

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

Seniors' Working Action Group (SWAG) - We're Age Friendly

Minutes – January 24, 2024 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Councillor Duddeck, Julie Pennal, Ruth Sheridan, Jennifer McPetrie, Pat Moore, Margaret Kirwin, Ted Lambert, Ruth Sheridan, Tom Carrothers, Ayaa Mohamad.

Regrets: Beth Robertson, Michelle Nichols, Pierre Wong, Shahzi Yasmin Bokhari

Guest: Stephanie O'Keefe

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

1. **Call to Order:** by Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.

2. **Introduction of new committee member: Stephanie O'Keefe**

- Served on the Housing Advisory Committee with Councillor Duddeck
- Involved with the Halton Region housing services. "Be the hero for affordable housing with focus on homelessness and affordable housing.
- Volunteer with CMHA Halton with focus on mental health/addictions and affordable housing.
- Served on many advisory committees including the Oakville Community boundary review and other Parks and Recreation committees.

Introduction of Ayaa Mohamad – Community Development Specialist for the Town of Oakville.

- Started in the position a few months ago.
- Works in partnership with Chris Clapham.
- Worked for the Halton Region with a background in Community Investment.
- Focus on accessibility, community activation and funding.
- Will be going on maternity leave in April.

3. **Attendance / Regrets –** Regrets as noted.

4. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**

Ted Lambert, seconded by Margaret Kirwin. Carried.

5. Update from Jen McPetrie

- Furniture for 16 Mile - Discussed options for tables, round or square and chairs, chair with arms or without/fabric or non-fabric. Suggestions to be sent to design team.
- Many activities taking place in the town for Black History Month.
 - Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH) launch Black History Month at the [Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts](#) on Thursday, February 1 at 6 p.m. with an evening including a keynote speech about Oakville's Black history by Anthony Sherwood and performances by Juno award winner Jully Black, Whitney Houston tribute artist Geri Defoe and Arthouse Children's Choir. This year's theme is "Celebrating Culture and History." Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by visiting the [Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts](#)

[website](#).

- Art exhibits “Explore the Essence of a People: Celebrating Black History Month through Art” from February 1 to February 29 at Oakville Town Hall and QEPCCC. Art in the North Atrium of Town Hall features work by Désiré Betty, Omar Hopkinson and Paul Dias while work by Joan Butterfield will be on display in the QEPCCC Gallery in the exhibit ‘Explore the Essence of a People: Celebrating Black History Month through Art’. Opening reception at QEPCCC on Sunday, February 4 from 2 to 4 p.m. [Reserve your spot today](#).
- Participate in Black History Explorers, a partnership between the Oakville Museum, Oakville Public Library and CCAH, on [Friday, February 16](#) at noon or [Saturday, March 9](#) at noon. The event, taking place at Oakville Museum, invites families to participate in arts and crafts, story-time, and a family-friendly tour. Oakville Early Black History, a travelling exhibition by Oakville Museum will display pictures and cultural information. Participating schools include St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School; Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School; Bishop P. F. Reding Catholic Secondary School; E.J. James Public School; St. Catherine of Alexandria; Garth Webb Secondary School. A complete listing of BHM activities are shown here [Black History Month \(oakville.ca\)](#)
- February 19 is Family Day activities and town community centres will be hosting various activities including free skate.

6.

Standing Agenda Items

Halton Age Friendly

- Julie will be attending meetings moving forward and will have a full report to share at the next SWAG meeting.

Councillor update: Cathy Duddeck –

Attended a meeting on January 22 with the Planning and Development Council. The Town of Oakville passed a motion to direct staff to undertake the drafting amendments to the town’s zoning by-law that would permit four units per property across Oakville. The official plan and zoning by-law will be reviewed, and updates will be prepared for the public. The amendments will go to Council for approval. Council will also request the Government to support the inclusion of a gentle density strategy, and to permit the conversion of suitable commercial properties near residential areas in the mixed-use. This activity is centered on the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF), announced by the Federal government in the Spring of 2023 and intend to provide incentive funding to local governments to encourage initiatives aimed at increasing the housing supply. It is also intended to support the development of complete, low-carbon and climate resilient communities that are affordable, inclusive, equitable and diverse.

Also in the January 22 meeting, Planning and Development Council voted unanimously to reject a development application for a 10-storey. 38.25m mixed use building at 42 Lakeshore Road East. The area in question is currently zoned for a building height of 5 stories, however the application requested 10, along with approval for 152 units in 12, 593 square meters of residential floor area and 630 square meters of commercial and retail floor area. The Town planning staff advised that they would accept an 8-storey building. Additional concerns were voiced which included increased traffic in the area. It was noted that other recent developments in the area kept to three and four stories and in one case 6 stories. The application was not seen as being compatible with the area.

January 30, consultants and staff provided a presentation built around a Preferred Alternative created for Midtown which featured a high density mix of buildings that would range from 10 to 48 stories and spread across an area extending from Chartwell Road in the east to the portion of Cross Avenue beside the 16-Mile Creek in the west. Trafalgar Road and Cross Avenue were depicted as the major intersection with each road accommodating 6 lanes and planned green space throughout to serve more than 50,000 people who might inhabit the area years from now. Concerns, comments and suggestions were presented as to how to address future directions for the planning of the Midtown area. On Thursday, February 15 staff and consultants will present a proposed design concept and policy approach for Midtown Oakville followed by a series of public engagement activities. Doors open at 6 p.m. and talks begin at 6:30 p.m. On February 27 a Special Meeting of Council will be held to provide feedback from the February 15 public information meeting, and to discuss how council will act on recommendations, issues and concerns voiced.

Oakville Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols

- March for Meals: We are putting our wheels in motion for our annual March for Meals Campaign running from March 1- 31 2024. We will be launching a fundraiser with some great prizes! We will also be doing spring Purdy's Chocolate fundraising sale.
- Central Registry: The Central Registry is directing all inquires regarding food support in Oakville to the Victorian Order of Nurses as they are mandated to only use those programs that are LHIN funded.
- The Meals in Home Program for those in our community who have both a low annual income and health conditions is the main reason OMoW left the LHIN in 2018. At that time, the LHIN made the requirements for those needing financial support very challenging.
- As well, the LHIN was moving to the Central Registry system, a more clinical setting for our most vulnerable to navigate vs the more friendly "live" person-to-person interaction they get with OMoW. OMoW felt it was

imperative that the Town of Oakville have a local connection along with fresh hot meals from within our town and not from a neighbouring community.

- New Partnerships: We are honoured to be delivering lunches to the Seniors Life Enhancement Centre. This program is in Oakville and is an adult day program that provides social and recreational activities.
- Thanks to funding from Community Services Recovery Fund, we are working with Community Development Halton to research and develop best policies and practices for the OMoW subsidy program to ensure we are meeting the needs of our community.

Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore

- Loneliness, Isolation to Empowerment (LITE) Education - hosted by CDH, presenter Shahzi Bokhari, Community in Action team.
Senior Connectors have attended or will be present at 2 locations in Oakville libraries and Roman Catholic Church.
- S+Age Group 55+ with Shaarei-Beth El held 2 times per month at the Calvary Baptist Church and luncheons are provided once per month.
- Milton libraries 2 locations once per month.
- McMaster presentation online at 7:00 p.m. on sleep disorders.
- An email was sent to Mr. Don Jarett an Optimist Club member who was not aware of SWAG. Julie & Darlene have been copied.

enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan.

- Our support group now has 25 members; 18 of whom actively participate in our virtual &/or in person meetings.
- Beginning in 2024, we meet in person on the first Tuesday of every month at Trafalgar Park Community Centre, & Virtually the third Tuesday of every month using ZOOM.
- November 27 - CNIB Mobile Hub @Glen Abbey
Dec. 1 enVISION Christmas party at Mo's
Dec. 5 enVISION Oakville In Person meeting #179 at Walton Church
Dec. 11 enVISION Oakville Virtual meeting # 180
January 2024.

OAAC – Darlene Cox

- There was great concern about how residents would get Regional news and updates now that the local newspapers are no longer publishing. This website has been set up for you to receive news of what's happening in the Region. It is free and easy to subscribe to. I signed up and suggest it is worth considering as we lost all contact with the Region when the Oakville

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| | <p>Beaver stopped publishing. https://www.halton.ca/The-Region/News</p> <p>Connection in Action – Shahzi Yasmin Bokhari –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No report provided. |
| 7. | <p>New Business Arising/Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CRA and Service Canada Presentation review: 172 people registered and 89 were in the meeting virtually. Comments shared: there was a lot of information. ○ Up coming presentations: Virtual: Thursday, February 22 (poster attached) 1:30 p.m. Housing and HomeShare Options for Seniors. Dr. Vipan Nikore from Home Care Hub and Jackie Tanner from Spaces Shared. Register here: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtf-2gqjgrH91FZS2p79cDQPn8rtZv-lSh ○ In person: Tuesday, March 5, 1 – 3 p.m. Wills and Power of Attorney with Andrea Parliament at Sir John Colborne Recreation Centre for Seniors. This is a ticketed event and space is limited. To register please visit the Colborne Senior Centre or call 905-815-5960 and ask to be added to the guest list. ○ The OACAO/SALC received over 600 responses from their senior's centre survey. Digital and hard copies were provided. ○ The OACAO has a new business partner called RHRA -Retirement Homes Regulatory Authority. The RHRA is an independent, self-funded, not-for-profit regulator mandated by the government to protect and ensure the safety and well-being of seniors living in Ontario's retirement homes under the Retirement Homes Act, 2010. ○ QEPOAC will be hosting a Seniors Information Fair on Tuesday, April 30 from 9 a.m. to noon. This in response to the success of the Housing Fair held in October. This is an opportunity for community partners and companies serving seniors to share their information. Not for profit will be provided a table for free and for profit will pay \$150 per table. ○ Bev, Ted, Darlene and Pat volunteered to help on the day of the event. – Thank you in advance for your willingness to support this event. <p>Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.</p> |
| 8. | <p>Date of next meeting – Wednesday, February 28, at 1:30 p.m. on Zoom</p> |

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

Seniors' Working Action Group (SWAG) - We're Age Friendly

Minutes – February 28, 2024, via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Councillor Duddeck, Julie Pennal, Ruth Sheridan, Pat Moore, Margaret Kirwin, Ted Lambert, Michelle Nichols, Pierre Wong, Shahzi Bokhari, Stephanie O'Keefe, Bev Cathro

Regrets: Jennifer McPetrie, Beth Robertson, Ayaa Mohamad

Guest: Jennifer Valinouth to be re-scheduled to the March meeting.

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

1. **Call to Order:** by Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.

2. **Guest Speaker:** Jennifer Valinouth to be re-scheduled to the March meeting.

3. **Attendance / Regrets –** Regrets as noted.

4. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**
Ted Lambert, seconded by Bev Cathro. Carried.

5. **Update from Jen McPetrie -**

- Centennial cup is fast approaching at Sixteen Mile, May 9 - 19
- Our commissioner, Colleen Bell is retiring at the end of March; posting is up now for a replacement.
- Draft Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility multi year plan is going to council in March.
- March 17 marks the deadline for local artists to submit proposals to create traffic signal cabinet wraps for this year's Connexions exhibition. The cabinet wraps will appear at several intersections across Oakville and will be featured at this year's Culture Days Festival in September and October.

Standing Agenda Items

Councillor update: Cathy Duddeck –

- Chaired another meeting on February 27 for the mid-town project (16-mile to Chartwell to QEW).
- OMG architects suggested a medium to high density plan. This resonated with residents. This does not comply with provincial plans. This can be appealed at the Ontario Land Tribunal; however, a plan must be in place to oppose the 54 story buildings.
- In April, consultants will draft a plan and comments can be made by the public in late April. June will be the final approval and in September there will be an opportunity to appeal and list issues and concerns. Entire process to be completed by 2025.
- Citizen satisfaction surveys are being completed.

- Lakeshore Rd reconstruction is divided into two sections: Mississauga St. to Third line is part one and Third Line to Dorval is part two. The plan is to remove less than 100 trees in the reconstruction process with the opportunity to work around some of the larger ones. The Town is moving ahead with Part one of the project and Part two has been put on hold.
- St. Hilda's site, purchased by the Region will be breaking ground shortly. It will offer 3 Detached homes on Lakeshore Rd with 14 semi detached rental Bungalows in behind which Halton will be subsidized by Halton Region.
- On March 4 Cathy is attending a meeting to discuss the Federal Government's accelerator fund being provided to municipalities that meet the housing criteria. The Ontario Government has already legislated three units per dwelling however the Municipalities still have control over zoning. The Federal Government's proposal is to increase to four units, with Municipalities having no say in Zoning. There are also multiple concerns related to parking, traffic and spacing between homes. Areas within 800 meters of Sheridan College will be allowed to build to 4 stories with no zoning restrictions.
- Council meetings have returned to a virtual platform as there has been an increase in protests compromising security at Town Hall.

Oakville Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols

- Tuesday March 5th – Mayor Burton will raise the Oakville Meals on Wheels Flat at Town Hall and proclaim March for Meals.
- The week of March 18th we will be hosting our annual Champion Week, and we will have special guests delivering meals to help raise awareness about our program.
- Currently we have confirmed the following guests: MPP Crawford, Town Councillor Cathy Duddeck and Deputy Boyer, Oakville Fire Department

Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore

- Attended a meeting on March 8 to discuss next steps as the CDH (Community Development Halton) will no longer provide funding for the Senior Connectors.
- A grant application will be going out at the end of the month.
- Continue to provide invaluable support and share personal experiences for senior groups in the community.
- Open to suggestions regarding support/funding from other organizations supporting seniors in the community.

- Darlene suggested perhaps this group could be absorbed into the OAAC Communications group. She will bring this issue to the attention of the OAAC Committee at their next meeting.

enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan.

- February 6 - 11 participants attended. The friendship and camaraderie in the group was palpable. Many members, for example, brought food items or Little Valentine's Day gifts to take home. It was difficult when we discussed the passing of Elizabeth McCarville, who was one of the founding members of this group. During the first years of existence, she was a regular until her health made it difficult. She was a very positive spirited person and role model for many of us. She was 97 years old.
- February 20 enVISION – Virtual and 9 participants attended. This meeting was not that lively, and only five participants shared stories of the last two weeks, even though with Valentine's Day and Family Day there should have been plenty of material. So, we instead talked about points of interest, and it created the following action items below:
 - ~ Distribute information on WhatsApp use.
 - ~ Distribute Invitation to Smart Vision 3 Phone review organized by the AAUG.
 - ~ Distribute invitation about android Accessibility review organized by the AAUG.
 - ~ Schedule Bridget ophthalmologist for end of April.
 - ~ Send around the Notes of our nutrition class.
 - ~ Organize VLRO independent living session.
- By February 25 I & others in our group completed the Oakville Accessibility Survey.
- February 27 - I and others in our group took part in the White Cane Conference, a collaboration of Canadian Council of the Blind & Fighting Blindness

OAAC – Darlene Cox

- Rishia Burke from Community Development Halton provided a presentation about volunteering. She presented statistics on Volunteering for the Older Adult population and also the Youth in school who are looking for ways to complete their required Community Hours. CDH wants to help match people with the many Volunteer positions available.

Connection in Action – Shahzi Yasmin Bokhari –

- Connection in Action updates on our Outreach Strategy:
 - In the last month, we've presented to Oakville Public Library branches and Oakville Meals on Wheels volunteers.

- We presented to a residential building on Kerr St and also ran an activity (the Price is Right). We invited the Senior Connectors to this event.
- LITE Education is being offered to all members of the Older Adult Isolation Action Table in early April, and we will be offering public dates for anyone to join.
- About LITE Education:
Loneliness, Isolation to Empowerment (LITE) Education is offered by Connection in Action in partnership with the new Halton Elder Abuse Prevention Network.
This 3-hour, capacity-building education is designed for service providers, community groups and committees, volunteers, older adults, and community members. Participants will gain information and insights related to issues impacting older adults.
Topics include the value of social connections, the impacts and outcomes of isolation and loneliness, age-friendly communities and design, ageism, and elder abuse. Participants will also learn tools, resources, and skills to help spot warning signs, to intervene with dignity, and to promote age-friendly practices within your community, organization, and service delivery.
- We will be hosting an educational event (like Tea and Talk) for older adults in May or June. Presentations will consist of Connection in Action and social isolation and loneliness, as well as presentations from some of our Action Table partners. We will be hosting two events: one in Milton and one in Oakville.
- If you have a suggestion for affordable venues in Oakville that can host about 40 – 50 people, please let me know.
- Call for SWAG members to join the Older Adult Isolation Action Table's working groups: Community Knowledge and Mobilization or Referral and Connection. If you know of any older adults in the community who might be interested in joining our working groups, please let me know.
- Learn more about Connection in Action: www.ConnectionInAction.ca
- HelpAge Canada is hosting their first ever summit: 2024 Community-Based Seniors' Services (CBSS) Sector Summit: Claiming our Space, Naming our Future. The summit will be held in June in Ottawa. Connection in Action / Halton's Older Adult Isolation Action Table will be presenting at this summit. <https://healthyagingcore.ca/nationalsummit2024>
- The Ontario Age-Friendly Communities Outreach Program is hosting a free and virtual conference from March 20 to 22, 2024: Building Healthy Communities: Uniting Experience, Research, and Practice for Ontario's Age-Friendly Future. <https://sagelink.ca/event/2024-conference-building->

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| | <p>healthy-communities-uniting-experience-research-and-practice-for-ontarios-age-friendly-future/</p> <p>Halton Age-Friendly – Julie Pennal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Julie will be part of the 2024 action plan. ○ Attending the next meeting in March and will have a full report to share at that time. |
| 7. | <p>New Business Arising/Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Housing and Homesharing Options for Seniors virtual presentation on Thursday, February 22 was well attended. Julie sent out the link for the recording to those who registered. ○ Reminder to get your tickets and register for an in-person presentation on Tuesday, March 5, 1 – 3 p.m. Wills and Power of Attorney with Andrea Parliament at Sir John Colborne Recreation Centre for Seniors. Currently 90 people are registered. This is a ticketed event and space is limited. To register please visit the Colborne Senior Centre or call 905-815-5960 and ask to be added to the guest list. ○ Reminder of the Seniors Information Fair at QEPCCC on Tuesday, April 30 from 9 a.m. to noon. ○ Possible speakers to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Golden Girls – goldenhomesharingconnections.ca b. Jeanette Bock – Fluid Senior Transitions c. Carly Hickey – ACE Planning Company d. Deputy Fire Chief Kalpana Rajgopalan e. Suite Living 360 – Norma Gamble f. Death Café g. Dr. Ken Hook and Gordon Smith <p>Meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.</p> |
| 8. | <p>Date of next meeting – Wednesday, March 27, at 1:30 p.m. on Zoom</p> |

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Department of Recreation & Culture

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Minutes – March 27, 2024, via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Councillor Duddeck, Julie Pennal, Ruth Sheridan, Pat Moore, Ted Lambert, Michelle Nichols, Pierre Wong, Shahzi Bokhari, Stephanie O'Keefe, Bev Cathro, Jennifer McPetrie.

Regrets: Margaret Kirwin, Beth Robertson

Guest: Linda Horsky, Transitional Case Management Program, CMHA

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

1. **Call to Order:** by Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.

2. **Guest Speaker:** Linda Horsky, Transitional Case Management Program, CMHA

- CMHA (Canadian Mental Health Association – Halton Region Branch) offers several services for Halton region residents.
 - Crisis Services – Outreach and Support Team (COAST) that includes a mobile crisis team, 24/7 crisis line and 9-8-8 Suicide Crisis Helpline.
 - Crisis Outreach program – short term case management (3-5 weeks)
 - Safe Beds – 24/7 community based residential service for adults 16+
 - Call-In Counselling – free single sessions available at Oakville and Milton offices for individuals 16+.
 - Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for Anxiety and Depression.
 - Dialectical Behavioural Therapy – skills groups and workshops.
 - Transitional Case Management – for those struggling with mental health and/or substance abuse.
 - CCDP Halton Community Concurrent Disorders Program Integrated Service – includes case management, psychotherapy, and access to a registered nurse.
 - Dual Diagnosis Case Management – 6-9 months of management for mental health and developmental disability.
 - Justice Services, including release from custody, court support and post court transitional case management.
 - Peer Support
 - Group Support (coping skills for change, structured relapse prevention)
 - AFFIRM – serving LGBTQ2S+ youth and adults.
 - Information and referral services
 - *Contact: 905-693-4270 or info@cmhahrb.ca (two office, Oakville located at 1540 Cornwall Rd, Unit 2 and 470 Bronte Street S., Unit 204, 205 in Milton)*

3. **Attendance / Regrets** – Regrets as noted.

4. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**
Pat Moore, seconded by Ted Lambert. Carried.

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| 5. | <p>Update from Jen McPetrie -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parks and Recreation Master Plan includes changes to the Central Library. Council will be meeting to discuss the changes and present to the community in the late spring or early fall. ○ There are plans to include a future Cultural Hub at the Central library. Jen to share information as it is available. ○ Family Day saw record numbers (25,000) people through the community centres between the hours of 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. <p>Standing Agenda Items</p> <p>Councillor update: Cathy Duddeck –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Oakville Midtown – a meeting will take place in early April to present the 1st draft of the Official Plan Amendment regarding Midtown (GO station area) ○ Federal proposal for the Housing Accelerator Fund: Mounting opposition to the “4 as of right” development on a single property anywhere in the town. ○ An 800 metre distance surrounding Sheridan College to permit additional height (4 story) and density in the surrounding area. Concerns have been raised about the lack of community consultation/notification. Concerns relating to the impact on the surrounding neighbourhoods that are predominantly single dwelling and townhomes. Questions continue to be raised about why Sheridan is not accommodating the student housing needs on their own property versus the neighbours. ○ Tree Canopy: Currently reviewing the private tree bylaw and how to maintain our tree canopy and meet the targets to increase our tree canopy coverage. Serious reviews to be undertaken when reviewing the request to remove a healthy tree and pay the cost of replacement. Tree replacement should not be given for cedar trees (when a tree is removed). ○ Councillors have been giving a preview of the work that has been undertaken to create a “Data Information Hub” – this will provide a simpler landing page that will contain all the information that the town tracks on numerous issues – planning, traffic, housing targets, etc. There will be a public launch of this page in April once the fine tuning and revisions are completed. Stay tuned! ○ Noise bylaw review is being undertaken and there continues to be concerns raised about the use of loud lawn equipment (often the landscapers using/muffler noise/loud music on vehicles, etc.) There have been recent changes under the provincial regulations of what a municipality can do in terms of fines/charges. ○ Towing issues – the Ward 1 councillors have once again raised concerns regarding predatory towing (especially in Bronte) and have asked staff to report back on any options that might be available to the municipality. |
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- **Lakeshore Road West reconstruction:** Council approved a modification to the plan for reconstructing Lakeshore Road West from West Street to Third Line and Third Line to Dorval Drive. The section from West St. to Third Line will proceed and will take place later (depending on the large amount of development on Lakeshore in Bronte (south side between Jones and Nelson) corner of East St. and Lakeshore (condominium building). The remaining sections east of Third Line are deferred until a later date.

Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols

- The Meals on Wheels March campaign raised over \$22,000. There was great uptake from the community this year.
- Currently serving 110 people + 3 Acclaim Adult Programs for a total of 165 meals per day.
- Received a grant that allowed a Sheridan media student to be hired on contract. This student developed social the media campaign for March for Meals and continues to manage social media platforms.

Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore

- There is no news or direction regarding funding opportunities.
- CDH will continue to insure the volunteers and the program until the end of June.
- Jude, Volunteer Engagement Program Officer finished his contract at the end of March.

enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan.

- Our support group now has 23 members; 20 of whom actively participate in our virtual &/or in person meetings.
- We meet in person on the first Tuesday of every month at Trafalgar Park Community Centre, & virtually the third Tuesday of every month using ZOOM.
- March 5 enVision Oakville Meeting #185 (In Person), we had 13 Participants. In addition to a lively check-in with the participants Sharing their stories; we agreed to have Dr. Gary Yau as a guest speaker virtually using zoom on Wednesday, April 17, 8 p.m-8:45 p.m.
- March 18 CNIB Volunteer Group leads zoom meeting hosted by our CNIB staff lead Vera. I was one of three participants.
- I represented Oakville and the other two leads represented Burlington/Hamilton, and the new group beginning soon in Waterloo.
- March 19 enVISION Oakville Meeting #186 (Virtual), we had 7 Participants of whom 3 shared their stories. Among them was our member who is in long-term-care and is still seeking more social contact. We suggested again that her daughter contact Halton Registry.

OAAC – Darlene Cox

- Last meeting hosted Donna Slater from Food for Life. This organization partners with charitable organization to provide food support.
- There are 49 free food programs, 2 markets who service over 2,550, 1486 households. Appointments can be made to pick up the food and no one is turned away. You do not have to qualify for the program. Currently the main library holds a fresh food locker. It is noted that 22% of users are older adults.
- Subsidized apartments receive Food for Life programs.
- Salon Jeffers, Health Promoter, Halton Region discussed the dental program and asked for feedback.
- Heather Thompson will be at the next meeting to discuss Elder Abuse and will have two police officers with her.

Connection in Action – Shahzi Yasmin Bokhari –

- Attended market with Food for Life back in November/December of 2023. Many people came by the table resulting in three referrals.
- The Food for Life App is not as convenient, but you can book a time in person at the market.
- Shahzi to reach out to Pat regarding upcoming events and finalize posters. (Milton and Oakville). Space is being provided in kind and CIA will be covering costs of parking at the library.

Halton Age-Friendly – Julie Pennal

- Attended the first meeting via Zoom.
- Attending light education training on April 8
- Presenting information about Oakville Seniors Services to CIA event at the library.
- Priorities this year include funding.

WOW/Links2Wellbeing – Kelly Meeussen

- Seniors Centres Without Walls (WOW) is a telephone-based activity program offered to seniors 50+. No additional technology other than a telephone is required.
- Currently offering programming twice per week, including historical discussions, chair fitness and meditations.
- Partnered with Aurora Seniors Centre to expand program offerings. Calendar reflects programming from Monday to Friday, mornings and afternoons.
- April, May and June, Oakville is offering 2 new programs. The first Thursday of each month features a guest speaker. The last Wednesday morning of each month features “What’s the Tea?”

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2023 stats showed 813 callers for the year with an average of 68 callers per month. Numbers have declined since the pandemic, however, continue to be steady in 2023 and early 2024. ○ Links 2 Wellbeing is a program that aims to transform the way healthcare providers link older adults to social and recreational opportunities. This is a made-in-Ontario social prescribing program that began in 2018. Jolaine Montgomery, Assistant Programmer from QEPOAC is the facilitator of this program for Oakville Seniors Services. ○ Currently have 10 participants and 3 referrals. There are 3 volunteer ambassadors that meet with clients to review our programs and find out what they are interested in. Programs include, drop-in programs, memberships, registered programs and day trips. ○ See video explaining the impact of this program: https://www.oacao.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/OACAO-Social-Prescribing-Conference-Video-1-1-1-1.mp4 |
| 7. | <p>New Business Arising/Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Feedback on SWAG presents: POA's with Andrea Parliament – 36 surveys indicated the attendees were pleased with the presentation and 2 said they disliked it. ○ Andrea has asked if she can attend some SWAG meetings. Her next career focus will be understanding and helping seniors understand what dignity really looks like for themselves and for those who care for them. ○ The SWAG committee discussed the Midtown Development Proposal from both an older adult and young persons prospective and it was agreed that the members would each put their thoughts in an email that would be sent to Darlene. A letter would then be written, that captures these thoughts and forwarded to Councillor Duddeck who would present them to Council on behalf of SWAG. ○ Reminder that the Senior's Information Fair at QEP is taking place on Tuesday, April 30 from 9 a.m. to noon. There will be 44 vendors attending, and 2 sponsorships to cover the cost of food, bags and giveaways. ○ SWAG May 22 meeting has been cancelled and moved to Friday, May 24 at 9:30 a.m. at QEP with the Policy Review Board. ○ Reminder from Margaret that Oakville Green is selling native flowers. Darlene to send out the website for more information. ○ Ted asked if questions could be sent in advance regarding the master plan. Jen McPetrie agreed to accept the questions in advance. ○ Darlene suggested that we have a speaker to talk about Emergency Management in Halton. <p>Meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.</p> |
| 8. | <p>Date of next meeting – Wednesday, April 24, at 1:30 p.m. on Zoom</p> |

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

Seniors' Working Action Group (SWAG) - We're Age Friendly

Minutes – April 24, 2024 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Ruth Sheridan, Pat Moore, Ted Lambert, Stephanie O'Keefe, Bev Cathro, Margaret Kirwin, Tom Carrothers.

Regrets: Julie Pennal, Councillor Duddeck, Michelle Nichols, Pierre Wong, Jennifer McPetrie

Guest: Andrea Parliament, Lawyer

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

1. **Call to Order:** by Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.

2. **Guest Speaker:** Andrea Parliament, Lawyer

- New focus: Dignity in aging that respects and values human life.
- Foster independence, bodily integrity, and uniqueness of life as a senior.
- Understand contributions, unique experiences and provide a platform to contribute in a meaningful way, establish meaningful conversations with community and family.
- Understand the vocabulary of "What does self value mean".
- Transition to retirement: How do others see you?
- Develop tools for conversation and a more dignified way of living.
- Interaction on an intellectual level, isolate key issues, host support sessions, discuss concepts, personal reflection, acquire skills, opportunities to teach each other.
- Idea: Groups of 12 people (including those who have professional careers). Lunch and learn style, brown bag, refreshments, provide outlet for conversation and learning.
- Idea: Focus on widowers -find their value after the death of a spouse.
- SJC and SWAG to support – to be defined.
- Andrea to continue to work on concept and provide a more structured outline at the next meeting.

3. **Attendance / Regrets –** Regrets as noted.

4. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**

Bev Cathro, seconded by Ted Lambert. Carried.

5. **Update from Jen McPetrie** - no report this week.

Standing Agenda Items

Councillor update: Cathy Duddeck –

Monday evening the Council deliberated on the Official Plan amendment (known as an OPA) for the Midtown area surrounding the GO Station and Cornwall Road.

While the draft plan contained building heights from 10 storeys to 48 storeys.



There were concerns regarding the amount of “actual” developable land. The plan indicated that the area in its’ entirety was over 100 hectares. However, there is only 43 hectares of land that is actually able to be developed.

The report was lacking in this regard and given the concerns regarding the “actual” population numbers, the amount of land to develop, the heights and density being proposed for the area. A petition was created by the Ward 3 Councillors Janet Haslett-Theall and Dave Gittings. The petition called for an alternate plan to be developed for early June that addresses the questions/concerns raised regarding the above and numerous other concerns (schools, parkland, etc). The petition was supported by Councillor’s, Elgar, Duddeck, Chisholm, McNeice, O’Meara, Knoll, Grant, Nanda, and Mayor Burton. We had over 31 delegations present and as a result of the last minute petition, several indicated they would modify their remarks and some even deferred their presentations until June 3.

Housing Accelerator Fund

May 6th is the Council meeting when this matter will be decided. Again, the major points of the plan that the Federal Government is insisting for inclusion is that we permit 4 units to be built on a single property anywhere in the town. There is also another request that a special zone within 800 metres of Sheridan College permit 4 storey homes and additional zoning changes for that area.

There has been a considerable amount of pressure from the federal government

insisting that they will withhold the transfer of some infrastructure funds to the provinces who do not adopt these zoning changes (funds were previously committed to in previous announcements). They may withhold transfers if we do not make the changes they request. The provincial government is on record saying they will let individual communities decide if they want to participate and they will not force municipalities to adopt the changes.

The Data Hub is up and running and you can use the search function on the town's web page to access the Planning, Housing Pledge, Strategic Plan and Demographics data in real time that the town retains.

Nominations for this year's Community Spirit Awards closes this Friday.

Oakville Transit pleased to announce the launch of the Oakville Transit On-Demand mobile app, providing an even more convenient way for Home to Hub, care-A-van and Ride On-Demand customers to schedule a trip.

Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols

- No report this week

Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore

- Media release – Trudeau support in Halton region for assisted living, low-income housing.
- Tick season is early due to warm winter. – See article in CARP.
- Shred It Event with Halton Regional Police – May 4, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- New scam– SIM swap fraud- when a scammer transfers your phone number to another device without your authorization – education and awareness.

enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan.

April 2: enVISION Oakville meeting #187 (in person) We had 14 in attendance and discussed critical dates: April 10 and 11th (Oakville Transit community engagement talks) April 17 (zoom meeting with ophthalmologist) May 6 (CNIB, Mobile Hub comes to Oakville) It was a great meeting, and all went really well until at 11:27 a fire alarm put an abrupt end to an otherwise perfect meeting.

April 16: enVISION Oakville (Virtual)meeting #188.

We had 8 in attendance. We talked about the Oakville Transit bus system, which is going to see changes over the next 3 to 5 years and street crossings. It is important to advocate for our needs.

We are wondering to what level the CNIB mobility program interfaces or influences the upcoming changes to train or bus systems. In other words, if we want to see something changed, do we ourselves talk to the Town directly or should we approach somebody within CNIB to do it for us? We also exchanged some audio book recommendations.

April 17: en**VISION** Oakville: Virtual presentation (8- 8:45 pm) by Dr. Gary Yau, ophthalmologist at the Sunnybrook Hospital Toronto who answered our questions with 9 in attendance.

April 20: "Viewpoint Vancouver" Live Stream education presentation by the Foundation Fighting Blindness zoom 5 -8 PM

April 22: CNIB Virtual Meeting: Volunteer Appreciation
6pm – 7pm.

May 6: CNIB Mobile Hub

May 7 en**VISION** Oakville Meeting #189 (In Person)

OAAC – Darlene Cox

- Heather Thompson presented on Elder Abuse. It was an excellent presentation. Two police officers were in attendance.

Halton Age-Friendly – Julie Pennal

- No report this week

WOW/Links2Wellbeing – Kelly Meeussen

- **WOW:** Support was requested to help promote the WOW program. It was discussed that Kelly will create a flyer for the committee to share.
- New calendars for July, August and September will be coming out in mind June. Copies will be sent along with the flyer to committee members.
- **Links2Wellbeing:** We are so pleased to announce that Phase 2 of the Links2Wellbeing: Social Prescribing for Older Adults project has officially been approved for four more years of funding support from an Anonymous Donor. We will continue to work in partnership with the Alliance for Healthier Communities. Phase 2 is a 4-year extension of the project running seamlessly from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2028. We will continue working with and supporting our current OACAO L2W partners and will strive to grow and develop the SALC network. Our dedicated team remains steadfast in our mission to embed Social Prescribing into both the healthcare system and the community-based seniors' services/SALC sector to create sustainability for our project.

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| 7. | <p>New Business Arising/Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tom mentioned the Wellness Show taking place at the Burlington Seniors Centre on June 16, featuring various presentations. ○ Midtown letter to the Mayor/Council complete and sent. Question: is another letter required to Federal government. ○ Reminder about the Seniors Information Fair on April 30 at QEP. <p>Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.</p> |
| 8. | <p>Date of next meeting – Friday, May 24 at 9:30 a.m. at QEP in conjunction with Policy Review Board Midtown update.</p> |

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

Seniors' Working Action Group (SWAG) - We're Age Friendly

Minutes – Wednesday, June 26, 2024 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Ruth Sheridan, Pat Moore, Ted Lambert, Bev Cathro, Margaret Kirwin, Jennifer McPetrie, Bev Cathro, Micheline Wheeler, Julie Pennal

Regrets: Councillor Duddeck, Michelle Nichols, Pierre Wong, Tom Carrothers, Stephanie O'Keefe

Guest: Johnathan Vaisberg, Research Scientist Sonova

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

1. **Call to Order:** by Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.

2. **Guest Speaker:** Johnathan Vaisberg, Research Scientist Sonova
Jonathan Vaisberg is a Research Audiologist with the Sonova Innovation Centre Toronto. Jonathan provided an overview of the following topics:

- Sonova is a leading provider of innovative hearing care solutions including hearing aids, cochlear implants, wireless communication products, digital solutions and professional audiological care.
- Jonathan touched on areas including: How do we hear, causes and types of hearing loss, hearing loss and co-morbidities, hearing aids and dementia, The ACHIEVE trial, hearing aids and modern innovations, hearing technology and how you can get involved in clinical research to help further develop, evaluate and validate new ways to improve hearing solutions.
- Research labs are in Mississauga and Kitchener.
- Opportunities to join their research database.
- Contact information: innovation.toronto@sonova.com, 905-745-6785, 3105 Glen Erin Drive, Unit 2 Mississauga, ON L5L 1J3, 20 Beasley Drive Kitchener, ON N2E 1Y6

3. **Attendance / Regrets** – Regrets as noted.

4. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**
Pat Moore, seconded by Margaret Kirwin. Carried.

5. **Update from Jen McPetrie**

- Canada Day in Bronte and reminder of street closures
- Drop-in \$1 fee removed and increase in membership fees at time of renewal. This change will create a smooth check in process, increased access to drop-in programs. Subsidy options are available if necessary.
- Sixteen Mile is coming along. Still looking at a fall 2025 launch.
- Currently working on budget process.

Standing Agenda Items

Councillor Cathy Duddeck update:

Canada Day is being held this weekend at the same location, Bronte Waterfront Park, but due to increased construction (road hazards) it is recommended that people use the Oakville Transit or have someone drop them off.

Oakville Transit shuttle service

The Town of Oakville is pleased to offer free Oakville Transit shuttle services to and from Bronte GO station. Shuttle service will begin at 3:45 p.m., running every 10 minutes, providing safe and convenient access to the event due to road closure and no on-site parking. Shuttles will pick up passengers at Bronte GO on the Wyecroft Road side and drop attendees off at the corner of Marine Drive and Jones Street. The last shuttle to the park will leave Bronte GO station at 9:30 p.m. Once the fireworks have ended, the return shuttle to Bronte GO Station will begin. All shuttles are accessible, wheelchair- and stroller-friendly.

[Care-A-van services](#) are also available free of charge throughout the duration of the event. To request care-A-van services for Oakville's Canada Day event, please email events@oakville.ca by June 24, 2024.

Midtown planning is still ongoing as we are awaiting to review a revised concept plan that is in keeping with the most recent council resolution to have the consultants and staff revisit the population numbers, height, density, etc. and report back to Council and the public. As a result of provincial legislation changes, Halton Region, is no longer a planning authority when it comes to considering planning applications that are submitted to the various individual municipalities. In the past, the region provided input/comment on each application and as such were recognized by the province as a planning authority. The rationale from the province is speed up the processing of applications by removing another approval layer in the planning process. Property Standards continue to be an issue for many across town – adjacent properties not being attended to (cutting the grass, overgrown noxious weeds, garbage, etc.). If residents have concerns about a property, they should call the town at 905 845-6601 and Service Oakville will take the information and create an incident number for tracking the complaint.

Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols

Highlights from our fiscal year ending March 31, 2024:

- 29,890 Individual Meals delivered, up 23% from last year.
- 12,250 volunteer hours, up 53% from last year.
- 137, 280 Kilometres driven, up 10% from last year.

We are very happy to report that our previously denied grant for *Ensuring Affordable Nutrition* in Category One for the Halton Region Community Investment Fund was reviewed during the continuing intake applications and it has been approved as a

Category Two grant for \$25,000! Additionally, the Continuing Intake application for *Let's Keep it Hot!* has been approved as a Category One grant in the amount of \$14,010.

Volunteers needed:

- We are presently seeking an HR specialist to join our Board of Directors. If you know anyone who might be interested, please have them contact our board secretary at board@oakvillemealsonwheels.com
- Weekly Drivers to help deliver meals and have chat with our clients over the lunch hour.
- Volunteers to help with our monthly bingos.
- Committee members to help organize our 50th anniversary.

Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore

- The Halton Regional Police Service (HRPS), in partnership with the Town of Oakville Municipal Enforcement Services, is once again launching the annual project, Police on Park Patrol (P.O.P.P).
- With the arrival of warmer weather an increasing number of Oakville residents are heading to town parks, school grounds and trail systems. As a result, both the HRPS and Oakville Municipal Enforcement Services receive an increased level of complaints and calls for service related to issues in these public spaces.

Project P.O.P.P. will help ensure everyone can enjoy these spaces safely with increased patrols at several municipal parks, school properties and trails across Oakville. The project will include enforcement of town by-laws as well as Provincial and Criminal statutes, including Mischief, loitering, underage drinking/drug use, disturbances, noise complaints. This project will run through the summer beginning June 28, 2024, and will end September 1, 2024. The Halton Regional Police Service and its partners remain committed to community safety through prevention, education, and enforcement initiatives.

Members of the community can continue to call the Halton Regional Police Service non-emergency line 905-825-4777 to report nuisance-related concerns.

Media Inquiries:

Halton Regional Police Service

Media Relations

Phone: **905-825-4899**

Email: corpcomm@haltonpolice.ca

enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan.

Congratulations Ruth on your receipt of the Community Spirit Award!

May 6 - CNIB Mobile Hub set up workshops at Glen Abbey library 10 AM - 3:30 PM

May 7- en**VISION** Oakville Meeting #189 (In Person)

13 attendees including our CNIB Manager Vera.

We welcomed a new member who is totally blind and he shared his tragic story with us.

May 21- Podcast: The Role Artificial Intelligence plays in the lives of the blind and partially sighted.

May 22 - Luncheon at Mo's family restaurant

May 28 - en**VISION** Oakville Meeting #190 (Virtual)

Attendees: 9

June 4 - en**VISION** Oakville Meeting #191 (In Person)

Attendees: 13

The group sharing was phenomenal.

June 18 - en**VISION** Oakville Meeting #192 (Virtual)

Attendees: 7

Guest speaker Kate Riccomi, Program Lead Advocacy & Accessible Community Engagement gave a presentation & answered our questions about transportation and how to effectively advocate for the blind & low vision community in Oakville as they have their new transportation plan under development.

June 18 - Public presentation and hearing about the master plan: "Join the Town of Oakville on June 18, 2024, in the South Atrium at Town Hall from 6 to 9 p.m. for the transportation master plan public information centre and help us together imagine system solutions for transportation in Oakville."

June 20 - Podcast: Viewpoint: Glaucoma: Research & Practice

Halton Age-Friendly – Julie Pennal

- Attended two fairs in Milton and Oakville. It was a great opportunity to promote seniors' services in new areas. The response was positive as there was a lot of community outreach asking what programs we offer.
- Looking at possible funding to cover PT field specialists (Shahzi, Tzianna)
- Waiting for grant approval for Empowerment Seminar. Nazia and Julie are scheduled to meet mid July to discuss plans.

WOW/Links2Wellbeing – Kelly Meeussen

- **WOW:** Mercuri Teleconferencing System is not functional due to technical difficulties. The WOW program is currently on hold until a resolution is found. Kelly is meeting online with Dial Pad as a possible solution.
- **Links2Wellbeing:** Two referrals were provided by Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital. This was the first time a referral was provided by

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| | the hospital. Jolaine has a meeting with Acclaim Health to discuss the program. |
| 7. | <p>New Business Arising/Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As per Mayor's newsletter, there has been a change to the Midtown project. ○ Upcoming SWAG presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consider another presentation about MAID program. ○ Amy Madan – Death Doula offering grief support for family before and after. Opportunity for Q & A. ○ Death Café – safe space to talk about death and dying. ○ Dr. Hunter retired OBGYN, who is passionate about MAID and able to provide a medical perspective when navigating the system. ○ Date: Wednesday, September 18 – QEP Rehearsal Hall. ○ Virtual – Anti Fraud presentation. Darlene to book speaker and confirm details for the newsletter. ○ Future speakers: Michael Lee, Plum Care and Karen Slonim from Sheridan Elder Research Centre. <p>Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.</p> |
| 8. | <p>Information Sharing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Revenue Canada Scam: Pat mentioned that a friend of hers received a brown envelope in the mail from Revenue Canada, mailed from Toronto. Everything looked legitimate. |
| 9. | <p>Date of next meeting – There is no meeting in August. Next meeting is on Zoom, Wednesday, September 25 at 1:30 p.m. Presentation topic: Transportation Master Plan.</p> |

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

Seniors' Working Action Group (SWAG) - We're Age Friendly

Minutes – Wednesday, July 24, 2024 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Ruth Sheridan, Ted Lambert, Margaret Kirwin, Jennifer McPetrie, Bev Cathro, Micheline Wheeler, Julie Pennal, Pierre Wong, Tom Carrothers, Stephanie O'Keefe, Pat Moore

Regrets: Councillor Duddeck, Michelle Nichols

Guest: Dr. Linda Lee – Plum Tree Memory Care, Karen Slonim – Sheridan Centre for Elder Research

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

1. **Call to Order:** by Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.

2. **Guest Speaker:** Dr. Linda Lee

Dr. Lee presented an overview of her company and the services provided to support individuals living with dementia.

- Plum Tree is a private clinic with usual OHIP coverage that offers complete and compassionate care to individuals and families living with memory concerns.
- The clinical team includes Dr. Lee, Care of the Elderly family physician, Dementia Doula, Clinical Pharmacist, Social Worker, Occupational Therapist, Registered Practical Nurse.
- Plum Tree was created to compliment the foundational work of the MINT Memory Clinic.
- Ability to assess, plan out next steps and discuss wellness strategies, while providing a holistic approach to health care. The team collaborates to provide the best possible treatment and care, considering all aspects of physical, emotional and social wellbeing of their clients.
- The services include Memory assessments, CBT-insomnia, neuropsychology assessment, dementia doula, better together coaching, home safety assessment, optimizing your medication, counselling, and care partner education.
- **Two locations: Kitchener – 16 Andrew Street and Oakville – OakMed Family Health Team, 231 Oak Park Blvd., 226-355-7586.**

Karen Slonim provided an overview of her research – In Conversation with Older Adults:

- Karen is a health educator and currently works with Sheridan Centre for Elder Research.
- Research focused on community-based participatory research and created a project roadmap that included: **Listen:** take the time to engage in meaningful conversations to hear what matters to older adults, **Communicate:** report back and make sure there is a consensus on next steps, **Co-design:** based on the priorities agreed upon, invite older adults to carry out the research, **Implement:** after materials are developed, test and disseminate them together.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Areas of engagement included: recreation centre (Burlington), low income housing (Hamilton), retirement home (Cambridge). ○ Projects developed included: co-design of a volunteer tool kit, promote conversation around death and dying. ○ Limitations identified: difficult to answer the question of what we want, not including the voices of socially isolated older adults, not capturing community diversified, how do we have meaningful conversations about aging, without implying that ageing has meaning. ○ Contact information: karen.slonim@sheridancollege.ca or call 905-845-9430 x. 4282 |
| 3. | Attendance / Regrets – Regrets as noted. |
| 4. | Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda Error noted in the July meeting agenda: 7C – should read January 2025. Margaret Kirwin, seconded by Micheline Wheeler. Carried. |
| 5. | Update from Jen McPetrie <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Flooding has been a hot topic with the recent heavy rainfall. ○ Harbours, parks and some town facilities were affected. ○ Summer events taking place in Oakville include, movies in the park, free swims every Wednesday. |
| 6. | Standing Agenda Items Councillor Cathy Duddeck update: Many of us have been impacted, me included, with flooding in our basement areas. There is excellent information on the Region of Halton's website to assist homeowners. I am providing a copy of the landing page on the Halton Regional website to provide committee members the information if they do not have computer access. For those who have computer access go to www.halton.ca and type in wastewater (sewage) backups in homes. Halton - Taking Action - Wastewater (Sewage) Backups in Homes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report flooding to Halton Region • What to do if wastewater backs up in your home • Step 1: Contact Halton Region • Step 2: Contact your insurance provider • Step 3: Take safety precautions • Step 4: Clean and/or dispose of items that have been in contact with wastewater from the backup • Step 5: Ex-gratia Grant for Public Sewer Backups • Frequently asked questions Report flooding to Halton Region Updated: July 22, 2024, at 12:30 p.m. |

Important reminder: Before you clean up your home, make sure to call 311 or email accesshalton@halton.ca to report the flooding regardless of the source, report the damage to your insurance provider and take photos. Halton Public Works staff are working as quickly as possible to follow-up with all property owners impacted by flooding in the home. All inquiries will be processed. Find steps to take to recover and prevent flooding in your home below.

What to do if wastewater backs up in your home? The Region owns from the sewer main on the street to your property line. You own from the property line into your home.

Regardless of the source of the blockage, use the following procedure to get help.

Step 1: Contact Halton Region

Contact Halton Region immediately by calling 311 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

- Public Works staff will review the property history and contact the homeowner directly to discuss the situation.
- if necessary, staff will arrange for an external contractor typically provided by Enbridge Gas to investigate.
- the contractor will conduct a Sewer Safety Inspection (SSI) to ensure the natural gas line does not cross through the sewer line. The SSI also helps determine the location of the sewer blockage.

Halton Public Works staff will follow up with the homeowner to:

- assess the issue.
- clear any identified blockages located on the Region's (municipal) side of the wastewater sewer system.
- if the blockage is on the private (residential) side of the property, you will be directed to contact a private plumber.

Step 2: Contact your insurance provider

Contact your insurance provider as soon as possible. Report property damage caused by the flooding.

- discuss your coverage with your home insurance provider (e.g., emergency clean up services, repairs and replacement coverage).
- keep receipts for all expenses that you incur for your insurers' use.
- discuss what steps you need to take to make a claim.
- take photos of damage caused by flood for your insurance claim.

Depending on the terms of your insurance policy, your insurer(s) may:

- assign an adjuster to visit your home to take pictures and handle your claim
- recommend a vendor who will conduct the emergency services and repairs

Step 3: Take safety precautions

Take precautions to prevent illness and injury. Sewage from a wastewater back up can pose a health and safety risk.

- keep children and pets out of the affected area until cleanup has been completed.
- if water has risen above electrical outlets or water is near electrical panels, consider shutting off your hydro. Contact your local hydro company and/or an electrician, if necessary. **Note:** This would affect the operation of a sump pump or sewage ejector.
- if you detect gas, leave the house immediately and contact your gas provider. Water can extinguish a pilot light on a gas appliance, but gas may continue to run.
- do not use toilets or sinks until the source of the backup is known. This will help prevent more wastewater from entering your home.

Step 4: Clean and/or dispose of items that have been in contact with wastewater from the backup

If you are going to perform your own cleaning, sanitizing and handling of affected items:

- wear protective clothing such as rubber gloves, protective eyewear, rubber boots and a disposable particulate mask (for example, 3M 8210 or equivalent N95 mask).
- clean walls, floors and non-porous items (e.g., materials made of plastic) using a solution of household bleach.
- if you notice mold growth anywhere in your home after the flood, it is important to remove the source of moisture and clean the affected area:
 - Wipe or scrub surfaces using a damp cloth and a solution of water and unscented detergent.
 - Sponge with a clean damp cloth.
 - Dry quickly and thoroughly.
 - Once dry, vacuum the cleaned surfaces as well as surrounding surfaces with a HEPA (high-efficiency particulate air) vacuum cleaner.
- do not consume potentially contaminated food. Throw out these food items that may have been in direct contact with wastewater:
 - Food in boxes, bags, paper and plastic wrap
 - Food and drinks in bottles, plastic containers and jars, including home preserves (the area beneath the lid cannot be properly cleaned and disinfected)
 - Fresh foods such as meats, fruits, vegetables, and eggs
 - For more food safety and disposal information, [call 311](#).
- dispose of or wash (in a separate load) all clothes worn during the cleanup in hot water and detergent.

- remove and discard drywall, insulation, flooring or other porous items (e.g., furniture, rugs, mattresses) that have been in direct contact with wastewater.
- some belongings, especially those that are contaminated with sewage, or those that cannot be quickly dried and effectively cleaned, may not be salvageable.
- remove standing water and ventilate the area. Use a de-humidifier, fan or open windows to let fresh air in.

Step 5: Ex-gratia Grant for Public Sewer Backups

You may qualify for financial assistance from Halton Region if Public Works staff have investigated the sewer backup and determined that:

- a blockage occurred on the municipal side of the wastewater system; or
- the wastewater backup was the result of a sewer surcharge.

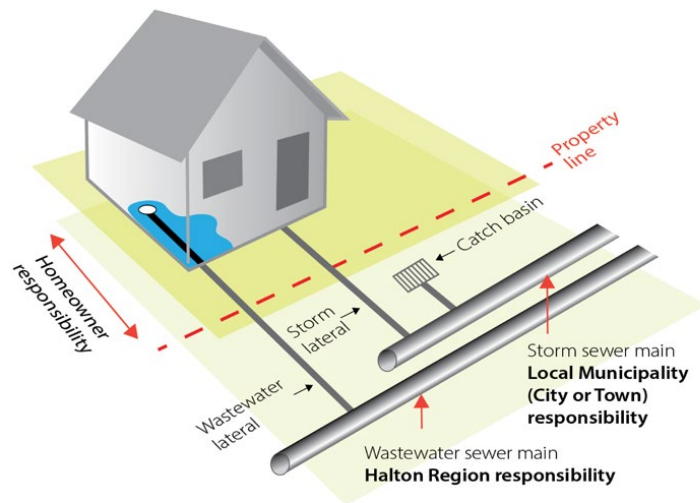
The image in this section illustrates the border between the private side and municipal side of the sewer lateral.

Halton Region's Ex-gratia Grant (\$1,000) for Public Sewer Backup can help residents to either offset the cost of an insurance deductible or help with flooding-related costs that are not otherwise covered under their home insurance policy.

Residents who sustain property damage from blockages that occur on the private side of the wastewater system and/or blockages that are the result of objects in the drain that originate from the building or private side of the wastewater sewer system are not eligible for the grant.

Remember:

To be eligible for the Ex-gratia Grant for Public Sewer Backup, you must immediately report the sewage backup to Halton Region. Public Works staff will contact you regarding next steps.



Halton Region is responsible for the section of wastewater service line that runs from the wastewater main at the street, up to and including the curb stop.

The property owner/homeowner is responsible for the section of wastewater service line that runs from the curb stop into the home. Homeowners are also responsible for all indoor plumbing.

Frequently asked questions

Who do I call to report flooding?

Contact Halton Region – [call 311](tel:311) or email accesshalton@halton.ca as soon as possible. All calls will be processed. Public Works staff will book an appointment to visit your property, assess the situation and provide the next steps.

Contact your insurance provider and take photos.

Important: Take these steps before you start your cleanup.

What help is available and how do I dispose of items damaged by flood water?

Halton Region is providing enhanced garbage and bulk waste collection for property owners who have reported flooding to the Region. If this is you, we will provide information about the services to you directly by phone, email or we will drop a letter at your home. To report flooding to Halton Region, [call 311](tel:311) or email accesshalton@halton.ca.

Is the tap water safe to drink?

All the Region's water and wastewater treatment plants are continuing to operate normally with no risk to drinking water quality. Halton's drinking water is safe to drink.

If your home relies on private well water supplies and septic systems and you suspect that your well water supply may be contaminated by flood waters, use an alternate source of drinking water until you can obtain test results indicating that your well water is safe for drinking.

Does Halton Region offer any grants to assist with recovery/clean up?

If you have flooding, contact Halton Region – [call 311](tel:311) or email accesshalton@halton.ca as soon as possible. Public Works staff will assess the source of the flooding.

An Ex-gratia Grant (\$1,000) is available to property owners to assist with flood-related costs where Halton Region Public Works staff have investigated and determined that:

- a blockage occurred on the municipal side of the wastewater system; or
- the wastewater backup was the result of a sewer surcharge.

[Learn about our Ex-Gratia Grant and how to qualify.](#)

How do I safely clean up after a flood?

- wear appropriate personal protective equipment including a disposable particulate mask (for example, 3M 8210 or equivalent N95 mask), unvented safety goggles rubber boots and household rubber gloves and ventilate the area.
- remove standing water, mud and other debris with pumps or pails, a wet/dry vacuum and rags and/or towels.
- [Get more instructions on clean up](#) or read our [Guide to Flooding Prevention & Recovery\(PDF file\)](#).

Are there any impacts to air quality due to flooding?

- indoor air quality can be affected from dust created during clean-up activities, cleaners and disinfectants, and mold. [Learn how to properly handle and clean up from mold](#) or read our [Guide to Flooding Prevention & Recovery\(PDF file\)](#).
- remember to
 - keep infants, pregnant women, the elderly or those with existing health problems such as respiratory disease or a weakened immune system away.

- keep rooms well ventilated. Use a de-humidifier, fan or open windows to let fresh air in. If possible, close off the flooded areas from other parts of the house.
- wear protective clothing such as a disposable particulate mask (for example, 3M 8210 or equivalent N95 mask), unvented safety goggles, rubber boots and household rubber gloves.

What do I do with food stored in an area affected by the flood?

- food and drinks in bottles, plastic containers, plastic wrap and jars, including home preserves as well as fresh foods such as meats, fruits, vegetables, and eggs should be placed in the garbage. Find your collection day here: [Halton - Online Waste Collection Schedule](#).
- commercially canned food without dents, leaks and bulges are considered safe if properly cleaned and disinfected. Use a disinfectant that is non-toxic and safe for food contact surfaces.
- discard any eating utensils, cutting boards and other food contact surfaces that cannot be properly cleaned and disinfected.
- follow the Food Safety tips on the [During an Emergency web page](#) to find out how to manage food safety if you experienced a power outage.

Halton Region offers a [Basement Flooding Prevention Subsidy program](#) to help make it easier and more affordable to make home improvements that can help prevent basement flooding.

[Learn more about our subsidies and support for downspout disconnection, weeping tile disconnection and sump pump installation, backwater valve installation and sewer later \(pipe\) lining and repair.](#)

The Midtown planning process continues, and we are awaiting an additional report from the consultants to provide us options other than those previously presented (concerns about any type of approval of 65 storeys in the midtown area).

The Halton Regional Police and the Town of Oakville Bylaw staff are once again working together on the POP program (Police on Patrol in parks) in our waterfront parks. There have been some concerns regarding people's actions as they relate to security – setting off fireworks, making fires, loitering, etc.

There is some discussion regarding the possible relocation of TOWARF (Town of Oakville Water and Air Rescue Forces) from the Oakville harbour to the Bronte harbour. The old TOWARF building may be used for other purposes (one option was a waterfront restaurant but parking is a concern).

Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols

- No report this month

Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore

- No report this month

enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan.

July 2 - Oakville Meeting #193 (In person)

- We had 11 participants for this meeting on the day after the Canada Day long weekend. It was surely an emotional meeting since we had a birthday to celebrate. It was also emotional because the effects of ageing and vision loss and sometimes the combination of the two, can be depressing and cruel. Our group can be a good source of comfort in such difficult times. Our birthday girl was 95! Amazing! We all sang Happy Birthday with a standing ovation, speeches and a poem. She then opened her heart sharing that ageing, and vision lost together are not easy. Later, two others expressed the same sentiments, especially someone who now relies entirely on her family. She is one of the strongest people and the most positive thinker I have ever met.

June 16 Meeting #194 (Virtual)

- We had 8 participants and had an extremely informative meeting. After members were welcomed & housekeeping items reviewed, we had group check in. We supported each other through discussions involving helpful tips and tricks to deal with challenges and supported positive accomplishments. Announcements included:
 #1 The issue with the CNIB Mobile Hub arriving in Oakville July 24. The location will not accommodate our needs.
 #2 Fighting Blindness Canada will come to Toronto September 28.
 #3 Oakville Public Library offers wonderful programs and services that members can take advantage of which include travel excursions, free drop-in programs, etc.
- There were a lot of laughs including my riddle solved by a member, followed by giggles & groans. A member gave an account of her adventures at the CNIB camp at Lake Joe, and everyone was impressed with the many activities offered. The tips and tricks were especially informative, and it would be helpful to start keeping a record of them.

Halton Age-Friendly – Julie Pennal

- Unfortunately, we were not successful in receiving the grant funds to support the planning and development of the Empowerment Seminar.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Julie and Nazia will be meeting in the coming weeks to discuss a plan for a symposium series on a smaller scale in 2025. <p>WOW/Links2Wellbeing – Kelly Meeussen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WOW: The Zoom program will be used to facilitate Seniors Centres Without Walls. ○ The WOW team will be meeting to discuss plans for the fall and ways to promote the program to encourage greater participation. ○ Links2Wellbeing: No report this month. |
| 7. | <p>New Business Arising/Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) will be held Wednesday, September 18 at 1:30 p.m. at QEPCCC Rehearsal Hall. Tickets are free and available from August 21 to September 17. |
| 8. | Information Sharing - |
| 9. | <p>NOTE: There is no meeting in August. Next meeting is on Zoom, Wednesday, September 25 at 1:30 p.m. Presentation topic: Transportation Master Plan.</p> |
| 10. | Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. |

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

Seniors' Working Action Group (SWAG) - We're Age Friendly

Minutes – Wednesday, September 25, 2024 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Ruth Sheridan, Ted Lambert, Margaret Kirwin, Jennifer McPetrie, Micheline Wheeler, Julie Pennal, Pierre Wong, Pat Moore, Councillor Duddeck

Regrets: Bev Cathro, Michelle Nichols, Stephanie O'Keefe

Guest: Raymond Bacquie, Isabelle Lee and Gordon Hui– Transportation Master Plan

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

1. **Call to Order:** by Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.

2. **Guest Speaker:** Raymond Bacquie

Oakville Transportation Master Plan

- Team provided an overview of the long-term plan, focusing on an equitable, sustainable, accessible, and connected transportation system that supports planned growth and enables the development of vibrant, people-oriented and transit-supportive complete communities through to 2051.
- Undertaking an integrated master plan including water, wastewater and Multi-Model Transportation Master Plans.
- The plan includes:
 - Strategies, policies and tools required to meet the infrastructure needs of the community now and in the future.
 - It focuses on a multi-model network for all users, including transit, active transportation, cars, farm vehicles and trucks.
 - A needs and opportunities assessment including street, active transportation and transit networks.
 - Identify improvements, identify alternative solutions, evaluate and identify the preferred strategy.
 - Alternative solutions: focus on travel within neighbourhoods, focus on travel with and between neighbourhoods, focus on travel through the town to broader regions including the GTHA.
 - Needs assessment included collision data, speed cameras, road capacity, new opportunities for connectivity, identified safety issues, coordinate improvements between neighbourhood corridors, improve service, more frequent service, expansion of on-demand service, increase service in growth areas.
- On October 23 – scheduled public event – review assessment, solutions and strategic plan over the years.
- A copy of the presentation will be forwarded to Julie for distribution to the committee.

3. **Attendance / Regrets** – Regrets as noted.

4. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**

Ted Lambert, seconded by Micheline Wheeler. Carried.

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| <p>5.</p> <p>6.</p> | <p>Update from Jen McPetrie</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will be leaving her position with the Town of Oakville and moving to a new role with the Town of Erin. ○ Opportunities to adjust the format of the senior centre open houses to attract more people. Incorporate with an information fair with seniors' services representation. ○ Sixteen Mile is coming along and on-schedule to open next fall. There will be seniors programming at the centre. The Town has applied for a SALC grant for more staff support. <p>Standing Agenda Items</p> <p>Councillor Cathy Duddeck update:</p> <p>Storm Water Master Plan</p> <p>The town is currently working through the SWMP (Storm Water Master Plan) with a consultant, looking at everything through out the town in terms of current infrastructure, future planning, necessary improvements to address climate change and the 100 year flood.</p> <p>The current estimates are in excess of \$790 million that will take 30 years to implement. One aspect of this plan is how to pay for the costs associated with the plan. There are several options we are looking at and comparing the costs and equity for the homeowner/businesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residential Property Survey and Non-Residential Property Survey are available until October 18, 2024. • A virtual community information session on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Visit the Stormwater Fee Feasibility Study page to register for the Zoom meeting. • A Public Information Centre (PIC) at Glen Abbey Community Centre on Wednesday, October 2, 6 to 8 p.m. The PIC will begin with a presentation on the study, followed by a question-and-answer period. • A virtual public meeting for commercial, retail and industrial property owners on Wednesday, October 9 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Visit the Stormwater Fee Feasibility Study page to register for the Zoom meeting. <p>There is a landing page on the Town of Oakville website – Stormwater Management Master Plan for further information.</p> <p>The Midtown planning process continues and we are awaiting an additional report from the consultants to provide us options other than those previously presented (concerns</p> |
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about any type of approval of 65 storeys in the midtown area). The province has now introduced a TOC (Transit Oriented Community) for areas around transit hubs.

The issue with this process is the Town and the public are not permitted to participate other than “comment” on the plan they come up with Infrastructure Ontario is working directly with a developer and the community will have an opportunity to “comment” when they present their plan. We are not allowed (Council) to talk about it as we have a Non-Disclosure Agreement that the province insists on ... so public and council participation is missing from this process.

The Halton Regional Police and the Town of Oakville Bylaw staff are once again working together on the POP program (Police on Patrol in parks) in our waterfront parks. There have been some concerns regarding people’s actions as they relate to security – setting off fireworks, making fires, loitering, etc.

There is some discussion regarding the possible relocation of TOWARF (Town of Oakville Water and Air Rescue Forces) from the Oakville harbour to the Bronte harbour. The old TOWARF building may be used for other purposes (one option was a waterfront restaurant but parking is a concern).

Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols

- No report this month

Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore

- Reviewed feedback survey from MAiD presentation. A total of 112 people attended.
- Two scams: Bank investigation and grandparent scams
- Police are hosting a “Shred It” event Saturday, September 28 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Halton Regional building. Donations accepted.

enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan.

enVISION Oakville -

- Our peer support group now has 26 members!

August 6 Meeting #195 (In Person

- 11 attended
- Our first round of Group sharing was revealing, informative and very personal. I lead in the singing of our new theme song, "you've got to accentuate

the positive, etc.” We learned that the CNIB Mobile Hub was unsuccessful. We discussed problems involving care-A-van.

August 20 Meeting #196 (Virtual)

- 9 Participants
- A very upbeat meeting. (August is the month when 5 of our members celebrate birthdays.) We had a wonderful check-in, emphasizing that life has still a lot to offer even when you have a visual impairment. Carpe Diem would probably summarize it accurately. We exchanged tips how to save ticket fare on the GO train, ferries, and VIA Rail.

September 3 Meeting #197 (In Person)

- 14 Participants
- We welcomed Veronica, our new CNIB supervisor.

September 17 Meeting #198 (Virtual)

- We had a great meeting and look forward to celebrating our seven-year anniversary tomorrow and our 200th meeting one month from now. Because of these two anniversaries there are some surprises planned for our next in-person meeting and virtual meetings in October and our In-person meeting in November.

OAAC- Darlene Cox

Mona Jovetic, Citizen Services Specialist of Service Canada provided information on Disability Tax Credit, Old Age Security, Canada Pension Plan benefits , the Canadian Dental Care Plan and other topics.

Jonathan Lo, Quality and Integration Coordinator, provided an overview of the proposed 2025-2027 Services for Seniors Strategic Plan.

Halton Age-Friendly – Julie Pennal

- Not able to attend the October meeting.
- Discussed the open house results and presented the idea of hosting another information fair at QEPCCC in the spring as the previous information fair was very successful. This will allow for a broader reach. Include SWAG, Policy Review and Community Organizations with representation from Seniors Services.

WOW/Links2Wellbeing – Kelly Meeussen

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WOW: October, November, and December calendars are completed. Program includes meditations, guest speakers, trivia, podcasts, and travelogues. ○ We have developed a social media schedule to help promote the program on the seniors FB page. Shared the calendars with local retirement homes, Burlington Seniors and within our own centres. The new calendar will be visible on the Oakville website on September 30. ○ Links2Wellbeing: Received a couple of more referrals. Mailed out information packages to the doctor's offices and received a call from a local doctor asking if the program was still running. ○ Ted indicated that the OACAO was approved for funding to 2028 to support the program. |
| 7. | New Business Arising/Information Sharing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Upcoming in-person presentation: Frauds and Scams with Cynthia Pacheco on Thursday, November 28 at 1:30 p.m. at Trafalgar Park CC. ○ Thursday, January 23 – online presentation on Frauds and Scams with the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre. ○ Pierre asked about no shows for drop-in programs especially pickleball. How does the town monitor this to ensure spaces are available for others. An auto message has been created in Xplor when someone pre-registers for a drop-in program. This message appears 24 hours before the start time of the program reminding members to cancel if they are not planning on attending. Kelly to bring this concern up next cross functional meeting to see if there is a way to track “no shows”. ○ Ted suggested that the committee go back to meeting in person. At least on a 50% basis. It was decided that we would offer a hybrid option to accommodate those who do not live close by and for guest speakers who are not able to attend in person. ○ Julie would like the committee to go out for a Christmas lunch in place of the December meeting to celebrate the holidays. Date and location to be discussed further. ○ The committee wished Jennifer well in her new role and will miss having her part of the team. |
| 8. | Information Sharing - |
| 9. | NOTE: Next meeting is Wednesday, October 23 at 1:30 pm. This meeting will be hybrid (offered on Zoom and in-person) at the Colborne Centre. The speaker will be Halton Community Legal Services. ***Please confirm with Kelly if you are attending in person*** |
| 10. | Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. |

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

Seniors' Working Action Group (SWAG) - We're Age Friendly

Minutes – Wednesday, October 23, 2024 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Ruth Sheridan, Ted Lambert, Margaret Kirwin, Micheline Wheeler, Bev Cathro, Pierre Wong, Pat Moore,

Regrets: Julie Pennal, Julie Mitchell, Michelle Nichols, Stephanie O'Keefe, Councillor Duddeck

Guest: Giulia Reinhardt, Lawyer, Halton Community Legal Services

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

1. **Call to Order:** by Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.

2. **Guest Speaker:** Giulia Reinhardt

Halton Community Legal Services

- Helps low-income individuals living in Halton Region with their legal problems for free.
- Not a government organization. They are funded by Legal Aid Ontario.
- Areas the clinic can assist: Landlord and Tenant, Social Assistance (Ontario Works, ODSP, CPP, CPP-D), employment, human rights.
- Provide referrals to other community groups and agencies.
- Process includes: Clients contact the clinic, intake, appropriate referrals/transferred to caseworker.
- The Outreach Clinic is available to meet with clients in Milton, Burlington, Oakville and Halton Hills (Georgetown/Acton) in locations including libraries, food banks, courthouses.
- Mobile clinic is a free drop-in clinic for low-income people in North Halton. Delivered by HCLS and the Legal Clinic of Guelph and Wellington County. Available between 10 am and 3:30 pm. Alternate between Acton and Georgetown every Friday.
- Provide public legal education sessions including, housing, first time renters, employment law, human rights, wills/power of attorney, social assistance, benefits, police powers and more.
- Provide support for people who are unhoused and require a replacement birth certificate.
- Provide a legal health check-up with focus on income, housing, education, employment, health, family and community supports.
- Provide secondary legal consultation to health care providers, social service providers, community groups and volunteers working with clients or patients, thus eliminating the need for multiple referrals.

Contact information: haltonconsult@hcls.clcj.ca, 905-875-2069, www.haltonlegal.ca
PowerPoint slides have been emailed to the committee.

3. **Attendance / Regrets** – Regrets as noted.

4. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**

Ted Lambert, seconded by Micheline Wheeler. Carried.

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| 5. | <p>Update from Julie Mitchell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No report ○ Darlene did indicate to the group that Julie Mitchell is leaving the Town. The SWAG Committee extends a very large 'Thank You' to Julie for the fantastic support and encouragement she has always given to SWAG. Our best wishes to her in her future endeavours. |
| 6. | <p>Standing Agenda Items</p> <p>Councillor Cathy Duddeck update:</p> <p>This past week the Mayor presented his State of the Town Address. This is an opportunity to hear what has taken place over the past year and what will be coming in 2025.</p> <p>Unfortunately, for some Library patrons, the Centennial Library was closed due to a water leak in the library portion of the building. This is a reinforcement of the need to create a new library for the downtown area and the town is currently looking at using the Old Post Office building and renovating the interior to provide more natural light into the space along with enjoying the views of the Sixteen Mile Creek from the newly renovated library.</p> <p>The old Library location is being allocated for the new Cultural Hub (there have been numerous renditions and plans presented for the public to comment on and express their concerns or support).</p> <p>The hub will have a new performing arts building and there will no longer be an indoor pool as the Trafalgar Community Centre has a new pool to take its' place.</p> <p>The Halton Conservation Authority and the Town of Oakville are providing the public the necessary information (flood plain mapping) for the 14-mile creek area – both north and south.</p> <p>The flood mapping is based on the 100-year flood or as many know it the Hurricane Hazel storm/water levels.</p> <p>At Monday evening's Council meeting there was a memo to Council indicating the rising concerns relating to E Scooters. Currently, the only authority to lay charges under Highway Traffic Act is the police. In November there will be a fuller report coming back to Council regarding this issue. Specifically, regarding what enforcement we as a municipality can implement.</p> <p>The 2025 Budget deliberations are commencing and the projected increase at this point is 3.92 %</p> |

There may adjustments to this projected figure as there are additional requests that both council and the public may want to see included in the budget.

Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols

- Oakville Meals on Wheels is doing well and busy preparing for the upcoming holiday season.
- We are excited to announce we are part of the Give Oakville campaign from the Oakville Community Foundation which will be launching on November 12
- We will be hosting our Purdy's Chocolate Fundraiser November 18 – December 3
- Giving Tuesday – will take place on Tuesday December 3, 2024, raising funds to provide a New Year's Day Meal
- **Save the date:** March for Meals Flag raising at Town Hall on March 4, 2025, at 10 a.m.

Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore

- Sheridan Elder Research – elder.research@sheridancollege.ca, a new line of research: Intergenerational home sharing. If you are an older adult 60+ OR, a student of any age or someone who works in the community supporting/engaging with older adults and/or students in any capacity invited to share thoughts and complete the survey link https://sheridan.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3gY1XLPHAgE0DEG
- The survey was for home sharing of unrelated persons.
- COVID & High-dose flu vaccinations – <https://ontario.ca/vaccine-locations/> High dose flu vaccinations and COVID-19 are now available at 3159 locations. Go to the website, enter a postal code to find the nearest pharmacy. My pharmacist recommended calling for an appointment to ensure the High-dose vaccination was available.
- Crime Stoppers Launches Community Watch, Pilot Program. South-East Oakville Ward 3 inviting members of the community to sign up for the Community Watch newsletter, or register as volunteers, and play an active role in promoting this modernized version of neighbourhood watch <https://Haltoncrimestoppers.ca> click on Community watch.
- Halton Regional Police 4th Annual Kozy Kids Initiative. Starting Thursday October 17th to October 31st. HRPS kindly invites residents & business owners to purchase and donate new snow suits (youth sizes 6-16) by dropping them into collections boxes stationed at any one of HRPS locations – Oakville, Burlington, Milton & Georgetown.

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| | <p>enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan. enVISION Oakville -</p> <p>October 1 Meeting #199 (In Person)</p> <p>15 people attended! This set a new attendance record!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Highlights and takeaways: The additional half hour work wonders. Despite the large number of attendees, we made it without stress through our group check-in and all the way to the lighter side. We had an inspiring group check in. All members commented on the value that they see in our group and mentioned their personal highlights. It was quite moving. We sang happy birthday to 2 of our members. We had a lot of interest in the river cruise & good interest in both Christmas concerts. <p>OAAC- Darlene Cox</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Scot Luren, Halton Housing report: ○ Please see attachment for details of the report <p>Halton Age-Friendly – Julie Pennal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No report this month <p>WOW/Links2Wellbeing – Kelly Meeussen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WOW: Had a few new participants join our program. Continue to promote on social media and share with community partners. ○ Recently shared with a care giver in the community who passed on our information to community partners. ○ Links2Wellbeing: No update this month. |
| 7. | <p>New Business Arising/Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Halton National Right to Housing Day Forum: November 22 at 8:30 a.m. Held at the Noon Gary Allen Centre in Burlington. Registration is free. ○ ○ Upcoming in-person presentation: Frauds and Scams with Cynthia Pacheco on Thursday, November 28 at 1:30 p.m. at Trafalgar Park CC. ○ Thursday, January 23 – online presentation on Frauds and Scams with the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre. ○ Next meeting: Guest speaker: Lia Tsotos – SWAG will be a focus group for Intergenerational Homesharing. |

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| 8. | Information Sharing – |
| 9. | On October 16, Ward 3 Councillors Janet Haslett Theall and Dave Gittings had a zoom presentation on Personal, Property and Car security. Politicians and Councillors spoke on what is being done in Oakville and all of Canada to try and stop break-ins of cars and residences. Halton Regional Police spoke of new measures that are in place and said that they believed many of the car thefts and break-ins were drug related. Cars and other items were sold for cash to gangs and in turn, drugs were purchased with the cash. HRPS offered to have a member of the Auxiliary Police come to your home and check out how secure it is and what could be done to possibly make it more secure. |
| 10. | Ward 2 Councillors Cathy Duddeck and Ray Chisholm are offering an in-person Presentation on the above topic on October 24 at 7pm, Sir John Colborne Recreation Centre for Seniors, 1565 Old Lakeshore Rd. |
| | <p>NOTE: Next meeting is Wednesday, November 27 at 1:30 pm. This meeting will be hybrid (offered on Zoom and in-person) at the Colborne Centre.</p> <p>***Please confirm with Kelly if you are attending in person***</p> |
| | Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. |

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

Seniors' Working Action Group (SWAG) - We're Age Friendly

Minutes – Wednesday, November 27, 2024 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Ruth Sheridan, Ted Lambert, Micheline Wheeler, Bev Cathro, Pierre Wong, Pat Moore, Tom Carruthers, Rachel Fraser, Julie Pennal

Regrets: Michelle Nichols, Stephanie O'Keefe, Councillor Duddeck, Margaret Kirwin

Guest: Sabrina Aziz and Erin Lind – Sheridan College, Centre for Elder Research - Intergenerational Homesharing focus group

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

1. **Call to Order:** by Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.

2. **Guest Speaker:** Sabrina Aziz and Erin Lind – Sheridan College, Centre for Elder Research - Intergenerational Homesharing focus group.

- Sabrina presented five questions to the committee to gain insightful information into their opinions and experiences with homesharing.
- Consent forms were signed and the discussion was recorded.
- Discussion points included: benefits and challenges, expectations, boundaries, short term vs. long term, trial stays, vetting process, understanding lifestyle differences, ensuring security, all age groups to be considered, resolution process if the match is not successful, create a contingency plan, outside support to ensure success, introduce third party mediation if necessary, location of homeshare is important (close to educational institutions and transportation), focus on mature students not first year.
- The group identified that the housing concerns are different today. Rents are high, homesharing is happening in families already, seniors are more fearful due to scams, mistrust, cultural differences with international students.
- Personal stories: made assumptions that turned out to be wrong, important to establish formal boundaries, established lifelong friendships as a result.
- Factors to consider: living in an apartment or condo, parking, bi-laws, incentive program to change your home, such as adding a bathroom, separate entrance, widening driveway etc.

3. **Attendance / Regrets –** Regrets as noted.

4. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**
Ted Lambert, seconded by Pat Moore. Carried.

5. **Introduction and welcome to Rachel Fraser, Recreation Manager – Iroquois Ridge, Oakville Trafalgar Community Centre, White Oaks Pool and Seniors Services.**

- Worked with the city of Mississauga, Meadowvale Centre for Seniors and part of building the Older Adult Plan for the city.
- Worked for the City of Cambridge, and other business lines within the city.
- Has a love for working with seniors.

6. **Standing Agenda Items**

a. **Councillor Cathy Duddeck update:**

While the opening projections for the Town's 2025 budget was at 3.92 % the regional tax increase of 13.4 % (they have a threshold of 4 % that they are to aim for – last year they came in over 9 %). This drastic increase is due to the increase in population and the increase in crime (home invasions are up and the automobile theft continues to play an issue). This would provide 26 more officers to the police department. Due to that increase our Town budget is now looking at a 4.92 % increase. The budget deliberations continue, and the ultimate decision will rest with the Mayor's budget being presented next month (he will take into consideration what Council and the public have recommended) will submit his budget. This process is as a result of the Strong Mayor's Act that introduced by the provincial government.

The province is now releasing its plan for the Midtown area under what is called the TOC process. The TOC or Transit Oriented Community is headed by Infrastructure Ontario. The province works with a developer in arriving a "their" vision for the Oakville Midtown area. This is done without input from either the community or Oakville Town Council (they basically take over the entire process and tell us what they want to see there). This process is not the OLT (Ontario Lands Tribunal) which is formerly the Ontario Municipal Board who heard appeals from the development industry at judicial hearing process. Tonight, the town will present the Town's Official Plan Amendment for the Midtown area, and the public is encouraged to attend. The TOC's plan will be presented at a date in December. I would encourage everyone to make their views known with their provincial members (either Steven Crawford or Effie Triantopolus) if they support and oppose the TOC process and the province taking over the planning process.

There have been several tree lighting ceremonies in the BIA's and Kerr Village will host their tree lighting this Saturday, November 30th, at Westwood Square on Kerr St.

The Region is moving forward with the household waste improvements and several areas in the town will be part of this process. Basically, the process is to improve the waste pick up process by providing bins for household and recycled waste that can be put on the waste trucks with an automated lift versus handling of bags/waste. There were pilots taking place in all 4 municipalities and their results were favorable and that is why they are broadening the zones in each municipality.

The town, like other institutions, reminds residents that although mail delivery is not available currently – they are still responsible for ensuring their tax bills and other remittances are paid on time regardless of the postal strike.

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| b. | Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No update |
| c. | Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No update |
| d. | enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan. <p>November 5 Meeting #201 (In Person)</p> <p>13 attended</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The additional half hour again worked wonders. We had plenty of time to distribute the goodies that were brought in by many members to celebrate the 200 meetings of the past seven years. ○ We had an inspiring group check in and received positive reviews of our river cruise. ○ We sang happy birthday to John. We distributed the tickets for the Oakville Wind orchestra performance on December 7. ○ I directed a smaller version of the game we are going to play during our December Christmas party. Veronica will bring hot chocolate to our December Christmas meeting! <p>November 19 Meeting #202 (Virtual)</p> <p>Participants = 9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The two main housekeeping items were the two Christmas Concerts and the organization there off. ○ During check-in, 3 group members talked about their recent decline in their vision and the associated challenges, also mentally and psychologically. <p>As a result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ Learn about the mental impact of vision loss, how to cope with it and what kind of support is out there. ✦ A technology class/training with regards to technology and apps, such as be my eyes, Seeing, AI Lazarillo ✦ Learn about "be my eyes" being now available on Rayban Meta glasses ✦ Find out whether the Brontë yacht club will conduct another blind sailing event in 2025. |

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| e. | OAAC- Darlene Cox <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OAAC Communications meeting included learning 811 is the number to call for health advice or information. It is the new Telehealth number to call. |
| f. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A copy of the Home Maintenance & Repair Referral Program Presentation by Sydney Botelho Program Leader, Links2Care was discussed and shared with the committee. This is a service that the user pays for but at a hopefully lower rate than normal rates but there are no special rates for low-income seniors. The website has all the information https://links2care.ca |
| g. | Halton Age-Friendly – Julie Pennal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Julie is not able to attend the meeting due to the SWAG presentation. A date has been confirmed for the Information Fair at QEPCCC. Tuesday, April 29 from 9-noon and will include community organizations, Policy Review, SWAG and Seniors Services (Try It options will be available) Julie asked for volunteer support from the committee. WOW/Links2Wellbeing – Kelly Meeussen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WOW: No update Links2Wellbeing: No update |
| 7. a. | New Business Arising/Information Sharing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Halton National Right to Housing Day Forum: November 22 – impressions/next steps: Ted shared that there were two speakers, Dr. Dunn (the Senator William McMaster Chair in Urban Health Equity and Associate Dean of Research, McMaster University) and Daryl Kater, Director of Housing Services Halton Region. The audience were provided five questions to discuss in small groups. Daryl outlined the region's situation. Dr. Dunn indicated that affordable housing is a worldwide problem, social assistance is limited, income is low, rental to ownership is almost impossible, cost of land is a big issue. Committee agreed that all three levels of government must be involved along with the re-establishment of the housing coalition. Presentations were very focused on youth and not seniors. Halton CARP – Tom indicated that funding has been received for the Halton Elder Abuse network to support community presentations. Halton CARP gave them \$1000 in 2024. They are also focused on patient centred care in LTC. Will share information about the Information Fair in their newsletter, FB page and share poster. |
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b. Canada Food Bank Report for 2024 – condensed summary provided by Micheline.

Condensed Summary from the Food Bank Report 2024

Reasons for increased demand across Canada in 2024

1. 6% Increase usage from 2023
 2. March 2024 - 2 million visits across Canada (highest ever reported)
 3. 18% of clients reported work as their main source of income in 2024 compared to 12 % in 2019.
 4. The one-two punch of Housing and food inflation hits the low income earners the most.
 5. In 2024 the food bank usage represents a 90% increase over the use in 2019, thus causing a crisis in the delivery of services.
 6. 70 % of food bank clients live in market rent housing.
 7. Inadequate provincial social assistance remains the most common source of income for food bank clients.
 8. 1/3 of food bank users are children.
 9. 32% of food bank clients are new comers to Canada and have lived here 10 years or less.
 10. The effect of the affordability Crisis & cumulative impact of high inflation are major concerns.
 11. The parallel between the rise of unemployment and food bank usage is of concern.
 12. Record high food insecurity = high food bank usage which is influenced by high rent increases.
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Policy Recommendations

For immediate use:

1. Rapid interest rate hikes and tightened the financial conditions to decrease the decades-high rates of inflations.
2. Increase affordable housing units across Canada
3. Return income supports like CERB & one-time affordably federa and provincial short term buffers.
4. Increase the pressure to offer higher wages and create a more more inclusive labour market.
5. Increase the social infrastructure to absorb the rapid growth in population.
6. Rebuilding Canada's social network for seniors, people with disabilities, families with children ^{or} singles. (Refer to page 92)
7. Resolve the affordable housing Crisis (refer to page 95)
8. Helping workers with low incomes make ends meet. (Refer to page 98)
9. Addressing Northern and remote Food Insecurity and poverty. (Refer to page 101)

Reminder: SWAG presents: Financial Frauds and Scams: Thursday, November 28, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. at Trafalgar Park.

Thursday, January 23 – Frauds and Scam Virtual Presentation from the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre.

NOTE: SWAG Christmas Luncheon – Thursday, December 19 at noon at the Firehall located at 2390 Lakeshore Road. Please RSVP with Julie – 905-815-5960 or email julie.pennal@oakville.ca

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 22 at 1:30 p.m. in person or via Zoom at Sir John Colborne Centre boardroom with a Zoom presenter.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.