



Age-Friendly Saskatchewan

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN AF COMMUNITIES HERE AND ELSEWHERE!



Upcoming
AF Events



Updates to
AF Sask Website



SSM
Happenings



Your
Questions

Be sure to scroll all the way down -- you won't want to miss anything!

Age-Friendly Saskatchewan Connector March 24, 2025

We're pleased to welcome you to the 17th issue of the
Age-Friendly Saskatchewan Connector.
These newsletters keep you informed on what we're doing in
Age-Friendly Saskatchewan, new things that are happening
in the communities, and more.

Age-Friendly Events



Age-Friendly Saskatchewan Committee & Staff Update

Sincere thanks to Don Johnson of Kipling who recently retired from his role as Chairperson of the Age-Friendly Saskatchewan Committee. Don has been instrumental in the ongoing work of Age-Friendly Kipling & District since 2019 and on the provincial Age-Friendly Committee since 2020. Linda Pratt of Regina will be stepping into the Chairperson role. Linda has also been part of the provincial Committee since 2020 and was involved with Age-Friendly Regina since it began in 2018.



Thanks, and warm wishes for a Happy Retirement go to Catherine Barnsley who served in the Age-Friendly Saskatchewan Staff role from 2020-2025. Catherine worked together with Wendy Thienes over the past year to orientate Wendy to the role. Catherine will complete her work for Age-Friendly Saskatchewan at the end of March.

Catherine's passion and dedication to this work has advanced the Age-Friendly movement in Saskatchewan. Her expertise in community development, her compassionate and inclusive approach and her focus on relationship-building have all contributed to great success for Age-Friendly Saskatchewan communities!

Age-Friendly Coffee Hour

Members of Age-Friendly Committees from communities across Saskatchewan are invited to attend Coffee Hour as part of our commitment to fostering a network for sharing and exchanging ideas and stories.



**Wednesday, April 16
10:00 am**

Via Zoom

Topic: Volunteer Recognition

Canadian Red Cross 'Be Ready' Emergency Preparedness for Older Adults

An online workshop was hosted for our Age-Friendly Network by Canadian Red Cross on February 27. The slides and resource materials are now available! Links are below. Click on the name.

[Emergency Template](#)

[Emergency Kit Checklist](#)

[Get Connected Sharing Cards](#)

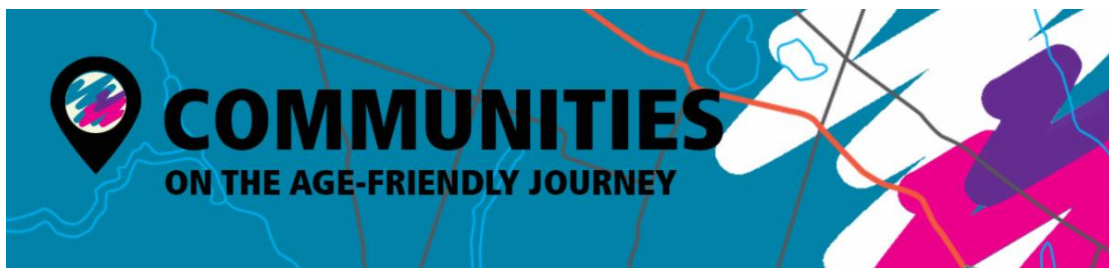
[PowerPoint slides](#)

April 27-May 3 is National Volunteer Week

[Click here](#) to visit the Volunteer Canada website for tools and resources to help you celebrate your local Age-Friendly volunteers.

Do you have a volunteer story or volunteer recognition story you'd like to share with others? We'd love to hear about them and share in future newsletters! Contact Wendy.

Community Remembrances



In Memoriam

"What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal."

— Albert Pike

The Age-Friendly Saskatchewan community and the wider SSM community were deeply saddened to learn of the unexpected deaths of two key leaders in our work over the years:
Christine Boyczuk of Moose Jaw on February 10, 2025 and
Kim Anderson of Shaunavon on March 13, 2025



Christine Boyczuk

Age-Friendly Moose Jaw and the larger Moose Jaw community has lost a long-time supporter and leader. Christine Boyczuk was currently serving as Chairperson of the Moose Jaw Age-Friendly Committee in addition to many other roles of leadership in the community. She will be greatly missed.

[Click here](#) to read Christine's obituary.



Kim Anderson

Kim was the Senior Resource Coordinator staff person for Age-Friendly Shaunavon and had previously served as the Chair of the Shaunavon Committee. She was instrumental in establishing an Age-Friendly Committee for Shaunavon and volunteered with the Shaunavon Courtesy Van and many other community organizations. Her energy and enthusiasm for Age-Friendly work will be greatly missed. [Click here](#) to read Kim's obituary.



Do you have questions about what other Committees are doing, whether that be writing Terms of Reference, or Age-Friendly business work, or working with stakeholders/partners, or beginning a newsletter or ? Please send your queries to Wendy for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Question of the Month:

What Volunteer Recognition activities have you tried in your community?

Our April Coffee Hour will focus on Volunteer Recognition so we hope you can attend and share your tried-and-true ways to say 'thank you'!

What's Happening at the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism?



SSM Annual Virtual Conference

May 21 and 22, 2025

Strength in Community:
We Have What It Takes

This Conference will seek to inspire, support and confirm the

unrecognized strengths found in Saskatchewan communities both large and small. Information and stories of community realities can provide templates for other communities to move forward in the future.

Participants will hear about community success from another province's 12 years of progress in supporting older adults in a variety of rural and urban communities. Vignettes and stories from within Saskatchewan communities will describe their step-by-step approach and emphasize how different initiatives all confirm a variety of successes in supporting and maintaining their older adult population.

Each story may describe any one or more of these successes: changes in attitudes, intentional inclusion, collaboration and growing synergy, improved physical infrastructure and most importantly, more well-being and happiness within the community.

Celebrating Seniors Awards

Start thinking about nominating an older adult!

The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism (SSM) is preparing for the Provincial 2025 Celebrating Seniors Awards Event and Banquet, which will take place on September 28, 2025, at the Conexus Art Centre in Regina. This is an important, in-person, and high-profile event where older adults are celebrated for their volunteer work. Older adults from throughout the province are nominated. While all who are nominated are celebrated at the event, one person in each specific category is presented with an award.

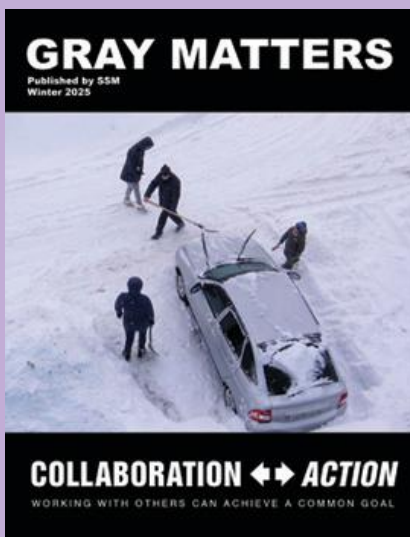
Please give some thought to nominating a deserving older adult who has contributed their time and energy, through their volunteer efforts, to make their community and our province a better place to live, work and play.

Nomination Form now on the website!

Click here for the link to the Celebrating Seniors 2025 page.



Click poster image for full-size PDF.



Latest Issue of Gray Matters

Winter 2025:
Collaboration - Action

[Click here](#) to access this issue.

The next issue will be available in early April at the same link.

Here's to our Age-Friendly work and action!

Wendy

Wendy Thienes
Age-Friendly Communities Staff

Beth

Beth Stilborn
Website and Social Media Staff

This newsletter may have been forwarded to you by someone on your local Age-Friendly Committee. If you would like to receive it directly, here's how you subscribe: please send your name and email address to Beth **indicating that you want to subscribe to the Age-Friendly Saskatchewan Newsletter**. Please let Beth know your connection to Age-Friendly for her records.

For those receiving it with either Wendy Thienes or Holly Schick as the sender's name, you are already subscribed.

Age-Friendly Saskatchewan Website: <https://agefriendlysk.ca/>
Age-Friendly Communities Page: <https://agefriendlysk.ca/af-saskatchewan-communities-main-page/>



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