

PUBLIC NOTICE: Due to COVID-19 pandemic precautions regarding physical distancing and in accordance with Ontario Regulation 52/20, which restricts the size of organized public gatherings, the Seniors Advisory Committee will be meeting remotely by video and telephone conference. For details on how to view the video conference meeting visit <https://www.tay.ca/Meetings>. To listen to the meeting by telephone call **705-999-0385 (a local telephone number) and enter meeting ID number 871 5966 7977**



**The Corporation of the Township of Tay
Seniors Advisory Committee**

Agenda

January 10, 2022

2:00 p.m.

Remote Video and Telephone Conference

1. Call to Order:

2. Acceptance of Agenda:

3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest:

4. Adoption of Minutes:

4.1 November 8, 2021

5. Presentations:

5.1 **Elizabeth Smith, Communications Specialist re: Township website/Seniors Advisory Committee Page**

6. Items for Information:

6.1 Letter to County of Simcoe re LINX Stop in Port McNicoll

6.2 LINX Ridership Numbers as of December 31, 2021

7. New & Unfinished Business:

7.1 Update - Age-Friendly Community Plan Priority Action Items

a) Item 7 – Transportation – Advocate for underserved areas and explore alternative transportation opportunities

**The Corporation of the Township of Tay
Seniors Advisory Committee Meeting
Remote Video and Telephone Conference
November 8, 2021
2:00 P.M.**

Present: Councillor Mary Warnock
Sylvia Bumstead
Joyce Himel
Jo-Anne Granger
Leanne Juneau
Michele Gouett
Dennis Esterbrooks

Staff Present: Cyndi Bonneville, Clerk
Vera Finlay, Senior Executive Assistant

Regrets: Lynn Morton
David Shaw

1. **Call to Order:**
Chair Bumstead called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.
2. **Acceptance of Agenda:**
Moved by: Jo-Anne Granger
Seconded by: Joyce Himel
**That the November 8, 2021 agenda be accepted as presented.
Carried.**
3. **Declarations of Pecuniary Interest:**
None were presented.
4. **Adoption of the Minutes:**
 - 4.1 **Moved by:** Dennis Esterbrooks
Seconded by: Jo-Anne Granger
**That the September 13, 2021 minutes be adopted as presented.
Carried.**
5. **Items for Information:**
 - 5.1 County of Simcoe Age-Friendly Advisory Committee Meeting September 21, 2021
Sylvia noted that due to internet issues, she was not able to participate in the County meeting on September 21st, so was unable to provide an update.
6. **New and Unfinished Business**
 - 6.1 Discussion – Actions Identified and Next Steps, Age-Friendly Community Plan

Regarding the list of action items for the Age-Friendly Community Plan, Sylvia had asked each member to bring their top three priority items. Everyone agreed that transportation is a priority, and members expressed concern regarding no LINX bus stop in Port McNicoll. In response to the concerns, the following motion was passed:

Moved by: Michele Gouett

Seconded by: Jo-Anne Granger

That the Seniors' Advisory Committee ask Tay Township Council to continue to petition the County of Simcoe to provide a LINX bus stop in Port McNicoll, and;

That the Seniors' Advisory Committee forward a letter to the County of Simcoe to also request a LINX bus stop in Port McNicoll, to express the importance of the stop to seniors in that community.

Carried.

Following that, some suggestions were made regarding the similarity between some of the recommendations, and those present agreed that items 7 & 8 should be combined as well as items 27 & 28, 33 through 36 and 43 & 46. Each member then noted their three choices, and after some discussion all were in agreement to move forward with the newly combined items 7, 27 and 43.

Moved by: Dennis Esterbrooks

Seconded by: Joyce Himel

That the Committee choose items 7, 27 and 43 as their top 3 Age-Friendly Action Items to move forward on.

Carried.

Michele will update the document again prior to the next meeting so that recommendations and time lines can be assigned for each item. Members then considered Item 7 under the Transportation category, noting the earlier discussion regarding a LINX stop in Port McNicoll. In addition to the letter to the County of Simcoe it was suggested that ridership numbers from Tay Township be obtained. Staff will contact the County to request the statistics. If ridership is low, the Committee could suggest considering a bus two or three days a week vs every day, smaller vehicles, UBER program or dial-a-bus. Those present then discussed Item 27 under the Community Support and Health Services umbrella. Its goal is to create awareness of community and health services for seniors as well as develop a network of support systems which provides contacts for organizations to support and assist seniors with staying in their home (snow removal/lawn maintenance, shopping and transportation). It was suggested that a representative from 211 be invited to attend a future meeting to provide a better understanding of how they can assist seniors. It was noted that there are some helpful links on the Seniors' Advisory Committee page of the Township website including the North Simcoe Directory of Senior Services booklet. The Committee then looked at Item 43 under the Social Participation section which aims to arrange for and build awareness of events and activities

to help keep seniors engaged. It was noted that in the past, Seniors' Talks hosted by the Committee were a great event. Although with COVID-19 concerns it is not possible to hold the talks at this time, it was suggested that members be thinking of possible topics for when the talks can be held again. It was also suggested that in addition to the practical information sessions, that some fun things be added like naturalists/birdwatching. Staff will email members a list of previous Seniors Talks for their information. In addition, it was suggested that if anyone finds short, relevant videos they can pass them to staff to add to the Seniors' Advisory Committee page on the Township website. It was then noted that in 2019 the Committee held a gingerbread house making event at the Port McNicoll Community Centre and in 2020 due to COVID-19, gingerbread house kits were distributed to the 3 libraries, the Community Living Huronia group homes in Tay Township and to the Bayview Retirement Home in Waubaushene. Everyone agreed to provide kits again this year, with hopes of planning an in-person event in 2022. Staff will coordinate the ordering of the kits, and Joanne and Joyce will deliver the houses to the various locations. It was also suggested that promotion of events at the local legions would be good, and as there is a representative on the Seniors' Advisory Committee for the Port McNicoll, Victoria Harbour and Waubaushene Legions, the idea of communication between the groups on upcoming events was encouraged. Staff advised that there is a Community Calendar on the Township website which is very user-friendly where organizations can add their own events. Regarding website content and restrictions, members wondered if the Township Communications Specialist could attend a future meeting to provide some guidelines for the Seniors' Advisory Committee page as well as the Community Calendar. Staff will invite the Communications Specialist to attend the next meeting. The Clerk noted that once the Committee has a plan to move forward on the top 3 priorities, it should be presented to Council.

6.2 Discussion – Age-Friendly North Simcoe Goals and Ad-hoc Committee

Members discussed the Age-Friendly North Simcoe Goals resulting from the October 14, 2021 presentation that was organized by the Town of Midland. A couple of members of the Tay Seniors' Advisory Committee attended, and the information was forwarded to all members by email the week prior to today's meeting. It was agreed that as many of the goals are very similar to this committee's, there may be some benefits to working together. One of the things that the organizers hoped was for an Ad-hoc Committee to be formed, with representation from each of the four North Simcoe municipalities. Jo-Anne, Leanne and Michele all agreed to be part of the Age-Friendly North Simcoe ad-hoc committee, and will each contact the organizer to advise them.

6.3 County of Simcoe Age-Friendly Advisory Committee Meeting November 30, 2021

Michele stated that she would attend the upcoming County of Simcoe Age-Friendly Advisory Committee Meeting to represent Tay.

6.4 2022 Meeting Schedule

As the Committee meets bi-monthly on the second Monday of the month, the meeting dates for 2022 will be:

January 10

March 14

May 9

July 11 (tentative)

September 12

November 14

7. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by: Dennis Esterbrooks

Seconded by: Joyce Himel

That the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at 3:29 p.m.

Carried.

Sylvia Bumstead, Chair

- b) Item 27 – Community Support and Health Services – Create awareness of available community and health services and develop and promote network of services and supports to assist in keeping seniors in their homes
 - c) Item 43 – Social Participation – Expand Seniors Talk/Workshops and create more awareness of social programs for all seniors
- 7.2 Update - North Simcoe Age-Friendly Working Group
- 7.3 Councillor Warnock – Suggestion from Resident re: Virtual Programming

8. Adjournment

December 8, 2021

Warden George Cornell
County of Simcoe
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6

Re: LINX Transit Stop in Port McNicoll

Dear Warden Cornell,

The Tay Township Seniors Advisory Committee was pleased to see the ridership numbers for the LINX connection between Orillia and Midland for the period August to November 2021.

The numbers certainly reflect the need for transit in Tay's villages and rural areas. It appears the LINX transit service has been well received by the public and hopefully continues to be a service provided by the County.

In November 2020, the Tay Seniors Advisory Committee reached out to you to request that consideration be given for a bus stop in the village of Port McNicoll. We were advised that the County would look at the request again once they completed the Transit Study and had ridership numbers after the first year.

As you are aware, the village of Port McNicoll is an underserved community with no access to grocery stores, pharmacies, health services and financial institutions. For those residents with no means of transportation, the trip to Midland results in expensive taxi fares.

We are once again requesting that the County reconsider the bus route from Midland to Orillia to include a stop in Port McNicoll. The additional time to include this stop would be minimal and would result in ridership numbers increasing and would also provide a huge benefit to the residents of Port McNicoll.

It is our hope that the County will consider our request at this time. Should your Transit Department have alternative solutions, we would be very receptive to hearing them.

We await your consideration and reply.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Bumstead

Chair,
Seniors Advisory Committee
Tay Townshipp

Here are the updated numbers of December 31, 2021. We continue to see positive growth on this route.

Dennis Childs
Transit Manager
 County of Simcoe, Transit Department

Route 6 - Midland to Orillia

Location	Bus Stop	August	September	October	November	December	Total by Stop
Midland	Midland, Georgian College (SCSTOP600)	247	227	191	180	179	1024
Midland	990 Jones Rd (SCSTOP604)	90	81	113	105	155	544
Victoria Harbour	Richard St at Albert Street (SCSTOP610)	12	12	3	15	9	51
	290 Park St (SCSTOP620)	18	24	17	12	14	85
Waubauskene	415 Sturgeon Bay Rd (SCSTOP630)	24	29	29	34	33	149
Severn	36 Coldwater Rd (SCSTOP640)	37	87	74	72	74	344
Oro-Medonte	Highway 12 at Wallis St (SCSTOP650)	8	9	20	38	18	93
Orillia	West Ridge Blvd and Monarch Dr (SCSTOP660)	20	12	10	12	13	67
Orillia	Lakehead University (SCSTOP370)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		456	481	457	468	495	2357

Orillia to Midland

Orillia	Lakehead University (SCSTOP370)	380	351	304	354	410	1799
Orillia	West Ridge Blvd and Monarch Dr (SCSTOP661)	72	85	83	101	93	434

Oro-Medonte	Highway 12 at Wallis St (SCSTOP651)	4	4	7	6	7	28
Severn	Coldwater Rd and Michael Anne Dr (SCSTOP641)	0	47	35	39	48	169
Waubauskene	Sturgeon Bay Rd & Pine St (SCSTOP631)	0	20	40	27	64	151
Victoria Harbour	290 Park St (SCSTOP621)	0	25	21	4	17	67
Victoria Harbour	Richard St at Albert St (SCSTOP611)	0	9	21	45	67	142
Midland	990 Jones Road (SCSTOP605)	0	11	1	18	14	44
Midland	Midland, Georgian College (SCSTOP600)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		456	552	512	594	720	2834
Total Ridership		912	1033	969	1062	1215	5191

Total Ridership by Municipality

Midland	1612
Tay	645
Severn	513
Oro-Medonte	121
Orillia	2300
Total	5191