

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Aging held via electronic communications in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Thursday, January 13, 2022, commencing at 1:00 PM.**

**Present:**

Henry Hunter, Chair, Wood Buffalo Housing Representative  
Luana Bussieres, Vice-Chair, St. Aidan's House Society Representative  
Carolyn Evancio, Seniors Resource Committee Representative  
Darline Reid, Alberta Health Services Representative  
Ken Saunderson, Golden Years Society Representative  
Denise Wilkinson, Senior At Large - Urban  
Ken Ball, Councillor

**Administration:**

Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Program Management  
Toni Elliott, Senior Manager, Community and Protective Services  
Sonia Soutter, Manager, Senior Legislative Officer  
Isela Contreras-Dogbe, Supervisor, Community and Protective Services  
Martin Byaruhanga, Department Administrator, Community and Protective Services  
Caitlin Sheaves, Clerk, Legislative Services

**1. Call to Order**

Legislative Services Clerk, Caitlin Sheaves, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**MOTION:**

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Henry Hunter
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Carolyn Evancio
<b>FOR:</b>	Ball, Bussieres, Evancio, Hunter, Reid, Saunderson, Wilkinson

**3. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**3.1. Advisory Committee on Aging Meeting - December 9, 2021**

THAT the minutes of the Advisory Committee on Aging meeting held on December 9, 2021 be approved as presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Ken Ball
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Luana Bussieres
<b>FOR:</b>	Ball, Bussieres, Evancio, Hunter, Reid, Saunderson, Wilkinson

#### **4. New and Unfinished Business**

##### **4.1. Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair**

Luana Bussieres nominated Henry Hunter for the position of Chair. Henry accepted the nomination and as no further nominations were made, Committee member Henry Hunter was acclaimed Chair of the Committee.

##### **MOTION:**

THAT Henry Hunter be appointed as Chair of the Committee.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Ken Ball
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Carolyn Evancio
<b>FOR:</b>	Ball, Bussieres, Evancio, Hunter, Reid, Saunderson, Wilkinson

Councillor K. Ball nominated Luana Bussieres for the position of Vice-Chair. Luana accepted the nomination and as no further nominations were made, Committee member Luana Bussieres was acclaimed Vice-Chair of the Committee.

##### **MOTION:**

THAT Luana Bussieres be appointed to the position of Vice-Chair.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Ken Saunderson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Ken Ball
<b>FOR:</b>	Ball, Bussieres, Evancio, Hunter, Reid, Saunderson, Wilkinson

##### **4.2. Review of 2022 Meeting Schedule**

##### **MOTION:**

THAT regular Advisory Committee on Aging meetings be held at 1:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month, with the exception of any statutory holidays and scheduled recess periods.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Carolyn Evancio
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Luana Bussieres
<b>FOR:</b>	Ball, Bussieres, Evancio, Hunter, Reid, Saunderson, Wilkinson

#### **4.3. Downtown Revitalization Incentive Program Accessibility Update**

Jennifer Wardle, Planner II, Planning and Development provided an overview of the Downtown Revitalization Incentive Program's current grant offerings including Facade Improvement, Interior Improvement, Patio, Beautification Projects and Murals, and Premises Improvement, and how these grants can be used to improve accessibility to businesses in the downtown area.

#### **4.4. Letter of Support - Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee 2022 Initiatives**

Isela Contreras-Dogbe, Supervisor, Community and Protective Services, provided a summary of the recommendation and request for letter of support from the Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee for their 2022 initiatives.

#### **4.5. MOTION:**

THAT the Chair, on behalf of the Advisory Committee on Aging Committee be authorized to send a letter to the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo Council in support of the proposed Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Committee's 2022 initiatives.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Carolyn Evancio, Seniors Resource Committee Representative
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Ken Ball, Councillor
<b>FOR:</b>	Ball, Hunter, Wilkinson, Evancio, Bussieres, Saunderson, Reid

#### **4.6. Age-Friendly Work Plan**

##### **Working Group Update:**

Martin Byaruhanga, Acting Supervisor, Community and Protective Services provided an update on the Age Friendly Work Plan noting that the Department is currently working on reaching out to external stakeholders. A summary of the progress will be provided to the Committee towards the end of Q1 2022. It was further noted that short term actions are on track.

##### **Stakeholder Engagement:**

Martin Byaruhanga, Acting Supervisor, Community and Protective Services, provided a brief overview of the list of Stakeholders and Community Partners, noting that this is a living document which the Communications and Engagement Department assists in

updating to ensure stakeholders are current and engaged. It was further noted that the list provided is not the final exhaustive list of community stakeholders for the engagement and implementation of the work plan.

**Work Plan Implementation Strategy:**

The Committee discussed the formation of an Age Friendly Work Plan Implementation Working Group to assist and accelerate the transfer of information from stakeholders to the Committee.

With consensus of the Committee, it was agreed that Committee Members Luana Bussieres, Carolyn Evancio, Denise Wilkinson, and Chair Henry Hunter would form the Age-Friendly Work Plan Implementation Working Group.

Action Item:

1. Administration will forward the most up to date version of the Age Friendly Work Plan to the Committee Members.
2. Administration to send meeting invitation to the Age-Friendly Work Plan Implementation Working Group.

**4.7. Accessibility Audit Working Group - Member Selection**

Isela Contreras-Dogbe, Supervisor, Community and Protective Services, provided an update on the Accessibility Audit Working Group and advised that Administration is requesting a member from the Advisory Committee on Aging (ACoA) and the Regional Advisory Committee on Inclusion, Diversity and Equity to participate in the Working Group.

With consensus of the Committee, it was agreed that Chair Henry Hunter and Committee Member Denise Wilkinson will represent ACoA on the Accessibility Audit Working Group.

Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Program Development, provided an update noting that the Strategic Planning and Program Development Department will support the internal next steps of the Accessibility Audit Working Group. It was further noted that action is being taken to ensure that this is not just an internal activity, and how to consider the application of this program across the broader community.

**4.8. Administrative Updates**

**Action Log:**

Isela Contreras-Dogbe, Supervisor, Community and Protective Services, provided a brief review of the Action Log including updates on various initiatives including the Accessibility Audit and available grants to support this initiative, recent meeting with disabilities advocate, and the Snow Angels Program. It was noted that the Communications and Engagement Department has revamped the ad campaign for the

Snow Angels program and is working in collaboration with FuseSocial in an effort to reach more volunteers.

An update on the letter to Willow Square Continuing Care Centre regarding parking concerns was provided.

Action Item:

1. Administration to research the available accessibility grants and programs and provide findings to the Committee.
2. Committee Member Darline Reid volunteered to follow up with the appropriate contacts as the Alberta Health Services representative for ACoA

**Age Friendly Assessments:**

Isela Contreras-Dogbe, Supervisor, Community and Protective Services, provided a brief review of the Age Friendly Assessment sheets provided in the agenda package.

**4.9. Information Updates**

Chair Henry Hunter provided an update on how COVID-19 is currently impacting the Wood Buffalo Housing and Development Corporation, noting that a number of staff have been testing positive.

Committee Members Carolyn Evancio and Luana Bussieres noted that both the Seniors Resource Committee and St. Aidan's House are seeing a significant decline in the mental and physical wellbeing of seniors in the Region. It was noted that due to COVID-19 seniors are far too isolated which leads to neglect of medical needs, socialization, and physical activity.

Committee Member Ken Saunderson provided an update from the Golden Years Society echoing similar messaging, noting that a major issue seniors are experiencing is with the use of technology and isolation. It was further noted that the Library will be facilitating a program to work with Seniors on familiarizing them with the current technology and how to connect virtually.

Committee Member Darline Reid provided an update from Alberta Health Services advising that Willow Square Continuing Care Facility is currently experiencing an outbreak, with the majority from a staffing perspective. It was further noted that COVID-19 is also having an impact on Home Care and hospital staffing.

Martin Byaruhanga, Department Administrator, Community and Protective Services advised that 2022 is the 20-year anniversary for Elder Abuse Canada, and that the organization will be offering training and workshops regarding elder abuse.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

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Chair