

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

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

Minutes – Wednesday, June 25, 2025

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

Regrets: Councillor Duddeck, Rachel Fraser, Michelle Nicols

Guest: Jennifer Van Linthout Intake Coordinator CMHA, Halton Region Branch

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

1. **Call to Order:** by Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.

2. Guest speaker, Jennifer Van Linthout, Intake Coordinator CMHA, Halton Region Branch

- Discussed how Halton Canadian Mental Health Association, CMHA, can help seniors to receive resources for additional supports.
- Although there are no specific senior programs, programming for ages 16+ is applicable.
- COAST (Crisis Outreach and Support Team) 1-877-825-9011 is available in Halton or 988 suicide prevention and emotional distress hotline.
- Mobile Crisis Team includes intervention specialists and specially trained Police Officers. The team operates in the community and will respond to a residence, workplace, or any safe location.
- 911 is only for immediate emergency services.
- For self referrals call 905-693-4270.
- The Safe Beds program is 24/7 community-based residential service for adults 16+. The program is a person-centered, collaborative approach to help people stabilize during their initial crisis and gain access to a multidisciplinary team.
- Please read the attached CMHA slide presentation for all the information.
- The website is www.halton.cmha.ca

3. **Attendance / Regrets** – Regrets as noted.

4. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**

Acceptance of minutes and agenda approved by Bev Cathro, seconded by Micheline, Carried.

5. **Update from Rachel Fraser –**

- Halton Our Kids Network is a collective impact network, which builds the capacity of community organizations that support children, youth and families within Peel. The current priorities of this group include child/ youth mental health, youth wellbeing, early childhood development and DEI. A recent study of Halton Senior Kindergarten children has shown a significant uptick in the number of children who are not meeting

developmental expectations. Given the strong alignment with the programs and services we offer, Town of Oakville Recreation & Culture staff have joined this network, both at the Community Planning Table and Early Years Resiliency Action Table.

- Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts: "Dance Season" is a long-standing cultural tradition that is country wide, where most repertory theatres host annual final dance recitals throughout May and June. Twelve Dance schools from Oakville and surrounding communities will showcase their students at the OCPA, all together presenting 27 shows between May 11th and June 24th.
- Iroquois Ridge Community Centre Renovation Update: Renovations at Iroquois Ridge Community Centre began in January 2025 to upgrade essential infrastructure and enhance accessibility, safety, and comfort. Completed improvements include a fully accessible customer service desk, facility-wide tile replacement, and new heat pumps for consistent temperature control. The Iroquois Ridge pool remains closed due to unexpected underground conditions discovered during excavation. The reopening has been delayed from early summer to fall 2025. In response, aquatics programming has been expanded at White Oaks Pool, Falgarwood Outdoor Pool (opened May 21), and Lions Outdoor Pool (extended to mid-September).
- Sixteen Mile Sports Complex Construction will begin on the new traffic calming circle inside the main entrance to Sixteen Mile Sports Complex and is expected to be completed this Fall. Access to the arena will remain open through the entrance at Sixteen Mile Drive and Neyagawa Blvd, and access to the park and Sports Fields will remain open through the entrance at North Park Blvd and Neyagawa Blvd. On June 24-27, the spectator arena at Sixteen Mile Sports Complex will be proudly hosting seven secondary school graduation ceremonies during "Grad Week".
- Oakville Museum: visit the Debwewin: The Truth Project Exhibition, which was created in partnership with Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation, the Oakville Community Foundation and the Oakville Museum and in collaboration with the Debwewin Advisory Council and Know History. The exhibit at Erchless Estate offers a better understanding of past and present Treaty relationships in what is now Oakville.
- Outdoor Pools: Our dedicated operations team is hard at work preparing our outdoor pools for another exciting summer season. From maintenance and safety checks to staff training and setup, we're making sure every pool is ready to welcome swimmers for a safe and enjoyable experience. Outdoor pools open for the season starting with Falgarwood on May 20. Lions opens June 1; Brookdale, Bronte, and Wedgewood on June 14. Falgarwood offers early lessons in June. Swim to Survive runs in June at all locations. Full summer schedules for all outdoor pools begin on June 28. At that time, pools will offer a wide variety of programming, including Learn to Swim lessons, leadership training, and both leisure and lane swimming. Four pools will remain open

until Labour Day weekend, while Lions Pool will extend its season through to September 14. On that final day, the annual Doggie Dip, hosted by the Humane Society, is scheduled.

Update from Councillor Duddeck

- The town is actively engaging with the public regarding the implementation of a Storm Water Management fee to address the pressures of climate change and flood management. The main concern is how to arrive at a fee process that will be fair to everyone and have minimal costs associated with the program. Many municipalities are introducing similar programs as they continue to struggle with environmental pressures and aging infrastructure.
- **Beat the Heat: Cooling centre locations.**
 - Glen Abbey Community Centre, [1415 Third Line](#)
 - Iroquois Ridge Community Centre, [1051 Glenashton Drive](#)
 - Oakville Trafalgar Community Centre, [325 Reynolds Street](#)
 - Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre, [2302 Bridge Road](#)
 - River Oaks Community Centre, [2400 Sixth Line](#)
 - Sixteen Mile Sports Complex, [3070 Neyagawa Boulevard](#)
 - Trafalgar Park Community Centre, [133 Rebecca Street](#)
 - [Oakville Public Library branches](#)

Special Events

Canada Day will be celebrated once again at Bronte Park with various activities throughout the day, ending with the usual firework display at dusk. Street closures are in effect and residents are encouraged to use public transportation to and from the event.

Free Oakville Transit Shuttle Service

Canada Day attendees are encouraged to avoid traffic and take the free Oakville Transit shuttle from Bronte GO station (north side parking lot) to Oakville's Canada Day Celebration at Bronte Heritage Waterfront Park. All shuttles are accessible, wheelchair- and stroller-friendly.

Shuttle service begins at 4:45 p.m. and runs every 10 minutes. The last shuttle to the park leaves Bronte GO station at 9:30 p.m. Return shuttle service to Bronte GO Station will begin once the fireworks display has ended. **Road closures will be in effect and there is no event parking available on site.** Service will continue until the park is clear

after the firework display and will continue until the last shuttle bus at 11 p.m. Shuttle service to and from the event is free to everyone.

[care-A-van service](#) to the event is available through online booking. *

*Please note that care-A-van services will only be available for booking until 7:30 p.m. on the evening of July 1. Customers will be unable to book rides after that time. Those who book services to the event using care-A-van must make their own arrangements for the return trip or use the care-A-van shuttle or regular shuttle service operating to Bronte GO Station.

The Oak Park pancake breakfast is also scheduled for Canada Day located at the Oak Park Neighbourhood Centre - 2200 Sawgrass Drive, Oakville from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Hosted by Jeff Knoll, Town and Regional Councillor Oakville Ward 5. Join them for some music, kid's activities, free pancake breakfast, and POPCORN!

Friday, Jun 27, 2025, is the Bronte Dominican Bachata Party, located at Bronte Market Square, 2445 Lakeshore Rd W, Oakville from 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. We're thrilled to announce the Bronte Dominican Bachata Party, happening Friday June 27, starting 7:00 p.m.! This free, open-air dance event invites everyone – dancers and music lovers alike – to experience the soulful beats and smooth moves of Bachata, a beloved dance style with deep roots in Dominican culture. Whether you're new to Bachata or a seasoned pro, this is your chance to move, mingle, and celebrate community through music and dance. Live DJ (DJ Yesii) and authentic Bachata tracks. Beginner-friendly vibes and social dancing. A welcoming crowd and the perfect summer setting. Free Admission

Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols

- No report this month.

Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore

- HRPS (Halton Regional Police Services) addition of ROCK Crisis councillors to the HRPS Youth Team with the goal of streamlining connections to services and better support vulnerable youth. This new partnership will see the embedded Crisis councillors serving to assist the Youth Team and front-line officers during non-emergency calls for service, increase training and support other youth related activities.
- There has been an increase in community mailbox break-ins in Burlington, Oakville and Milton occurring between the hours of 2-5 a.m. The HRPS is asking members of the public to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity.

enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan

- We will be having our picnic in June at Coronation Park from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. with lots of food and tandem Bicycle.
- Recently we learned that CE LA, the center for equitable Library access Will stop sending out CD's; so, all of us who get our audiobooks in this manner we'll have to find a new method because the service stops July 31.
- Four of our members Gloria, Sandi, Helen and I who have formed an audio book club Will be meeting July 4 to discuss our third Book -Cher -her memoir part one.
- On a personal note, I have had to decrease my volunteering from serving on eight committees to serving on five. I will miss the three committees I have had to give up, but my eyesight has declined to the point where I cannot participate because technology it's too hard for me to navigate on these committees. I will continue to volunteer most of my time with the CNIB, Oakville Hospital & SWAG.

OAAC & Halton Age Friendly (HAFN)- Darlene Cox

- There was a presentation about the Ontario Seniors Dental Plan. The plan is a government-funded dental care program that provides routine dental services for low-income seniors who are 65+. Coverage includes check-ups, repair, x-rays, tooth removal, anesthesia, treatment of infection and pain and various gum disorders. Once enrolled, coverage is for up to one year. An application must be completed online to access the program. Contact your public health unit to find participating dentists. Ask about the coverage before treatment to ensure all required dental work is covered by the OSDP.
- The Federal dental plan is a national program. Ontario seniors can apply for both. Coverage is broader in the Federal plan versus the Provincial plan.

Older Adult Isolation Table – Julie Pennal

- With the loss of funding, the team is re-grouping in an effort to find ways to continue the work without the community engagement specialists.

Links2Wellbeing – Kelly Meeussen

No update this month.

6.	<p>New Business Arising/Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Housing Symposium: The survey reflected positive feedback, with attendees offering both praise and constructive suggestions. The speakers were well received and expressed satisfaction with the turnout and engagement from participants. • Upcoming SWAG presents ideas: Pat suggested we host Chris Bint from Tech Coaches to speak about AI. The committee agreed that the fall (Oct or Nov) was a good time for this event as details can be included the fall/winter newsletter. Charging a nominal fee to help cover the cost of the speaker was discussed, voted on and unanimously accepted by the SWAG Committee. The Committee also also discussed perhaps working with another senior group such as Halton Age Friendly Network or Halton CARP to assist in funding the event. Location to be determined. Committee talked about the possibility of recording the session and sharing the link on YouTube for those who are not able to attend. • Future guest speakers: September: Nancy Beddoe, The Death Café, Home Hospice Association. October: MPP Stephen Crawford, Senior Healthcare. • Tentative speaker secured by Michele Cleary: Mary Dimas, Co-ordinator Sustainable Transportation Program for Town of Oakville. Mary is looking to connect with seniors to get input on bicycling and walking in Oakville. Committee to confirm date in November by end of July.
7.	<p>NOTE: Next meeting is Wednesday, July 23 at 1:30 pm. This meeting will be held at Darlene's home.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.</p>