

Canadian Association of Gerontology / Association canadienne de gérontologie

Age Friendly Communities A Shared Responsibility

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Aging Friendly Communities: Model and Goals

- ▶ Based on the WHO Global Age-Friendly Cities Guide
- ▶ The goal is to promote healthy aging in supportive communities.
- ▶ Healthy aging is understood as a lifelong process...
- ▶ AFC engages communities of all sizes and locations:
 - ▶ In a process of assessment
 - ▶ Development in the built, social and policies/service environments
- ▶ Results:
 - ▶ A more accessible and inclusive community that promotes improved health of seniors and of persons of all ages: an age-friendly community is friendly for all ages.

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35 Age-Friendly Collaborating Cities



AMERICAS
 Argentina, La Plata
 Brazil, Rio de Janeiro
Canada,
 Halifax
 Portage La Prairie
 Saanich
 Sherbrooke
 Costa Rica, San Jose
 Jamaica,
 Kingston
 Montego Bay
 Mexico,
 Cancun
 Mexico City
 Puerto Rico,
 Mayaguez
 Ponce
 USA,
 New York
 Portland

AFRICA
 Kenya, Nairobi

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN
 Jordan, Amman
 Lebanon, Tripoli
 Pakistan, Islamabad

EUROPE
 Germany, Ruhr
 Ireland, Dundalk
 Italy, Udine
 Russia, Moscow
 Russia, Tolyatyi
 Switzerland, Geneva
 Turkey, Istanbul
UK:
 Edinburgh
 London


SOUTH-EAST ASIA
 India,
 New Delhi
 Udaipur

WESTERN PACIFIC
 Australia,
 Melbourne
 Australia, Melville
 China, Shanghai
 Japan, Himeji
 Japan, Tokyo

Credit: BC Ministry of Health

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AFC in Canada: From global to local initiatives

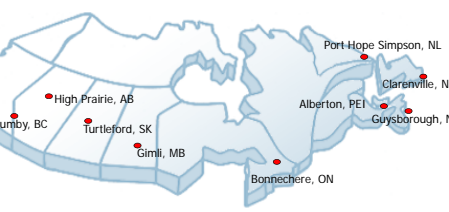


WHO
Federal / Provincial / Territorial Ministers for Seniors
Saanich, BC

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The FPT Age-Friendly Rural and Remote Initiative

Participating Communities



Alert Bay, BC
 Lumby, BC
 High Prairie, AB
 Turtleford, SK
 Gimli, MB
 Port Hope Simpson, NL
 Clarendville, NL
 Alberton, PEI
 Guysborough, NS
 Bonnechere, ON

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Moving Forward: 150 communities and counting



Toronto, Canada


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Moving Forward

- ▶ Cultivate more and stronger partnerships
- ▶ Share mandates
- ▶ Create tools/resources
- ▶ Engage necessary resources
- ▶ Share information and learn
- ▶ Sustainability
- ▶ Strengthen political will
- ▶ Apply Age-Friendly principles to address specific issues of healthy aging


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AFC and Research Teams

- ▶ **University-based research teams have been instrumental in developing AFC initiatives:**
 - ▶ **Université de Sherbrooke:**
 - ▶ Québec has invested significantly in evaluation and research of 7 pilot communities in the province
 - ▶ **University of Manitoba**
 - ▶ The 5-year SSHRC Community-University Research Alliance (CURA) grant was awarded to the University of Manitoba precisely for this purpose in Manitoba
 - ▶ **In British Columbia and Nova Scotia**


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Moving Forward

- ▶ **Knowing more about what works, and why to promote healthy aging in communities:**
 - ▶ Generate and share new knowledge about the factors and interventions that effectively contribute to healthy aging outcomes, in both urban and non-urban communities
 - ▶ Developed in the context of a common evaluation framework includes the generation and application of new knowledge as a goal, and the research community as partners.
 - ▶ Mobilize the knowledge generation potential of the AFCCI across Canada.
- ▶ **How to tap into Canadian research capacity :**
 - ▶ To adapt the AFC model to local reality
 - ▶ Ensuring its sustainability
 - ▶ Helping municipal authorities and communities evaluate their actions and programs

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The Canadian Initiative

- ▶ **Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC):**
 - ▶ In collaboration with provincial, territorial and municipal governments, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) encourages the implementation of a lasting pan-Canadian Age-Friendly Communities Canada Initiative (AFCCI).
- ▶ **Canadian Institute on Health Research – Institute on Aging (CIHR – IA):**
 - ▶ CIHR-Institute of Aging has collaborated with AFCCI partners in activities related to research and knowledge development
- ▶ **The Canadian Association on Gerontology (CAG):**
 - ▶ The CAG is a national, multidisciplinary scientific and educational association established to provide leadership in matters related to the aging population
 - ▶ CAG used its networking capacity to bring together researchers and students working on AFC, with PHAC and CIHR-IA to stimulates the generation and exchange of new scientific and practice-based knowledge on AFC

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