

Creating a Community for a Lifetime: Housing Considerations



GRAND RIVER COUNCIL ON AGING

City of Brantford, County of Brant

Six Nations of the Grand River



Creating a Community for a Lifetime

The GRCOA is a registered charitable non-profit organization encouraging the development of an

**AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY
“CULTURE”**





Creating a Community for a Lifetime

DIVERSITY

-ETHNICITY

-LANGUAGE

-FINANCIAL

-SOCIAL

-EDUCATION

-ABILITIES

-FAMILY

-GEOGRAPHICAL

-AGE

“PEOPLE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE”

EVERYONE NEEDS A HOME

AGE VERSUS MOBILITY

“GO-GO”



“SLOW-GO”



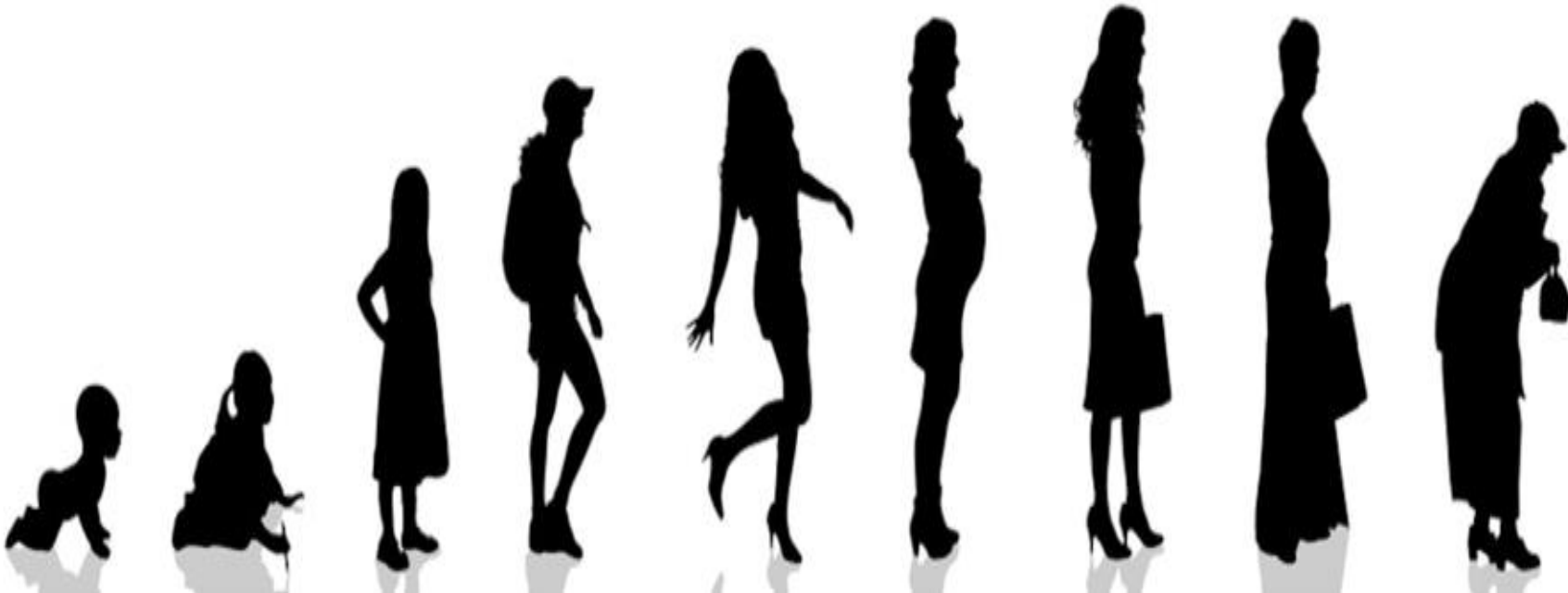
“NO-GO”



Comfort

Communication

Customer Service



Safety

Visibility

Noise

**Response
Time**

Respect

FACTUAL IMPLICATIONS OF AGING POPULATION

- OLDER ADULTS VERSUS “SENIORS”**
- 2030 PROJECTION – 55+ - 33% OF CANADIAN POPULATION**
- LIFE EXPECTANCY 1950 – 68 2050 –F 90 ... M 85**
- 92% OF “SENIORS” LIVE ON THEIR OWN**
 - HOMES, CONDOS, APARTMENTS**
- ALL WANT TO AGE IN PLACE**

AND SO, WE ASKED THEM - WHAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHEN PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE?

**2008 MASTER AGING PLAN
-63 PARTICIPANTS**

**-99 SUGGESTIONS
8 FOR HOUSING**

**2017 COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT
-70 HOUSING PARTICIPANTS**

**628 SUGGESTIONS
135**



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ISSUES

LIVING LONGER

- Supportive Services
- NORCS (amenities?)
- Transportation Options
- Cognitive Challenges
(Technology/Medical)
- Downsizing
- Renovations
- Intergenerational

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Prior to mobility options
- Housing Shortage
- Lack of understanding
 - Housing Options
 - Future Planning

ACCESSIBLY DESIGNING

- Renovating vs Building



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CASE STUDY – AGING IN PLACE

- **WHY DO WE WANT TO STAY WHERE WE ARE?**
- **WHAT IS COMING TO MAKE IT EASIER?**
- **WHAT IS REQUIRED FOR A HOMEOWNER TO STAY?**
- **RESEARCH RESULTS**
- **CONCLUSION**

WHY DO WE WANT TO AGE IN PLACE?

- **DON'T WANT EMOTIONAL/PHYSICAL STRESS OF MOVING**

-TO WHERE?

-DOWNSIZING

-LOGISTICAL/PHYSICAL

- **FEAR OF LOSING INDEPENDENCE**
- **ANXIETY OVER LEAVING "HOME"**
- **NEW NEIGHBOURS/COMMUNITY**
- **EMOTIONAL TIES**
- **FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN**



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WHAT COULD MAKE IT EASIER TO STAY

- **VOICE ACTIVATED/PROGRAMMABLE DEVICES**
- **SECURITY SYSTEMS**
- **VOICE ACTIVATED ASSISTANTS**
- **WEARABLE PERSONAL HEALTH DEVICES**
- **HOME HEALTHCARE**
- **HOME DELIVERY PRODUCTS & SERVICES**



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WHAT ELSE MAY BE NEEDED TO STAY?

- **INTERNAL HOUSE CLEANING SERVICE**
- **EXTERNAL MAINTENANCE**
- **PERSONAL CARE**
- **FOOD PREPARATION**
- **GOOD SAFETY PRACTICES**
- **RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS**
- **ACCESSIBILITY RENOVATIONS**
- **SUFFICIENT INCOME**



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COST OF STAYING

POTENTIAL RENOVATIONS?

- WALK-IN SHOWER (S)**
- STAIR LIFT**
- HALLWAY/DOOR WIDTHS**
- CUPBOARD ACCESS**
- DOOR HANDLES**
- PLUMBING FIXTURES**
- FRONT & REAR ENTRANCE RAMPS**
- PURCHASE OF SERVICES**

COST OF MOVING

- **KNOWN COSTS**

- **OWNING -- REAL ESTATE FEES, LEGAL FEES, LAND TRANSFER TAX, MOVING COSTS, RELOCATION EXPENSES (HYDRO, WATER, ETC.)**
- **RENTING – FIRST & LAST PAYMENTS, MOVING COSTS, RELOCATION EXPENSES**

- **POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL COSTS**

- **REPAIRS, PAINTING, ETC. BEFORE AND AFTER MOVE**
- **NEW FURNITURE, DRAPERIES, REDECORATING ETC.**

IMPLICATIONS

- **POSSIBLE TWO RELOCATIONS**
 - **“AGE APPROPRIATE” ACCESSIBLE FACILITY**
 - **IF HEALTH NECESSITATES IT, LONG TERM CARE**
- **RESEARCH ALL OPTIONS**
 - **HOUSING GUIDE FOR SENIORS, INCLUDING CHECK LIST FOR “INFORMED” DECISION MAKING**

CONCLUSIONS

- **POPULATION -- HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF SENIORS LIVING LONGER AND ALL WANT TO AGE IN PLACE**
- **FUTURE -- ALL NEW BUILDS SHOULD INCLUDE “ACCESSIBLE” FEATURES SO THAT ALL AGES CAN CHOOSE HOUSING WITHOUT HAVING TO MOVE OR BEAR THE COST OF RENOVATIONS AT A LATER DATE**
- **RESIDENTS -- WILL SAFELY AGE IN PLACE AND WITH RESPECT & SOCIAL INCLUSION IN THEIR COMMUNITY**
- **UNIVERSAL DESIGN --RESULTS IN OPTIMIZED OPPORTUNITIES FOR HEALTH, PARTICIPATON, AND SECURITY THAT ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE AS PEOPLE AGE**



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Questions?

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