



MEMO / NOTE DE SERVICE

To / Destinataire	Mayor and Members of Council	File/N° de fichier:
From / Expéditeur	Clara Freire, Interim General Manager, Community and Social Services	
Subject / Objet	Update on the 2023 Older Adult Plan Allocation	Date: June 30, 2023

The purpose of this memo is to provide the Mayor and Members of Council with an update on the 2023 Older Adult Plan (OAP) allocation of \$350K to internal City initiatives and the next steps on the OAP evaluation.

BACKGROUND

The City of Ottawa has been implementing an Older Adult Plan (OAP) since 2012 ([2012 – 2014](#), [2015 – 2018](#) and [2020 – 2022](#)). The Older Adult Plan is included under the Strategic Initiative: Thriving Communities in the Term of Council Strategic Priorities (2019-2022) and supports the Strategic Action to continue to engage community stakeholders in responding to the complex and diverse needs of vulnerable members of the community.

In 2020, City Council approved \$350K in the Community and Social Services Department annual operating budget for the implementation of Corporate-wide Older Adult Plan initiatives. This funding is subject to annual budget approval.

As the latest iteration of the City's OAP ended in December 2022, staff are currently evaluating the progress achieved in this last term and consulting with members from the Seniors Roundtable, partners, and community stakeholders to determine a future direction to engage older adults in Ottawa on issues of importance within this community.

With the evaluation underway, there was no call for proposals for funding allocation to departments in 2023. However, in order to ensure Ottawa continues to be an age-friendly and caring community that values the contributions of older adults, the initiatives and funding amounts approved from the 2022 OAP allocation process **have been renewed for 2023**.

For more information on the background of the OAP please see May 4, 2023, Memo to the Mayor and Members of Council, *"Update on the City's Older Adult Plan"*.



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CURRENT STATUS:

Staff worked with City departments to ensure that all approved 2022 projects could be repeated in 2023 and to ensure they could spend their full allocated amount.

One project was unable to spend their full 2022 approved amount which resulted in \$21.5K in unallocated funding for 2023. To ensure the full \$350K OAP budget was allocated in full, City staff created a reinvestment strategy to redistribute unallocated funds for 2023.

Recommendations for the 2023 reinvestment strategy was informed by the 2022 OAP Allocation Committee notes, feedback from staff and members of the Seniors Roundtable.

As a result, the following projects were reallocated funding in 2023:

1. **\$5,000** to “Accessible Benches” managed by Infrastructure and Water Services Department (IWSD) approved for \$55,000 in 2022 to continue installation of accessible benches in various wards. For 2023, IWSD requested an additional \$5,000 to deal with inflationary increases to repeat what was completed in 2022 (installation of 10-14 accessible benches). With the additional \$5,000 this initiative will be allocated \$60,000 for accessible benches in 2023.
2. **\$16,580** to the “Access to Recreation Facilities for Older Adults from Priority Groups” managed by Recreation Culture and Facility Services (RCFS) which was approved for \$5,000 in 2022 to facilitate access to recreation facilities for Older Adults groups within priority groups by offsetting rental costs. With the additional \$16,580 this initiative will be allocated \$21,580 for access to recreational facilities for Older Adults groups in 2023.

A virtual meeting with the Seniors Roundtable was held on Monday, June 12, 2023, to update and receive feedback from members on the OAP review, the 2023 Spending Plan and reinvestment strategy. Please see Appendix B for a list of Seniors Roundtable members.

Next Steps OAP Allocation:

- Departments will begin implementation of the funded OAP actions
- Staff will continue to monitor the status of the plan throughout 2023

Next Steps OAP Evaluation:

The OAP 2020-2022 evaluation will record and report on the accomplishments and lessons learned during the iteration of the most recent OAP, through a review of the



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planning, implementation/delivery, and outcomes/impact of OAP 2020-2022. A longer-term goal is to inform the future direction of older adult planning at the City beyond the 2020-2022 OAP. The evaluation will proceed in two stages:

- An internal review of the impact of OAP with respect to mainstreaming an age-friendly lens in City planning and operations
- An external review of the OAP accomplishments and lessons learned during the last three years

Engagement with partners and members of the Seniors Roundtable will begin in August 2023.

Should you have any questions or concerns about the process or results, please contact Shanna Culhane at shanna.culhane@ottawa.ca.

Sincerely,

Clara Freire
Interim General Manager
Community and Social Services

cc. Wendy Stephanson, City Manager
Senior Leadership Team
Community and Social Services Departmental Leadership team



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Appendix A: 2023 Older Adult Plan Allocation

#	Initiative	Lead	Funding Allocated	Description
1	Accessible Benches	IWSD	\$60,000	IWSD will install benches to continue the increased rest stops and assist with improved mobility of older adults.
2	Accessible Features Retrofit & Upgrades	RCFS	\$80,000	This initiative provides retrofits, upgrades and installation of accessible features in a number of City-owned facilities. Removing and/or addressing barriers allows greater access to public spaces.
3	Access to transportation for Older Adults and their caregivers	CSS	\$25,856	This initiative started in 2021 to provide transportation for low-income seniors and older adults with disabilities to COVID vaccine clinics. The initiative has since expanded to include additional services such as transportation to additional vaccine clinics, medical appointments, and food delivery.
4	Access to recreation facilities for older adults from priority groups	RCFS	\$21,580	This initiative will facilitate access to recreation facilities for Older Adults groups within priority groups: multicultural, ethno-cultural, francophone, low-income and rural communities, primarily during daytime/non-primetime hours, through funding allocated to RCFS that will offset room-booking costs.
5	Cumberland Heritage Village Museum Accessible People Wagon	RCFS	\$40,000	This application is to design and construct an “accessible people wagon” for on-site transportation at Cumberland Heritage Village Museum to improve access to museum resources for Older Adults and people with disabilities.
6	Culture Days - Memories of childhood	RCFS	\$16,300	This two-day program offered in partnership with MASC (Multicultural Arts for Schools and Communities) will provide Older Adults with a range of interactive experiences and performances that will explore creative processes at Cumberland Heritage Village Museum.
7	Foster Farm Multicultural Seniors and Social Club	RCFS	\$17,000	The Foster Farm Community Centre Seniors 55+ initiative will provide an outlet for older adults in the community by offering a variety of programs two times per week. This free of charge drop-in provides seniors a means to



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#	Initiative	Lead	Funding Allocated	Description
				interact with others while participating in arts and crafts, fitness, cooking, information seminars, and more.
8	Historical theatre performances	RCFS	\$9,250	City of Ottawa museums staff will coordinate a series of historical theatre performances with reduced barriers for low-income seniors living in isolation. The series will create free opportunities for the participants to socialize with one another while learning more about regional history.
9	Inclusive social recreation programming	RCFS	\$19,594	RCFS' Social Recreation (SR) program will pilot a new English language program for Ottawa's older adult population (55+) with developmental and/or cognitive disabilities. The pilot will support this community to keep active, creative, and socially engaged.
10	Older Adult New Fitness Initiatives	RSFC	\$23,464	Targeting older adults (50+) and people with disabilities from priority groups to provide new fitness programs as well as expand existing ones. The goal is to engage with and provide activities for older adults in our RCFS facilities.
11	Shenkman Arts Centre Artists Live and Streaming	RCFS	\$22,000	This project will offer a diversity of live and live-streaming concerts and meet-ups between artists and older adults. Older adults will have the opportunity to attend the live performances at the Shenkman Arts Centre or watch the concerts from their residence, home or centre via facebook live or zoom.
12	Virtual Creative Arts Programs	RCFS	\$15,000	This project will offer free live creative arts courses. Professional instructors will provide our communities with art lessons in a variety of accessible art forms that will enable the participants to build skills and continue to explore creative practices even after the end of the formal lessons.
	TOTAL		\$350,000	



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Appendix B: City of Ottawa Seniors Roundtable – Membership List

#	Agency
1	Accessibility Advocates
2	Centre Pauline-Charron
3	City of Ottawa Accessibility Advisory Committee
4	Coalition of Community Health and Resource Centres of Ottawa
5	Council on Aging of Ottawa
6	Fédération des aînés et des retraités francophones de l'Ontario (FARFO) Régionale d'Ottawa
7	Gloucester 50+ Centre
8	Good Companions Senior Centre
9	Kanata Seniors Council
10	Montfort Renaissance
11	Mouvement d'implication francophone d'Orléans (MIFO)
12	Meals on Wheels
13	National Association of Federal Retirees, Ottawa Branch
14	Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization (OCISO)
15	Ottawa Senior Pride Network
16	Rendez-vous des Aînés Francophones d'Ottawa (RAFO)
17	Rural Ottawa South Support Services
18	Ottawa Grassroots Ethno-Cultural Seniors Network (Social Planning Council of Ottawa)