

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

Seniors' Working Action Group (SWAG) - We're Age Friendly

Minutes – Wednesday, February 25, 2026,

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Pat Moore, Bev Cathro, Ruth Sheridan, Micheline Wheeler, Julie Pennal, Ted Lambert, Margaret Kirwin, Michele Cleary

Regrets: Councillor Duddeck, Michelle Nichols, Pierre Wong

Guest: Guest speaker cancelled

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

1. Call to Order

By Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.

Councillor Duddeck's report was read (see 5a) **Canada Day Relocation**

- Discussion followed on how the current problems were going to be changed by just moving Canada Day to another site. It didn't seem to be enough.
- Darlene also shared a publication in the Oakville News indicating that there may not be fireworks displayed at the next Canada Day Celebration.
- The Town is looking at hosting the Canada Day event at an alternative location as recent events have been "marred by large, loosely organized groups of youth setting off fireworks near crowds." – Oakville News.
- The Town is considering a daytime event only. A final decision on the location is required by March 31. A report will return to Town Council in March with alternative ideas. The town is investigating drone or laser shows as a possible option for future celebrations.
- SWAG agreed to gather more information and to write a letter to Council with their recommendations and suggestions for Canada Day 2026/27.

Council approved a request for staff to report back to Council on the financial and staffing implications of providing windrow services. Many thanks to Councillor Duddeck for bringing this forward. This has been in SWAG discussions for several weeks.

2. Attendance / Regrets

Regrets as noted.

3. Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda

Ted Lambert, seconded by Margaret Kirwin. Carried.

4. Update from Brent Copeland

No report

5. Standing Items:

a. Councillor update: - Cathy Duddeck

Town staff tabled a report at Monday evening's Council meeting to relocate the Canada Day fireworks celebration to Coronation Park. The rationale for the recommendation was due to the ongoing vandalism and disobedience that occurred in the area for the past 2 years.

Both Councillor Chisholm and I opposed the relocation due to safety concerns for the area residents and the lack of consultation with the public in the area.

Council supported our recommendation to NOT approve the staff recommendation. There is a request for staff to look at possible alternatives for the fireworks/celebrations other than in Coronation Park or the Bronte Waterfront. That will return to Council in March/April for review and consideration.

Council approved a request for staff to report back to Council on the financial and staffing implications of providing windrow services.

Council discussed the possibility of banning election signs on public property, and the decision was to maintain the status quo. Permit election signs on public property with certain setbacks and only on major arterial roads. The Region has a ban on election signs on regional lands.

The town is currently conducting a survey on an Invasive species plan. The concern relates to not only trees, but invasive/poisonous plants, insects. I took the survey and it took only 5 minutes.

On Saturday we dedicated the Memorial in Burnet Park (Kerr/Burnet) to celebrate the Underground Railroad. The memorial incorporates the stones from the home of Samuel Adams (a blacksmith) who created a hook that he used in retrieving stones from Lake Ontario. The stones are evident in numerous heritage designated homes in Oakville. The memorial is purposely placed in close proximity to his home (104 Burnet St. which has been redeveloped) and near the African Methodist Chapel on Lakeshore Road (currently an Antique Store).

b. Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols

It's an exceptionally busy and exciting time here at OMoW as we prepare for the launch of our March for Meals Campaign.

Key Upcoming Activities

- **50/50 Draw Launch – March 1**
Our annual 50/50 draw kicks off on March 1. We encourage everyone to participate and help spread the word.
- **Flag Raising Ceremony – Tuesday, March 3 at 10:00 AM**
Join us at Town Hall as Mayor Burton proclaims March as March for Meals Month. We'd love to see strong community support at this event.
- **Community Champions Week – March 23–27**
If you would like to join us for meal deliveries during this special week, please give us a call at 905-842-1411. We always appreciate community leaders stepping in to support our clients.

Volunteer Recruitment

We are actively recruiting volunteers to assist with weekday lunch-hour meal deliveries. This is a meaningful and flexible way to make a direct impact in our community.

Save the Date

Please mark your calendars for our 50th Anniversary Celebration on Thursday, October 1, 2026. More details will follow as we get closer to this milestone event.

c. Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore

Counterfeit notes may display one or more of the following indicators

- Repeated serial numbers appearing on multiple banknotes
- Wording such as “*Prop Money*,” “*For Motion Picture Use*,” or other non-standard or foreign text, particularly within the holographic strip or elsewhere on the note
- A holographic strip that appears to be a removable sticker or is taped into the transparent window or indicates the incorrect value
- Dull, uneven, or peeling colours and poor print quality
- A noticeable difference in thickness or texture compared to genuine Canadian polymer banknotes

If you believe a banknote may be counterfeit, HRPS recommends the following:

- Prioritize your personal safety and avoid any action that could place you at risk
- Politely decline the banknote and request an alternative form of payment

- Carefully examine all banknotes before accepting them, particularly during private sales or cash transactions
- Keep in mind that the individual presenting the note may be unaware that it is counterfeit

For more information about the security features found on genuine Canadian banknotes, visit the **Bank of Canada's website** at: www.bankofcanada.ca/banknotes

d. enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan

We now have 32 members, 18 of whom actively participate in our in-person meetings, virtual meetings or both. We meet in person on the first Tuesday of each month at Trafalgar Park Community Centre & virtually on the third Tuesday of every month using zoom.

Trafalgar Park community Center until end of summer has been secured as our meeting location until the end of the summer.

On a personal note, I will be attending a ceremony February 22 at OTMH and will be receiving my 10-year pin for volunteer services.

Perhaps Pat Will be attending the ceremony as well since she volunteers in the gift shop.

e. OAAC - Darlene Cox

- Housing update shared by Daryl Kaytor Director of Halton Region Housing Services:
 - New strategy direction to invest and promote prefab modular homes.
 - In Burlington, 880 square foot shelter was built on regional land at a cost of \$250,000. It took two weeks to build two units.
 - Prefab components were also allowed to complete 265 Kerr Street under a tight timeline.
 - Halton Accessibility Repair Program for low income is accessible through 311. This program supports installation of grab bars, ramps etc. Waiting list is not long. Most referrals coming through health partners like Acclaim Health.
 - Regional Wellness Hubs – funding is necessary to organize services for residents. Over 20 agencies involved to help decrease hospitalizations, ER visits and promote wellness.
 - HATCH waiting list: older adults are prioritized. Average wait time is 2 years. In-situ program subsidies are available to help with rent but does not control landlord actions for upkeep.
 - New Fast Facts to be released include information on what to do after someone dies and information on assistive devices.

- Revised Halton Older Adult Directory to be finalized and printed in the spring.
- Support House uses a mobile health team to provide primary services and social support to people who don't have access to healthcare.

f. Older Adult Isolation Table - Julie Pennal

No report this month.

g. Links2Wellbeing – Kelly Meeussen

As of January 2026, there has been 4 referrals from Halton Healthcare Social Work in the Neuro Rehab department. Some referrals have decided not to proceed with the next steps of the program.

Recent inquiring from the Links2Care program with a referral.

6. Business Arising – Future Guest Speakers

- MPP Stephen Crawford – asked to speak but no confirmed date.
- Mary Dimas, Town of Oakville, Bike Trails, (reschedule presentation date)
- Pat Dunn, Senior Women Living Together, March 25,
- AI presentation April 2 Virtual – Please register using the link below:
 - https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/fYgTG074S_aZg60bPZ1iSQ
 - If you require assistance, please contact Kelly at 905-815-5960
- **MAiD and Death Café** in person event – Tuesday, May 5 at 1 p.m. at the Colborne Centre.

7. Information sharing

There will be a Men's Shed information session is scheduled for Thursday, April 30 from 10-11:30 a.m. To RSVP call Jolaine at 905-815-5979 ext. 4674.

8. Date of next meeting

Wednesday, March 25 at 1:30 p.m. in person with Zoom option.

9. Adjournment

3:30 p.m.