

Recreation Summit
Lanark, Leeds and Grenville
Smiths Falls Memorial Community Centre

71 Cornelia St W, Smiths Falls November 16, 2011

# Toward an age-friendly community/ senior's access to recreation



Jeff Mills, Coordinator – Community Development, Mills Community Support

# "Who" and concept of age-friendly

The idea of Age-friendly grew from the World Health Organization

Inclusive and accessible urban environment that promotes active ageing



WHO Ageing and Life Course Programme

# Why age-friendly?

- Raise awareness of older persons' capacities and needs
- Stimulate advocacy and action to adapt cities to include older people

"If you design your town to work for 8 year olds and eighty year olds, it will work for everyone."

~ Jan Gehl, urban planner, Copenhagen

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

people age."





WHO Ageing and Life Course Programme

# Age-friendly communities

# Age Friendly is..

- friendly for all ages, but the starting point is older persons
- Inclusive for all abilities







## So what do we do?

- Provide affordable housing for seniors and families
- Support seniors and adults with disabilities to experience good and safe lives
- We support citizenship for/with adults with intellectual disabilities
- Help to create a healthy, active and inclusive community



Transportation Civic Housing participation/ employment Age-Social friendly Communication Participation + information community Community Respect and support and social inclusion health service Outdoor spaces and buildings

# Transportation





### Home Support Escorted and Accessible Transportation

24 Volunteer drivers drove local seniors 73,262 K in the past year to medical and social appointments.

**222,573 K** is the total distance of all trips including social outings, medical trips, bus trips and Meals on Wheels delivery



# Housing

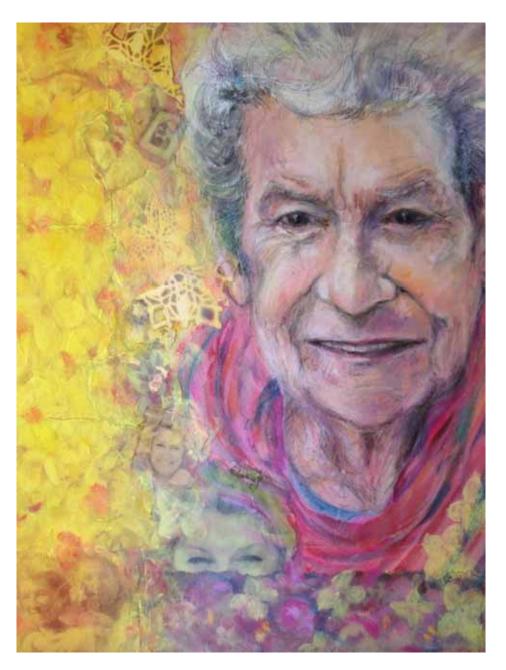
We now have 70 seniors housing units



# Respect and Social inclusion







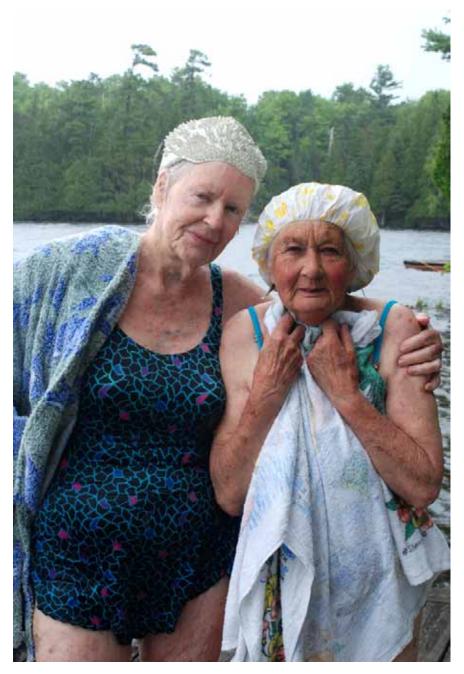


Quality of life...



The Mills helps remove stereotypes regarding aging...









"We like to be active, we like to be among friends, we have gifts, talents, and skills!"





"I love coming to the youth centre. I miss my grand daughters who live far away. I feel closer to them when I'm around kids..."

"I made a friend and now we get together at her place to bake!"

# Outdoor spaces and buildings





Accessible gardens in 5 locations





# The Neighbourhood Tomato Harvest Safari Lunch





We have great community partners, great technical support!



There are "age-friendly parks" check lists to follow when recreating your neighbourhood park.





### Shooting Hoops at Augusta Street Park





# Community Support and Health Service

- Home Support Program –
   600 seniors 180 volunteers
- Assisted Living Program24 hour support





# Communication + Information

- 500+ Home Support Quarterly Newsletters delivered to the door of local seniors
- e-newsletter to families and other agencies
- New accessible website <u>www.themills.on.ca</u>
- Seniors Directory with the Town of Miss Mills

# We use social media for social good!







### Spring 2011



# in the home front

SUPPORT

COMMUNITY

MILLS

### Rest your weary bones upon a Volunteer Bench...

children and youth.

Almost 12.5 million

aged 15 and over,

and nonprofit

social causes and coaching

Canadians, the equivalent

volunteered for charitable

of 46% of the population

organizations in 2007.

volunteers contributed

Collectively, these

The Canada Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (CSGVP) provides the most comprehensive overview of the contributions of time and money Canadians make to nonprofit and charitable organizations and to each other. Last conducted in 2007, the CSGVP surveyed a

random sample of Canadians on how they:

Gave money and other resources to charitable and nonprofit organizations;

Volunteered

time for charitable and voluntary organizations and for individuals directly; and

Participated in organizations by becoming members.

Just under half of Canadians volunteered their time. energy and skills with charities and nonprofit organizations in 2007. Their many contributions encompass the entire range of tasks that organizations require including: serving on boards and committees, canvassing for funds, providing counseling services or making friendly visits to seniors, delivering food, helping build facilities, serving as volunteer drivers, helping to protect the environment and wildlife, advocating for

just over 2.1 billion volunteer hours, equivalent to almost 1.1 million full-time jobs and \$34.5 billion dollars.

Here at the Mills, our volunteers are the heart of Home Support and are its representatives in the community, providing seniors and physically disabled adults with services to assist them in remaining in their own homes for as long as possible. Without them there would be no Home Support. Our volunteer program is one of the largest in Mississippi Mills engaging over 160 volunteers. We encourage everyone to thank

volunteers daily.

The Mills Community Support Corporation's Home Support Program will be dedicating two benches in Almonte in appreciation of the program's volunteers.

The benches will be manufactured by Branje Metal Works, and will be similar in design and colour to those provided by the Town of Mississippi Mills. Both benches will include a commemorative plaque in recognition of the contribution of volunteers to our community. Here is a suggested quote, "Without deep reflection one knows from daily life that one exists for other people."

### Albert Einstein

Perhaps you have a quote you would like to share with us. We welcome other fitting suggestions for the plaques of these benches.

The placement of the benches will occur during Canada's National Volunteer Week 2011 celebrations, April 10-16. Home Support volunteers, mark your calendars! Watch for an invitation in the coming months to a Home Support Volunteer Appreciation Barbeque at the Mills office on Thursday May 19th. Can't wait! -Lawanda Brown, Jeff Mills with excerpts from CSGVP

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### Suggestions



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exhibitors in the first year with plans to expand in 2012





"Toward an Age-friendly Lanark
"The Importance of Physical Activity
for Older Adults"

Thursday, November 24, 9am - 4 pm A full-day workshop featuring keynote speaker, LLG Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Paula Stewart



### Register Online!



For more information contact: Jeff Mills 613-256-1031 ext 63 jmills@themills.on.ca Mills Community Support 67 Industrial Drive Almonte ON KOA 1A0 This day-long event includes Patti Morton, Physiotherapist at Almonte General Hospital, Linda Berg, Senior's Fitness Instructor, and Tracey Fuller, Dietician, Rideau Valley Diabetes Services discussing "Senior's Nutrition."

Civitan Hall, 500 Almonte St. Almonte \$25 (Includes lunch)

PLEASE NOTE: pre-registration and payment mandatory. For more information and to register, visit www.themills.on.ca and follow the links.

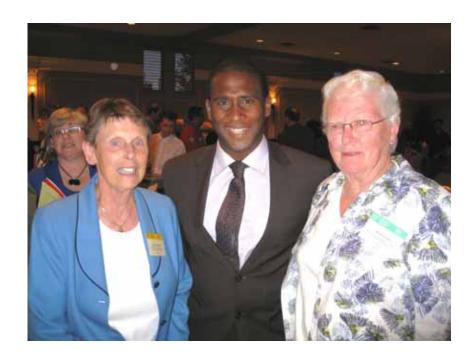
# Civic participation/ employment

We engage with our local, provincial and national candidates...









We recognize that volunteers are a very important piece of the puzzle. We offer great volunteer opportunities!





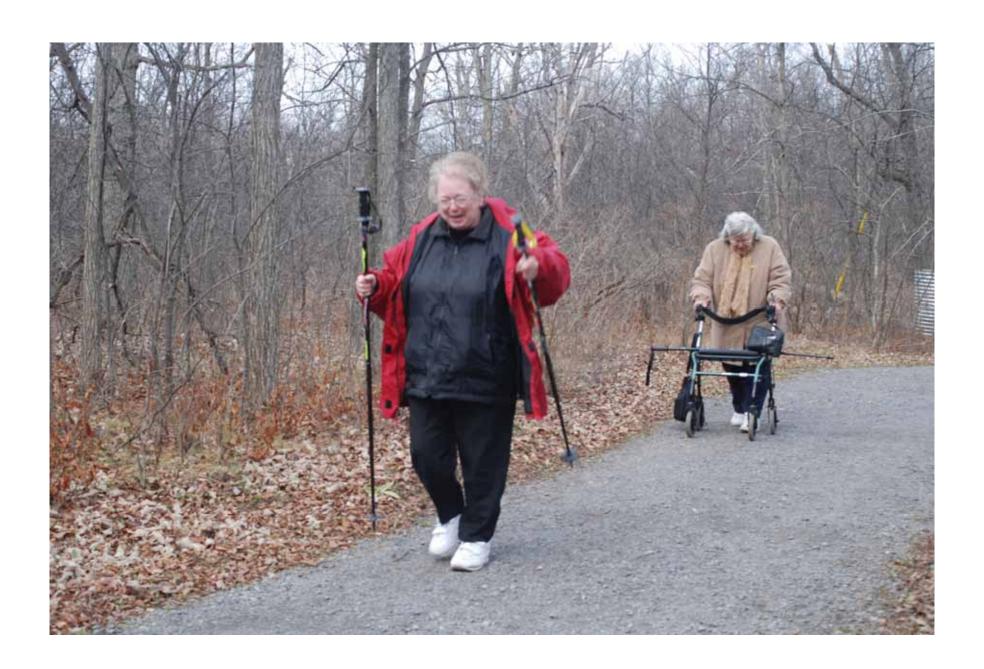














The beginning...