

## Background

The Seniors' Advisory Panel to Mayor & Council meet monthly to discuss any issues or concerns to older adults within the City of Greater Sudbury. At the City of Greater Sudbury Council Meeting on Tuesday, November 22, 2016, the panel brought its first report to the City of Greater Sudbury Council listing the current issues relevant to older adults within the community. The Panel had requested feedback from staff and council regarding these areas of concern.

<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&agenda=report&itemid=13&id=955>.

This report is a follow up to suggested actions made at the November 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting to address all issues brought forward. Procedural By-Law, 48.07 Role states: *"Advisory Panels shall provide advice, information and expertise to the Municipality through a designated Senior Management Team staff member, who shall then report this advice to Council, as appropriate"*. Should policy changes be recommended, the matter will be brought to the Community Services Committee for consideration.

[http://www.greatersudbury.ca/content/div\\_clerks/documents/Procedure%20by-law%20%202011-235.pdf](http://www.greatersudbury.ca/content/div_clerks/documents/Procedure%20by-law%20%202011-235.pdf)

The following are the recommendations made by the Seniors' Advisory Panel to Mayor & Council on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016, along with details and actions where appropriate:

<b>Seniors' Advisory Panel's Recommendations</b>	<b>Follow Up Actions/Information by Staff</b>
The City of Greater Sudbury considers creating a policy which establishes all City of Greater Sudbury owned property as scent-free zones;	<p>The City currently has a policy on Scented Products in the Workplace which is only applicable to employees.</p> <p>There is currently no policy that addresses scent-free zones in municipal buildings to address concerns of the general public. The development of a policy that would address these concerns will be brought forward to Community Services Committee in August 2017.</p>
<p>The City of Greater Sudbury considers establishing the age of 55 as the age at which a resident is considered an older adult.</p> <p>A resolution was passed on November 17, 2015, by the Finance &amp; Administration Committee; that the City of Greater Sudbury change the definition of an older adult from 55 to 65 as it relates to the Miscellaneous User Fee By-Law effective January 1, 2016; and that the Miscellaneous User Fee By-Law</p>	<p>To move this forward, a Councillor would have to request that it be brought forward as a reconsideration. The financial impact of this change is unknown.</p> <p>In accordance with the Rules of Procedure for Council, there are a maximum of two motions to reconsider the same item within a twelve month period, after which time the Council</p>

<p>be amended to reflect this change –</p> <p><a href="http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&amp;action=file&amp;agenda=final&amp;id=846">http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&amp;action=file&amp;agenda=final&amp;id=846</a>.</p>	<p>decision shall not be re-opened for the term of Council. (Article 34.07) – Attachment C – Procedure by-law 2011-235.</p>
<p>The City of Greater Sudbury considers establishing a special grant to the Seniors Advisory Panel to support the activities of the Age Friendly Strategy;</p>	<p>These funds would be used to cover the cost of a full time CGS employee to work on aligning action items from the Age Friendly Community Survey Report, with appropriate departments so that official designation of an Age Friendly City can be achieved through the World Health Organization.</p> <p>A final report from the Age Friendly Community Survey will be presented to Council on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017. From here, Council would decide whether or not to move the findings from the survey into an Age Friendly Community Action Plan.</p> <p>The request for a grant would require a business case for a service level enhancement during 2018 budget deliberations.</p> <p>It is recommended that the responsibility be assigned to existing staff.</p>
<p>The City of Greater Sudbury considers endorsing the 211® program;</p>	<p>Presentations have been made to local Community Action Networks, the Seniors Advisory Panel and other not for profit agencies.</p> <p><a href="https://211ontario.ca/">https://211ontario.ca/</a>.</p> <p>The Executive Director of the United Way will provide a presentation to Council. This has not been scheduled.</p>
<p>The City of Greater Sudbury considers waiving all fees and applicable development charges for secondary dwelling units.</p>	<p>The City of Greater Sudbury Housing Services Section have expressed its support for this initiative. At the Senior's Advisory Panel meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017, a representative from the City of</p>

	Greater Sudbury's Planning Section presented facts and findings on this topic as well. The Panel has additional questions, the Director of Building Controls will attend the June Panel meeting to follow up.
The City of Greater Sudbury considers dedicating a separate section of the City of Greater Sudbury's website as an online resource centre for older adults.	The City of Greater Sudbury's website is being revitalized. It is anticipated that a Seniors' Advisory Panel section is developed that would contain; Panel Meeting Dates, Agendas and Notes; along with articles pertaining to older adults, recreational programming, community and health support services and any pertinent information that would be of interest to older adults within the community. The Communications Section has completed the first draft of development and this has been shared with the Co-Chairs of the Panel.
That the City provide a complete list of user fees that older adults might be expected to pay, focusing; water/wastewater fees and consideration be given to policies or programs aimed at reducing the financial impact of those fees.  The discussion focused primarily on water/wastewater fees.	The Director of Water/Wastewater responded to the panel on January 26, 2017, indicating that the provincial legislation mandates funding for water/wastewater systems, thus reducing options for decreasing rates. It was suggested to focus on addressing those without means as preferable option than reducing overall revenue which may compromise the legislated requirements. The panel reviewed this information and there is no other feedback.
That a review be conducted to determine the participation level of older adults who currently use all forms of public transit and recommend strategies that might increase usage among older adults.	The Director of Transit Services attended a panel meeting on February 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2016, to discuss concerns. The panel was pleased with the responses. Transit Services continues to implement new programs and has piloted an Affordable Transit program. A Route Optimization Study is underway and is anticipated to be completed in March 2018.

That the City provide enhanced sidewalk maintenance and snow clearing in areas that are likely to be used by older adults.	Infrastructure Services informed the panel that a Council Report from the department is currently being drafted. Information in this report includes enhanced snow plowing services information. The date for this report is unknown at this time.
That the City consider using some of the surplus space in schools throughout the City of Greater Sudbury to develop community hubs where services that are needed by older adults can be provided.	A Community Hub Strategy is currently ongoing and could include investigating the viability of use of surplus school spaces. A report to the Community Services Committee will be done on June 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2017.

### **Next Steps**

Discussions are continuing to happen at the monthly Seniors Advisory Panel meetings and staff will ensure that recommendations are followed up as required.