

AUGUST 10, 2011

Are you a champion for Oxford seniors?

Master Aging Plan Steering Committee seeks volunteers to help develop a roadmap for Oxford seniors' services

NEWS

Oxford's Master Aging Plan Steering Committee is looking for local champions to help plan and promote a new roadmap for seniors' services across the county.

"Community champions" will help plan community sessions this fall and also help keep seniors informed about the project. Volunteers should be seniors, live in Oxford County, and willing and able to connect with other seniors in the community.

Because the Master Aging Plan must meet the needs of all seniors, applications are welcomed from seniors with different lifestyle needs: those who are well and fit and live independently; those who live independently with some assistance; and those who need round-the-clock care.

For more information or to complete an expression of interest, please call 519-842-9902, ext. 213, or visit www.oxfordmasteragingplan.ca to download the form. Submissions must be received by August 24.

QUOTES

"The Master Aging Plan can't speak to the interests of seniors if seniors don't bring their voice to the table. Community champions will help ensure all seniors, across different lifestyles, have a say in what's important to them."

- Den Storey, Seniors Representative, Oxford Master Aging Plan Steering Committee

"Serving as a community champion for the Master Aging Plan is a great opportunity for enthusiastic citizens to give back to current and future generations. Champions will have an opportunity to help build momentum for this project from its beginning days."

- Diana Handsaeme, Co-Chair, Oxford Master Aging Plan Steering Committee

"Many of the community features that ensure a great lifestyle for seniors are ones that help ensure a positive and healthy lifestyle for all: everyone benefits from building a more senior-friendly community."

- Lynn Beath, Co-Chair, Oxford Master Aging Plan Steering Committee

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QUICK FACTS

- Oxford County has one of the highest proportions of residents aged 50 and over in the province.
- According to Statistics Canada, over the next 10 years the number of seniors living in Oxford County will increase by 38%, growing to one-fifth of the County's population.

BACKGROUND

- The Master Aging Plan is a vehicle for Oxford County seniors to let local service providers, businesses and governments know the services they need now and into the future. It encompasses health care, social services, the built environment, transportation, housing, recreation and other components of a senior-friendly community.

MEDIA CONTACT

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ABOUT OXFORD MASTER AGING PLAN. The Oxford Master Aging Plan is a partnership between seniors and agencies from across the County, including seniors centres, community support services, health services, residential care facilities and others. The project officially launched in July 2011 with a \$41,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) and is sponsored by the United Way of Oxford. For information visit www.oxfordmasteragingplan.ca