

**Priorities Committee Meeting\_Oct18\_2022**


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**STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE**
**SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
**2022 Seniors Advisory Committee Annual Report**
**Report Purpose**

In compliance with Bylaw 29-2018 and amending Bylaw 61-2020, this report summarizes annual activities and accomplishments of the Seniors Advisory Committee.

**Report**

The purpose of the Seniors Advisory Committee (SAC) is to provide advice and considerations to Council on issues and opportunities related to the physical, emotional and social well-being of seniors in Strathcona County. The SAC's workplan is aligned with Strathcona County Council's Strategic Plan and the County's key strategies and policies. The SAC provides a seniors' lens on Strathcona County policies, programs and services and provides advice to Council and administration on policies and programs to improve outcomes for seniors in Strathcona County.

The following are the 2021/2022 SAC mandate items:

- Provide input on seniors housing needs to support the development of a community-led affordable housing strategy.
- Identify features and characteristics of gathering spaces that would support the well-being of seniors and provide advice to Council on how the County might maximize use of current assets to increase connection and well-being for seniors.
- Participate in engagements related to the concept and design of a potential Fieldhouse to ensure consideration of a seniors' lens.
- Provide advice to Council on how to increase access and use technology to reduce seniors' isolation within the County.
- Participate in engagement opportunities and provide advice to Council on community safety and well-being as it relates to seniors within the County.
- Provide advice to Council on pandemic impacts and potential solutions as they relate to seniors within the County.

SAC members during the report period included the following public voting members and two Councillors who are non-voting members.

<b>Current SAC Members</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Term Served</b>
Barbara Chapman	Voting	Feb 2022 – present
Darryl Diletzoy	Voting	Feb 2022 - present
Jennifer Hillmer (Vice Chair)	Voting	Feb 2022 – present
Lynn Olenek (Chair)	Voting	June 2021 - present
Carol Parsons	Voting	June 2021 - present
Rachelle Sutherland	Voting	Feb 2022 - present
Ishvarlal (Ish) Thaleshvar	Voting	June 2021 - present
Councillor Robert Parks	Non-voting	Ongoing
Councillor Glen Lawrence (alternate)	Non-voting	Ongoing

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The SAC has summarized its activities on the progress of the mandate items in the attached enclosure.

In summary, the SAC recommends the following:

- Providing a variety of seniors housing options;
- Dedicating space for a seniors' hub; and
- Supporting organizations like Linking Generations, Volunteer Strathcona, the Library and Family and Community Services who provide services to seniors that help keep them a connected part of the community.

Concluding considerations:

- A significant concern is that once pandemic impacts have been addressed, momentum to address seniors' issues will dissipate; and
- The SAC was appointed by Council to bring advice on mandate items and looks forward to evidence of meaningful action on this advice.

### **Council and Committee History**

February 26, 2019 Council approved mandate letters for the Accessibility, Seniors and Youth Advisory Committees.

October 16, 2018 Council approved third reading of the bylaw establishing the Seniors Advisory Committee.

### **Enclosure**

1 2022 Seniors Advisory Committee Annual Report Presentation