



The Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers Launches the Age-Friendly and Accessibility Planning Process

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Sables-Spanish Rivers, ON – The Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers, in collaboration with K.A. Community Consulting, is pleased to announce the launch of an Age-Friendly Community and Accessibility Planning Project. This initiative will assess current conditions in the community and develop a practical action plan to help ensure that all residents—especially older adults—can live active, healthy, and connected lives in a safe and inclusive environment.

With a senior population well above the provincial and national averages, the Township is committed to preparing for the future and ensuring its programs, facilities, and public spaces are welcoming and accessible for everyone.

“This process is about more than just meeting the needs of older adults—it’s about making our community better for people of all ages and abilities,” said Mayor Kevin Burke. “We want to ensure that our Township continues to be a place where people can age comfortably, contribute to the community, and enjoy a high quality of life.”

The plan will align with community priorities and be guided by the eight key domains identified by the World Health Organization’s Age-Friendly Communities framework, including transportation, housing, social participation, and communication. It will also include a strong accessibility focus, with an eye on ensuring equitable access to municipal programs, services, and infrastructure.

The planning process will be delivered in two phases:

- Phase 1 (March – May) will focus on research, interviews, community engagement, and identifying key issues and opportunities.
- Phase 2 (June – September) will build on these findings to create a detailed Age-Friendly and Accessibility Action Plan, which will be presented to Council in fall 2025.

Community engagement is a key part of this initiative. Residents, local organizations, and service providers will be invited to participate through surveys, interviews, and focus group sessions. Feedback gathered from the community will directly inform the recommendations and priorities identified in the plan.

More details about how to get involved will be shared in the coming weeks through the Township’s website and social media channels.

For more information, please contact Amanda St. Michel, Deputy Clerk at 705-865-2646 or Kim Goodman, K.A. Community Consulting at 613-876-3963.

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