch and Learn**

March to October 2012

- **Committees**

November 2012

- **Community Forum**

December 2012

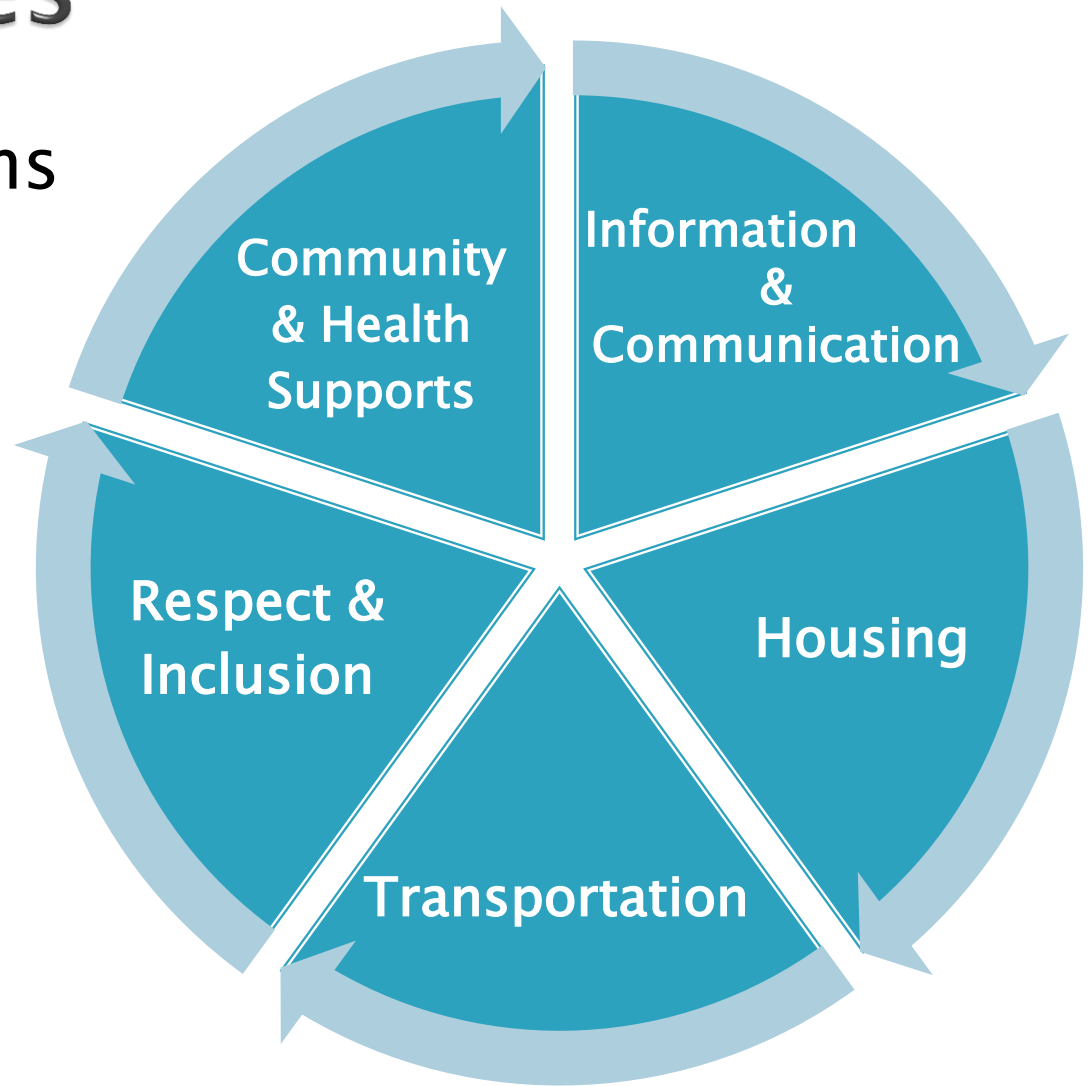
- **Community Consultation**

Spring 2013

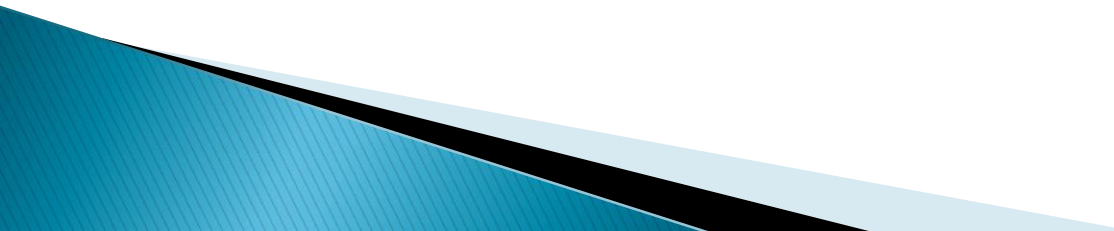
- **Age Friendly Cambridge Action Plan**

5 Committees

- ▶ 36 recommendations
- ▶ Met between May and Oct. 2012



The Action Plan

- ▶ Identifies the top 3 recommendations from each committee as prioritized at the community consultation
 - ▶ Identifies potential “champions” for each recommendation
 - ▶ Proposes a timeline for implementation
- 

The Action Plan

Transportation

[1] Accessible, affordable, and widely available public transit with special considerations for older adults

[2] Specialized transit, taxis, and volunteer/alternate vehicles be accessible, affordable, and available at all times for local and out-of-town appointments

[3] That information about public and alternate transportation options be promoted widely



The Action Plan

Housing

[1] That the City provide incentives to develop affordable, age friendly housing

[2] That the City designate a senior specialist

[3] That regionally available programs for renovations be widely promoted



The Action Plan

Community and Health Supports

- [1] A single access point for health services
- [2] A community based, Physician led, model of care for homebound and frail older adults
- [3] Supports be provided to age in place



The Action Plan

Respect and Social Inclusion

[1] That the City of Cambridge designate a senior specialist

[2] That organizations, business, community organizations, school boards and the City build opportunities to connect older adults and youth.

[3] Organizations include older adults in an advisory capacity to plan, develop and deliver projects



The Action Plan

Communication and Information

[1] A central source of information for older adults

[2] Free computer and internet use training for older adults

[3] Use plain language and accessible design in print, web, email, and phone communication



The Overarching Priority

- ▶ *That the City of Cambridge designate a specialist to be the dedicated 'older adult issue' person for information, trends, and gap monitoring.*

This came up as a recommendation several times as something that would make a big difference in the lives of many older adults in Cambridge

Notice of Motion

On March 25, 2013 Councillor Donna Reid put forward the following Notice of Motion:

“That the Commissioner of Community Services be requested to review the recommendation by the Social Planning Council related to the establishment of a seniors ombudsperson / advocate / specialist and to report back by early May of 2013 regarding how the city could best achieve the objectives of this recommendation within the existing staff complement and approved budget”

Next Steps

- ▶ Presentation of recommendations to community stakeholders
- ▶ Transition of the project to the community

Together, we can make Cambridge a city that is friendly for people of all ages.

