

TUMBLER RIDGE AGE-FRIENDLY PLAN

A MULTI-GENERATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACTION PLAN

May 2019



URBAN
systems

urbansystems.ca

Contents

Part 1: Project Introduction. 2

Part 2: Planning Process. 12

Part 3: Age-Friendly Community Assessment . . . 15

Part 4: Age-Friendly Action Plan 18

Part 5: Achieving Age-Friendly Recognition 33

Appendix A - Implementation Plan

Appendix B - Engagement Summary

Appendix C - AFBC Recognition Application

This report was prepared by Urban Systems Ltd. for the District of Tumbler Ridge. The material reflects Urban Systems Ltd.'s best judgement in light of the information available to it at the time of preparation. Any use which a third party makes of this report, or any reliance on or decisions to be made based on it, are the responsibility of such third parties. Urban Systems Ltd. accepts no responsibility for damages, if any, suffered by any third party as a result of decisions made or actions based on this report.

Executive Summary

The **Tumbler Ridge Age-Friendly Plan** project is a joint effort between the District of Tumbler Ridge, Urban Systems Ltd., and the broader community. The project was funded by the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Age-Friendly Communities grant for the purpose of developing an age-friendly assessment and action plan for Tumbler Ridge. This plan will help move Tumbler Ridge toward its aspiration of being a community that promotes active-aging, aging-in-place and being inclusive of the different demographics needs.

Other communities around the world are pursuing age-friendly planning to proactively prepare for widespread aging within their resident populations. These efforts have been largely informed by the recommendations contained in the World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Age-Friendly Cities: A Guide. This document has served as a key guiding framework for improving the living conditions for seniors and the broader communities they reside in throughout the world.

Tumbler Ridge is a small community located in one of the most scenic places in Canada. Its access to pristine wilderness and recreation, small-town feel, strong sense of community and affordability attract new residents to join the community's proud longstanding resident base. Right now, Tumbler Ridge can be considered a generally younger community with residents over the age of 65 counting for 14% of the community's total. However, large portions of the community's population are between 45 and 64 years old and will soon become the next generation of seniors in Tumbler Ridge. Equipping the community with the services, infrastructure and programming necessary to ensure active aging and a high quality of life among seniors in the community will be vital to meeting the current and future needs of seniors. This will contribute significantly to the long-term sustainability and health of the community.

This project was developed through strong consultation with the community several community engagement events and activities that were conducted between March and May 2019. The final plan includes a community age-friendly assessment and action plan focused on improving conditions for seniors and the broader community in the short and long-term. Seven key priorities were identified by the community:

- 1. Housing Options for all Needs**
- 2. Improving Mobility and Modes of Travel**
- 3. Better Access to Key Services**
- 4. Accessible Buildings and Infrastructure**
- 5. Safe and Healthy Winter Experiences**
- 6. Fostering Interaction and Volunteerism**
- 7. Communication and Information Sharing**

Part 1: Project Introduction

1.1 Project Context

The District of Tumbler Ridge (The District) received an Age-friendly Communities program grant to undertake the development of Age-Friendly Assessment and Action Plan. The purpose of the plan is to undertake an assessment of the community's existing age-friendly assets and to develop an action plan to address existing gaps, barriers and challenges for seniors in the community. Recommendations from the plan will help District implement age-friendly initiatives as resources become available and enable community residents and organizations to play a role in building a more accessible and age-friendly Tumbler Ridge.

The purpose of the *Tumbler Ridge Age-Friendly Plan* is to assess where the community is in relation to meeting the needs of its seniors population and creating an action plan to better enable active aging and aging-in-place. Prior to the development of an action plan and list of recommendations, an assessment was completed of existing senior-oriented assets, programs and services available in the community to determine Tumbler Ridge's strengths and gaps in being an age-friendly community. The Action Plan component of this project provides several recommendations to be implemented as resources become available. This project was largely informed by input received from the community through an extensive community engagement process.

? What is **Aging-In-Place**?

"The ability to live in one's own home or community safely, independently, and comfortably regardless of age, income, or ability level."

— US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

? What is **Active Aging**?

"Active aging is the process of optimizing opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age."

— World Health Organization

? What is an **Age-Friendly Community**?

Age-friendly communities encourage active aging and aging-in-place by working to ensure that seniors have access to appropriate services, programs and infrastructure to help maintain healthy and active lives to their fullest potential. This typically includes things such as building accessibility, affordable and diverse housing and access to healthcare related services.

1.2 What is Age-Friendly Planning?

Age-friendly planning aims to enhance the overall quality of life in a community for all residents. It ensures that a community's physical and social environment is sensitive and able to adapt to the changing needs of people as they age. Age-friendly planning enhances the accessibility of necessary community facets such as transportation, housing, social participation, respect and social inclusion, civic participation and employment, communication and information, community support and health services, and outdoor spaces and buildings.

While there is a large focus on making a community more accessible for the senior or ageing population, in its entirety, a community that is age-friendly benefits everyone because it enables all demographics to grow and live in one community for the entirety of one's life. Using the senior population as a case study, however, enables planners to better understand the issues that senior residents experience in their community so that these can be addressed to mitigate or ameliorate such impacts in the future. Overall, age-friendly planning is a tool that can improve the quality of life for everyone.

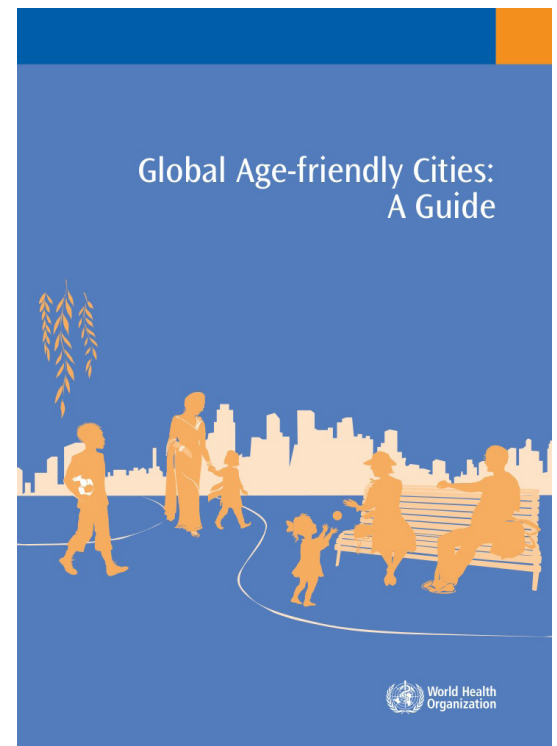
Age-friendly planning has largely utilized an existing planning framework developed by the World Health Organization (WHO). The *Global Age-Friendly Cities Framework* was developed to encourage communities to become more age-friendly by examining communities through the eyes of its seniors to identify areas for opportunity and improvement. The framework identifies eight interconnected age-friendly planning pillars that shape the quality of life of seniors:

- **Outdoor spaces and buildings**

Ensuring the physical environment of a community (e.g. sidewalks, parks, and buildings) is in good condition, safe and utilizes design features that accommodate seniors and individuals with mobility impairments. This can have a large impact on the independence and quality of life of aging residents and the broader community.

- **Transportation**

The reliance on alternative and public forms of transportation is tendency experienced by people as they age and are unable to operate or afford a private vehicle. Providing a range of public, volunteer and active transportation options enables seniors to access services, stay active in the community and remain independent.



- **Housing**

A diverse housing stock that provides a range of housing choices with appropriate design and location in close proximity to needed services can greatly enhance the independence and quality of life of aging people. This is fundamental to enabling residents to age-in-place in a community as their housing needs change.

- **Community supports and health services**

Providing good quality and accessible health care, community programming and other important services for seniors promotes aging-in-place. Resource sharing, partnerships and innovative approaches can enable small and rural communities, such as Tumbler Ridge, to meet basic service levels required to accommodate seniors who wish to remain in the community.

- **Communication and Information**

Seniors access and receive information in a variety of different ways. Ensuring a diverse distribution of relevant information is critical to enabling seniors to remain connected socially and as citizens in the community.

- **Respect and Social Inclusion**

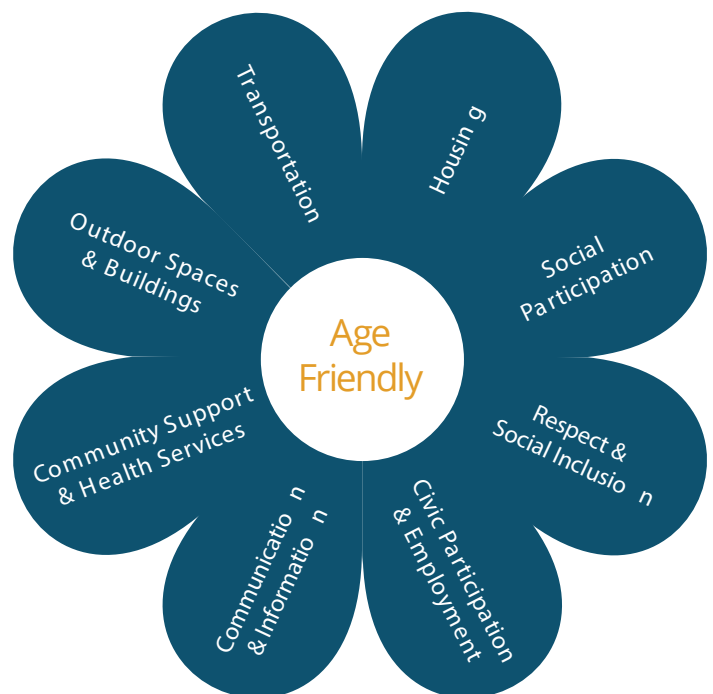
Respecting the roles and contributions of seniors in the community, conducting outreach to seniors and ensuring opportunities to participate in the community is important to mitigating social isolation and ensuring connectedness to the broader community.

- **Social Participation**

Social isolation is a common experience for seniors and can dramatically affect the mental and physical health of an individual. Providing opportunities for seniors to participate in recreation, community and cultural events is important to preserving their overall health.

- **Civic Participation and Employment**

Seniors can contribute a wealth of experience, skills and knowledge to a community. Identifying opportunities for seniors to volunteer or participate in paid employment can benefit seniors, local businesses, community organizations, local governments and the broader community.



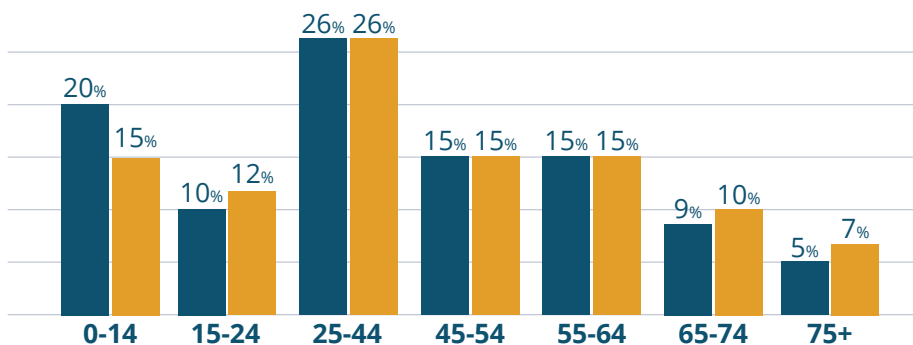
1.3 Tumbler Ridge Background

Proper planning for seniors and the broader community requires a thorough understanding of the local context to better recognize the unique age-friendly needs of the community. Tumbler Ridge's key demographic, housing and economic indicators were examined through Census, BC Stats and other data to understand important baseline conditions in the community that are focal in age-friendly planning. The information was used to help identify areas of need for Tumbler Ridge and to inform direction and development of the Action Plan. The following is a summary of Tumbler Ridge's existing community context:

Population:

The 2016 Census recorded a population of 1,987 residents in Tumbler Ridge, a decrease of 26.7% from 2011. The 2011 to 2016 population decrease is largely the result of regional industrial activity declines, particularly in the local coal mining industry. More recently, BC Stats population estimates for 2018 recorded a population of 2,169, indicating the growth is occurring in the community. New growth in the community is largely contributed to the re-opening of Conuma Coal operations in the region.

Census data indicates that Tumbler Ridge has 270 residents that are 65 years of age or older. This accounts for 13.5% of the total population and a rate 4.8% lower than the provincial average. The community also has a sizeable population of residents in the 55 to 64 age range. Approximately 315 residents (15% of total population) are aged between 55 to 64 years of age and will likely contribute to a growing seniors population over the next ten years as they age. This larger future cohort of seniors in Tumbler Ridge will add to existing service, housing, accessibility and social needs as they age.



29%
of residents of Tumbler Ridge
are 55 years and older

MEDIAN AGE:
39.4
Tumbler Ridge
43.0
British Columbia

Housing Stock, Tenure and Households:

The 2016 Census recorded Tumbler Ridge's housing stock as consisting of 1,568 dwellings, of which 861 are occupied by usual residents indicating significant vacancies within community's housing stock. Single-detached homes are the primary housing type in Tumbler Ridge, making up 75% of the total housing stock. Tumbler Ridge has a young housing stock, with 91% of homes in the community being built after 1980.

HOUSING QUICK FACTS:

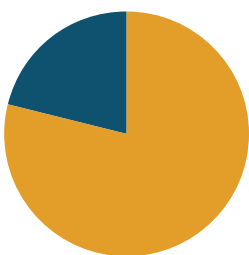
75% of homes are *single detached*
14% are *manufactured homes*
11% are *apartments or row houses*
91% of homes are under 39 years old

The Census also reported an average median household income of \$74,816 for all households in Tumbler Ridge with 18% of households spending 30% of their income or greater on shelter costs. This 30% income to shelter cost ratio is a common indicator to assess the affordability of housing in a community. The rate of tenants (renters) with shelter costs in excess of 30% of their income was significantly higher than owners at 33%.

The lack of housing stock diversity greatly limits the choices available for residents with different housing needs, tenures and affordability levels. Providing a range of accessible and affordable housing types is critical to enabling residents to remain in a community as their ages, lifestyles and needs evolve.

HOUSING TENURE:

76% Own
24% Rent



AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE:

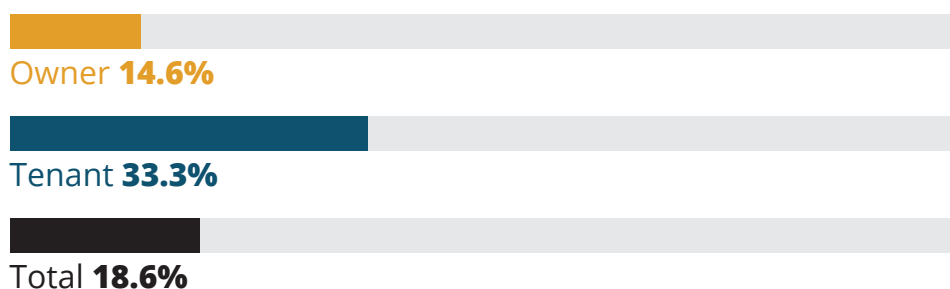
2.3 persons



AVERAGE SHELTER COSTS FOR RENTALS

\$868

% OF HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING >30% ON SHELTER COSTS:



1.4 Project Vision

Vision:

Vision statements provide a constant objective for a community to aspire towards and remains in place as strategies are implemented and new ones are identified. The Tumbler Ridge Age-Friendly vision statement was developed from input provided by the community and relevant stakeholders during the community engagement process. The following vision statement sets out the future vision for an age-friendly Tumbler Ridge:

“Tumbler Ridge is a community distinguished for its natural beauty and strong sense of community. Our age-friendly approach will promote active aging, enhanced social connections, safe and accessible environments and improved services for seniors and the broader community.

An age-friendly Tumbler Ridge is multi-generational and recognizes that strategies focused on addressing the needs of seniors have benefits that reach all community members.”

Guiding Principles:

Guiding principles provide a consistent set of guidelines for decision-making as needs and resources change over time. The following guiding principles support Tumbler Ridge's age-friendly vision:

1 Foster and promote a local age-friendly spirit and culture.

An age-friendly Tumbler Ridge is rooted in an age-friendly local spirit and culture that values seniors in the community and proactively works to meet their needs.

2 Enhance opportunities for social connections, intergenerational interactions and active lifestyles.

An age-friendly Tumbler Ridge fosters connection between seniors and the broader community, while ensuring community programming and infrastructure enables active lifestyles for all.

3 Seek partnerships with government, agencies and organizations to find practical solutions to help seniors and broader community.

An age-friendly Tumbler Ridge will leverage partnerships within and outside the community to find resource-effective and practical solutions that address real needs.

4 Better enable seniors and residents to remain in Tumbler Ridge as their needs evolve.

An age-friendly Tumbler Ridge will work to ensure that seniors can remain in the community as they age by meeting evolving needs for housing, health and other key services.

5 Utilize and support formal and informal community support networks to help seniors with the daily needs.

An age-friendly Tumbler Ridge recognizes the value and importance of formal and informal community support networks, volunteers and organization in meeting the evolving needs of seniors.

1.5 Planning for a Multi-Generational Tumbler Ridge

The *Tumbler Ridge Age-Friendly Plan* recognizes age-friendly communities as multi-generational ones that must continue to sustain themselves through a diverse population base, healthy local economy and new generations of residents. It also understands that many needs associated specifically with seniors are often shared with the broader community.

Age-friendly planning that focuses on the interconnected needs between seniors and broader community can support efforts to maintain and enhance local service levels, continue investment in public facilities, parks and infrastructure, and promote a vibrant and active community. This is achieved through strategic approaches that are seniors-oriented but create positive outcomes for other age demographics in the community.

An engagement process with Tumbler Ridge residents and stakeholders revealed several community needs and potential improvement areas that have shared impacts and benefits between seniors and the broader community. This plan contains several multi-generational objectives and actions that focus on improving the quality of life and ability to age-in-place for seniors with spinoff benefits that are broad-reaching.



Items contained in the Action Plan that embody multi-generational planning can be found with the multi-generational planning image beside them as seen below:





1.6 Plan Components

This plan consists of the following components:

- 1 Project Introduction**
What is age-friendly planning and the local context?
- 2 Planning Process**
How did we make this plan?
- 3 Age-Friendly Community Assessment**
How did we make this plan?
- 4 Age-Friendly Action Plan**
What are our objectives and how will we meet them?
- 5 Achieving Age Friendly Recognition**
How to become an age friendly recognised community?

Part 2: Planning Process

The planning process for the *Tumbler Ridge Age-Friendly Plan* was conducted from January to May 2019 and consisted of the following phases:

Phase 1

Project Start Up

- Background Research
- Project Start-up meeting
- Policy Review

Phase 2

Engaging with the Community

- Identifying Strengths, Gaps and Solutions
- Involving Residents and Stakeholder

Phase 3

Developing and Presenting the Plan

- Compiling Findings into a Plan
- Presenting Findings to District Council

Phase 1 - Project Start Up

The first phase of this project focused on utilizing existing age-friendly planning frameworks and best practices to evaluate relevant District bylaws including the Official Community Plan (OCP) and Zoning Bylaw. The project team made visited Tumbler Ridge on January 17, 2019, to conduct a project start up meeting with District staff. This trip was also used to conduct a preliminary age-friendly assessment on the built form of the community, including Tumbler Ridge's parks, buildings, housing stock, road network and other infrastructure.

Phase 2 - Engaging Seniors and the Broader Community

The second phase of the project involved an extensive engagement process with local seniors, stakeholders and the broader community to gain input on Tumbler Ridge's existing age-friendly assets and areas to improve. A series of engagement activities were conducted between March and May 2019 in Tumbler Ridge. This included open houses, community survey and stakeholder meetings.

The engagement activities are summarized below:

• Community Surveys

A community survey was distributed to the community online and in hard copy at project engagement events. The results of the survey were used to inform the development of this plan. The community survey focused on evaluating Tumbler Ridge's age-friendliness in relation to the different age-friendly planning pillars. Respondents were asked a series of questions relating to existing assets, areas to improve and priorities for the community to address in the future. Between March 1 and April 1, 2019, 58 respondents completed the survey.

• Stakeholder Meeting

Two open houses were held for the general public at the onset and final stages of the project's planning process. The purpose of these open houses was to provide opportunities for the broader community to learn about the project, provide input on various planning themes, and participate in open house activities. Project team members and District staff facilitated both open houses. The open houses are summarized below:

• Community Open Houses

Two open houses were held for the general public at the onset and final stages of the project's planning process. The purpose was to provide opportunities for the broader community to learn about the project, provide input on the various age-friendly planning themes, and participate in open house activities that solicited their ideas and input. Project team members and District staff facilitated both open houses. The open houses are summarized below:

- An initial open house was held on March 1, 2019 at the Tumbler Ridge Community Centre and attended by approximately 19 residents and stakeholders. A number of informative and interactive posters and maps were displayed at the open house to provide information on the project and to solicit input on a number of project related planning pillars.
- A final open house was held on May 1, 2019 at the Tumbler Ridge Community Centre and attended by approximately 20 residents and stakeholders. The open house was used to collect input on the draft vision statement, goals and action plan strategies developed by the project team.

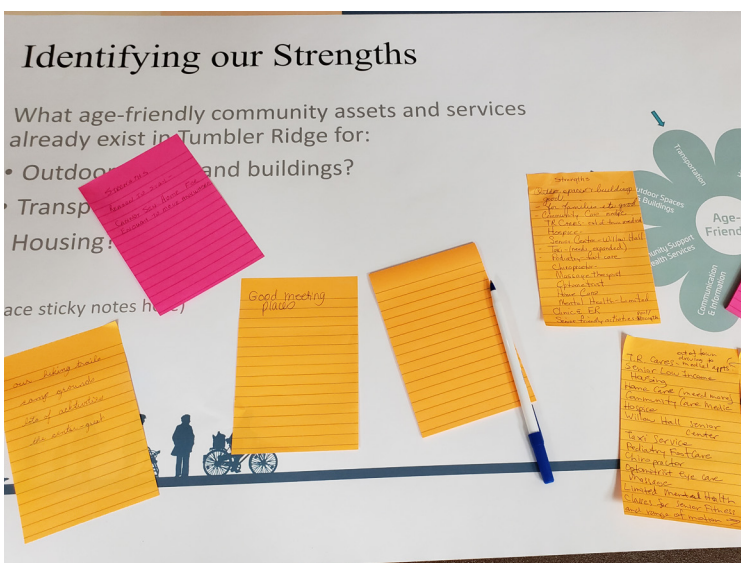
• Seniors Hall Meetings

Two meetings were held at the Seniors Hall for members at the onset and final stages of the project's planning process. The purpose was to engage directly with Senior Hall members to provide them with information about the project and solicit input from them on the various age-friendly planning themes. Project team members and District staff facilitated both Seniors Hall meetings. The meetings are summarized below:

- An initial Seniors Hall meeting was held on March 11, 2019 at the Seniors Hall and attended by approximately 25 members and District staff. A presentation was given to attendees on the project and an open discussion was held to gather initial thoughts and opinions from attendees on Tumbler Ridge's age-friendly assets and gaps.
- A second Seniors Hall meeting was held on May 2, 2019 at the Seniors Hall and attended by approximately 18 members, District staff and Council representatives. The open house was used to collect input on the draft vision statement, goals and action plan strategies developed by the project team.

Phase 3 - Developing and Presenting the Plan

The final *Tumbler Ridge Age-Friendly Plan* was developed in May 2019. The contents were based on the key items identified in the research and engagement process and through technical analysis conducted by the project team. Prior the completion of a final draft of the plan, a draft plan framework was presented to the community for further input through an open house and survey. This framework consisted of a draft vision statement, guiding principles and high-level objectives. Comments received during these events were analyzed and incorporated into the final draft of the plan, which was presented to Council on June 11, 2019.



Part 3: Age-Friendly Community Assessment

The Tumbler Ridge Age-Friendly Community Assessment provides key information used to inform the direction of the Action Plan. It is a summary of the assessment conducted on the current state of the Tumbler Ridge's age-friendly assets, gaps and barriers towards addressing the gaps. The assessment was developed through engagement with District staff, input collected from the community engagement process and technical analysis conducted by the project team through site visits. The assessment analyzed local conditions for each of the eight WHO age-friendly planning pillars. Information in the assessment includes:

- **Existing Assets and Services**

Existing age-friendly assets and services that exist locally or are accessible for seniors in Tumbler Ridge. These assets and services often benefit the broader community.

- **Gaps**

Needs or areas of needs for seniors in the community to be addressed through recommendations in the Action Plan.

- **Barriers**

Local considerations that can present challenges to addressing age-friendly gaps in the community. The barriers inform and influence the recommendations developed to ensure they are feasible for the community to implement.



AGE-FRIENDLY PILLAR	EXISTING ASSETS/SERVICES	GAPS	BARRIERS
OUTDOOR SPACES AND BUILDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universal design features on most downtown businesses and buildings (e.g. ramps and automatic doors) • Walkable distances to parks • Natural shade throughout community • Community amenities within walkable distance in core area • Natural aesthetics and beauty of community • Good trail system within community • Some nature trails have accessible designs (e.g. Bull Moose Marshes) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some areas lack sidewalks (e.g. by water treatment plant) • Some sidewalks uneven and in need of repair • No accessible designed seating in public spaces • Snow and ice buildup on sidewalks/driveways in winter • Lack of bathroom facilities on trails/parks • Trail and park lighting • Some key buildings (e.g. health centre, Legion) need ramp improvements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited resources for capital upgrades/improvements • Limited resources for maintenance • Winter conditions see cold temperatures and high snowfalls
HOUSING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private and rental housing is generally affordable • Existing seniors/accessible housing at Hartford House • Relatively low property taxes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiting lists for existing seniors housing • BC Housing application processes are complicated • Lack of housing choices for downgrading in later life stages • Housing stock dominated by single-detached homes on large lots • Most homes built at same time with same lack of accessible features • No assisted care housing/living facilities • Expensive utilities (hydro) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited resources to develop seniors/affordable housing • No local Seniors Housing Society • Absentee/non-resident landlords
TRANSPORTATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TR Cares provides shuttle service for medical appointments • Seniors Hall provides taxi tokens to members • Limited taxi service available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large portions of residential areas (e.g. upper and lower benches) are outside of a 400 to 800 metre walk to downtown amenities • No BC Transit bus services • Some problematic intersections (poor visibility) • No handi-van or specialized transit services • Difficult to walk around community in winter • TR Cares needs more volunteer drivers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing transit services difficult with small population base • Limited resources to pay for enhanced services • Volunteer base overextended and "aging out")

AGE-FRIENDLY PILLAR	EXISTING ASSETS/SERVICES	GAPS	BARRIERS
COMMUNITY SUPPORTS AND HEALTH SERVICES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TR Hospice/Palliative Care Society operate two hospice homes • Some medical services available (e.g. home visits, lab services, community nurse, medical imaging) • Mental Health and Substance Use community programs offers some services • Good local pharmacy and grocery options • Local registered massage therapist (RMT) • Part time chiropractor available • Meals on Wheels service available • Community fitness and health classes available • Holistic health services available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low level of medical/health services and facilities in community • More home visit services by medical professionals needed (e.g. home nurses) • Northern Health shuttle does not go to Tumbler Ridge • Snow Angels program no longer operating • CSIL program underutilized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health services difficult to maintain with small/rural population base • Regional service centres in Dawson Creek and Fort St. John • Limited resources available to develop health facilities • Volunteer base overextended and "aging out")
SOCIAL PARTICIPATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social events/activities with community organizations, such as Seniors Hall/Forever Young Society, Red Hats Society, Tumbler Ridge Legion, Lions Club, TR Rippers Quilt Guild • Strong sense of community • Community Centre a hub of activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer base dwindling over time • Transportation options to social and recreation activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited resources for enhanced programming • Volunteer base overextended and "aging out")
RESPECT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seniors Hall celebrates Seniors Month • Sense of community is strong • General sense of safety in community • Strong informal community networks that help with daily needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted opportunities for intergenerational interaction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influx of temporary workers and tourists in summer months • Difficulty for new residents to integrate into community social life
CIVIC PARTICIPATION AND EMPLOYMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteering opportunities readily available with numerous community organizations • District has utilized resident advisory groups for certain projects and initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited opportunities for seniors employment • Communication with seniors regarding civic events, projects and initiatives • No constant age-friendly or accessible committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to regional employment centre reduces local employment opportunities • Boom and bust resource economy
COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication boards at the Community Centre and Seniors Hall • Seniors Hall brochures • Poster walls in local businesses • District website up to date and current on community events • Council meetings streamed online • Tumbler RidgeLines News back in operation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of centralized information medium for seniors • Targeted seniors outreach • Communications for non-internet literate seniors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many local seniors don't utilize computers to access information

Part 4: Age-Friendly Plan

Structure

The *Tumbler Ridge Age-Friendly Plan* was informed and developed through background research, precedent and best practices research, project team experience and, most significantly, input and direction from community engagement. Traditionally, age-friendly planning has focused on identifying specific recommendations for a community for each of the WHO's eight age-friendly pillars. This plan recognizes that recommendations often, or in most cases, overlap with multiple age-friendly pillars. Rather than attempt to identify specific recommendations for each pillar, this plan focuses on identifying age-friendly key priorities for the community and understanding their relation to and impact on the different pillars.

Each action area is presented using the following format:

Key Priority Summary

The summary provides a brief introduction of the action area and how it relates to promoting aging-in-place and active aging for seniors and the broader community in Tumbler Ridge. Each summary contains a graphic of the age-friendly planning wheel that displays the different pillars overlapped by the action area.

Key Indicators

Key indicators represent specific community survey results and census data that informed the development of the action areas and related objectives and strategies

What We Heard

This section provides examples of comments and input received from the community that represent key and consistent themes that emerged throughout the community engagement process.

Objective(s)

Objectives are specific outcomes for the different action items that give measurable outcomes for the community to work towards achieving through the implementation of related strategies.

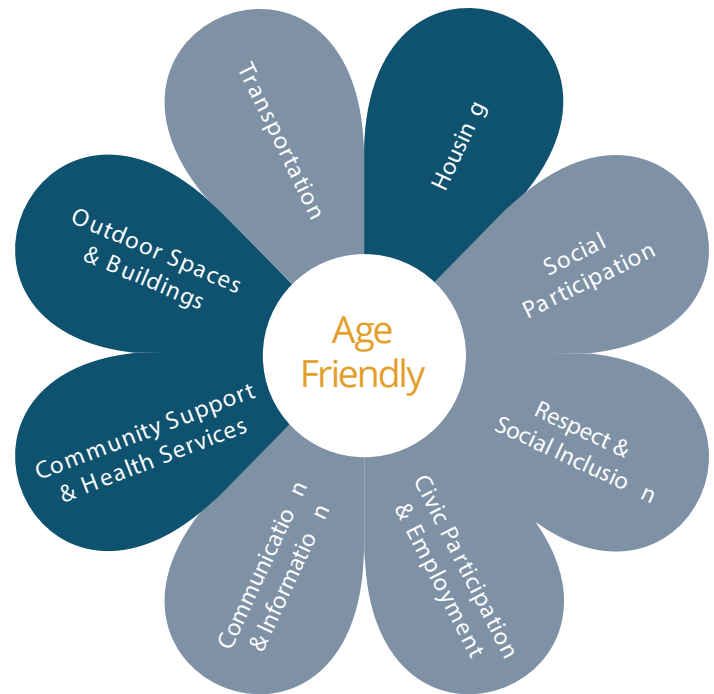
Actions

Actions are programs, services, infrastructure improvements and other initiatives to be implemented that achieve the age-friendly objectives and improve conditions related to each of the key priorities included in this plan.

A Key Priority is an age-friendly planning theme or area that was identified through the planning process as a community priority to address. Key Priorities are broad and encompass multiple age-friendly planning pillars. Each Key Priority has corresponding actions that identify programs, services, initiatives and infrastructure to achieving it.

Key Priority #1 – Housing Options for all Needs

Housing options that features universal and accessible designs and access to assisted care housing were identified by the community through the engagement process key areas to address through age-friendly planning. Tumbler Ridge has a largely uniform housing stock that is characterized by single-detached dwellings that were mostly built during the same period. Typical home features include elevated entrances, stairways, narrow doorways and other features that can create challenges to seniors and individuals with mobility impairments. Many seniors in the community indicated that they would like to downsize and remain in the community but have been unable to find suitable seniors-oriented housing. In addition, many seniors indicated that they will have to relocate to Dawson Creek or Fort St. John to access assisted care options in the future, as they are not available in Tumbler Ridge.



Key Indicators (survey results):



33% of survey respondents indicated that the supply and availability of housing in Tumbler Ridge for seniors did not meet the needs of seniors



39% of survey respondents indicated that affordability of house for seniors in Tumbler Ridge was average to excellent

What we heard (comments):



"If there was even more senior type housing maybe more folks would be able to stay here in Tumbler Ridge rather than having to move away. I know for myself as a widow, I'm not sure how long I would be able to stay in my home with upkeep, but I also would hate to have to leave."



"Would be nice to see an assisted living or long-term care facility. Many of our seniors have lived here for years, many choose to retire here for the nature and affordability. I feel the community needs to make it possible for these senior members of our community to stay should their health make a care facility necessary."

Objective:



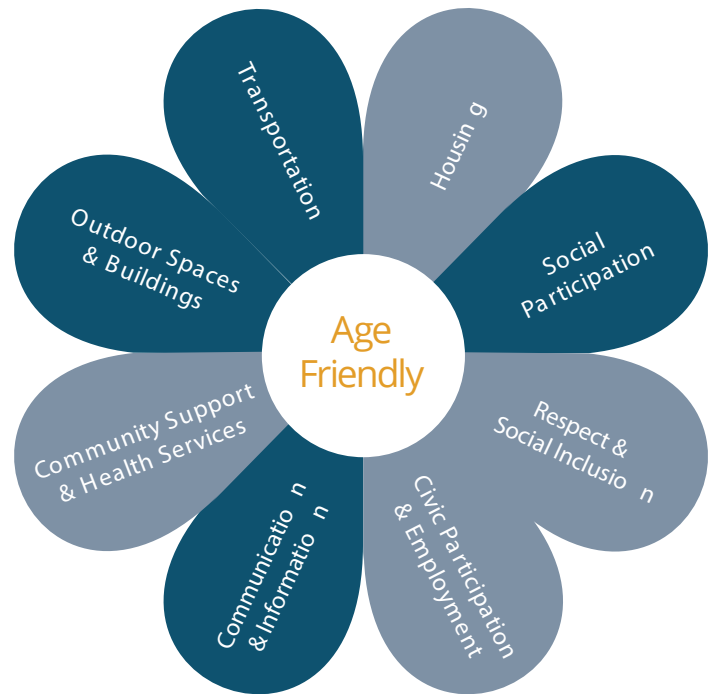
Increase the diversity of Tumbler Ridge's housing stock to meet the evolving needs of seniors, including affordable, accessible and assisted care housing.

Actions:

1. Consider passing proposed amendments the Official Community Plan, Zoning Bylaw and Development Permit Areas as contained in Appendix A – Implementation Plan to enable and promote needed seniors housing development.
2. Look at opportunities to leverage District land (e.g. land banking) to help promote the development of new seniors housing with a focus on sites in the downtown (e.g. Site 24 and 26).
3. Consider granting Permissive Tax Exemptions for non-profit seniors and affordable housing developments and Revitalization Tax Exemptions for privately developed seniors housing, purpose-built rentals or housing that incorporates accessible design as incentives to encourage development.
4. Look at options to access the Northern Development Initiative Trust – Northern Housing Incentive to help develop market-rate accessible housing units in Tumbler Ridge.
5. Consider options to provide incentives for new market-rate and affordable multi-family seniors housing that includes accessible design, such as:
 - a. Reduced parking requirements (See Proposed Zoning Amendment)
 - b. Waiving development/permit fees
 - c. Increased densities/density bonusing (See Proposed Zoning Amendment)
6. Develop a comprehensive Housing Needs Report (as required by the Province) that includes the following components:
 - a. Housing stock assessment
 - b. Housing needs assessment
 - c. Strategies to address seniors and low-income housing
7. Investigate options to access the CMHC Rental Innovation Fund for seniors housing that incorporates innovating building techniques, such as passive house, tiny homes, net-zero container housing or moveable modular housing.
8. Encourage eligible residents to apply for the Home adaptations for Independence (HAFI) program through BC Housing to modify their homes to support their independence.
9. Encourage the development of a Tumbler Ridge seniors housing society or partnership with an existing society (e.g. Chetwynd Seniors Housing Society) to operate in Tumbler Ridge.
10. Consider opportunities to partner with local First Nations regarding potential future development of seniors/elders housing complexes in the community.

Key Priority #2 – Improving Mobility and Modes of Travel

Providing a range of transportation options in a community can greatly enhance the ability for seniors and the broader community to access needed services and remain socially active. In rural and smaller communities, the provision of affordable and reliable transportation to access services can be a significant factor in enabling seniors to remain living in their community, especially once they are no longer able to drive. Providing these services can be costly and often cost-prohibitive for smaller and rural communities. Partnerships with government agencies, local businesses and community organizations can provide needed services in a practical and cost-effective fashion. A common theme heard during the engagement process was the need for improved transportation options in-town and to larger nearby communities (e.g. Dawson Creek) for both medical and non-medical reasons.



Key Indicators (survey results):



70% of survey respondents indicated that the availability, reliability and affordability of public transportation options for seniors in Tumbler Ridge, such as handy-darts, buses and volunteer drivers needed improvement.

What we heard (comments):



"Diversifying existing services may be an option. Combining medical non-medical inclusive opportunities, could make current options more feasible and effective."








"I don't know if our community is big enough for 'Step up and Ride', but we do need something to help our seniors or people with disabilities get around."

Objective:



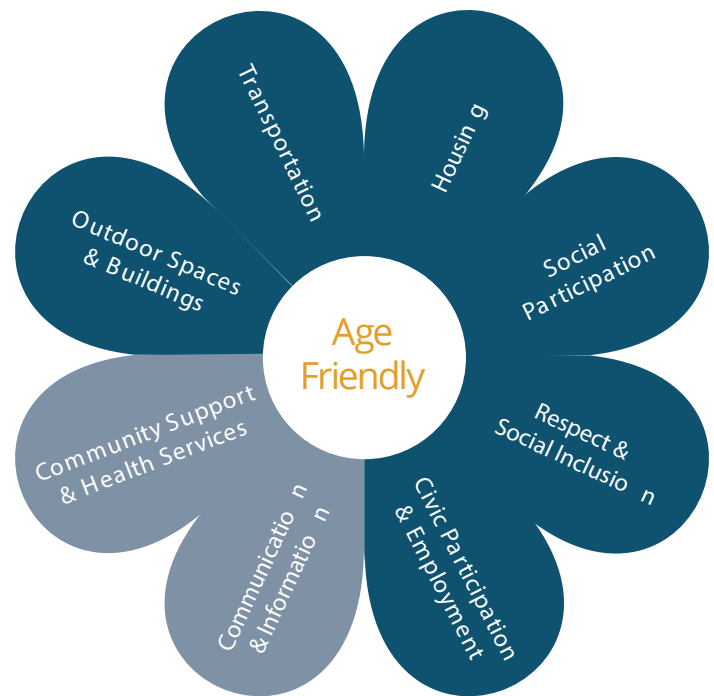
Find practical ways to improve the ability of seniors and accessibly challenged individuals in accessing goods and services both within Tumbler Ridge and to other communities.

Actions::

1. **Work with TR Cares to identify potential District, Provincial and other supports that could enhance the group's transportation services and operations.**
2. **Encourage local groups (e.g. Seniors Hall) to develop a ride sharing/carpooling notice board for in-town and out of town trips.**
-  3. **Investigate opportunities to acquire and operate a Handi-Van in the District for medical and non-medical appointments.**
-  4. **Consider developing a pilot project to test golf cart usage on certain local roads in the community.**
5. **Advocate for BC Transit and the District to conduct a study on the feasibility of a rural bus route between Tumbler Ridge and Dawson Creek**
-  6. **Investigate partnership opportunities with local taxi services to have affordable pooling options to Dawson Creek and Chetwynd.**
7. **Consider District financial support to supplement the Seniors Hall taxi token program.**
-  8. **Investigate options for traffic calming measures in the town core (e.g. Downtown and Willow Drive) to reduce traffic speeds, including signage, curb bumpouts, raised crosswalks and speed humps.**
-  9. **Work with existing community-based transportation organizations (e.g. Dawson Creek Step Up N Ride Society) in the region to learn about their operations and investigate options to partner and bring their services to Tumbler Ridge.**
10. **Coordinate ride-sharing and/or regularly scheduled transportation services to Chetwynd to provide access the Northern Health Connections 3A-B bus route.**

Key Priority #3 – Better Access to Key Services

Aging-in-place requires access to medical services, community programs, social programs and other services that provide basic life necessities (i.e food and medication). This is a challenge in small communities that don't have population bases needed to support the provision of the services. Innovative approaches involving partnerships with service providers, educational institutions, local and regional businesses and the volunteer community must be taken to address gaps in local service provision. Access to healthcare and day-to-day non-medical services (e.g. snow removal, trades, lawn care and home cleaning) were the two most pressing concerns identified by the community.



Key Indicators (survey results):



68% of survey respondents indicated that the availability of health and support services in Tumbler Ridge needs improvement.



53% of survey respondents indicated that accessing affordable non-medical services, such as snow removal or lawn care, was difficult.

What we heard (comments):



"Need adequate warm bodies in the medical clinic so those they have don't have to work 24/7 so often. When you overwork them, they quit."







"Volunteers or somewhere to register your specific needs. Open a jar, help up your stairs to the level you live on, shoveling now and then. Needs may not be big or take a lot of time, but seniors can feel trapped, helpless, frustrated and overwhelmed and afraid to keep bugging friends. Mobility issues can make it impossible to bring clean laundry up from washer or even impossible to put on clean sheets"

Objective:



Pursue practical ways to ensure seniors can access needed health and daily supports to remain living independently in Tumbler Ridge for as long as possible.

Actions:

1. Work with Northern Health, residents and local community organizations to improve access and use of the CSIL program.
-  2. Work with Northern Health and TR Cares to improve communication and outreach about services available in Tumbler Ridge and other communities (e.g. Dawson Creek)
-  3. Upgrade internet broadband services in the community to enable and prepare for future Telehomecare, tele-robotic health care and other internet-based decentralized health services.
-  4. Work with Northern Health to develop a strategy to attracting and retaining medical staff in Tumbler Ridge.
5. Support existing community programs that provide important services to seniors (e.g. meals on wheels) to help them expand their operations.
6. Investigate options for the District and local businesses to provide subsidized basic services (e.g. lawn care, snow removal) for seniors with mobility challenges or disabilities.
-  7. Encourage a “bundling” system for health and home service needs of residents when hiring service providers from outside Tumbler Ridge. For example, having multiple people conduct home retrofits at the same time with the same contractor to reduce the costs. Work with local community groups to have them engage their members about upcoming service needs.
-  8. Consider partnership opportunities with Northern Lights College to develop nurse training and co-operative programming to Tumbler Ridge through the College’s Practical Nurse program.
-  9. Work with Northern Health to provide community outreach to seniors in Tumbler Ridge regarding healthy aging habits, accessing regional services and related health care processes for different services.
10. Conduct outreach to local businesses in Tumbler Ridge (e.g. FreshMart and Tumbler Ridge Pharmacy) regarding providing home delivery for seniors.

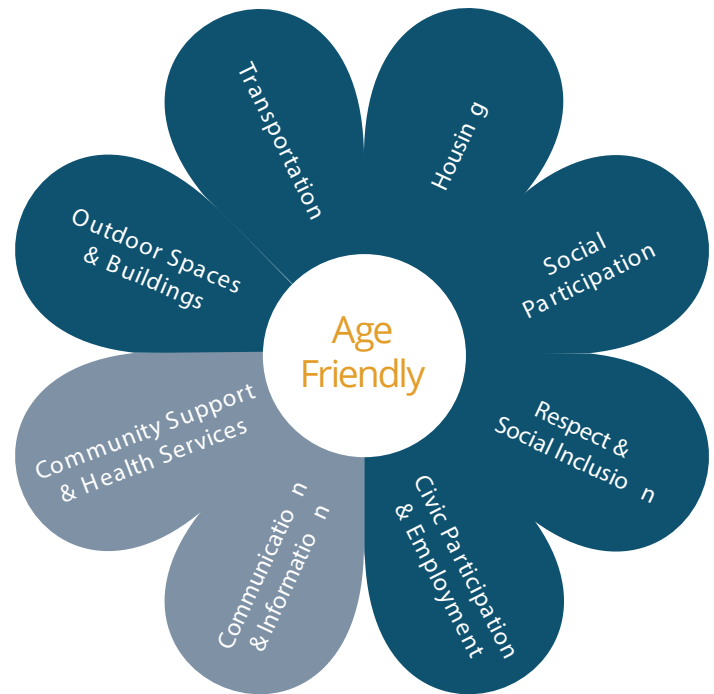
Key Priority #4 – Accessible Buildings and Infrastructure

Enhancing the accessibility of the spaces and buildings in a community improves the ability of aging residents and those with mobility impairments to move about the community freely. The availability of accessible public washrooms and appropriate rest areas can hinder seniors to move about the community. Feelings of discomfort in accessing public and private spaces and buildings can reduce opportunities for seniors to remain socially active in the community and access needed services.

Key Indicators (survey results):



65% of survey respondents indicated the availability of accessible features (ramps, wheelchair accessible doors, door open buttons, accessible washrooms, benches/seating, etc.) on buildings and in public spaces (sidewalks, roads etc.) in Tumbler Ridge is acceptable or good.



What we heard (comments):



"Access buttons on doors don't work most of the time at the community center and those doors are heavy. Also the other doors at the front of the community center have a drop to the sidewalk that makes maneuvering through the doors with a wheelchair difficult."



"An outdoor recreation accommodation facility to get seniors outdoors again with family members would be great! Even if it's just on the edge of town."

Objective:



Ensure seniors and individuals with mobility challenges can access and navigate places, spaces and buildings within the community safely and effectively.

Actions:

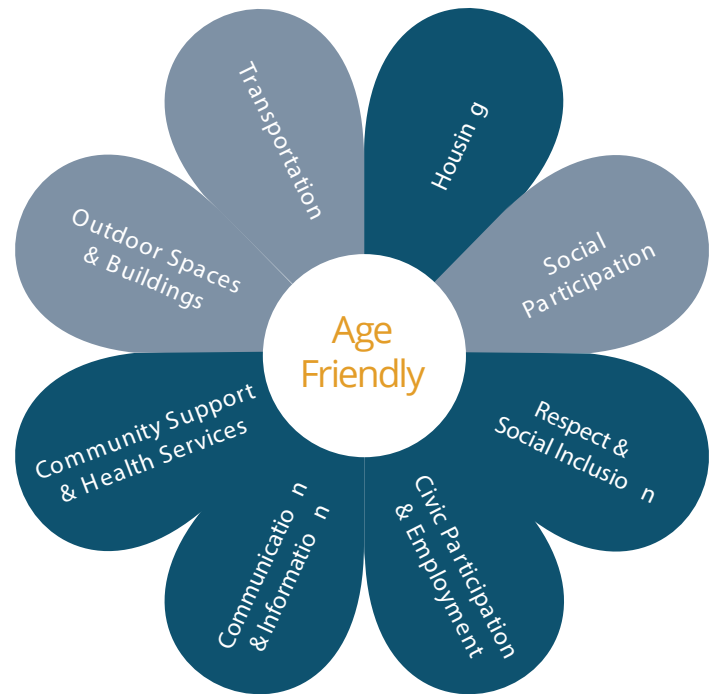
1. **Conduct specific infrastructure upgrades at noted issue areas to improve their accessibility that includes:**
 - a. Resurfacing sidewalks in front of the Seniors Hall (Willow Hall)
 - b. Improving ramps at the rear of the Tumbler Ridge Medical Centre
 - c. Replacing the ramp at the Tumbler Ridge Legion
 - d. Constructing sidewalks around the District's water treatment facility
 - e. Resurfacing sidewalks in front of the Post Office
2. **Conduct an Accessibility Audit on all civic buildings and facilities to identify improvements to enhance their accessibility.**
3. **Encourage local businesses conduct improvements to become "age friendly businesses" (See "Creating an Age-friendly Business in BC" guide).**
4. **Incrementally replaced public furniture, seating and infrastructure includes universal design features, with a specific focus on seating in the downtown area.**
5. **Look at developing public washrooms in key areas, such as biffies along community trails and in parks.**
6. **Ensure future Park Master Plans for District parks include accessible infrastructure and improved lighting.**
7. **Look at opportunities to become a Canadian leader in accessible trail development by developing "accessible trails" in the region in conjunction with the Wolverine Nordic and Mountain Society.**
8. **Include Accessibility Design Guidelines in the future development and/or update of District Design Guidelines or Development Permit Areas.**



The City of Toronto's **Accessibility Design Guidelines** provide a comprehensive framework for creating accessible outdoor spaces, indoor spaces and community facilities. It is a great resource for communities of all sizes to utilize when developing their own accessibility-based design guidelines.

Key Priority #5 – Safe and Healthy Winter Experiences

Winter elements can have both positive and negative impacts on the physical and mental health of an individual and the broader community. Winter is often associated with high levels of discomfort resulting from colder temperatures, snow, ice and low daylight hours. People are often less physically and socially active during the winter season. In addition, new economic challenges emerge, such as more expensive utility bills. Tumbler Ridge has a winter season that is characterized by its long duration, cold temperatures and large snowfalls. Residents indicated that while the District provides excellent winter snow and ice clearing, challenges still exist in moving around the community due to ice and snow that prevents them from leaving their homes, accessing services and participating in social activities.



Key Indicators (survey results):



52% of survey respondents indicated getting around Tumbler Ridge during winter and winter conditions was difficult.

What we heard (comments):



"Many days I don't walk because of the ice."



"The efforts of Tumbler Ridge's maintenance department has been the best I've ever seen. Even during major storms I have seen sidewalks and roads being maintained."

Objective:



Mitigate potential negative impacts of winter conditions on the health, safety and social well-being of seniors and the broader community.

Actions:

1. Engage seniors in winter maintenance planning (e.g. identifying icy and slippery areas for extra maintenance).
2. Support the re-establishment of the Snow Angels program (volunteer snow removal for seniors) and find incentives to encourage volunteers to participate.
3. Encourage seniors and other residents and local non-profit housing associations who qualify to apply for BC Hydro energy savings programs (i.e. Free Energy Savings Kit).



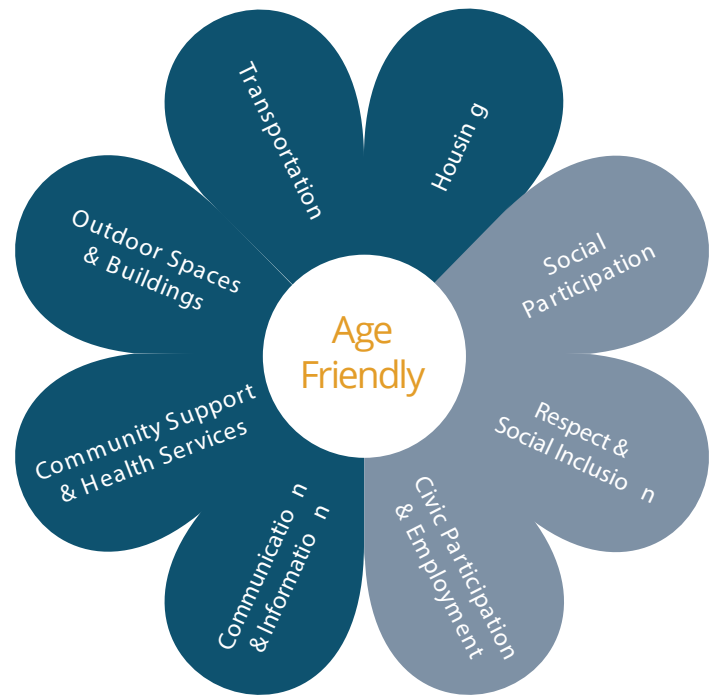
Rising costs of utilities (hydro) and prevalence of electrically heated homes was identified as an economic issue among local seniors and the broader community. BC Hydro offers **energy saving programs** for those that qualify to lessen the energy consumption of their homes and facilities.

4. Consider providing a free sand or salt for residents to use to reduce slippery ice conditions on their driveways, sidewalks on their streets and in front of local businesses.
5. Discuss snow clearing volunteer opportunities with School District 59 that would see students provide snow clearing for seniors as part of their outdoor education courses.
6. Look at retrofits to the District's grader or other equipment to reduce or eliminate the snowdrifts on driveways resulting from the plowing the roads.

Key Priority #6 – Fostering Interaction and Volunteerism

Participating in leisure, social, cultural and spiritual activities in a community are strongly linked to maintaining good health and wellbeing throughout life. In the context of seniors, it enables them to continue to display their competence, maintain and establish relationships and build informal support networks that they can utilize in times of need. In addition, high rates of interaction with other demographics can lead to a greater sense of community inclusion and build respect between different generations. It was recognized that Tumbler Ridge provides many social and leisure opportunities for both seniors and the broader community, but opportunities exist to provide additional opportunities.

In addition, small and rural communities often need to rely on strong volunteer efforts of their residents to provide important formal and informal community programs, services and initiatives. It was cited by many residents during the engagement process that Tumbler Ridge's volunteer base is overextended and aging, requiring a new generation of volunteers to carry on their efforts.



Key Indicators (survey results):



67% of survey respondents indicated that opportunities to engage with other age-demographics were average to excellent.



77% of survey respondents indicated that opportunities for seniors to volunteer and remain engaged in the community were average to excellent.

What we heard (comments):



"Seniors have opportunities to participate in change because seniors are most active on boards, committees but are burning out. New people come to Tumbler Ridge and love it but don't realize or care that many things available are available and happening because of volunteers, usually seniors!"

Objective:



Foster greater opportunities for seniors to engage with each other and the broader community and recruit and inspire the future generations of volunteers to become active in the community.

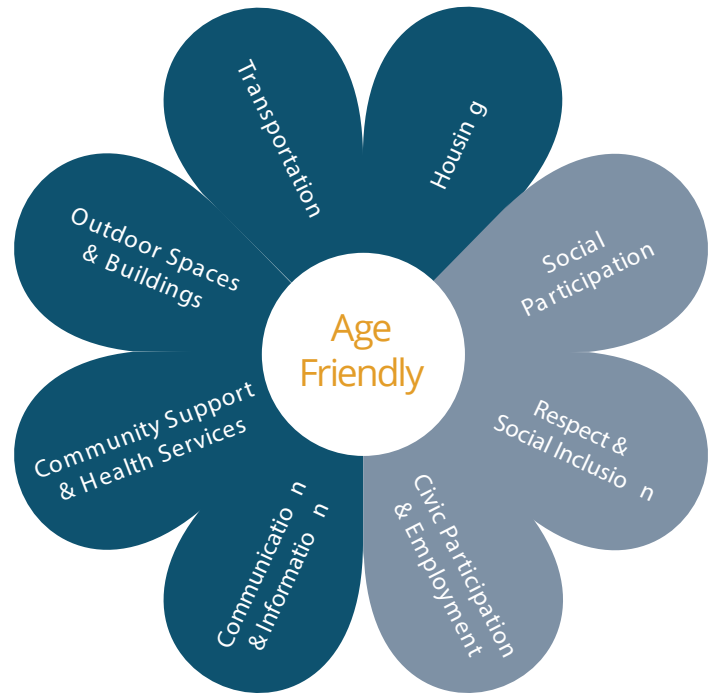
Strategies:

-  1. Work with School District 59 to develop an Intergeneration Programming Strategy to identify opportunities for intergenerational activities and events for local seniors and Tumbler Ridge schools.
-  2. Recognize volunteers in the community for their efforts to help create a volunteerism spirit through awards, recognition and other initiatives (e.g. Community Volunteer Gala).
-  3. Conduct outreach at local schools to make youth aware of the importance of volunteering and contributing the community to encourage future participation.
-  4. Encourage intergeneration programming through the school district, such as a gardening program.
5. Hold a District of Tumbler Ridge “Community Seniors Day” to celebrate seniors, promote aging in place and provide information on programs and services available for seniors in the community.
-  6. Work with community groups and organizations (e.g. Lions Club) to identify strategies to attract new generations of volunteers and support the community services they provide.
-  7. Support the development of accessible “barrier free” garden boxes and related infrastructure at the Community Garden on Murray Drive.
8. Provide a community grant to the Tumbler Ridge Red Hat Society to reduce the transportation costs for their monthly Seniors Outings trips.
-  9. Expand and promote the trail rider systems for people with mobility challenges that is operated out of the Discovery Centre.

Key Priority #7 – Communication and Information Sharing

It is important to ensure seniors and the broader community have access to important information regarding events, developments, services, emergencies and other instances in the community. While many younger adults and youth gravitate towards internet and social media for information, seniors often access it through many different mediums. This includes direct personal delivery, telephone and distribution in key locations (e.g. community centres and bulletin boards, public services, libraries, stores, doctors' offices and health clinics), internet, word-of-mouth, television and radio.

People generally want information to be coordinated in one easy-to-access service that is widely known throughout the community. This was identified as relevant among seniors in Tumbler Ridge who voiced a desire to have all of the information pertaining to them available in a single place, whether online or on a single news board. In addition, providing information on programs, services, grants and other things available to seniors and community organizations can improve their ability to access valuable and needed resources.



Key Indicators (survey results):



32% of survey respondents indicated that accessing information about developments, events and news in Tumbler Ridge was poor or very poor.

What we heard (comments):



"Communication relies heavily on the use and ownership of computer, laptops etc. Not all seniors have these devices."






"An outreach program for shut ins would help foster better civic and social responsibility opportunities. Reaching out to the whole community, could be a side effect."

Objective:



Foster greater opportunities for seniors to engage with each other and the broader community through social activities, events and programming.

Strategies:

1. **Establish a Seniors and/or Accessibility Committee of Council.**
2. **Create a “Seniors Portal” that is a central information source for all seniors related news and announcements and includes a directory of senior-related services.**
-  3. **Compile a list of grants and funding programs available to seniors and community groups to increase awareness.**
-  4. **Create a procedure for distributing District news and events through relevant community groups and organizations, such as the Seniors Hall.**
5. **Develop a “Seniors List” for emergency planning for the fire department to identify potential seniors that require assistance in the case of an emergency.**
6. **Ensure District notices are included on various news boards in community facilities that seniors frequent (e.g. Community Centre, Seniors Hall).**
-  7. **Develop a “Welcome Wagon” package for new residents with community information on services, events, programs and volunteer opportunities with community organizations.**
8. **Hold District-sponsored sessions for the community with local and regional experts on topics such as:**
 - a. Fall prevention in homes
 - b. Home retrofits for accessibility
 - c. Diet and nutrition for healthy aging
9. **Consider implementing District automated phone call program for Seniors and other community members who sign up to provide them with announcements of District events, activities and other happenings.**

Part 5: Achieving Age-Friendly Recognition

The Age-Friendly British Columbia (AFBC) recognition program provides local governments with the tools, resources and supports to improve the age-friendliness of their communities. Once recognized by the AFBC as an age-friendly community, Tumbler Ridge will be eligible to receive the following AFBC benefits:

- Official Age-Friendly BC recognition
- Promotion of the community's achievements in the BC Healthy Communities Society website and newsletter
- Eligibility to receive official "Pan-Canadian Age-Friendly Recognition" through the Public Health Agency of Canada and the WHO
- Access to a cohesive network of age-friendly organizations at the provincial, national and international levels
- A recognition award to help the community conduct an age-friendly community legacy project or celebration

A local government may apply to the AFBC program status by completing four required steps. The District of Tumbler Ridge may be recognized by AFBC as an age-friendly community by completing the following steps:

- ☐ Establish an age-friendly advisory or steering committee that includes the active participation of older adults, preferably in a reporting relationship to the District of Tumbler Ridge Mayor and Council.
- ☐ Pass a district board resolution to actively support, promote and work towards becoming an age-friendly community. Alternatively, the District could add age-friendly specific policy to the *District's Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 584* to strengthen their commitment to being an age-friendly community.
- ☒ Conduct an age-friendly assessment in consultation with older adults in the community. **(completed)**
- ☒ Develop and publicize an age-friendly action plan. **(completed)**

Upon completion of the four steps identified above, the District can complete the AFBC Recognition application form found in Appendix B of this plan.

Appendix A

Implementation Plan

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The following implementation plan provides a guide for the implementation of the action items contained in the Tumbler Ridge Age-Friendly Plan. Each initiative is summarized in the implementation table, which provides a framework for moving each action forward.

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	ACTION LEAD	PARTNER(S)	COST/RESOURCES	POTENTIAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
Summary description of the action.	Timeframe for the completion of an action. Ongoing: Continued Short-Term: Within 2 years Medium-Term: 2-5 years Long-Term: 5+ years	Identifies the District lead for an action's implementation.	Identifies internal and external partners to participate in the implementation of an action.	Cost and resources needed to or resulting from the implementation of an action.	Potential funding sources that could be accessed to implement and action.

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	ACTION LEAD	PARTNER(S)	COST/RESOURCES	POTENTIAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
Key Priority #1 – Housing Options for All Needs					
1. OCP/Zoning Amendments (see below for more details)	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic and Community Development Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
2. Leverage District land for new seniors development	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration Economic and Community Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Seniors Housing Organizations Development Community District Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value of land TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NDIT Strategic Initiatives Fund
3. Consider granting permissive and revitalization tax exemptions for seniors and affordable housing	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration Finance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Seniors Housing Organizations Development Community District Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DTR property tax revenue loss 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
4. Access NDIT Housing Incentive to develop market-rate accessible housing units.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic and Community Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Seniors Housing Organizations Development Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NDIT
5. Incentives for accessible, rental and seniors multi-family housing	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration Finance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Seniors Housing Organizations Development Community District Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development fee loss (potential) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
6. Develop a comprehensive Housing Needs Report	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic and Community Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultant(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$15,000 - \$30,000 for report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NDIT UBCM
7. CMHC Rental Innovation Fund opportunities	Medium-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic and Community Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development Community Non-Profit Housing associations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMHC Innovation Fund
8. Encourage residents to apply to HAFI program for home modifications	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic and Community Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forever Young Society Lions Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HAFI

9. Encourage development of Tumbler Ridge Seniors Housing Society	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Economic and Community Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TR Hospice Society Chetwynd Senior Citizens Housing Society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time Society funding needs TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CGG
10. Consider partnering with First Nations for seniors/elders housing	Long-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Administration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Moberly First Nations Saulteau First Nations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time Planning/capital costs TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Housing ISC New Approach for Housing Support UCPR
Key Priority #2 – Improving Mobility and Modes of Travel					
1. Work with TR Cares to identify potential supports for improved services	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TR Cares 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time Cost of supports TBT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NH Imagine Grant CGG
2. Encourage local groups to develop ride sharing and carpooling notice board	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forever Young Society Lions Club Tumbler Ridge Legion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
3. Investigate opportunities to acquire and operate a handi-van	Long-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services Public Works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TR Cares BC Transit District Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time Capital/operating costs TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CGG NH Imagine Grant NHSP
4. Pilot project for testing golf cart usage on local roads	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time Other costs TBT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
5. Advocate for feasibility study for rural bus route	Medium-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Transit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Transit
6. Partnership opportunities with local taxi services	Medium-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tumbler Ridge Taxi Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
7. Financial support for Seniors Hall taxi token program	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forever Young Society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$1,000 - \$5,000 annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CGG
8. Investigate traffic calming for town core	Medium-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultant(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$15,000 - \$ 30,000 for traffic calming study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Infrastructure Planning Grant UBCM
9. Learn and partner with existing local/regional	Long-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dawson Creek Step Up N Ride Society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CGG

community transportation organizations					
Key Priority #3 – Better Access to Key Services					
1. Work with Northern Health and community to improve use and access of CSIL program	Medium-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Health
2. Improve outreach and educations about services available in Tumbler Ridge	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Health Forever Young Society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RDOS staff time Volunteer time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
3. Upgrade internet broadband services for decentralized health services	Long-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Economic and Community Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultant(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$15,000 - \$30,000 for connectivity planning Capital costs TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NDIT
4. Strategy for attracting and retaining medical staff	Medium-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic and Community Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time Strategy costs TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Health UBCM
5. Support existing community programs	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forever Young Society Lions Club Red Hat Society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff Time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CGG
6. Investigate options for subsidized basic services for seniors	Medium-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tumbler Ridge Chamber of Commerce Public Works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time Operating costs TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
7. Bundling systems for health and home service needs	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forever Young Society Lions Club Local/regional business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
8. Partner with Northern Health to develop nurse training and co-operative programming	Long-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Health
9. Work with Northern Health to conduct outreach to seniors	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Health Forever Young Society Lions Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

10. Conduct outreach with local business regarding home delivery	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tumbler Ridge Chamber of Commerce 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Key Priority #4 – Accessible Buildings and Infrastructure					
1. Infrastructure upgrades at noted issue areas	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Consultant(s) Forever Young Society Tumbler Ridge Legion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital Costs TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UBCM CPG Rick Hansen Foundation BC Small Community Grant
2. Conduct Accessibility Audit on all civic buildings and facilities	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultant(s)/Accessibility Advisor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$10,000 - \$20,000 for audit and recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UBCM
3. Encourage local businesses to become “age-friendly”	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tumbler Ridge Chamber of Commerce District Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
4. Incrementally replace public furniture, seating and infrastructure	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services Public Works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultant(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time Capital cost TBT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
5. Look at developing public washrooms in key areas	Medium-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time Capital cost TBT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
6. Ensure Park Master Plans include accessible infrastructure and improved lighting	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultant(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
7. Look at opportunities to develop accessible trails	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wolverine Nordic and Mountain Society Peace River Regional District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital cost TBT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPG BC ORC Trail Fund UBCM
8. Include Accessibility Design Guidelines in future design guidelines and DPAs	Medium-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic and Community Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultant(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$20,000 - \$40,000 for guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Rural Dividend Fund
Key Priority #5 – Safe and Healthy Winter Experiences					

1. Engage seniors in winter maintenance planning	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forever young society Lions Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
2. Support re-establishment of Snow Angels program	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forever young society Lions Club School District 59 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time Costs TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CGG
3. Encourage seniors and other residents to apply for BC Hydro energy savings programs	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services Economic and Community Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Hydro 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Hydro
4. Consider providing free sand and salt for residents	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$3,000 - \$5,000 for sand/salt and cleanup 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
5. Discuss snow clearing opportunities with School District 59	Medium-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School District 59 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
6. Look at retrofits to the snow clearing grader and related equipment	Long-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital costs TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Key Priority #6 – Fostering Interaction and Volunteerism					
1. Work with School District for intergenerational activities and events	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School District 67 Forever Young Society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Gaming Grant NHSP Age-friendly Communities
2. Recognize volunteer efforts in the community	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time Costs for events TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
3. Conduct outreach at local schools to make youth aware of importance of volunteering	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School District 59 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
4. Encourage intergeneration programming through the school district	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forever Young Society School District 59 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Costs TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UBCM CGG

5. Hold a Community Seniors Day	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forever Young Society Red Hat Society Lions Club Northern Health Tumbler Ridge Chamber of Commerce 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time \$5,000 - \$10,000 for event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage Program UBCM
6. Identify strategies to attract new generations of volunteers	Medium-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forever Young Society Red Hat Society Lions Club Northern Health Tumbler Ridge Chamber of Commerce 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
7. Support development of accessible “barrier free” garden boxes	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tumbler Ridge Community Garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$2,500 - \$5,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UBCM NHSP
8. Provide community grant to Red Hat Society	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red Hat Society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$500 - \$1,000 annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
9. Expand trail rider systems operated out of the Discovery Centre	Long-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discovery Centre Wolverine Nordic and Mountain Society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$2,500 - \$5,000 for equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CGG
Key Priority #7 – Communication and Information Sharing					
1. Establish a Seniors and/or Accessibility Committee	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Administration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee Members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
2. Create a Seniors Portal that is a central information source	Medium-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Health Tumbler Chamber of Commerce IT Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time \$10,000 - \$20,000 to develop portal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UBCM
3. Compile list of grants and funding programs available to seniors and community groups	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
4. Create a procedure for distributing District news and events to community groups	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services Public Works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forever Young Society Lions Club Tumber Ridge Legion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

5. Develop "Seniors List" for emergency planning	Medium-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protective Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UBCM
6. Ensure District notices are included on various news boards in the community	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
7. Develop "Welcome Wagon" package for new residents	Short-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services Economic and Community Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tumbler Ridge Chamber of Commerce Forever Young Society Lions Club TR Cares/Hospice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time \$7,500 - \$12,500 for package materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
8. Hold District-sponsored sessions with experts on age-friendly topics	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Health Consultant(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time Costs TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UBCM
9. Consider implemented automated phone call program	Medium-Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forever Young Society Lions Club TR Cares/Hospice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District staff time Costs TBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UBCM

ACRONYMS USED:

- CGG – BC Community Gaming Grants
- CPG – BC Capital Project Grants
- CMHC – Canadian Mortgage and Housing Renewal Corporation
- District – District of Tumbler Ridge
- FCM – Federation of Canadian Municipalities
- HAFI – Home Adaptations for Independence
- ISC – Indigenous Services Canada
- MoTI – Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
- NH – Northern Health
- NDIT – Northern Development Initiative Trust
- NHSP – New Horizons for Seniors Program
- RDOS – Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen
- UBCM – Union of BC Municipalities
- UCPR – Urban Communities Partnering for Reconciliation

Appendix B

Engagement Summary

Appendix C

AFBC Recognition Application