

Montrose Age-Friendly Plan on a Page 2018

WHERE WE'RE GOING								
Age-friendly Vision	To become an age-friendly community and region where older adults can “age actively,” living in security, enjoy good health, and continuing to participate fully in society.							
Goals¹	Housing*	Transportation*	Community support and health services*	Outdoor spaces and buildings	Social participation	Respect and social inclusion	Civic participation and employment	Communication and information
	The community and region has a range of housing options that are affordable, appropriately located, well built, well designed and secure.	Public transportation and other mobility options exist, and they are accessible and affordable.	Community support and health services are accessible, affordable and meet the needs of seniors.	Outdoor spaces and buildings that are pleasant, clean, secure and physically accessible.	The community has opportunities for seniors to participate in a range of social, recreation, cultural and spiritual activities.	Older people are treated with respect and are included in all aspects of community and civic life.	Opportunities for employment and volunteering cater to older generational interests and abilities.	The community has accessible and available age-friendly information and communications.
HOW WE'RE MOVING FORWARD ²								
Higher Priorities	<p>Encourage the development of seniors' housing units in Montrose, considering lot 30 on 8th Street as a suitable location. (Village)</p> <p>Support regional efforts to increase the number of units of seniors' housing through: an attainable regional housing plan; coordination of housing providers; and strategic access to funding.**</p> <p>Grant tax-exemptions to developers of low-income housing.</p> <p>Address gaps in home repair, maintenance and other support services, by establishing a Better at Home program in the Lower Columbia to enable seniors to stay in their homes longer.**</p> <p>Support the recommendation made to the BC government to create a home maintenance/repair subsidy program for low-income home-owners, similar to the SAFER subsidy program for low-income renters.**</p>	<p>Explore opportunities to enhance the use of excess capacity within current transportation operators (private and public) and apply a subsidy program to enable access for low-income community members.**</p> <p>Encourage BC Transit to improve regional routes and infrastructure (e.g. bus stop seating, weather protection), and re-examine the manner in which service utilization data is considered.**</p> <p>Support the expansion of the West Kootenay Volunteer Driver Program Coordinator to more days per week and to include non-medical needs.**</p> <p>Advocate to the RDKB to establish a subsidy program for regional transportation options for low-income residents.**</p>	<p>Explore options for developing/re-introducing a meal delivery program for the region, ideally once per day for seniors in the region.**</p> <p>Address gaps in home repair, maintenance and other support services, by establishing a Better at Home program in the Lower Columbia to enable seniors to stay in their homes longer.** (repeated from Housing section)</p>	<p>Install automatic door controls on Village Office and Community Hall to improve access for seniors and others. (Village)</p>	<p>Develop the CCERC building as a gathering place for older adults and seniors, including developing a plan, seeking funding, renovating, and establishing a group that will coordinate use of the space. (Village)</p> <p>Modify the existing outdoor court to a multi-sport court that includes pickleball. (Village)</p> <p>Encourage some Beaver Valley Seniors' Program coffee events to be held in Montrose. (Village)</p>	<p><i>No actions identified at this time. Montrose seniors enjoy high levels of respect and inclusion, so not an urgent area to focus on at the moment.</i></p>	<p><i>No actions identified at this time. Montrose performs well in this area so not an urgent area to focus on at the moment.</i></p>	<p>Support the ongoing production of the Closing the Gap seniors' guide for the Lower Columbia that provides all seniors' information in one place (online and on paper).**</p> <p>Regularly communicate the Closing the Gap seniors guide and elements of it (e.g. transportation, housing) on the Village bulletin board and website to raise awareness about services available to seniors. (Village)</p> <p>Advocate for a Basin-wide Seniors Action Network coordinator following the Youth Action Network model whose responsibilities would include providing comprehensive information and advocacy services to seniors, and who would complement the coordinator(s) responsible for delivering seniors' programming in the region.**</p>
Lower Priorities				<p>Encourage the Post Office to add benches outside to provide a rest place for seniors.</p>		<p>Explore the need and location for outdoor gym equipment. (Village)</p> <p>Investigate the feasibility and interest amongst seniors for a walking trail connecting the BV Lions Park Trail to Montrose. (Village)</p>		

¹ These goals are summarized from the World Health Organization's age-friendly check-list that is structured according to the eight age-friendly themes. For a more detailed description of the goals within each topic, see the WHO age-friendly guide or checklist documents. The eight WHO themes also provide the structure for the planning framework. ² How we're moving forward is made up of actions that will be undertaken as resources permit and opportunities arise. They are prioritized on a relative basis, according to higher or lower priority.

*Topics that require regional perspective and solutions and cannot be addressed by each specific community alone. The other topics also have regional linkages, but they can and should be delivered by and within each community as much as possible.

**These are regional-wide actions identified by the joint Age-Friendly Task Force. They reflect concerns shared by the three participating communities (Montrose, Rossland and Trail) and will require collaboration amongst regional partners to implement successfully.

