

UNDERSTANDING THE LATER YEARS

CLINTON

B R I T I S H C O L U M B I A

An Age-Friendly
Community Action Plan



Contents

Acknowledgements.....	3
Reading this Document.....	3
Project Timelines	3
Understanding the Age Friendly Context	4
Getting to Know Clinton	5
Age-Friendly Funding for Clinton	6
Elements of Age-Friendly Communities.....	6
Definitions	7
Outdoor Spaces and Buildings.....	7
Transportation	7
Housing.....	7
Social Participation.....	7
Respect and Inclusion	7
Civic Participation and Empowerment	8
Communication and Information.....	8
Community Support and Health Services.....	8
Principles.....	9
Equity*	9
Balance	9
Local Context.....	9
Find Successes	9
Authenticity.....	9
A bit more about equity and equality*	10
Key Findings.....	11
Taking Pride	11
Building on Strengths	11
The Big Picture.....	12
Opportunities for Innovation.....	12
Survey Results.....	13
Action Plan.....	14
Project Wrap-Up and Committee	14
Outdoor Spaces and Buildings.....	15
Transportation	16
Housing.....	16

Social Participation.....	17
Respect and Inclusion	17
Civic Participation and Employment.....	17
Communication and Information.....	18
Community Support and Health Services.....	18
Detailed Action Plans.....	19
Doctor Action Plan	19
Pharmacy Action Plan	20
Housing Action Plan	21
Summary.....	22
Appendix A – Survey and Engagement	
What We Heard (February 2023)	
Open House Priorities (April 2023)	
Appendix B – Analysis of Survey and Engagement Information	
Appendix C – Accessibility Findings	

Acknowledgements

The Village of Clinton's *Understanding the Later Years: An Age Friendly Action Plan*'s purpose is to support older adults and seniors in Clinton, and those who wish to age in Clinton. The Village of Clinton wishes to acknowledge all of the members of our great community who participated in the development of the plan.

The following groups supported the development of the plan – we thank you! In particular, the Village wishes to thank: BC Ambulance, Clinton Creek Estates, Clinton Villa, Health Coalition, Interior Health Authority, Seniors Centre, RCMP, and Spirit of Clinton.

The development of this document was supported by *bassa* Social Innovations Inc. using a portion of a grant from BC Healthy Communities.

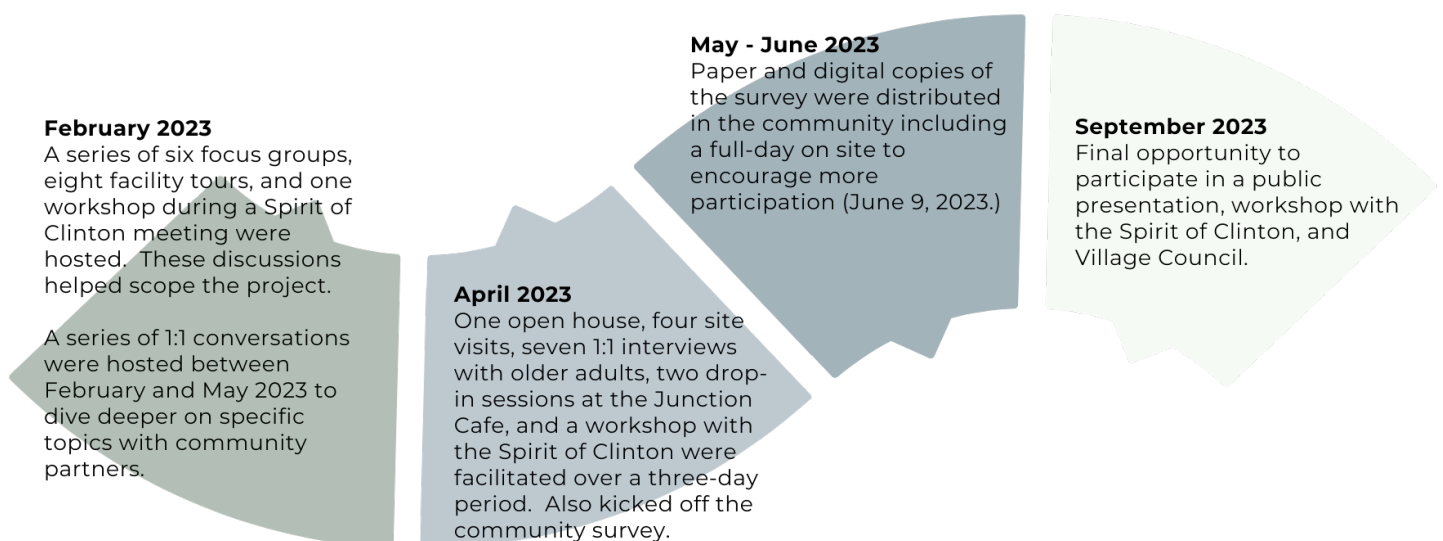
Reading this Document

This technical report has a slightly different format than other strategies and plans. It is a combination of infographics and text to provide richer and deeper context about the infographics.

All icons and photos are from Creative Commons or created by *bassa* Social Innovations unless otherwise cited.

Project Timelines

The process to develop Clinton's Age-Friendly Community Action Plan began in February 2023 and concluded in September 2023.



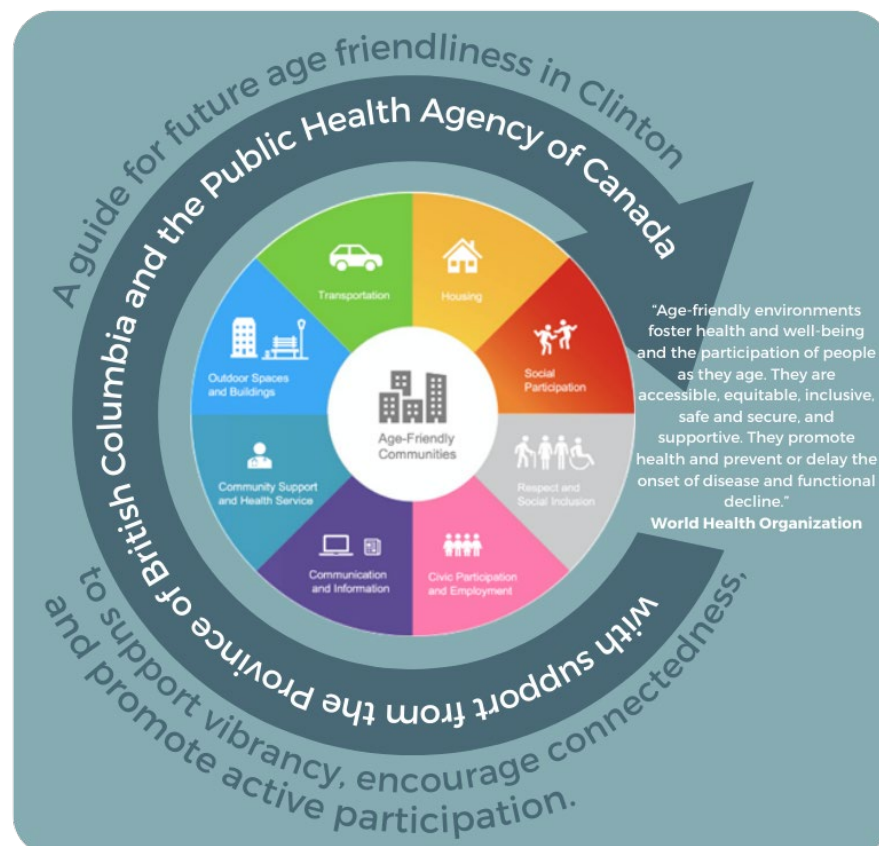
Understanding the Age Friendly Context

The purpose of this plan is to reflect the important role that older adults and seniors have in the vibrancy, connectedness, and future of Clinton as a community.

As well, it helps plan for those that are aging and planning to grow older in Clinton. Communities across British Columbia and Canada are conducting age friendly assessments to develop an understanding of the later years and planning age friendliness of their communities. Given the importance of making sure older adults are actively participating, well respected, and have activities and services available in their communities, BC Healthy Communities, the Province of British Columbia, Public Health Agency of Canada (federal government), and the World Health Organization have all conducted research and published guides to support age friendly communities. These guides and research have been incorporated throughout this project.

Clinton is not alone. A variety of communities in the region have undertaken the development of these plans. For example, the City of Quesnel (recognized in 2021), District of 100 Mile House (2015), and City of Kamloops (2013) have all received official designation from the Province of British Columbia through the Age Friendly BC Community Recognition program based, in part, on conducting age friendly assessments and developing age friendly action plans.

This is important work for the community to collaborate and further strengthen the age friendliness of Clinton, British Columbia.



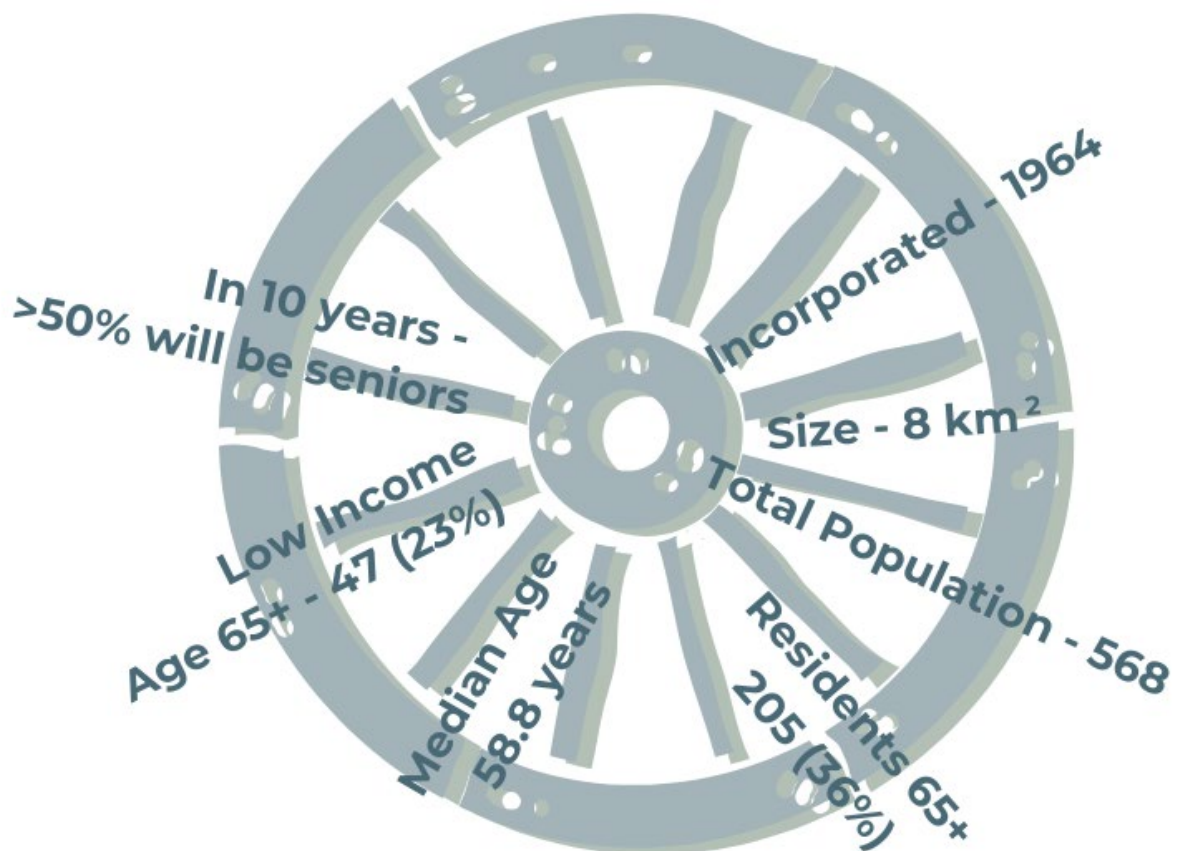
Getting to Know Clinton

Clinton, British Columbia is located in the Cariboo region of the interior of BC. Officially incorporated in 1964, the Clinton community is over 100 years old.

Relative to other centres in BC, it is a smaller community of just over 8 square kilometres, and 568 residents. There were 205 residents who identified as being 65 or older during the 2021 Census (36% of the community's population; province-wide, the percentage is 20.3%). The median age of Clinton is 58.8 years old (province-wide, the median is 43.2 years old).

Based on the growth in the percentage of older adults over the last decade, according to the 2021 federal Census, it is projected that over half of the community will be 65+ years old by approximately 2033 (about 10 years). It is a community that is getting older and in which residents typically do not leave, unless they must access services not available in Clinton (e.g., assisted living, end of life care, post-secondary education).

Based on data from the 2021 Census, approximately 23% of Clinton residents aged 65+ years old meet the low-income measure, after tax (LIM-AT). This is compared to a provincial average of 13.7%. To support older adults that may be lower income, Clinton has two main seniors housing options – Clinton Creek Estates (20 units) and Clinton Villa (12 units).



Age-Friendly Funding for Clinton

To support this project, the Village of Clinton applied for an age friendly assessment and action plan grant from BC Healthy Communities and Plan – organizations that are a part of the Provincial Ministry of Health. The funding has a few requirements that local governments must follow when completing the work:

- The first phase should include an *assessment* of the community to get a deeper understanding of its strengths/assets and opportunities for improvements,
- The second phase should look forward as an action plan to help strengthen the community,
- Older adults must somehow be involved in the development of the assessment and action plan.

With the funding agreement between the Village and BC Healthy Communities, the Village had until the end of September 2023 to complete all elements of the project, and until the end of October 2023 to submit the final report to the Province. The Village used part of the funding to hire *bassa* Social Innovations Inc. to help with the community engagement and research elements of the plan.

For the 2023 grants from BC Healthy Communities, communities were asked to integrate equity into the project where possible.

Elements of Age-Friendly Communities

According to the Province of British Columbia, Public Health Agency of Canada, and World Health Organization, there eight elements to an age friendly community. These eight elements can be described as:



- **Outdoor spaces and public buildings** that are pleasant, safe and accessible for older adults
- **Public transportation** that is affordable and accessible, and roads and walkways that are accessible and kept in good shape
- **Housing** that is affordable, safe and well designed for seniors
- **Social participation** in safe neighbourhoods with opportunities for older adults to be socially active
- **Respect and social inclusion** to foster healthy relationships
- **Civic participation and employment** that encourages older adults to get involved in volunteerism, political activity and employment
- **Communication and information** that is easy to find and easy to understand
- **Community support and health services** that are available and accessible

Source: Center for Age Friendly Excellence, 2023 and World Health Organization, 2006

Definitions ¹

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

The external environment is a major factor in the mobility, independence, and quality of life of older people as they go about their daily lives outside of their homes. An ideal external environment can be described as a clean city with well-maintained recreational areas, ample rest areas; well-developed, accessible, and safe pedestrian and building infrastructure; a clean environment; and a safe and secure community environment. All these elements contribute to an ideal living environment for seniors to 'age-in-place.'

Transportation

Accessible and affordable public transport is key to ensuring a city's elderly population can age actively and remain engaged with their community, with access to health and social facilities. Driving conditions and parking facilities in a city should also keep older drivers in mind.

Housing

The housing conditions of older people are often linked to their quality of life and whether they can age independently and actively in their community. Appropriate housing design and its proximity to community and social services allow older residents to live comfortably and safely, while housing affordability gives them peace of mind.

Social Participation

Participating in leisure, social, cultural, and spiritual activities in the community fosters seniors' continued integration with society and helps them stay engaged and informed. Seniors' participation in such activities, however, is affected by access to transport and facilities, their awareness of such activities and their affordability. There should be a range of opportunities for seniors to be involved in, that are both accessible and affordable, including opportunities for intergenerational integration.

Respect and Inclusion

An inclusive community encourages older people to participate more in their city's social, civic, and economic life. This includes having a community wide respect for seniors that recognizes their value and contributions to society and encourages the active engagement of seniors in social activities to build their esteem and sense of value and belonging. This, in turn, promotes active ageing.

¹ These definitions are adapted from the World Health Organization (2006).

Civic Participation and Empowerment

Older people are an asset to the community, and they continue contributing to their communities after retirement. An age-friendly city and community provides ample opportunities for older people to do so. This can include through voluntary or paid employment as well as opportunities that encourage civic participation and engagement in the political process, particularly with regards to decisions that involve/affect them.

Communication and Information

Staying informed about events, news, and activities with timely, accessible, and practical information is a key part of active ageing. Technology can be relied on to spread information quickly, but also plays a role in social exclusion. Communities must provide access to information to seniors in an accessible format, and bear in mind the wide range of needs and resources older people have.

Community Support and Health Services

Accessible and affordable community and health services are crucial in keeping seniors healthy, independent, and active. This involves an appropriate supply of aged care services conveniently located close to where older people live, and trained health and social workers to provide these services. Health services should also be affordable or support available to cover the costs, to provide seniors with peace of mind that they will be able to receive care regardless of the ability to pay.

Principles

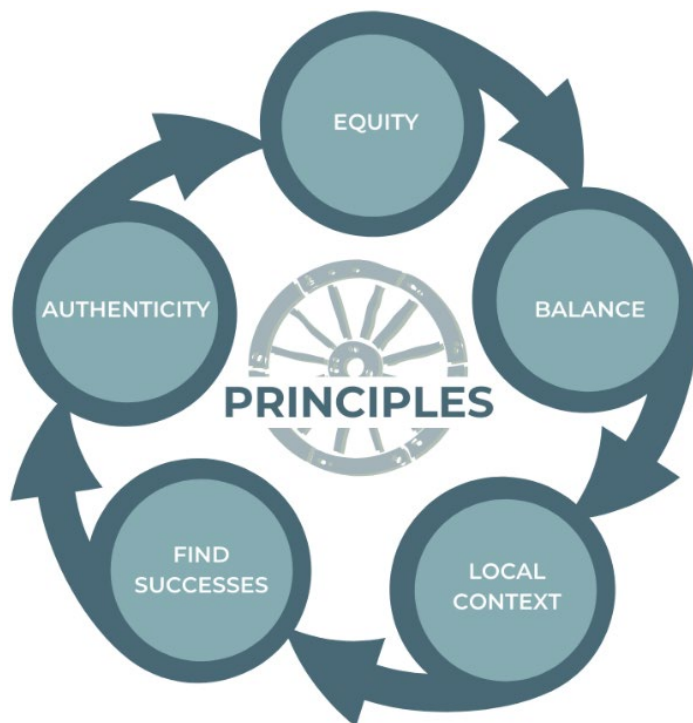
To help conduct the assessment and develop the action plan, a few key principles emerged from early conversations in the community and were incorporated throughout the process.

Equity*

The process was designed so as many people (across diverse ages and abilities) could be included as possible.

Balance

Throughout the project, there was an understanding that the municipality and community of Clinton, being relatively small in size and resources, needed a balanced approach to actions achievable in the shorter term with more aspirational actions that would take time to secure resources.



Local Context

The action plan must reflect the local context and be true to Clinton – “We don’t want to be Vancouver!”

Find Successes

Community members are proud of their community and able to identify many strengths and successes relative to age-friendliness in Clinton.

Authenticity

Community members wanted their input and ideas to be genuinely considered for inclusion in the action plan, and for the plan to feel like Clinton.

A bit more about equity and equality*

BC Healthy Communities asked that communities receiving the age-friendly assessment and action plan grant include elements of equity in their community projects. Here are a few steps taken during the Clinton project to incorporate equity into the project:

- Having older adults inform the scope of the project early on
- Older adults were engaged to identify priorities important to them,
- Interviewees had an option to participate in their own home/space,
- Paper and online surveys were available. Paper surveys were dropped off directly at individuals' homes if requested,
- Community partners were asked to help identify older adults that may not typically participate in community activities and/or may be socially isolated,
- Engagement activities were held throughout the day so individuals could participate around personal sleep, work, and volunteer schedules, and
- Engagement activities were held in a variety of facilities so community members could participate where they were most comfortable

BC Healthy Communities has additional free resources available online around equity:
<http://bchealthycommunities.ca/afcbequityresources>.



Key Findings

As the project team met with individuals in the community and analyzed survey results, four themes emerged: Taking Pride, Building on Strengths, The Big Picture, and Opportunities for Innovation.

Taking Pride

There is much to be proud of in Clinton – and residents feel it and say it. We captured what people are talking about and how it is the community's foundation.

TAKING PRIDE Community members have considerable knowledge, familiarity, history, and pride in their community. While it may not be perfect, there is much to celebrate.	SOCIAL PARTICIPATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connectedness in the community appears to be high• There is a wide variety of community groups, organizations, and activities (e.g. seniors centre, knitting club, walking groups, etc.) RESPECT AND INCLUSION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community care for one another• Sense of safety and security is high CIVIC PARTICIPATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There always seems to be things to do COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Word of mouth and community bulletins work in the community COMMUNITY SUPPORTS AND HEALTH SERVICES <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is a health centre in the community with a Registered Nurse• Availability of community gardens• Good services in the community given its population
OUTDOOR SPACES AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New walking surface in Reg Conn Park• New accessibility investments in the arena• Two sets of public washrooms• Walking trails that are fairly well used by the community TRANSPORTATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some public transportation options to Ashcroft and Cache Creek HOUSING <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compared to elsewhere in BC, relatively affordable housing options exist• The Village owns a vacant lot that could be dedicated to innovative housing options	

Building on Strengths

While there are great things going on in Clinton, residents know (and want) their community to be the best it can be.

BUILDING ON STRENGTHS With a few more resources, some community elbow-grease, and focus on priorities the following items could be improved upon to help strengthen Clinton's age-friendliness.	SOCIAL PARTICIPATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partner with Ashcroft and Cache Creek to have programming available when the public bus is in these communities RESPECT AND INCLUSION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Celebrate Seniors' Week at the start of each June to recognize the importance of older adults to the safety and well-being of Clinton CIVIC PARTICIPATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hold specific municipal budget sessions for seniors where they regularly meet COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have regular articles about seniors in the local newspapers COMMUNITY SUPPORTS AND HEALTH SERVICES <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Utilize the telehealth technology that already exists at the Interior Health Clinton Health and Wellness Centre• Have a mobile pharmacy service available in the community
OUTDOOR SPACES AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accessibility in some municipal buildings• Dedicated accessible parking outside all municipal buildings• Picnic tables made to be more wheelchair friendly TRANSPORTATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• More bus stops in Clinton at key community locations HOUSING <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Better access to information about how to secure an affordable housing unit in places like Clinton Creek Estates and Clinton Villa	

The Big Picture

Seeing the big picture required a comprehensive understanding of the stories and experiences combined with the facts.

<h3>THE BIG PICTURE</h3> <p>Some larger, longer-term priorities emerged through the community engagement process. These big picture items will require deeper investment and planning.</p>	
<h4>OUTDOOR SPACES AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Existing sidewalks along the highway need enhancements as grant funding is available• Install sidewalks in residential streets as redevelopment proceeds• Improve accessibility in some municipal buildings as grants and funding are made available.• Explore the development of a multi-generational splash park <h4>TRANSPORTATION</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Volunteer driving program using the federal government's New Horizons funding• Pedestrian lights and improved crossings on the highway	<h4>RESPECT AND INCLUSION</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Retain the existing and add a veterans memorial to an outside location using federal grant programs <h4>CIVIC PARTICIPATION</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add a sub-committee to the Spirit of Clinton to focus on age-friendliness on a pilot basis for three years• Create a community garden to enhance food security options <h4>COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop and sustain a Clinton Circle of Supports <h4>COMMUNITY SUPPORTS AND HEALTH SERVICES</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve access to a medical physician and pharmacist

Opportunities for Innovation

New ways of doing things can bring about the positive changes we desire. Often, change is within our own power and control – with a little innovative thinking!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INNOVATION

Thinking about new ways of doing things can bring about the changes we desire.

HOUSING

- Re-imagine the lot beside Clinton Creek Estate as an opportunity to establish a campus for older adults by adding more housing, and incorporating existing amenities into the housing
- Develop an innovative campus with a mix of age-friendly seniors housing and amenities at the Lot 9 site

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

- Ensure that Clinton is a priority for any new high speed internet infrastructure projects in British Columbia

Survey Results

Almost 10% of residents participated in the online and paper copies of the surveys. The findings help to provide additional context to the community conversations and workshops.



OUTDOOR SPACES AND BUILDINGS

Accessibility was identified as a significant challenge for many, specifically noting the condition of sidewalks



HOUSING

53% of survey respondents live alone leaving them susceptible to social isolation

15% struggle with the financial costs of housing



TRANSPORTATION

~70% of respondents see mobility needs increasing in the next 3+ years



SOCIAL PARTICIPATION

90% participate in something at least once per month



RESPECT AND INCLUSION

90% feel a strong sense of belonging, and 75% feel valued as a senior in the community

COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

Medical and pharmacy services topped the list of supports needed in Clinton



CIVIC PARTICIPATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Half (50%) of survey participants still have some level of (part-time) employment income



COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

Half (50%) believe there could be improvements in communications and information sharing



Action Plan

Knowing about strengths and opportunities for improvement is just one part of the equation – having strategy and priority actions can help to guide future accomplishments. While community members often look to the municipality to coordinate, fund, and ‘do,’ this age-friendly action plan identifies other community groups and organizations having community passion, able bodies, able minds, and sometimes resources to assume leadership.

Recommended Action	Priority	Lead	Timeline	Rationale
Specific action(s) that emerged through engagement, research, or conversations with the Village or Spirit of Clinton	Potential priority level for action(s). While all actions are important, this is a relative priority compared to the other actions	This identifies the potential lead in Clinton. While the action may be the responsibility of another body (e.g., the Province), this identifies a lead at the local level	This is a potential timeline for the action to be implemented	This provides an overview of the rationale for each action.

Project Wrap-Up and Committee

Recommended Action	Priority	Lead	Timeline	Rationale
Council adopt a resolution to be an age friendly community	High	Village	2023 Q4	Aligns with requirement to be recognized by the Province
Add an age friendly sub-committee to Spirit of Clinton	High	Village + Spirit of Clinton	2023 Q4	
Publish the full age-friendly assessment and action plan on the Village's website	High	Village	2023 Q4	
Share the final report with the community	Medium	Village	2023 Q4	

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Recommended Action	Priority	Lead	Timeline	Rationale
Ensure all municipal buildings align with the federal accessibility recommendations (see Appendix D)	Medium	Village	2023-2025	Aligns with the new <i>Accessible BC Act</i> that the Village must meet as a local government
Install dedicated accessible parking close to building entrances	Medium	Village	2023-2025	Decreases the distance from cars to entrances
Make picnic table more accessible	Medium	Village	2023-2025	Allows wheelchairs to use the tables
Have age-friendly/family games in the parks (i.e. giant dice, chess set, etc.)	Low	Village	2024	Fun way to encourage and allow for intergenerational activities
Enhance the sidewalks along the highway by replacing the bricks, as external grants become available	Medium	Village	Ongoing	This emerged as a clear theme across all engagement activities as a priority for the community
Install sidewalks on residential streets as redevelopment proceeds	Low	Village/ Developers	Ongoing	This will support the mobility of all in the community
Advocate for a crosswalk across the highway near the post office (at Le Bourdais Avenue)	Low	Village with community partners	2024	This will enhance access to key community locations (i.e. Post Office, Village Office, shopping, etc.)

Transportation

Recommended Action	Priority	Lead	Timeline	Rationale
Ensure all municipal buildings align with the federal accessibility recommendations (see Appendix D)	Medium	Village	2023-2025	Aligns with the new <i>Accessible BC Act</i> that the Village must meet as a local government
Apply for a New Horizons grant for a volunteer driver program	Medium	Spirit of Clinton	2024	As a rural community, this will increase mobility for those without vehicles
Install two additional bus stops in Clinton at either end of the community	Low	Village	2024	Improve access to regional transit system

Housing

Recommended Action	Priority	Lead	Timeline	Rationale
Share information about how to obtain a unit in buildings like Clinton Creek Estates and Clinton Village	Low	Spirit of Clinton	2024	Several members of the public shared they are unsure about how to get into this housing
Develop Lot 9	Medium	Village	2026	Will add new housing stock in the community
Plan for new affordable housing facility for older adults	Low	Spirit of Clinton	2027	The population of older adults is increasing in Clinton – advanced planning for the group's housing needs is important

Social Participation

Recommended Action	Priority	Lead	Timeline	Rationale
Partner with Ashcroft and Cache Creek to have programming available when the public bus is in these communities	Medium	Village	2025	Increases social connection among seniors across the region
When possible, add an intergenerational component to events	Low	All	Ongoing	Intergenerational activities are an evidence-based way to increase wellbeing for older adults

Respect and Inclusion

Recommended Action	Priority	Lead	Timeline	Rationale
Celebrate Seniors' Week at the start of each June	High	Spirit of Clinton	Ongoing	Annual event across BC recognizing and celebrating older adults
Retain the existing and install a new veterans memorial to an outside location using federal grants	Low	Village	2026	There is a small memorial in Memorial Hall that has limited access

Civic Participation and Employment

Recommended Action	Priority	Lead	Timeline	Rationale
Have specific municipal budget sessions for older adults at locations they frequent	Low	Village	Ongoing	This will help share information and build support for key Village decisions
Add a sub-committee to the Spirit of Clinton to focus on age-friendliness on a pilot basis for three years	High	Spirit of Clinton	2023	The standard is to have a committee focused on age-friendliness

Communication and Information

Recommended Action	Priority	Lead	Timeline	Rationale
Have a regular article about older adults in the local newspaper	Low	Spirit of Clinton	Ongoing	Share service information, events, and activities specifically available to older adults
Develop and sustain a Clinton Circle of Supports for all services available in Clinton	Low	Village	Ongoing	
Make it possible to use a computer in the Library if you don't have one at home	Low	Library	2024	Improve access to information for seniors and create opportunity for connection

Community Support and Health Services

Recommended Action	Priority	Lead	Timeline	Rationale
Health Alliance, Village, and Spirit of Clinton request telehealth at the Health Centre	High	Health Alliance, Village, and Spirit of Clinton	Q2 2024	Access to doctors and pharmacists emerged as top priorities – this is an in-the-meantime solution
Advocate for a mobile pharmacy service	High	Health Alliance, Village, and Spirit of Clinton	Q3 2024	
Access to a physician and pharmacist in the community of Clinton	High	Health Alliance, Village, and Spirit of Clinton	Long term	Access to doctors and pharmacists emerged as top priorities during engagement activities

Detailed Action Plans

The most significant priorities are somewhat more complex and therefore have more detailed action plans. For example, sidewalks are a priority; however, sidewalks require mainly financial resources to make happen (e.g., wait for successful grant funding). This is very different from three of the main priorities that require more detailed strategies, including:

- Doctor availability
- Pharmacy availability
- Housing stock development

Doctor Action Plan

Recommended Action	Priority	Lead	Timeline	Rationale
Request to UBC and International Medical Graduates resident rotations/placements in Clinton at the Wellness Centre (see note 1)	High	Health Alliance	Q1 2024	Residents tend to stay in the communities in which they do rotations/placements
Request Physician Return of Service agreement with the Ministry of Health (see note 1)	High	Health Alliance	Q1 2024	The Ministry of Health can sign service agreements with new physicians to work in specific communities for a minimum of two years
Identify prospective complementary supports for a resident/physician (e.g., childcare option, housing option, spousal employment option)	High	Health Alliance	Q3 2024	These do not need to be provided for free, however, residents, in particular, may require help identifying how/where to obtain supports such as childcare, housing, and spousal employment
Village requests a meeting with the Minister of Health during the UBCM Convention to discuss physician/resident recruitment to Clinton	High	Village	Q3 2024	This is to help raise the issue and opportunity directly with the Minister of Health

Identify a welcome process (e.g., transportation from the airport to Clinton, welcome basket from the community)	High	Health Alliance	Q3 2024	This will help a resident feel very welcome in the community; as indicated above, residents tend to want to stay in the community if possible
Presentations to local and regional schools and youth groups about medical education	High	Health Alliance	On-going	While the community would like a doctor soon, the community may wish to support a local youth to pursue health careers and then return to the community to practice

Note 1: Additional information about return of service agreements are available from the Province of British Columbia: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/physician-compensation/return-service-programs>

Pharmacy Action Plan

Recommended Action	Priority	Lead	Timeline	Rationale
Ad-hoc municipal participation on the Health Alliance	High	Village	Q1 2024	The Health Alliance should be the lead on this at the local level (the Province should remain as the overall lead)
Identify prospective complementary supports for a pharmacist (e.g., childcare option, housing option, spousal employment option)	High	Health Alliance	Q3 2024	These do not need to be provided for free, however, pharmacists may require help identifying how/where to obtain supports such as childcare, housing, and spousal employment
Village requests a meeting with the Minister of Health during the UBCM Convention to discuss access to pharmacy in Clinton	High	Village	Q3 2024	This is to help raise the issue and opportunity directly with the Minister of Health

Presentations to local and regional schools and youth groups about pharmacy education	High	Health Alliance	On-going	While the community would like a pharmacist soon, the community may wish to focus on providing a local youth with encouragement to pursue health careers and then return to the community to practice
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Housing Action Plan

Recommended Action	Priority	Lead	Timeline	Rationale
Sign an MOU with Clinton and District Assisted Living Society (CDALS) to expand Clinton Creek Estates	High	Village	Q2 2024	The MOU will outline the roles of the Village (land acquisition) and CDALS (lead and operator)
Advocate to the Province of British Columbia for funding to build a road to Lot 9	High	Village	2025	Consider innovative partnerships with the Province (e.g., the Village to donate a single lot in return for the Province supporting the construction of the road)
Request special funding from the Province of British Columbia so the Village can hire a contractor to support a Village application into the federal Housing Accelerator Fund	High	Village	2024	The Housing Accelerator Fund provides a fair amount of flexibility for municipalities to use the funding to get housing built more quickly in their community; the funding could potentially be used to help fund a part of a creative partnership around Lot 9

Summary

Clinton, British Columbia has many positive age friendly attributes. The smaller population provides a unique opportunity for the community.

To make Clinton more age friendly as a community, it is recommended that there be a particular focus on

- Outdoor spaces and buildings, with a particular focus on accessibility and sidewalks
- Access to health care and pharmacy services
- Action on annual Senior's Week celebrations
- Improved, ongoing engagement with older adults in the community about Village activities and decisions
- More affordable housing designed for seniors and older adults to age in place and stay in the community



Appendix A – Survey and Engagement

The Clinton Age-Friendly Community Action Plan was informed by seniors, older adults, and community members through a variety of engagement opportunities including:

- A **What We Heard** report that was based on the early engagement
- A summary of the **prioritization activities** during the April 2023 open house
- A **summary of additional recommendations** that emerged through other engagement activities that took place throughout the project
- A **summary of the survey results** that was publicly available in May and June 2023 online and throughout Clinton



AGE FRIENDLY PLANNING PROJECT
SENIOR'S TEA
& OPEN HOUSE
MONDAY APRIL 24TH

SENIOR'S TEA 9:30AM-10:30 AM

&

OPEN HOUSE 3:00PM-7:00PM

CLINTON MEMORIAL HALL

The Village of Clinton is continuing the work on the age-friendly assessment and action plan. There is an important opportunity for you to get involved!

On Monday, April 24, 2023, there are two drop-in open houses, with tea, coffee, and light snacks!
The first is from 9:30 am - 10:30 am, this is specifically for older adults and seniors.

The second session is from 3 pm - 7 pm, this is open to all and any community members!

Come get an update on what has been identified to date, give your feedback, and complete a survey!

Additionally, if you know of an older adult or senior that will be willing to participate in a one-to-one or small group conversation about their experience living in Clinton, please get in touch with Kat at the Village Office.

 250-459-2261  cdc@village.clinton.bc.ca

VILLAGE OF
CLINTON

WHAT WE HEARD

About being an age-friendly community



More than 480 ideas and 95 photos collected in two days



Community engagement sessions were held on February 15 and 16, 2023. 480 ideas and suggestions were identified through one-on-one and smaller group conversations, and 95 photos taken during tours of municipal facilities to kick-off the development of the Clinton age friendly action plan.

bassa Social Innovations Inc. spent two full days touring community amenities such as The Memorial Hall and speaking with staff, volunteers and leaders from the Village of Clinton, Spirit of Clinton Committee, Clinton Food Bank, Clinton Seniors Centre, Clinton Villa, health care providers, Clinton Library and members of the community.

Some of the ideas and suggestions are shared below and all will provide a strong foundation for the next steps in developing the action plan. Thank you to everyone that took time out of their day to share and contribute in such thoughtful ways!



Some key findings and early themes

Insights from participants help to shape the project

Much to celebrate

Clinton has a strong age friendly foundation to move forward with. From everyone that participated in the conversations, there is a clear and shared interest in being a community that is *even more* age friendly for older adults. There is a willingness for creative new programs and ideas. A dedication to improve the accessibility of major community amenities and a desire to seek out opportunities to include younger families in activities through intergenerational programming and other community planning. It is clear that Clinton should be proud of its attitude and willingness to continually improve its age friendliness.



The distance challenge

The distance to health, mental health, food, social, and other supports (driving to 100 Mile House, Ashcroft, or Kamloops) is clearly a challenge for many in the community, regardless of age. Finding ways to “decrease” this distance through transportation to these services or by having these services in Clinton is clearly a community priority amongst those who participated in conversations.

Enhancing accessibility

Accessibility to amenities and gathering spots for older adults, in alignment with the *Accessible British Columbia Act*, was discussed during all conversations and tours of facilities. Concrete suggestions for accessibility improvements to the gym at the Village Office, the arena, sidewalks, Memorial Hall, the curling rink, the transit stop, parking lots, and other public amenities are emerging, and will be included in the final age friendly assessment. There were also some requests for community-wide new services/programs such as snow angels during the winter.

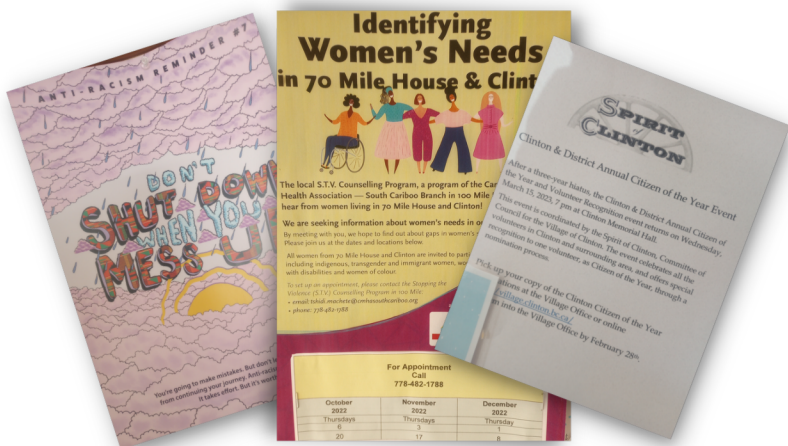
More findings and early themes...

Housing options

Nearly all participants noted that housing in the community can be a challenge. There is a demand for more housing designed for healthy aging, and if the community wants additional services, these services require staff that need a home in Clinton or the region.

Committing to an age-friendly committee

Part of being recognized by the Province of British Columbia as an age friendly community requires the Village of Clinton Council to pass a resolution to establish a community age friendly committee. This committee would ensure that priorities and perspectives of older adults are included in key decision making, that positive contributions made by older adults to the community of Clinton are recognized, and that there continues to be a focused effort on implementing the age friendly action plan. There is no existing committee that appears to meet the provincial definition of an age friendly committee, so this will be part of future conversations.



Engaging older adults and seniors

There are opportunities to include older adults and seniors by being more creative. For example, the perspectives of older adults can be included in engagement processes prior to public bodies making decisions that impact older adults (e.g., new policies, changes in service, etc.). As well, there are opportunities to engage older adults and seniors through innovative activities, such as an intergenerational splash park or providing giant dice or chess games in local parks.

and speaking of including older adults and seniors...

You're invited to participate in further interviews and site visits!

The Village of Clinton and *bassa* Social Innovations want to hear from older adults and seniors in the community

Two ways to get involved:

1

Participate in a one-on-one or small group interview with *bassa* Social Innovations over the phone, online, or in-person.

bassa will even come to your home to ensure you're able to participate

2

Participate in a visit to municipal buildings such as Memorial Hall and the transit stop to understand potential accessibility and age friendly improvements from the perspective of older adults and seniors

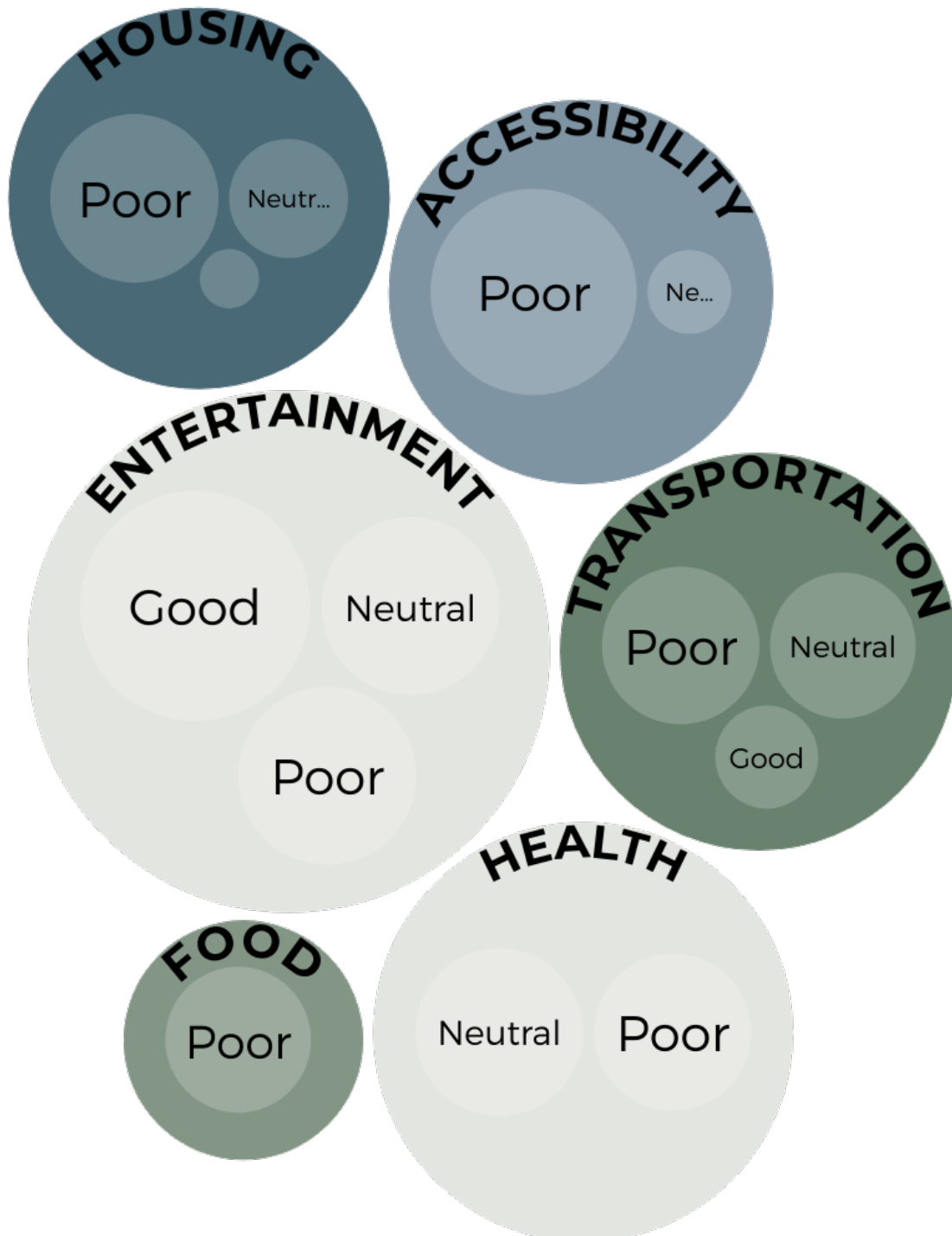
To register...

call Village Office at 250.459.2261 or email cdc@village.clinton.bc.ca.

If your parents, neighbours, family members, friends, community members, or anyone else you know may be interested in participating in either an interview or a visit please pass this along to them!

Appendix A – Open House Priorities (April 2023)

A series of open house events were held on April 24, 2023. Participants engaged in small group discussions capturing some of their key ideas and priorities.



Appendix B - Analysis of Survey and Engagement Information

Demographic and Socioeconomic Characteristics of Respondents

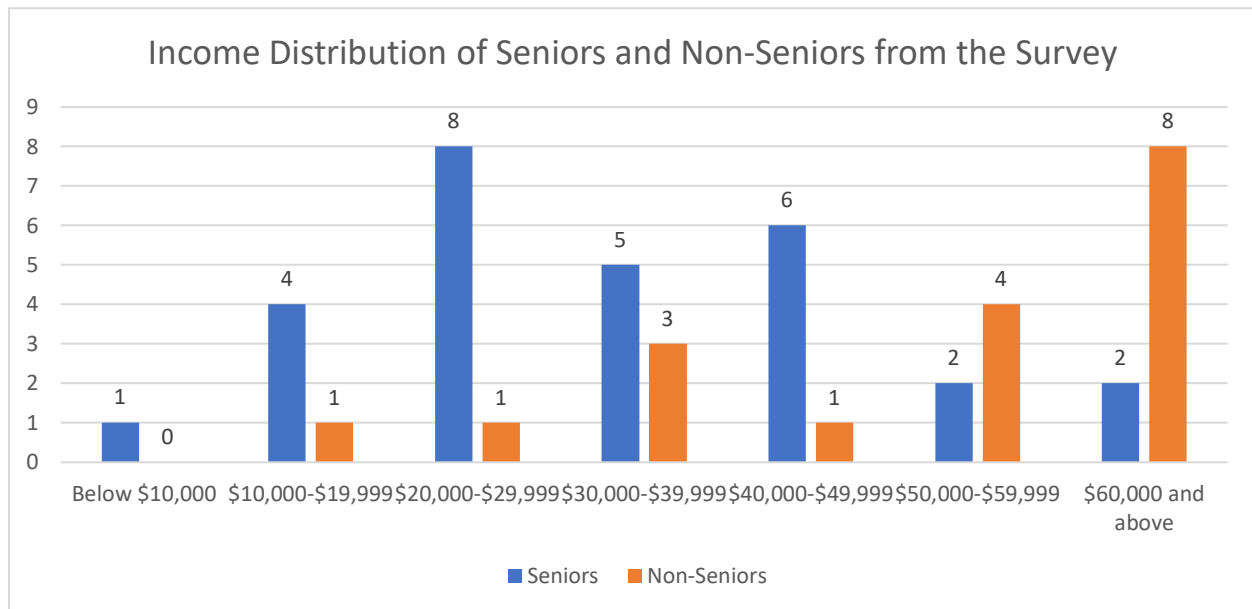
Age and Gender Composition

In all, there was a total of 52 Survey Respondents. For seniors (aged 61 plus), there was an equal number of male and female respondents for a total of 32 senior respondents¹. The most dominant age category reported for seniors responding to the private household survey was the 66-70 age cohort, with 41% of respondents. The 71-75 aged cohort followed with 22 % of the total respondents, and the 61-65-year group was next with 16% of the total respondents.

Current Employment and Primary Source of Income and Income Distribution

The majority of the seniors surveyed were retired and engaged in volunteer work. A handful were still in full-time employment. In contrast, most non-seniors were employed. The relevancy of the employment status directly impacts income sources, access, and affordability to specific services for seniors. Except for those employed, all the seniors surveyed identified Canadian Government Payments (CPP, OAS, GIS, ASB) and Private investment and pension plans as their primary source of income. In contrast, employment income was the primary source of income for non-seniors. The graph below shows the income distribution for Seniors and Non-Seniors surveyed.

¹ The survey was filled out by a range of ages, however, where indicated, the data was separated to allow for analysis that represented just seniors' responses.



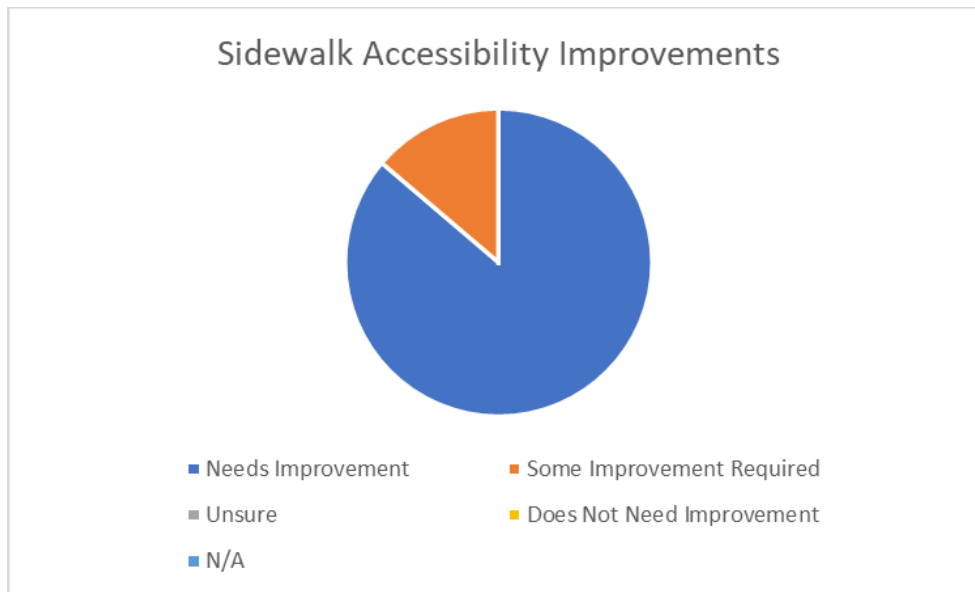
The income distribution of seniors and non-seniors survey indicates much lower income reporting for seniors compared to non-seniors largely due to the employment income. The low end of the income distribution is very disproportionate as it shows a relatively high proportion of seniors compared to non-seniors. Seniors' household income directly impacts their transportation and housing options as well as their social participation and inclusion in the community.

Survey Domain: Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

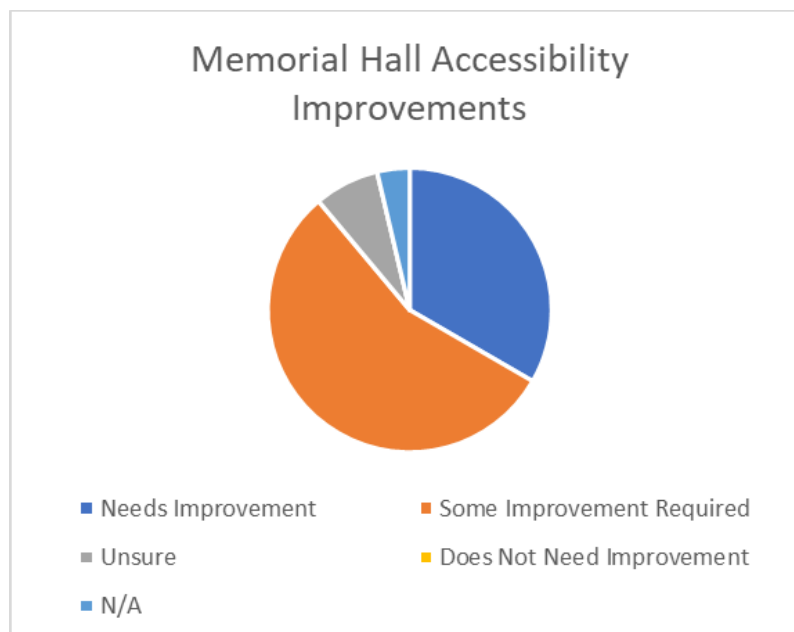
We shared a list of outdoor places and spaces and asked participants whether they believed the sites required improvements for accessibility. The spaces and places we listed were: sidewalks, Memorial Hall, curling rink, arena, gym, Reg Conn Park, Elliot Park, Fennell Trail, Cut-Off Valley Trail, Tin Can Trail, David Stotter School Outdoor Fitness Equipment, public washrooms, Village Office, Other (there were no responses in the "other" category). From this list, the spaces that senior participants reported as requiring the most improvements were sidewalks across town and Memorial Hall. Sites requiring some attention include the curling rink, David Stotter School Outdoor Fitness Equipment and Reg Conn Park.

Across all sites on the list, sidewalks emerged as needing the most attention. Participants identified that sidewalks are in need of improvement to increase accessibility in the Village of Clinton. All participants that responded to this question (n=45) indicated that sidewalks are in need of attention with 80% responding that they "require improvement" and 20% indicating that they

require “some improvement”, with 0 people indicating it does not require any or being unsure. When the data is separated to show only responses of seniors (61+ year olds), 86% indicate that sidewalks need improvement and 14% indicate some improvement. This demonstrates that all participants agree that the sidewalks in town need to be more accessible in order to be an age-friendly community.



Participants also indicated that Memorial Hall needed some improvements to increase accessibility of the site. 56% of senior participants who responded to this question (n=27), indicated that Memorial Hall requires ‘some improvement,’ while 33% indicated that it ‘needs improvement.’



Other sites that emerged as requiring attention included the curling rink (26% needs improvements, 15% needs some improvement), David Stotter School Outdoor Fitness Equipment (19% needs improvement, 27% needs some improvement) and Reg Conn Park (11% needs improvement, 37% needs some improvement). The remaining locations on the list participants were either unsure about the needs or did not think they needed attention.

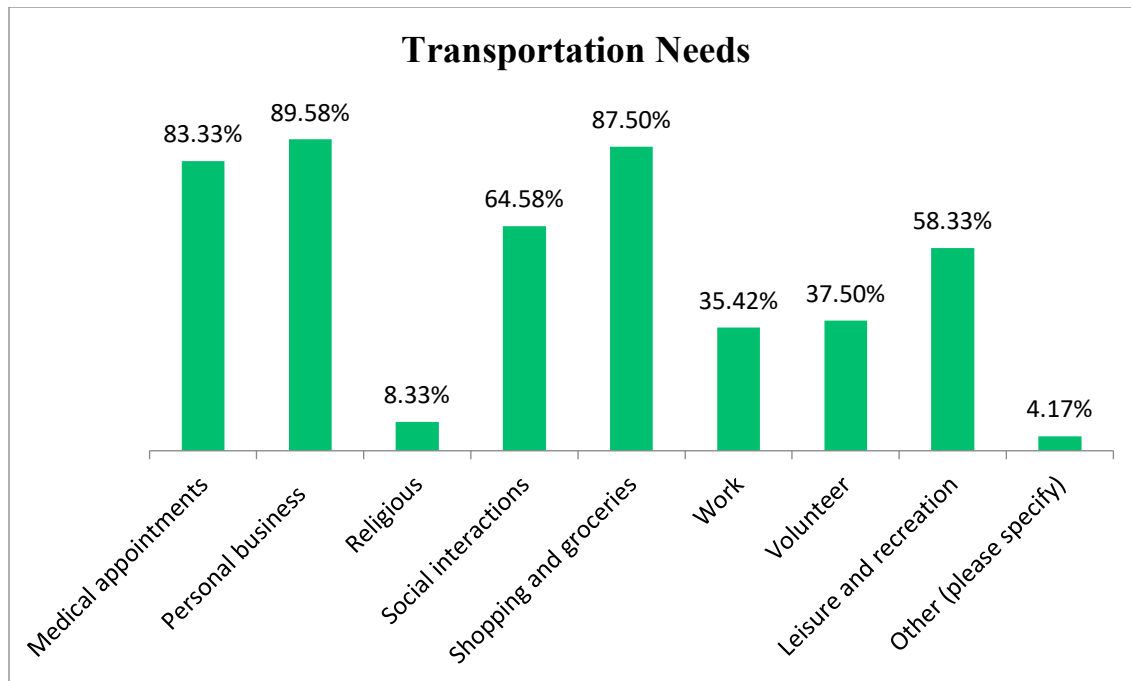
Survey Domain: Transportation

For the age-friendly strategy, seniors' mobility and transportation could be described as the ability and access to afford an appropriate means to get around where and when a senior wants to go for their day-to-day living activities, with some assistance or support if required. To understand the seniors' elements of transportation, seniors were asked to rank various transportation elements most important to them. Seniors ranked the following in order of most important.

- Independence
- Affordability
- Accessibility
- Availability
- Safety
- Efficiency and Reliability

Transportation Needs

Respondents indicated that personal business, shopping for groceries, and medical appointments were the most frequent reason seniors needed transportation. Social interaction, recreation and leisure and volunteering were the other reasons seniors needed transportation in the community.



Driving Status and Access to Transportation

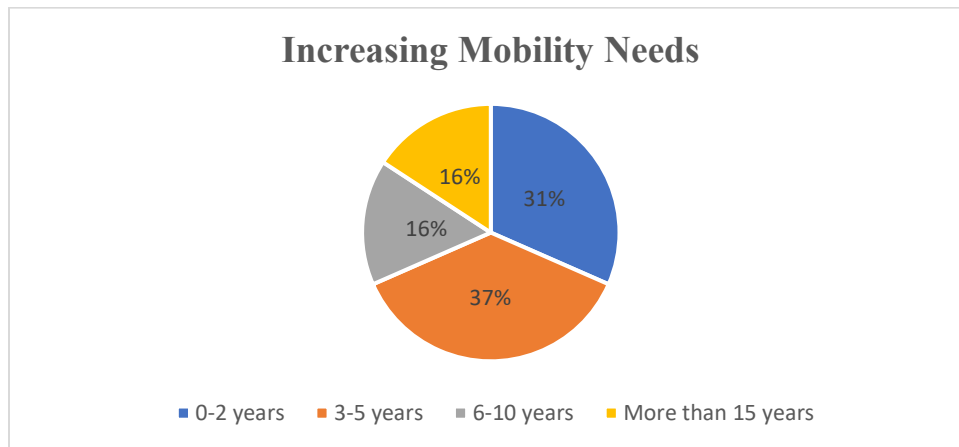
Driving remains the leading transportation choice for seniors in Clinton to maintain autonomy and satisfy their needs. Seniors often use two modes of transportation: drivers of their own vehicles or as a passenger with family/friends. Depending on the distance, some seniors also indicated walking to their destinations and sometimes with a motorized scooter/wheelchair. Of the seniors who responded to the question, 23 out of 30 still have their driver's license. The rest did not have licenses. This segment of the population requires alternative transportation services. Most seniors who indicated they have licenses also indicated that they usually have vehicle access.

Given that most seniors in the survey use their vehicles as a means of transportation, transportation challenges will be more difficult for seniors who can no longer drive. Additionally, it creates additional limitations for these seniors because without being able to drive, they are not able to get to medical appointments, maintain social connections, or shop for groceries which may impact their health and social well-being to age in place successfully.

Additional Transportation Needs

Additionally, respondents were asked about their utilization of the community bus. More specifically, regarding the community bus, respondents indicated an on-demand bus route, more bus stops, comfortable buses, and the need for the bus to be able to go into other

communities. Respondents also wished the bus had operated more than once per day. Seniors were asked when they saw their mobility needs increasing in the future. Below are their responses.



Some seniors indicated that their health and disability status require them to use mobility devices including canes, walker sticks, and Electric Scooters.

Seniors' Transportation Issues

Senior's provided feedback on the issues they face accessing transportation:

Inadequate information and awareness about current transportation programs in the community

Older buildings do not have accessibility for mobility devices (no access ramps)

Long wait to get access to available transportation into neighbouring communities. *"Take the bus to Ashcroft to go to the pharmacy; have to wait for four hours; need more buses here – only twice/week."*

Lack of effective coordination and collaboration between service providers supporting seniors regarding availability and access to transportation, especially those who cannot drive. "No formal organization or system in place to arrange rides" Respondent. Some people will post transportation needs on Facebook (Clinton Events) for Dr. appointments

Informal requests to give people rides to Dr. appointments (word of mouth), rally around each other

Inadequate consideration for aging in place regarding land use planning for transportation infrastructure. *"Sidewalk (built) along the highway from Hugo Subdivision into town."* Respondent

Low walkability in the community due to poor sidewalks, curb cuts and ramps “trip hazards with some of the sidewalks.” Respondent. Parking lots and spaces are not adequately maintained of ice and snow.

Traffic Regulations and Pedestrian Crosswalks-Streets do not have clear and appropriate street signage and lane markers.

Opportunities to get volunteers to drive people around are limited due to liability concerns.

Domain: Housing

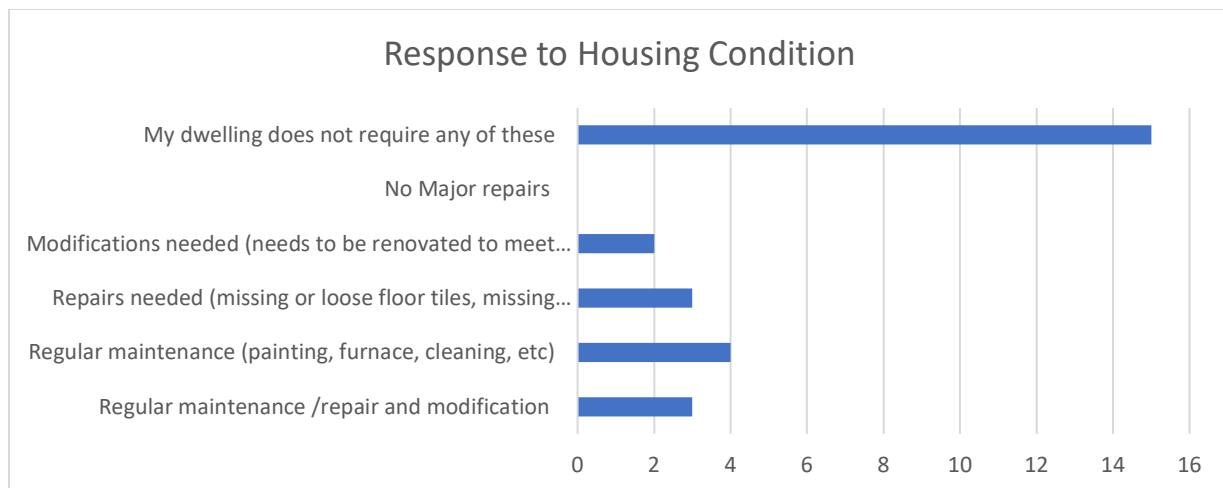
Survey respondents were provided five general categorizations of dwelling structures from which they selected the one that appropriately describes the structural type of their current dwellings. The survey reveals that most senior households reside in single detached dwellings, followed by senior facilities. In terms of housing tenure, overall, 76% owned their dwellings, while 24 % rented their current dwellings.

Living Arrangements and Current Housing Options

Senior's living arrangements and housing options impact their appropriate housing needs and ability to age. Seniors were asked to categorize their current housing and living arrangements subjectively. Among the respondents, 53% lived alone, while 47% lived with a couple or partner. In terms of housing options, the majority of respondents indicated living independently at home with no support. This is followed by those living independently in their home with family/friend support.

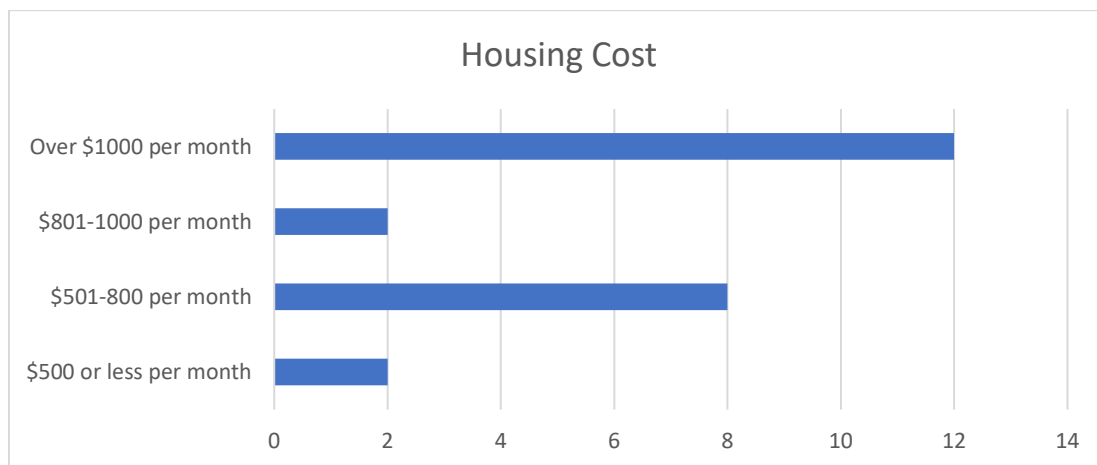
Housing Condition

Housing condition refers to structural characteristics and the facilities of a dwelling, both interior and exterior, that meet the standards of structural adequacy for quality housing of residents according to the National Occupancy Standard (NOS) requirements. The survey asked respondents to assess the condition of their dwellings and, based on their needs and by their own judgment, to determine whether their dwelling needed maintenance, repairs or modifications to enable them to stay there.



Housing Cost and Affordability

Housing cost is the gross monthly household expenditure to secure housing. For seniors and this study, housing costs may include health and social support needed for daily living.



Seniors were asked whether there is a particular type of housing or residential arrangement they need but cannot afford it. Most respondents (85%) indicated no, while the rest (15%) indicated in the affirmative.

Respondents were asked whether they think seniors' appropriate housing issues are being addressed in Clinton for older adults to age in place. All the survey respondents do not think housing issues are being addressed except for one.

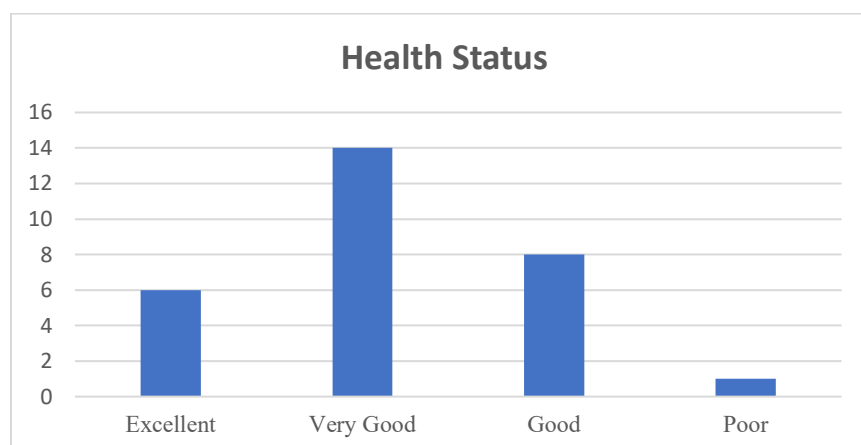
Housing Issues and Challenges

Respondents were asked about any issues or challenges related to housing, this is what they shared:

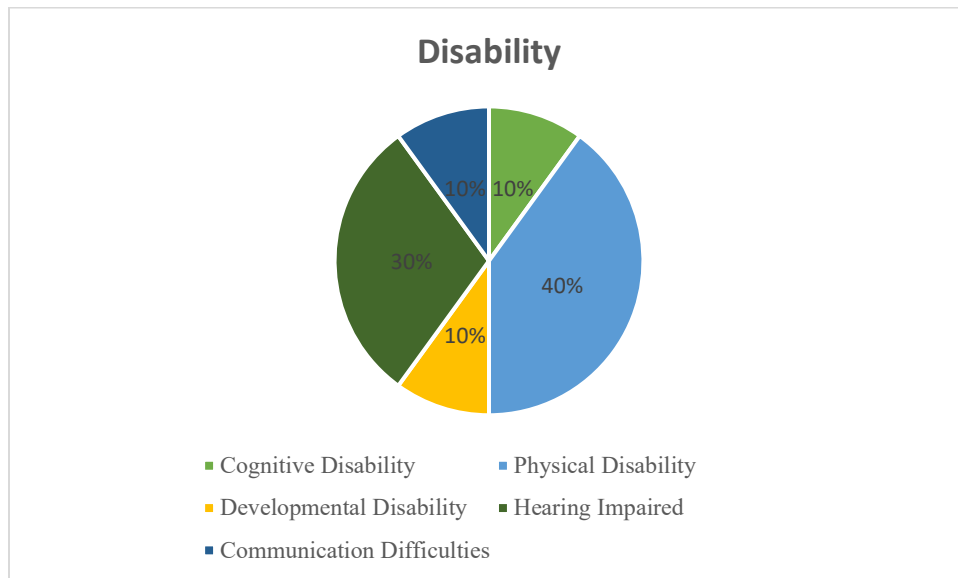
- *Given the increasing age of the population, there is a need for more senior's affordable housing "more seniors housing, more affordable housing. We need more housing in Clinton" Respondent*
- *While housing is on the radar, there is inadequate investment and a lack of collaboration between agencies.*
- *Difficult to attract investors and developers and the private housing options such as Clinton Creek Estates are expensive.*
- *Limited senior housing options in the community due to a lack of employment opportunities to attract younger families.*
- *High cost of private housing and support programs in the community*
- *Poor quality existing rentals for seniors*
- *Some senior facilities were less accessible by wheelchair especially senior independent apartment units with stairs and no elevators.*
- *Inadequate support and assistance as well as information services to assist housing planning for seniors based on their needs and available housing options and support programs.*
- *Seniors and assisted living spaces are so important; people used have to leave because there wasn't enough)*

Health and Disability Impact on Transportation and Housing Needs

Respondents were asked about their health status and whether or not it impacted their ability to access housing and/or transportation. Below are the key findings.



The majority of Seniors did not indicate any disability. For those who selected some form of disability

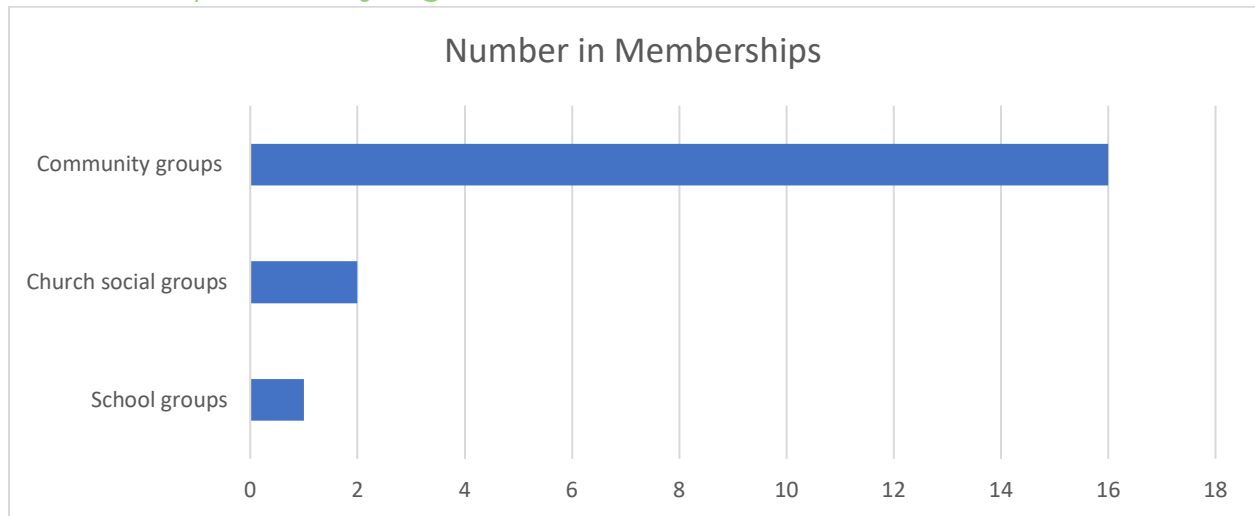


For transportation, seniors indicated that they cannot drive long distances and rely on friends to drive them to appointments. For housing, seniors noted that it is tough to maintain their homes and do daily activities and require assistance with cleaning services. They also require more home support and home care to maintain their independence and age in place.

Survey Domain: Social Participation

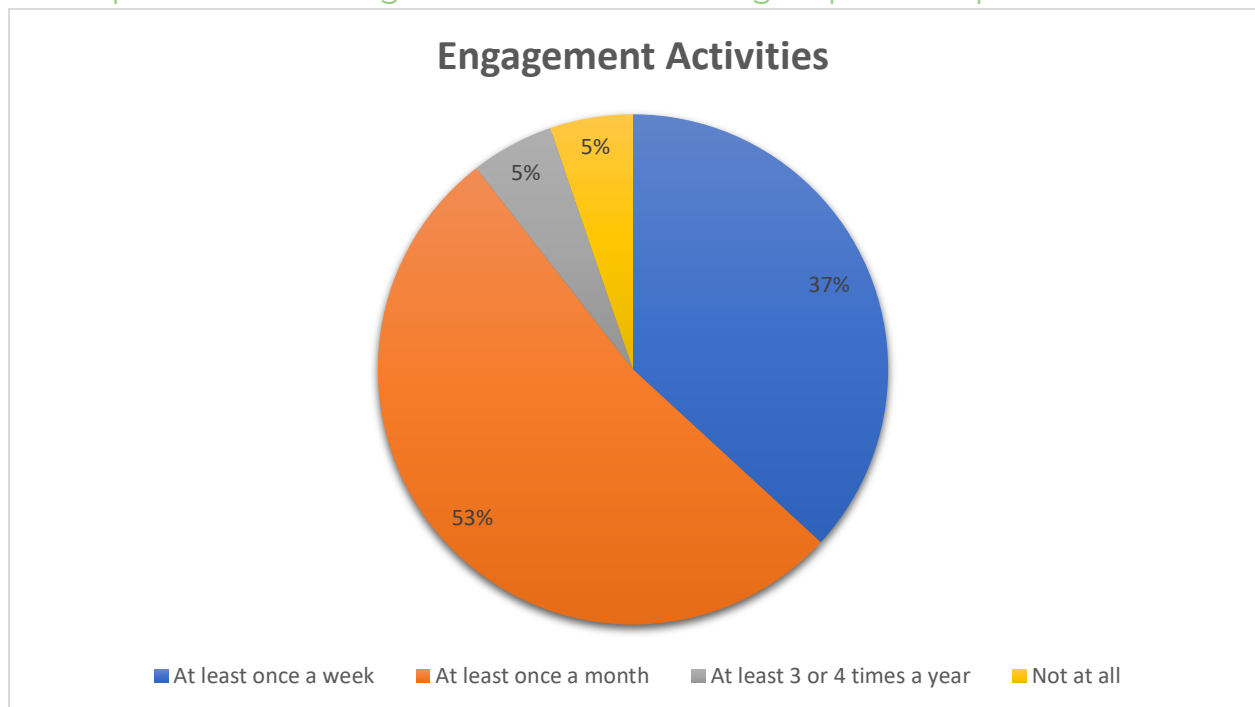
Social participation is defined as a person's involvement in activities that provide social interactions within the community or society and is a determinant of health and well-being for older adults.

Membership Voluntary organizations or associations



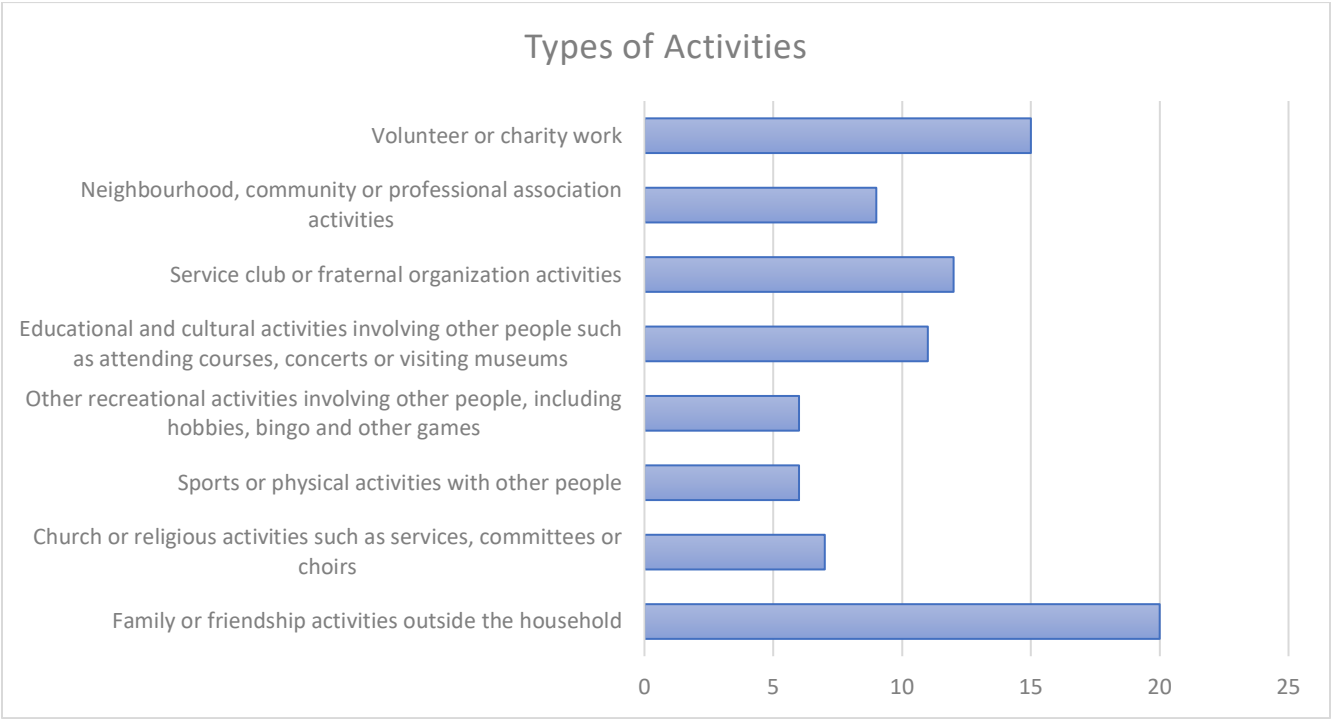
Source: Clinton Seniors Survey, 2023

Participation in meetings or activities of these groups in the past 12 months?



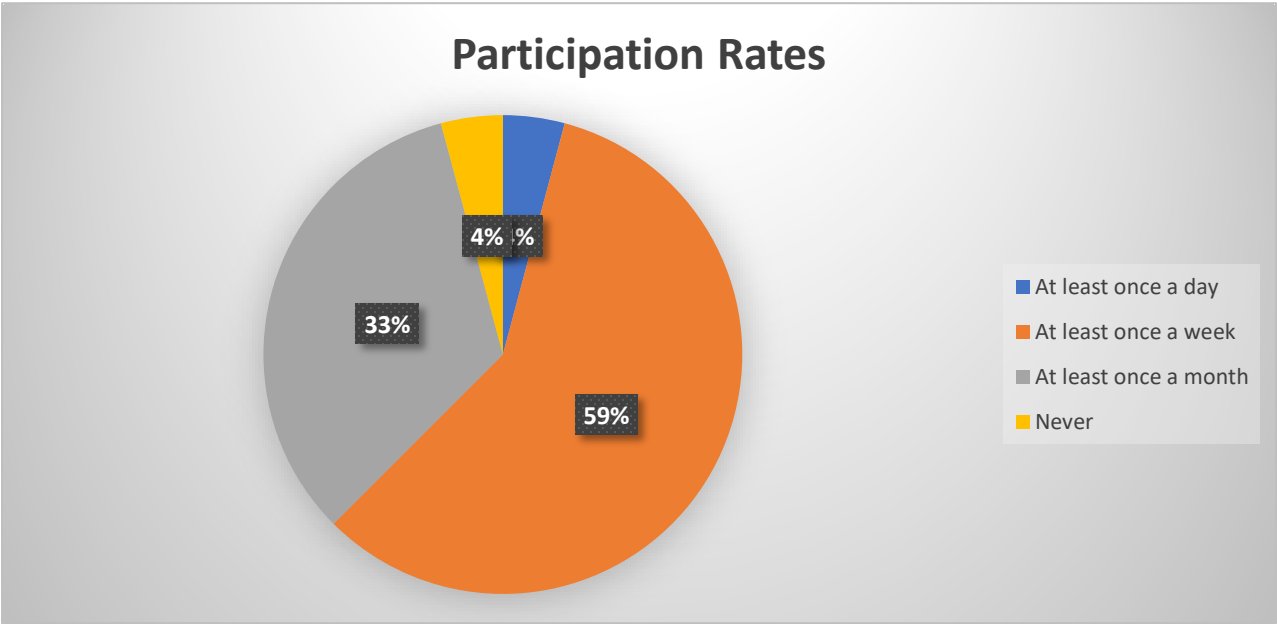
Source: Clinton Senior Survey, 2023

Participation in Various Age-Friendly Activities



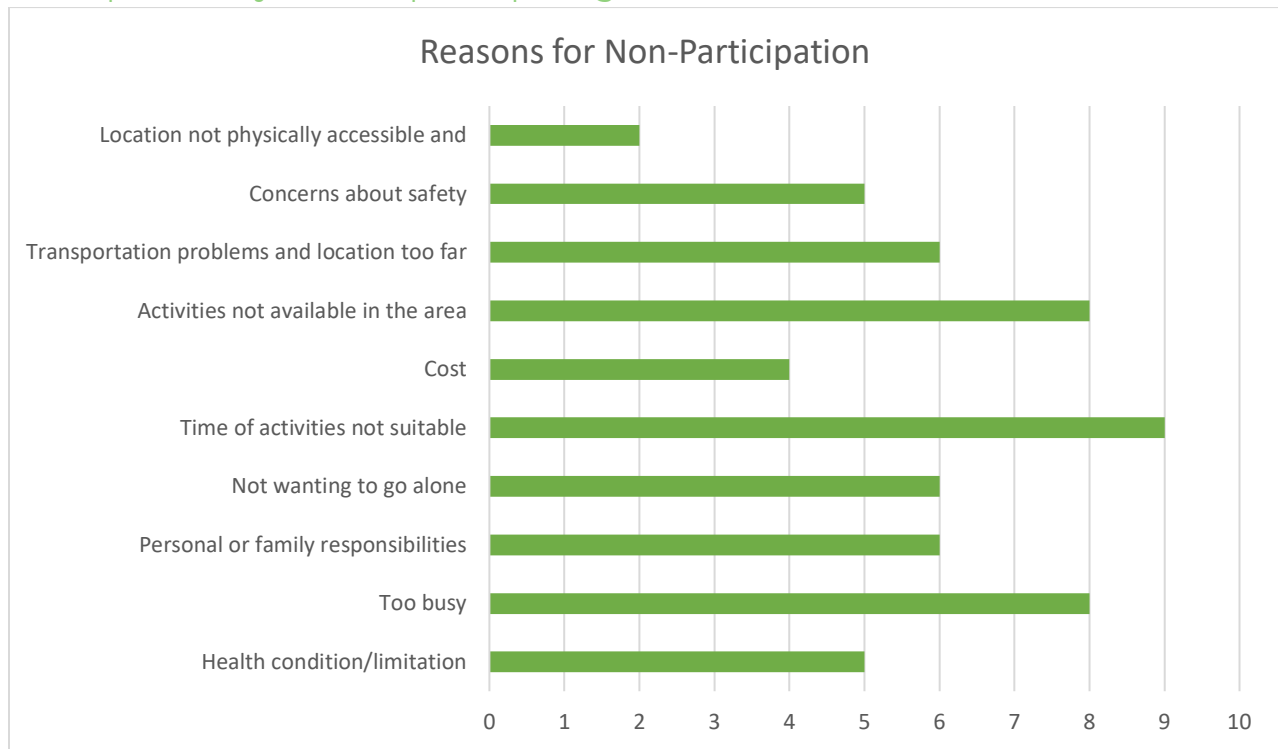
Source: Clinton Seniors Survey, 2023

How often in the past 12 months did you participate in these activities?



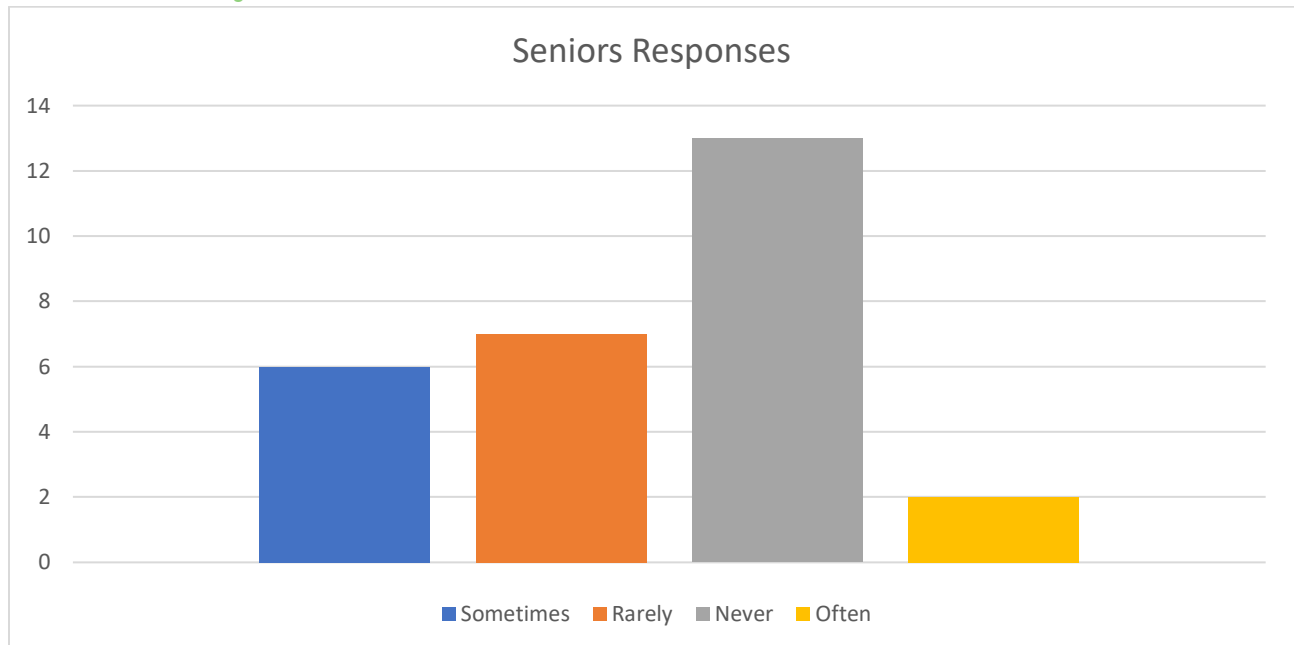
Source: Clinton Seniors Survey, 2023

What prevents you from participating in these activities?



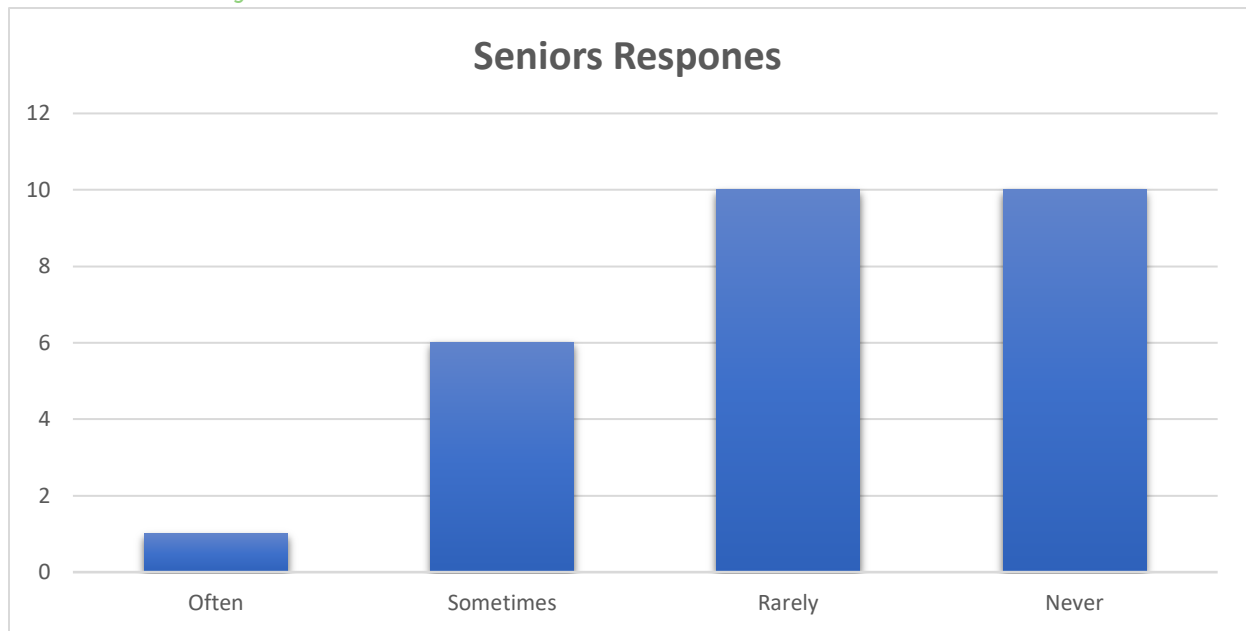
Source: Clinton Seniors Survey, 2023

How often do you feel left out?



Source: Clinton Seniors Survey, 2023

How often do you feel isolated from others?

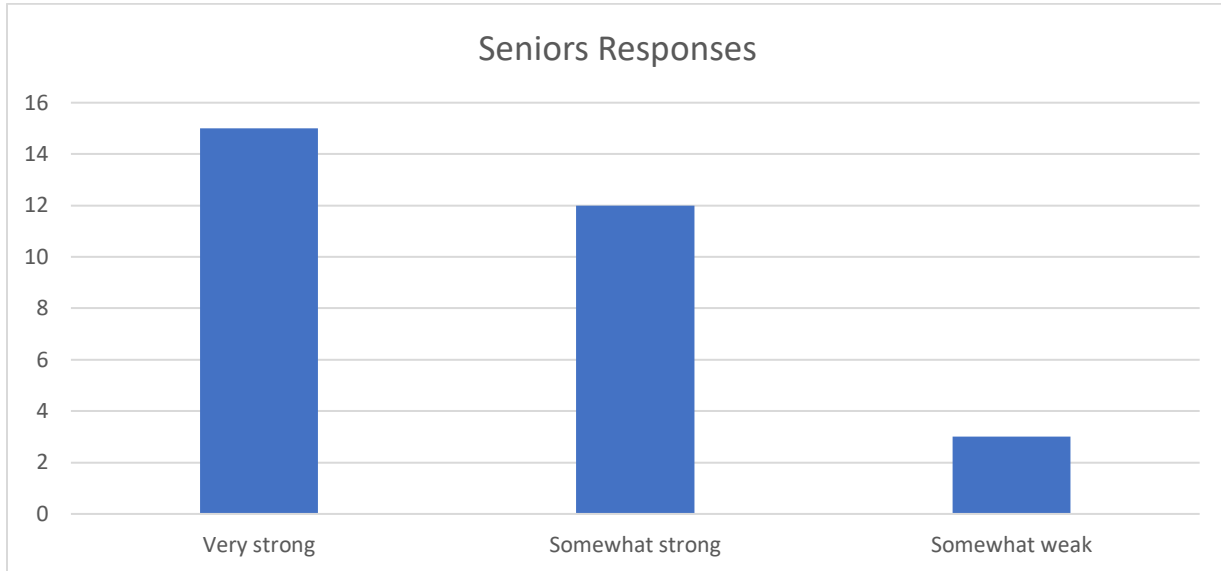


Source: Clinton Seniors Survey, 2023

Domain: Respect and Inclusion:

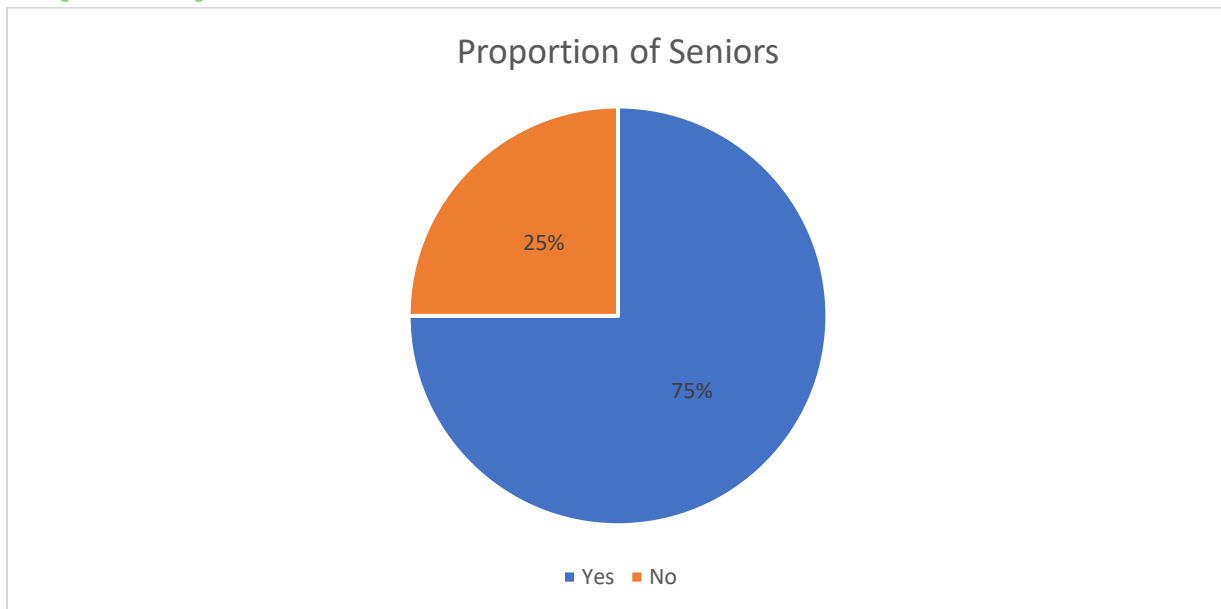
Respect and social inclusion as 'enhancing the opportunities for people of all ages to (i) cultivate social relationships, (ii) have access to resources and support, (iii) feel valued and respected and (iv) feel part of their community.

How would you describe your sense of belonging in Clinton?



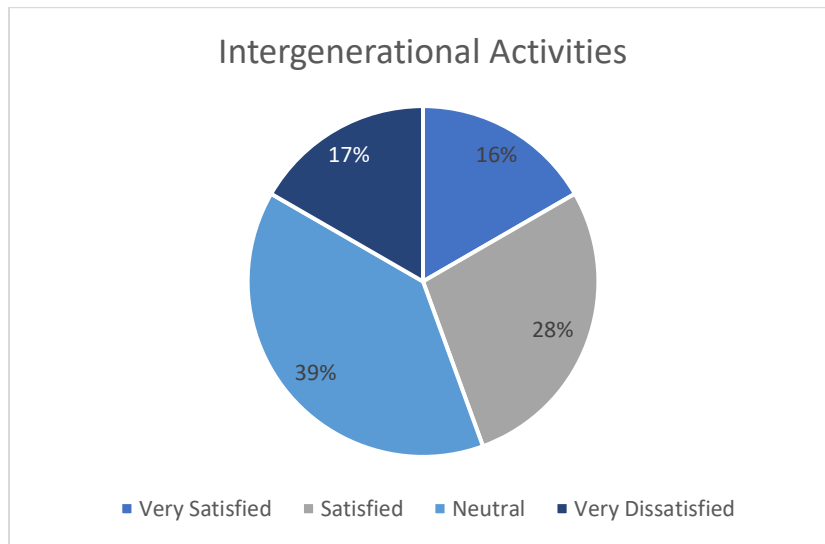
Source: Clinton Seniors Survey, 2023

Do you feel you are valued as a senior resident in Clinton?

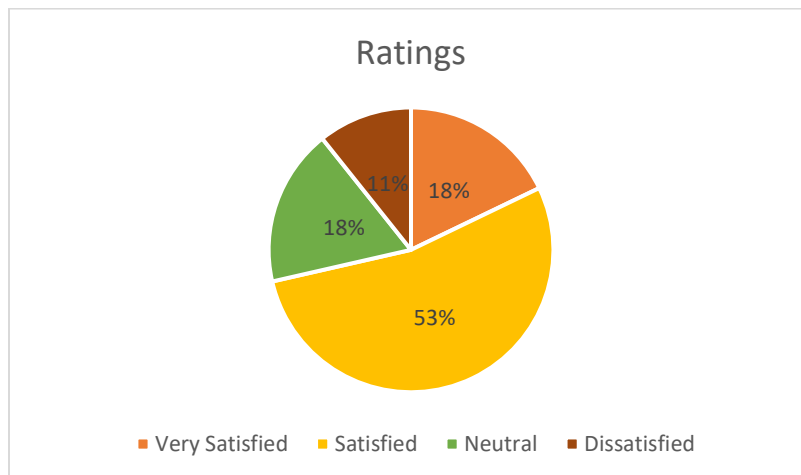


Source: Clinton Seniors Survey, 2023

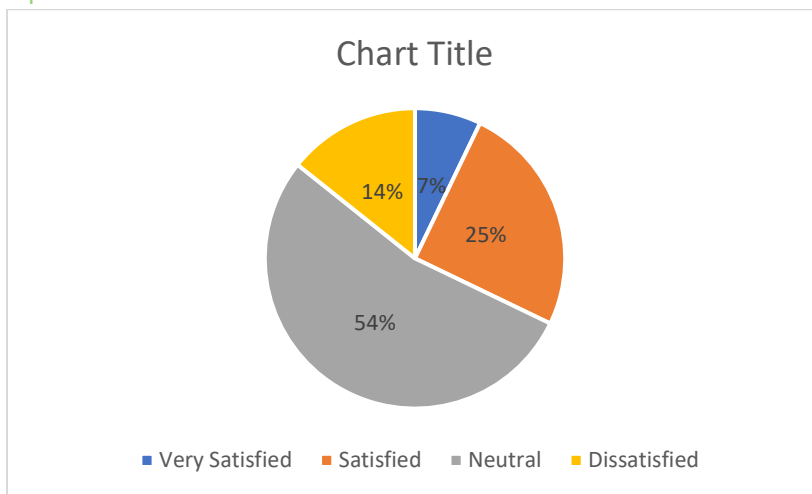
Rate opportunities for you to participate in intergenerational community activities



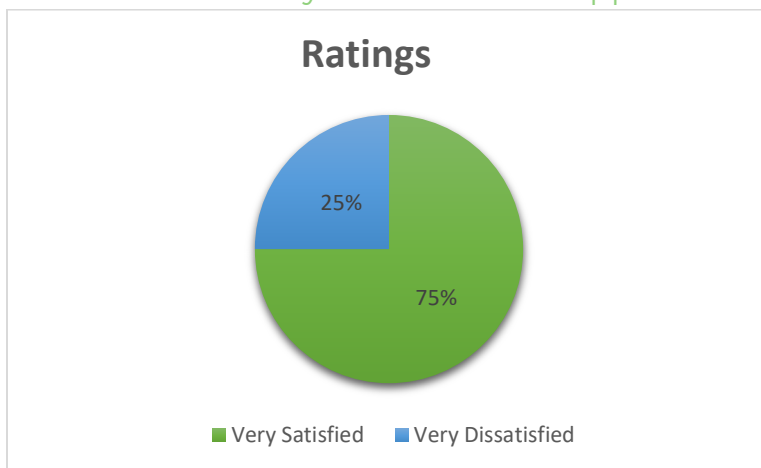
Rate accessible opportunities in your neighbourhood for informal sharing and social interaction



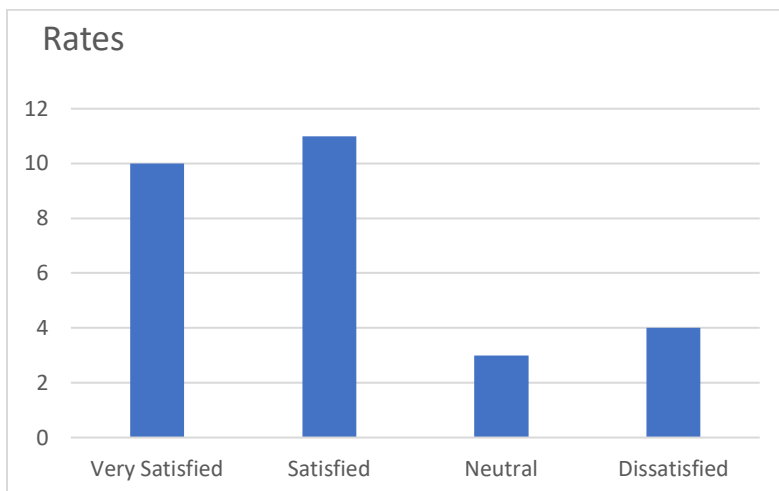
Rate how activities and events are communicated to older residents, including information about the activity, its accessibility, and transportation options.



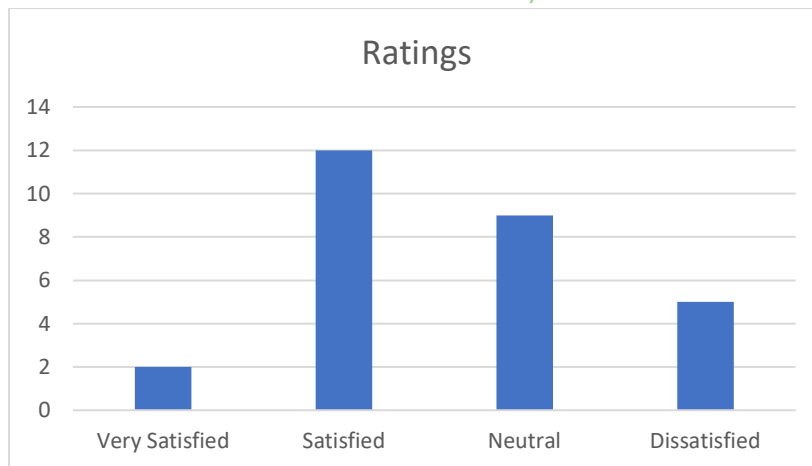
Rate the availability of recreational opportunities for older adults/Seniors.



Rate the extent to which older residents are treated respectfully.



Rate the quality of social support available to older residents (such as information and referral services)



Social Participation and Inclusion Issues and Challenges

- Need more stuff that gets seniors out but don't have too much going on right now
- Hard to find volunteers for events/activities
- Need more recreation in the community
- Seniors centre – used to have 30 minutes, now have about 10
- "I feel stuck here. I have never felt like this anywhere else I have lived."

Recommendations for Social Participation and Inclusion

Recognition of seniors as an integral part of the community

Invite Seniors to participate in community events.

Dinner once a year and memorial for veterans

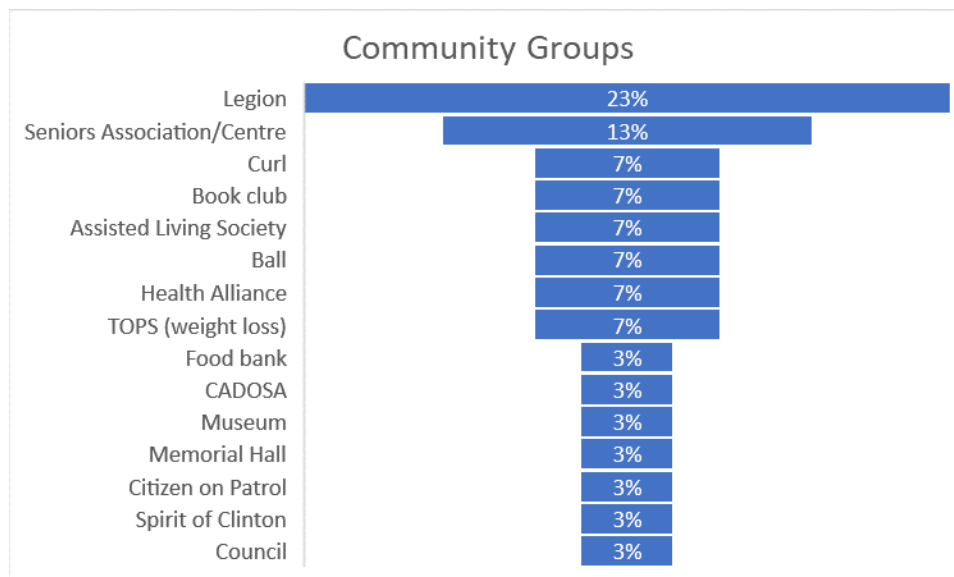
Need accessibility improvements.

Survey Domain: Civic participation and employment

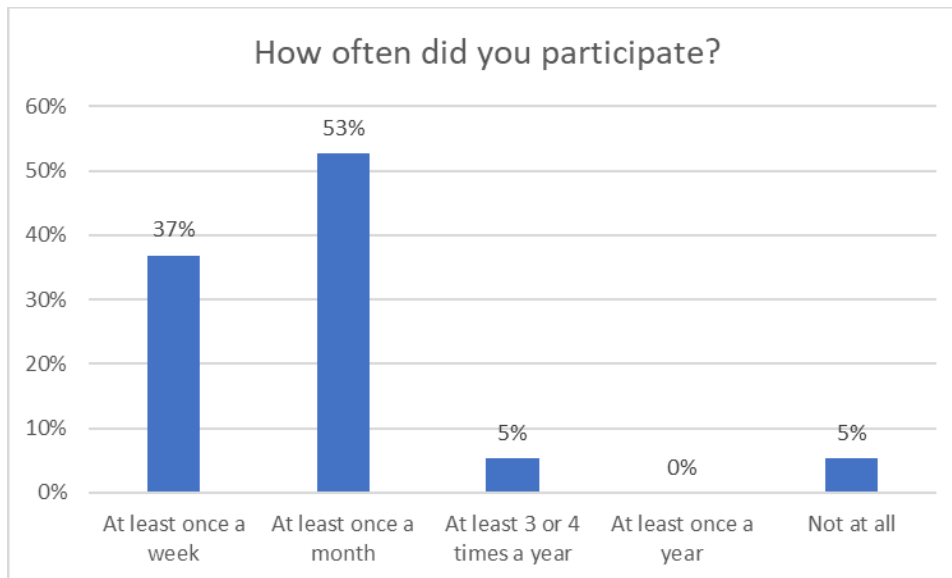
We are asked participants about their participation in the community and employment to better understand how seniors in the Village of Clinton sense of how seniors are contributing to their community. We also asked whether or not seniors felt valued as members of the community, to understand whether or not their engagement is meeting their needs.

75% of respondents (n=28) identified that 'Yes' they do feel valued as a senior resident in Clinton, while 25% indicated that 'No' they do not feel valued. Interestingly, 64% of respondents indicated that their level of satisfaction with the extent to which the Village of Clinton listens to the concerns of older residents as neutral, dissatisfied, and very dissatisfied. These findings indicate that while they may feel valued, they don't always feel heard in the community.

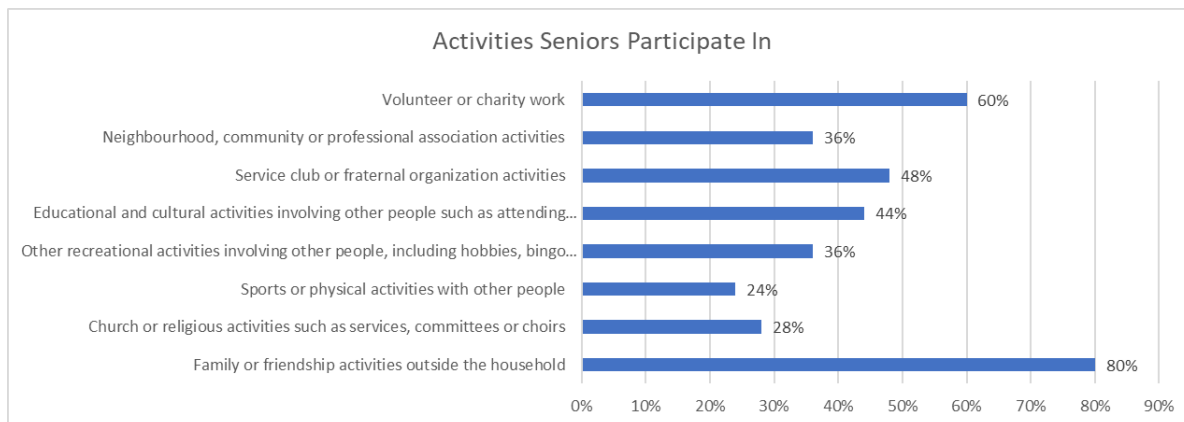
In terms of how senior residents are participating in community, of the 32 total respondents, 20 indicated that they are involved in some organizations. These included school groups (5%), church groups (10%) and community groups (85%). When asked which community groups they were involved with, participants indicated the following groups: Legion (23%), Seniors Association/Centre (13%), Curling club (7%), Book club (7%), Assisted Living Society (7%), Annual Ball (7%), Health Alliance (7%), Take-Off-Pounds-Sensibly group (7%); Food bank (3%), CADOSA (3%), Museum (3%), Memorial Hall (3%), Citizen on Patrol (3%), Spirit of Clinton (3%), Council (3%).



19 individuals responded to the question on how often they participate, indicating that they participated weekly to monthly with these groups, keeping themselves busy throughout the year.

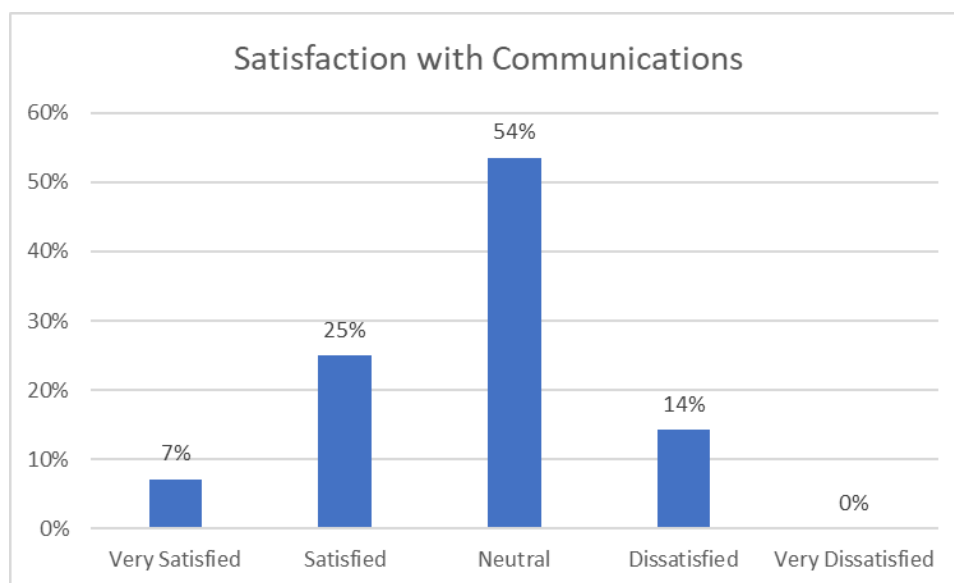


When asked about other types of activities, those that responded to this question (n=25) reported a range of active engagement with different types of activities as shown in the figure below. This demonstrates that participants seemed to have a healthy engagement within the community. That said, it is important to note that individuals who choose to participate in surveys are by nature more engaged, therefore it is important to remember that there may be additional seniors who are not as engaged.

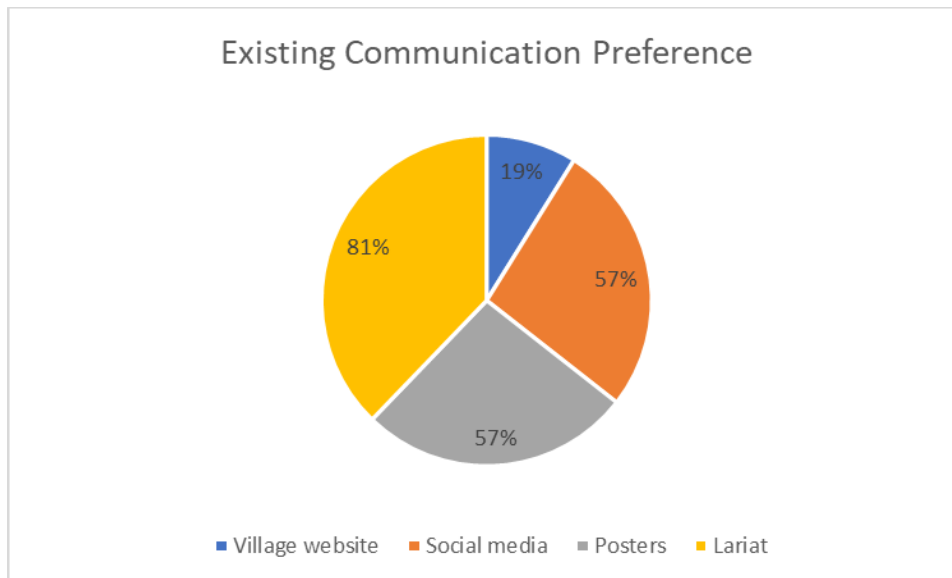


Survey Domain: Communication and information

As indicated above, the majority of participants (64%) indicated that their level of satisfaction with the extent to which the Village of Clinton listens to the concerns of older residents was neutral, dissatisfied, and very dissatisfied, indicating there may be some room for improvement in the communication and information sharing between the Village and seniors. Similarly, when asked to rate their level of satisfaction with 'how activities and events are communicated to older residents, including information about the activity, its accessibility, and transportation options,' slightly more than half (54%) indicated a neutral level of satisfaction.



When asked how they would like to be kept up-to-date using existing communication strategies, the Lariat was the most popular choice (81%) with Posters and Social media coming in tied for second (57%) and the website coming in last (19%). The 'Other' category received 2 comments, one being word of mouth and the other village mail outs. If the Village were to focus efforts across the three most common strategies (Lariat, Social media, and Posters), it might prove the most effective. Some comments across the data set highlight that reminders on the day of events would be helpful to serve as reminders, which is where social media could be used as a great tool.



Survey Domain: Community support and health services – Qualitative

We asked respondent what their top 2 most important community support and health care services that you would most like to see addressed in Clinton and why. Participants spoke predominantly about the lack of access to doctors (7 comments), nurses (6 comments), and pharmacy (5 comments), with one respondent indicating that Clinton residents would benefit from having access to a “Health person who can deal with minor health issues such as colds, infections, prescriptions, and check-ins to make sure minor issues don't turn into major issues.” Other needs included access to mental health services, lab services, home support, home care beds, adult day cares, and specialized equipment. The limited access in town creates large barriers for individuals to be able to age well in-community. As one participant explained, “Once seniors leave the community for supports that aren't here, they completely lose their connection.” Having access to assisted transportation to Ashcroft, 100 Mile House, and possibly Kamloops was suggested as a possible solution so that people did not have to leave Clinton to get regular access to health care services. Additionally, one respondent shared that residents will have growing need for “consistent home support as well as assisted living support as residents become more dependent on outside help” as they age, services which currently need attention.

References

Center for Age Friendly Excellence (2023). Vision. Retrieved from <http://cfafe.org/vision/>

Government of Canada (2023). *Age-Friendly Communities*. Retrieved from <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/health-promotion/aging-seniors/friendly-communities.html>

World Health Organization. (2006). *Age-friendly Practices*. World Health Organization. <https://extranet.who.int/agefriendlyworld/age-friendly-practices/>

Appendix C – Accessibility Findings

In February 2023, several tours were conducted in municipal facilities. These included:

- Village Office,
- Memorial Hall,
- Reg Conn Park,
- Village Fitness Room,
- the arena,
- curling rink,
- and other facilities.

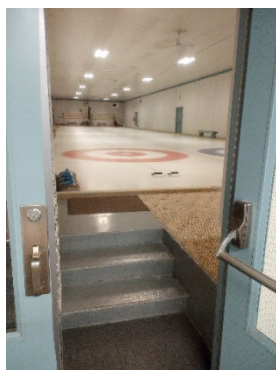
Additionally, during the Open House in April 2023, a number of photographs of municipal assets were available for feedback from members of the community. Community members wrote sticky notes and posted them next to the accessibility-related concern/issue, or recommendation they had for that specific amenity, asset, or piece of infrastructure.



It is important to note that there are accessibility positives within the municipal facilities; however, this particular section focuses on the recommendations for enhancements.

It should be noted that BC is currently changing its legislation and standards around accessibility. The Province of BC does not currently have formal accessibility standards. Based on a recommendation from the Disability Alliance BC, federal standards are

being recommended that the municipality could strive to reach when funding becomes available. Additionally, these recommendations are focused on physical infrastructure; it did not look at areas of accessibility such as attitudes, knowledge, and policies.





Additional Resources for On-Going Learning and Capacity Building

There are several resources available to support the Village of Clinton's ongoing journey to meet the new provincial legislation and regulations around accessibility. A few examples are provided for Village staff, Village Council, and community partners to use moving forward.

The Clinton Age Friendly assessment and action plan is only a starting point; significant amounts of training for Village staff and contractors, new capital projects, and local regulations will need to be developed over the next decade to continue to improve accessibility of all Village amenities, assets, and infrastructure.

Document	Organization	Source	Link/URL
Accessible government webpage	Province of British Columbia	Province of British Columbia	https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/home/accessible-government
Building Accessibility Handbook 2020	Province of British Columbia	Disability Alliance BC	https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/construction-industry/building-codes-and-standards/guides/2020_building_accessibility_handbook.pdf

Creating accessibility standards	Government of Canada	Disability Alliance BC	https://accessible.canada.ca/creating-accessibility-standards#s3
Creating your first accessibility plan	BC Accessibility Hub	Province of British Columbia	https://bcaccessibilityhub.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Creating-Your-First-Accessibility-Plan-A-Guide-for-Prescribed-Organizations-Accessible-UA.pdf
Requirements for local governments under the Accessible B.C. regulation	Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)	Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)	https://www.ubcm.ca/sites/default/files/2023-05/Requirements%20Under%20Accessible%20B.C.%20Act%2020230515.pdf

Potential Funding Sources

There are specific funding sources available to support the Village moving forward to enhance accessibility of its amenities, assets, and infrastructure.

Funding Program	Funder	Amount Available	Link/URL
BC Active Transportation Funding Program	Province of British Columbia	2 projects ¹ up to \$500,000 each with some local contributions	https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation/funding-engagement-permits/funding-grants/active-transportation-infrastructure-grants
Enabling Accessibility Fund	Government of Canada	Up to \$3M	https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/enabling-accessibility-fund.html
Local Community Accessibility Grants	Social Planning and Research Council of BC	Up to \$25,000	https://www.sparc.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/LCAC-Program-Overview-V2.pdf
BC Workplace Assessment and Improvements	National Institute of Disability Management and Research	\$7,500	https://www.nidmar.ca/news/full_story.asp?fid=284
Transit Shelter Program	BC Transit	n/a	https://www.bctransit.com/documents/1529710350967#:~:text=Simultaneous%20with%20the%20implementation%20of,500%20standardized%20shelters%20since%202010.

¹ Projects can include an array of specific activities that are done within the same time period (e.g., enhancements to Reg Conn Park and main street done at the same time may be considered as a single project)

Specific Recommendations

These specific recommendations are organized by amenity/asset/infrastructure that was toured in February 2023 and April 2023, and/or were raised as issues/concerns during engagement activities with community members (e.g., open house).

Building: Village Office

Concern/Issue	Recommendation	Example Resource
Washroom accessibility	Enhance the accessibility of the single washroom in the main entrance of the Village office building	Cariboo Regional District accessible washroom information
Counter height in the Village office	Have a counter approximately 36" tall directly in front of the main door into the Village office	US Access Board: Built-in Furnishings and Equipment
No accessible parking in front of the building	Allocate accessible parking stalls in front of the main arena entrance	Rick Hansen Foundation: How does accessible parking work?
Access through the main front door of the building	Install automatic door opener buttons	Accessibility Standards Canada offices: a model of accessibility



Building: Memorial Hall

Concern/Issue	Recommendation	Example Resource
Lip from the sidewalk onto the cement pad at the entrance of the building	Install a small ramp to make this more accessible	Rick Hansen Foundation: What are accessibility standards?
Large lip on the main front doors	Re-engineer the entrance to decrease and remove this lip	Rick Hansen Foundation: What are accessibility standards?
Washroom accessibility	Enhance the accessibility of urinals in the men's washroom, a minimum of one stall in both the men's and women's washrooms, and the sink areas in both washrooms	Cariboo Regional District accessible washroom information
No accessible parking in front of the building	Allocate accessible parking stalls in front of the main arena entrance	Rick Hansen Foundation: How does accessible parking work?
Access through the main front door of the building	Install automatic door opener buttons	Accessibility Standards Canada offices: a model of accessibility
Emergency exits were inaccessible during the February 2023 tour	Shovel the emergency exit on the northern side of the building; install a ramp on the back emergency exit	Rick Hansen Foundation: What are accessibility standards?

Park: Reg Conn Park

Concern/Issue	Recommendation	Example Resource
Washroom accessibility	Enhance the accessibility of urinals in the men's washroom, a minimum of one stall in both the men's and women's washrooms, and the sink areas in both washrooms	Cariboo Regional District accessible washroom information

Building: Village Fitness Room

Concern/Issue	Recommendation	Example Resource
Accessible by stairs	Install a ramp on the outside stairs	Government of Canada Enable Accessibility Fund
Accessible through Council chambers so only available to an individual requiring access through chambers when the Village Office is open	Install a ramp on the outside stairs so individuals can access the fitness room 24/7	Government of Canada Enable Accessibility Fund
Access through the main door of the room	Install automatic door opener buttons	Accessibility Standards Canada offices: a model of accessibility

Building: Arena

Concern/Issue	Recommendation	Example Resource
No accessible parking in front of the building	Allocate accessible parking stalls in front of the main arena entrance	Rick Hansen Foundation: How does accessible parking work?
Washroom accessibility	Enhance the accessibility of urinals in the men's washroom, a minimum of one stall in both the men's and women's washrooms, and the sink areas in both washrooms	Cariboo Regional District accessible washroom information
Access through the main front door of the building	Install automatic door opener buttons	Accessibility Standards Canada offices: a model of accessibility
Lip at the main entrance doors	Remove the lip through small ramps on either side of the main entrances using grant funding	Accessibility Standards Canada offices: a model of accessibility
No automatic door openers to the washrooms	Install automatic door opener buttons	Accessibility Standards Canada offices: a model of accessibility

Building: Curling Rink

Concern/Issue	Recommendation	Example Resource
No accessible parking in front of the building	Allocate accessible parking stalls in front of the main arena entrance	Rick Hansen Foundation: How does accessible parking work?
Stairs from the parking lot to the front door	Re-engineer the entrance of the curling rink	Rick Hansen Foundation: What are accessibility standards?

Large lip over the main front doors	Re-engineer the entrance of the curling rink	Rick Hansen Foundation: What are accessibility standards?
Washroom accessibility	For both the downstairs and upstairs washrooms, enhance the accessibility of urinals in the men's washroom, a minimum of one stall in both the men's and women's washrooms, and the sink areas in both washrooms	Cariboo Regional District accessible washroom information
Access through the main front door of the building	Install automatic door opener buttons	Accessibility Standards Canada offices: a model of accessibility
Steep stairs to the second floor of the building	Install an elevator or chair mover to the second floor	Government of Canada Enabling Accessibility Fund

Building: Public Washrooms

Concern/Issue	Recommendation	Example Resource
No accessible parking spot along the highway in front of the bathrooms	Allocate accessible parking stall along the side of the highway in front of the general area of the washrooms	Rick Hansen Foundation: How does accessible parking work?
Access through the main front door of the building	Install automatic door opener buttons	Accessibility Standards Canada offices: a model of accessibility

Amenity: Bus/Transit Stop

Concern/Issue	Recommendation	Example Resource
Uncovered bench	Roof or shelter covering the bench	BC Transit Shelter Program
Picnic table has a beam that is in the way of someone using the overhang at the end of the table	Work with a local carpenter to remove the beam	Rick Hansen Foundation: What are accessibility standards?

Sidewalks

Concern/Issue	Recommendation	Example Resource
Snow and ice on sidewalks	Enhance regulations in local bylaws	Rick Hansen Foundation: What are accessibility standards?
Lack of sidewalks to key community amenities	Prioritize the installation of sidewalks to Reg Conn Park (Smith Avenue) as grant funding becomes available	Rick Hansen Foundation: What are accessibility standards?
Sidewalks along main street can be uneven and present numerous accessibility challenges	Apply for funding to replace the sidewalks along Highway 97, and work with the Ministry of Transportation to look at innovative options to expand the width of the sidewalks	Rick Hansen Foundation: What are accessibility standards?
Lack of lighted crossings along the highway	Work with the Province to have the Ministry of Transportation install additional pedestrian-activated crosswalk lights across the highway. Priority should be one near the north end of the community, and one at Le Bourdais Avenue near the Post Office	One exists near the south end of the community that was advocated for successfully through a coordinated community effort
Lack of way finding signage	Install way finding signage throughout the community – prioritize main street, parks, and key gathering places (e.g., Memorial Hall) as starting points	Canadian Museum for Human Rights