



2024 to 2027 York Region Plan to Support Seniors Navigating Forward Together

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Communication

Age-Friendly Vaughan

Advisory Committee – April 29, 2024

Item No. 1

Vaughan Age-Friendly Advisory Committee

April 29, 2024

Presented by:

Dr. Frances Morton-Chang

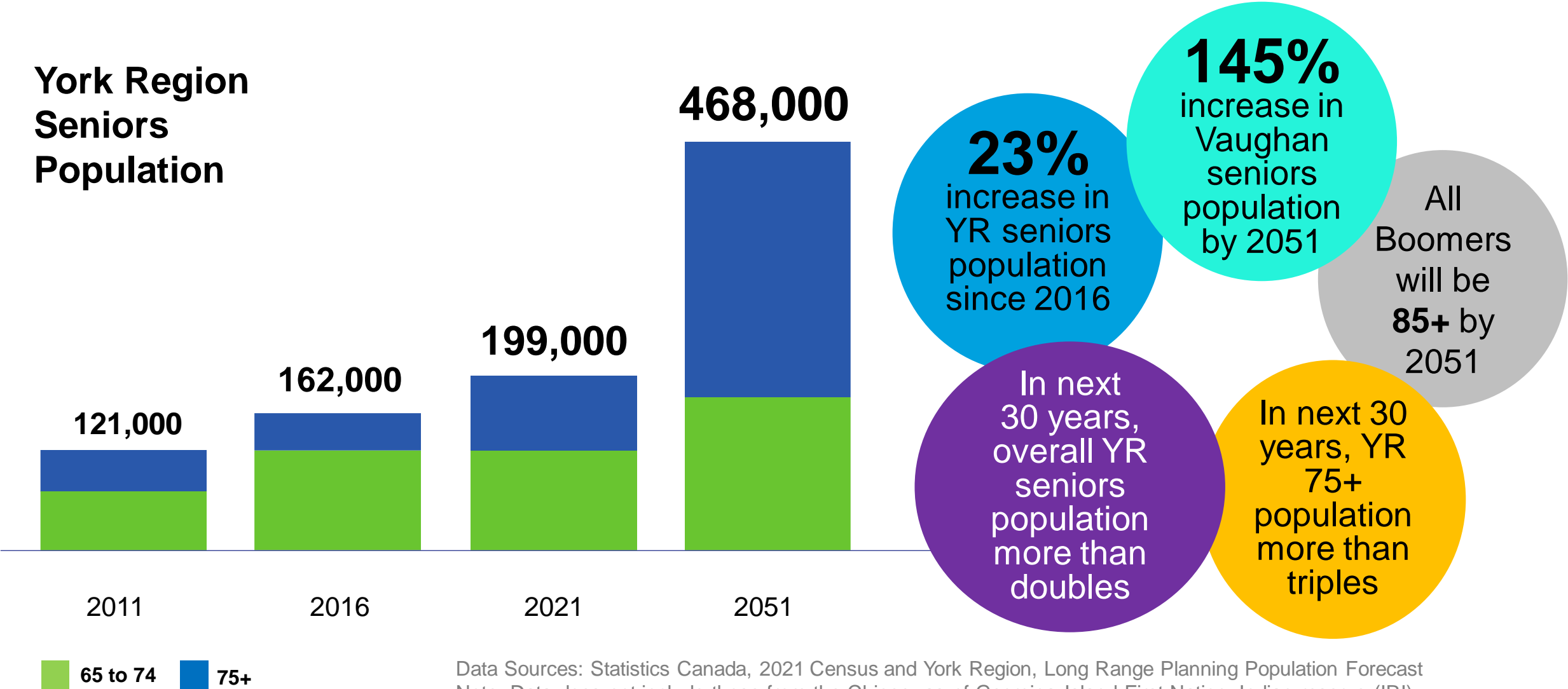


Presentation Objectives

This presentation will share:

- The diverse York Region seniors population and our role in serving this growing demographic
- Process used to develop the 2024 to 2027 York Region Plan to Support Seniors
- The Plan's Priority Areas, Actions and Advocacy Agenda
- Key alignments to the Vaughan Age-Friendly Community Action Plan and time for discussion

Growing 65+ population will impact programs and services

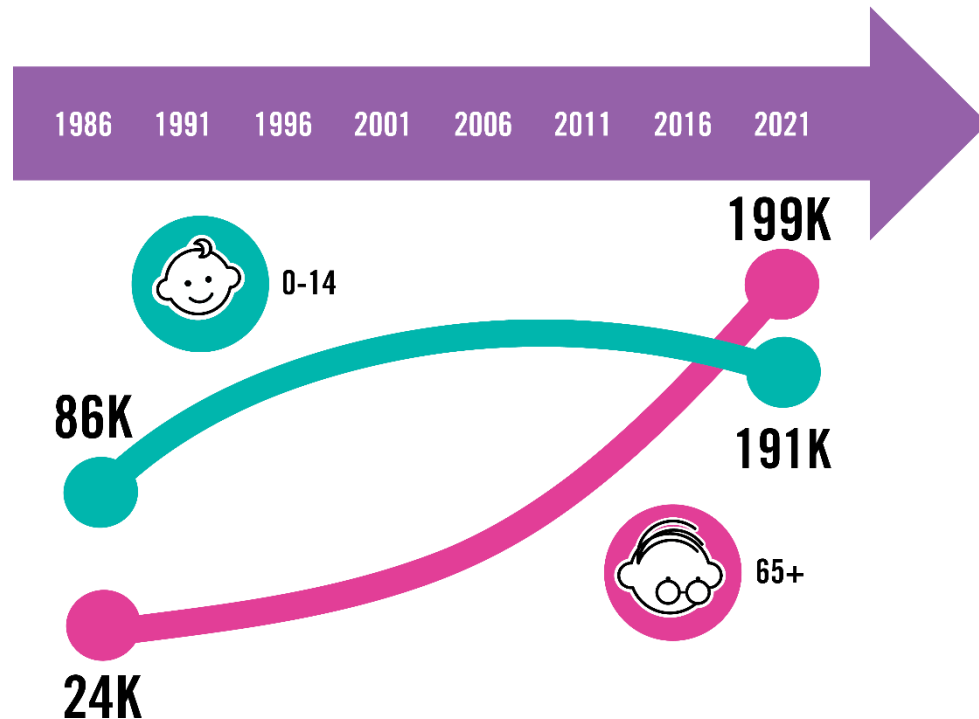


Data Sources: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census and York Region, Long Range Planning Population Forecast
Note: Data does not include those from the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation, Indian reserve (IRI).

York Region Children and Seniors Populations

2021 Children and Seniors

Growth in children (0-14) and seniors (65+) growth from 1986 - 2021



**Residents 65+:
23% increase**



**Pre-school aged
children:
9% decrease**



York Region seniors are diverse



York Region's role in serving residents of all ages

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CORE SERVICES

Legislated services provided directly to the public to help maintain a high quality of life for York Region residents



York Region's role in serving seniors

Seniors Services

Public Health

Community Housing

Paramedic Services

Community Paramedicine

Social Services

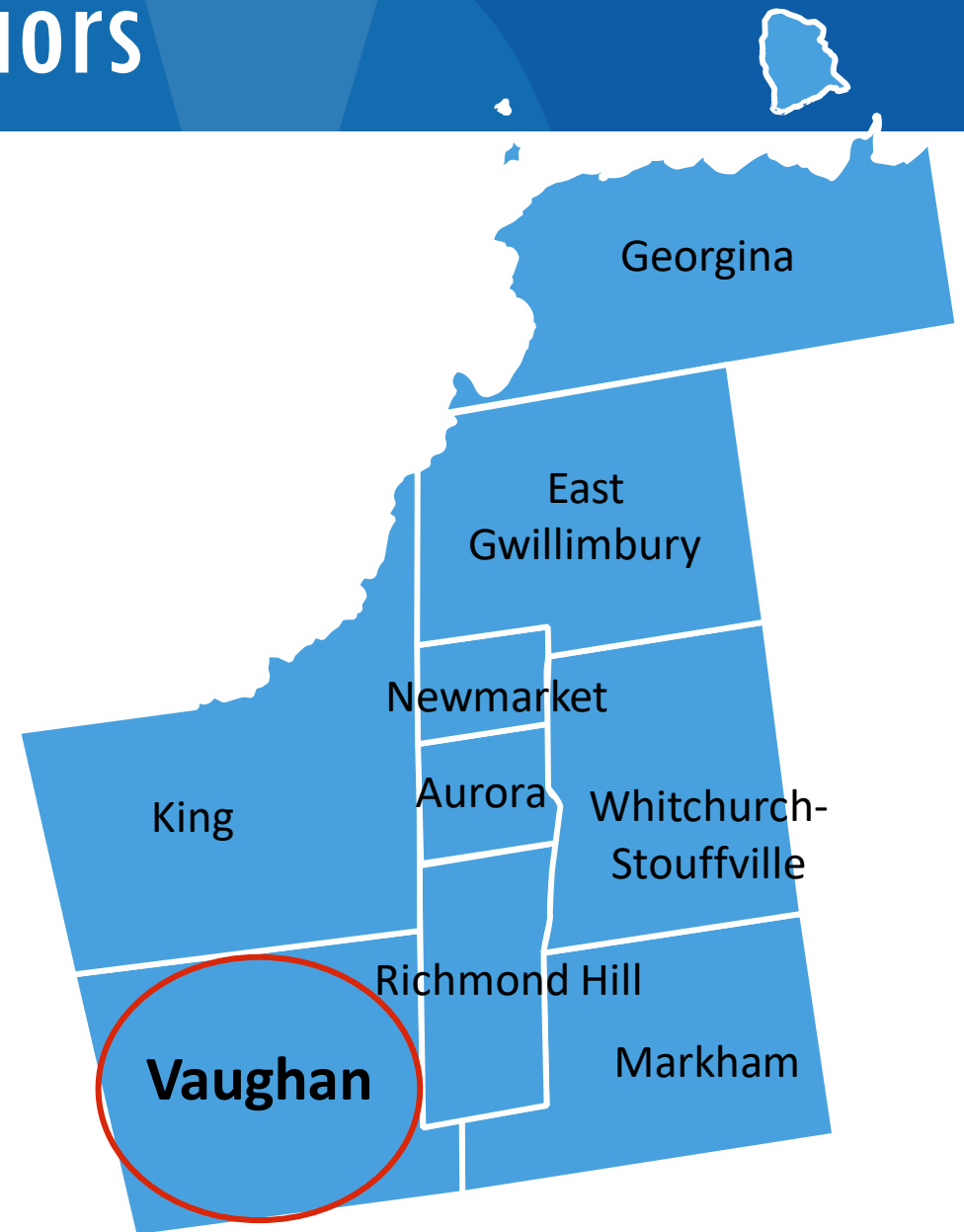
Access York

Public Works, Transit

Corporate Finance

Ontario Health Teams

York Regional Police

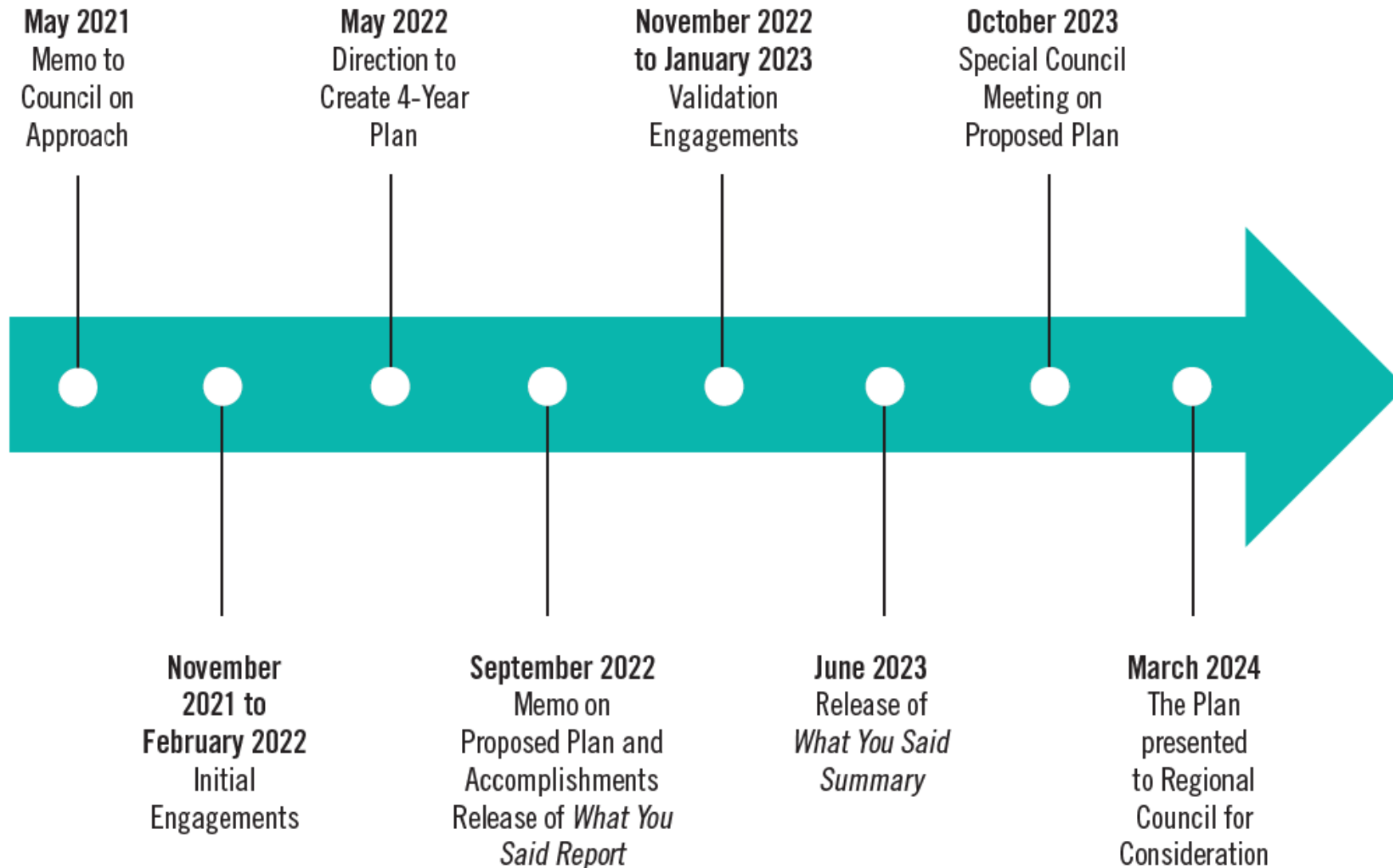


For more information on programs and services contact
Access York at 1-877-464-9675 or email accessyork@york.ca

Many accomplishments under 2016 Seniors Strategy



Timelines: Steps to complete updated Plan



What we heard and learned

**“Navigation
Improvements”**

**“Home Care
and Community
Supports”**

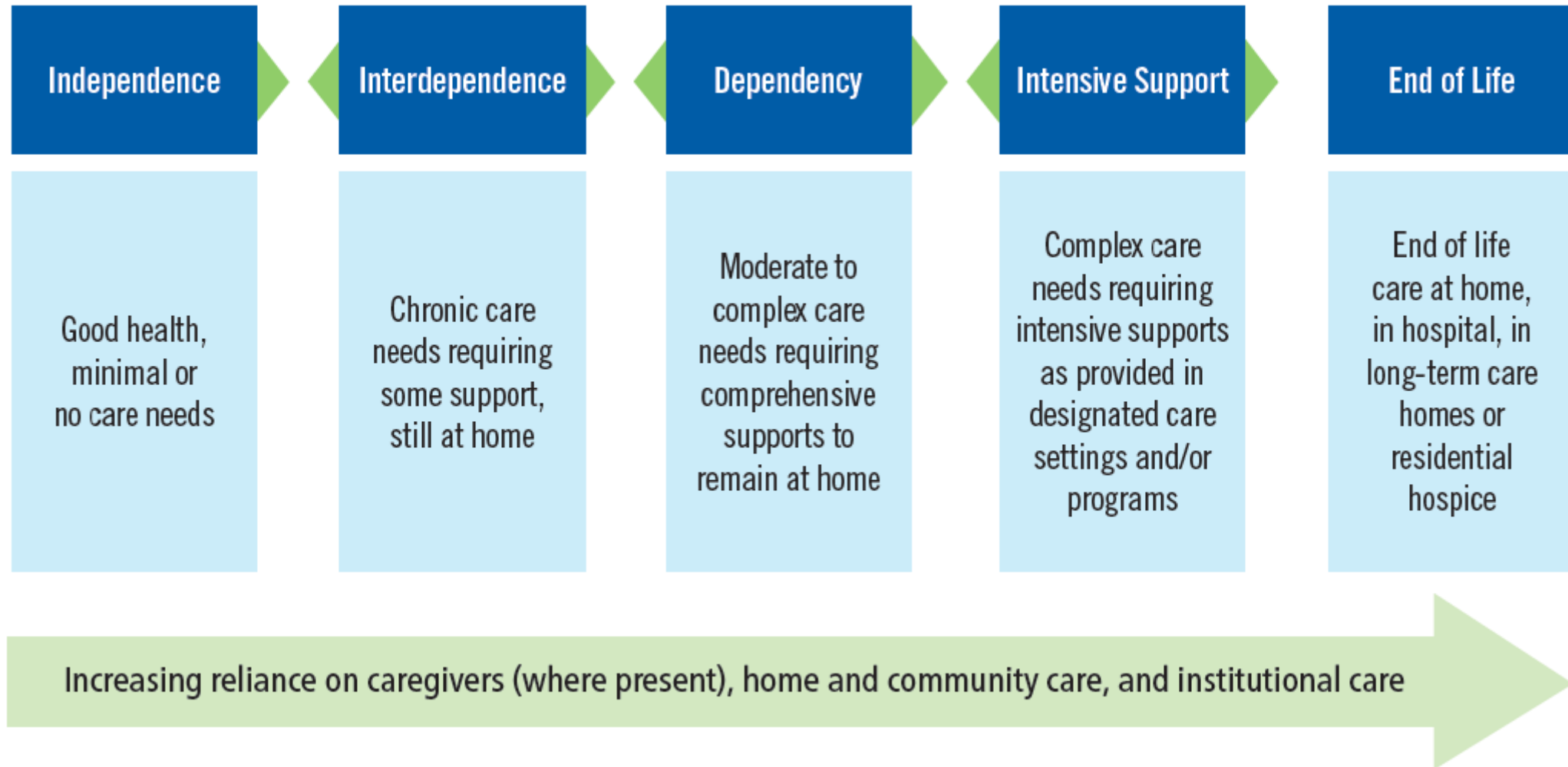
**“Affordable and
Appropriate
Housing”**

“Equity Lens”

**“Technology
Access and
Training”**



Improvements needed across Seniors Health and Social Care Continuum



2024 to 2027 York Region Plan to Support Seniors



2024 to 2027



York Region Plan To Support Seniors

Navigating Forward Together

york.ca/PlanForSeniors
March 2024



Directions for 2024 to 2027 York Region Plan to Support Seniors

 PRIORITY AREA	 OBJECTIVE
Keeping Seniors Healthier, Longer	Provide seniors, caregivers and staff supporting seniors information to help them improve physical activity and social connectedness, and slow decline of or prevent chronic disease
Supporting Seniors to Live in Age-Friendly Complete Communities	Better integrate services for seniors
Connecting Seniors/Caregivers to Right Programs and Services at Right Times	Improve system navigation for seniors
Improving Coordination, Organization and Planning of Services for Seniors	Collaborate on and support strategic improvements for the overall system supporting seniors

NOTE: Learnings and experiences from the **pandemic** were also considered in the analysis and planning

Keeping Seniors Healthier, Longer



Priority Area 1

Keeping Seniors Healthier, Longer

Objective: Provide seniors, caregivers and staff supporting seniors information to help them improve physical activity and social connectedness, and slow decline of, or prevent chronic disease.

Keeping Seniors Healthier, Longer



ACTION

1. Communicate information on healthy aging to raise awareness with seniors, caregivers and staff to help seniors stay healthy and connected
2. Communicate information on York Region Public Works services to raise awareness with seniors, caregivers and staff to help seniors stay healthy and connected
3. **Advocate** to the Province for annual health professional in-home or supported virtual visits for seniors 75 years of age and over

OUTCOME

Seniors provided with information to improve their health/well-being and promote better access to information and services

Seniors are connected to services to support them to live well and age in the right place

Supporting Seniors to Live in Age-Friendly Complete Communities



Priority Area 2

Supporting Seniors to Live
in Age-Friendly, Complete Communities

Objective: Better integrate services for seniors

Supporting Seniors to Live in Age-Friendly Complete Communities



ACTION

OUTCOME

4. Complete design, construction, and operationalize the seniors hub and community centre located in Unionville Commons

Improved access to services to support health, well-being and enable seniors to age in the right place

5. Develop policies and programs that link the built environment to healthy aging

Improved health and well-being of seniors through the built environment

6. Deliver innovative paramedic and community paramedicine services to support seniors in the community

Seniors are supported in their homes for as long as possible through preventative and responsive care

7. Engage seniors' networks to inform development of Affordable Private Market Housing Implementation Plan

Worked with partners to increase supply of affordable private market housing that seniors would have opportunity to access

8. Explore opportunities to enhance and continue programs that support seniors' access to York Region Transit

Provided more equitable access to transportation

9. **Advocate** for improved policy planning and funding across a supportive seniors continuum of health and social care

Improved program delivery and policy planning for advancing seniors' needs in their communities

10. **Advocate** for sustainable funding to expand Community Paramedicine programs

Seniors supported in their homes for as long as possible through preventative and responsive care

Connecting Seniors/Caregivers to Right Program and Services at the Right Times



Priority Area 3

Connecting Seniors and Caregivers
to Right Programs and Services at Right Times

Objective: Improve system navigation for seniors

Connecting Seniors/Caregivers to Right Program and Services at the Right Times



ACTION

OUTCOME

11. Promote Access York to seniors and caregivers as a central access point for York Region and community resources

12. Advance accessible seniors focused self-serve tools on York Region website to search for York Region and community resources

13. Share knowledge and training on seniors specific resources on York Region navigation tools with regional staff and local municipalities

14. Collaborate with Ontario Health Team Partners to develop an access and navigation model for a seamless approach to customer information and referrals

15. Develop a York Region specific navigation guide for seniors

Connected seniors and caregivers in need with the appropriate services

16. Help connect subsidized housing wait list applicants, including seniors, to available programs and resources while they wait for housing

Seniors (60+) on the subsidized housing wait list were supported to connect to financial benefits and resources to which they are entitled, supporting income stabilization and providing resources while they wait for subsidized housing options

Connecting Seniors/Caregivers to the Right Programs and Services at Right Times



ACTION

OUTCOME

17. Review Regional Low-Income Seniors and Persons with Disabilities Tax Relief program

Supported evidence-based decision making

18. Incorporate a seniors lens to support development and implementation of proposed York Region 2024 to 2027 Plan for Newcomer Inclusion

Strengthened processes for seniors lens in newcomer-focused community planning and implementation to reflect their needs

19. Expand broadband infrastructure in York Region to enable access to high-speed internet in underserved communities

Expanded broadband infrastructure to support internet options for seniors and caregivers in underserved areas to stay connected

20. Promote and collaborate with organizations that provide digital access/technology and technology training for seniors

Supported seniors to stay connected through better access to digital information and improved connectivity

21. Advocate for Provincial investments to sustain, scale and spread programs and supports that enhance seniors access to digital technology

Supported seniors to stay connected through better access to digital information and improved connectivity

Improving Coordination, Organization and Planning of Services for Seniors



Priority Area 4

Improving Coordination, Organization and Planning of Services for Seniors

Objective: Collaborate on and support strategic improvements for overall system supporting seniors

Improving Coordination, Organization and Planning of Services for Seniors



ACTION

OUTCOME

22. Implement the York Region Integrated Response for Vulnerable Seniors Network (VSN)

Stabilized vulnerable seniors in immediate crisis, including those experiencing homelessness, with needs-based, wrap-around care and harm-reduction approaches to minimize potential for future crises

23. Evaluate VSN and share learnings York Region wide

Regional services aligned with client needs

24. Develop tools and products that allow sector stakeholders access to current evidence and data on York Region seniors to inform program planning

Supported evidence-based decision making

25. Provide education and training opportunities to long-term care home staff and community partners in York Region serving seniors and caregivers

Staff serving seniors and caregivers feel more equipped to support their needs

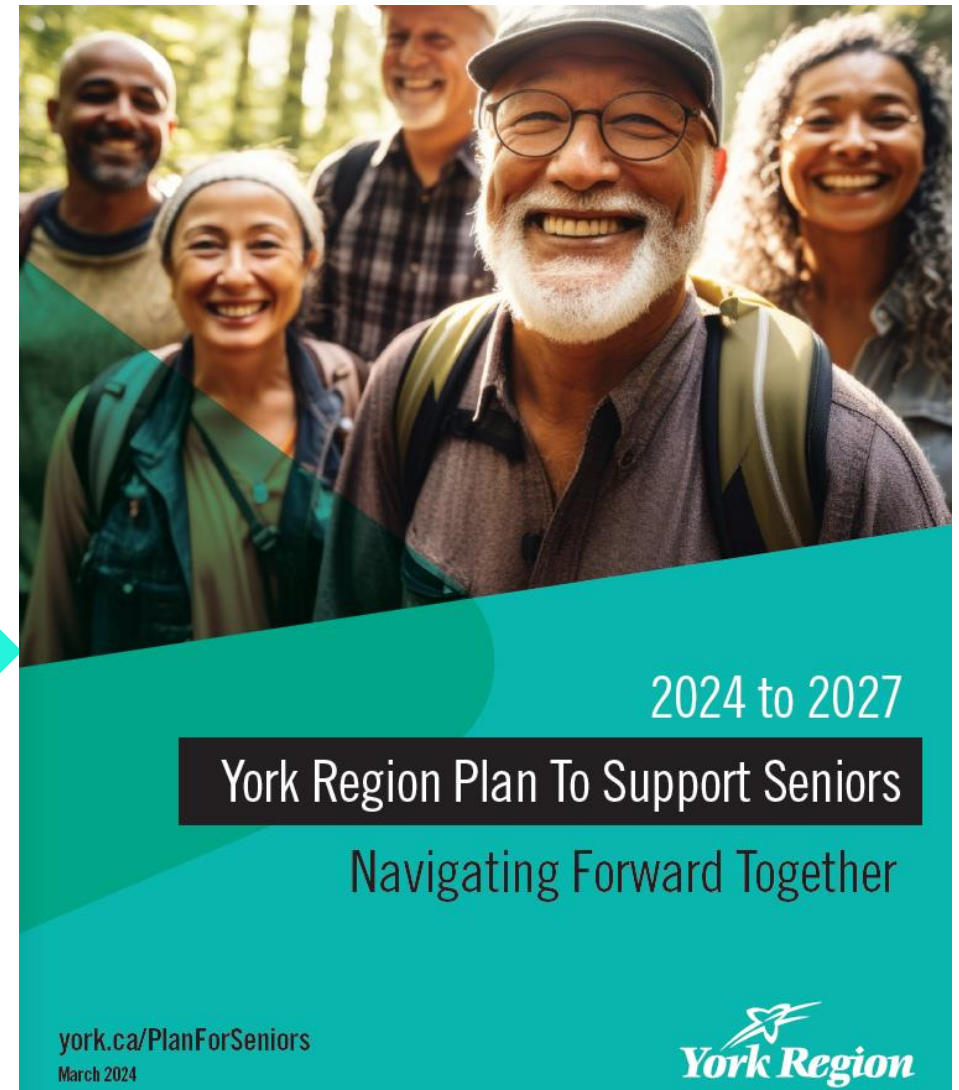
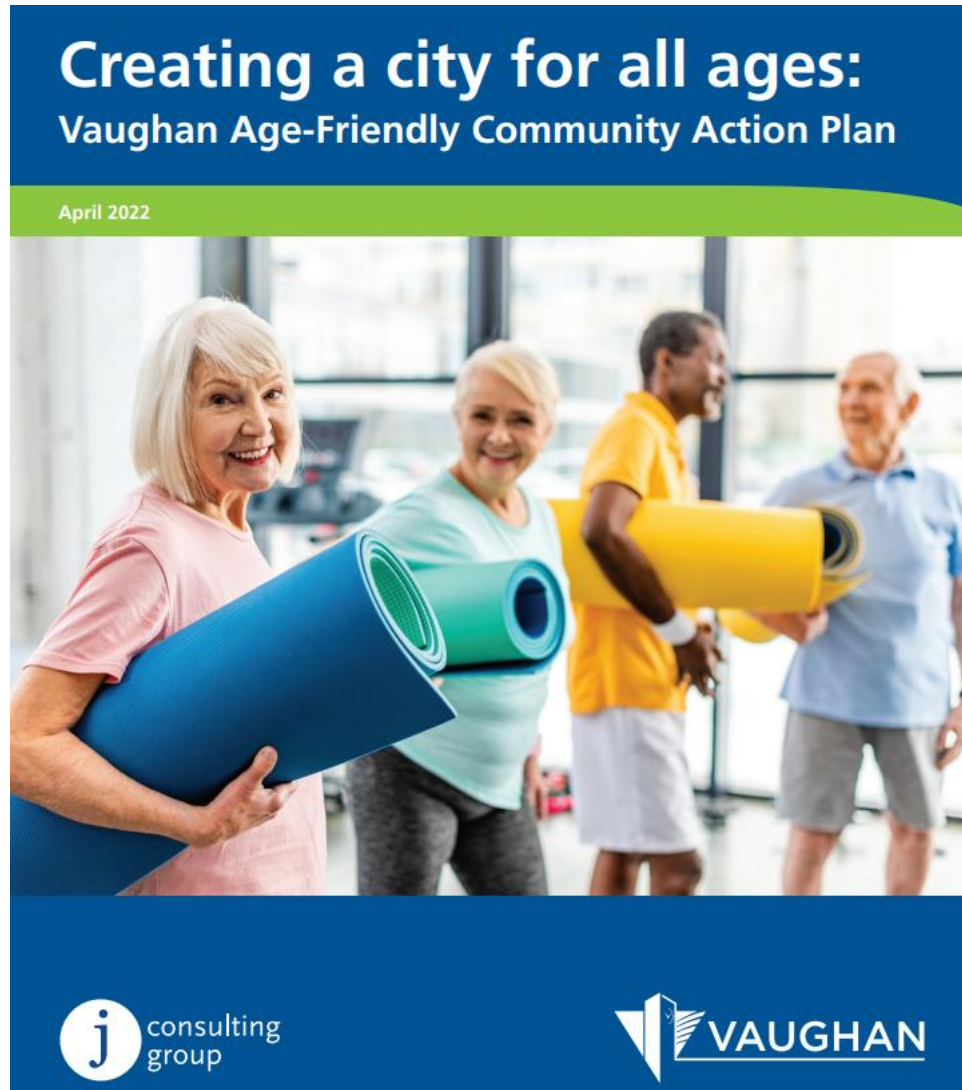
26. Strengthen and modernize the way we work with, and deliver services to seniors in the Region's two long-term care homes and Adult Day Programs

Modernized operations and care planning leading to improved care for seniors

27. Advocate to Province to establish a service system manager for seniors programs and services

Improved coordination of the currently fragmented seniors services sector

Alignments between Vaughan and York Region Plans



Examples of alignments between our Plans

Communication and Information



- **Alignment to YR Plan Actions** to communicate information that helps seniors stay healthy and connected; promoting Access York; developing a York Region navigation guide; promoting digital access/technology and training for seniors
- **Alignment to YR Plan Advocacy** for Provincial investments to enhance seniors access to digital technology

Community Support and Health Services



- **Alignment to YR Plan Actions** to support Unionville seniors hub; collaborating with Ontario Health Team partners on access and navigation systems

Examples of alignments between our Plans

Housing



- **Alignment to YR Plan Action** to engage seniors' networks on development of Affordable Private Market Housing Implementation Plan
- **Alignment to YR Plan Advocacy** for improvement of policy planning and funding across a supportive seniors continuum of health and social care

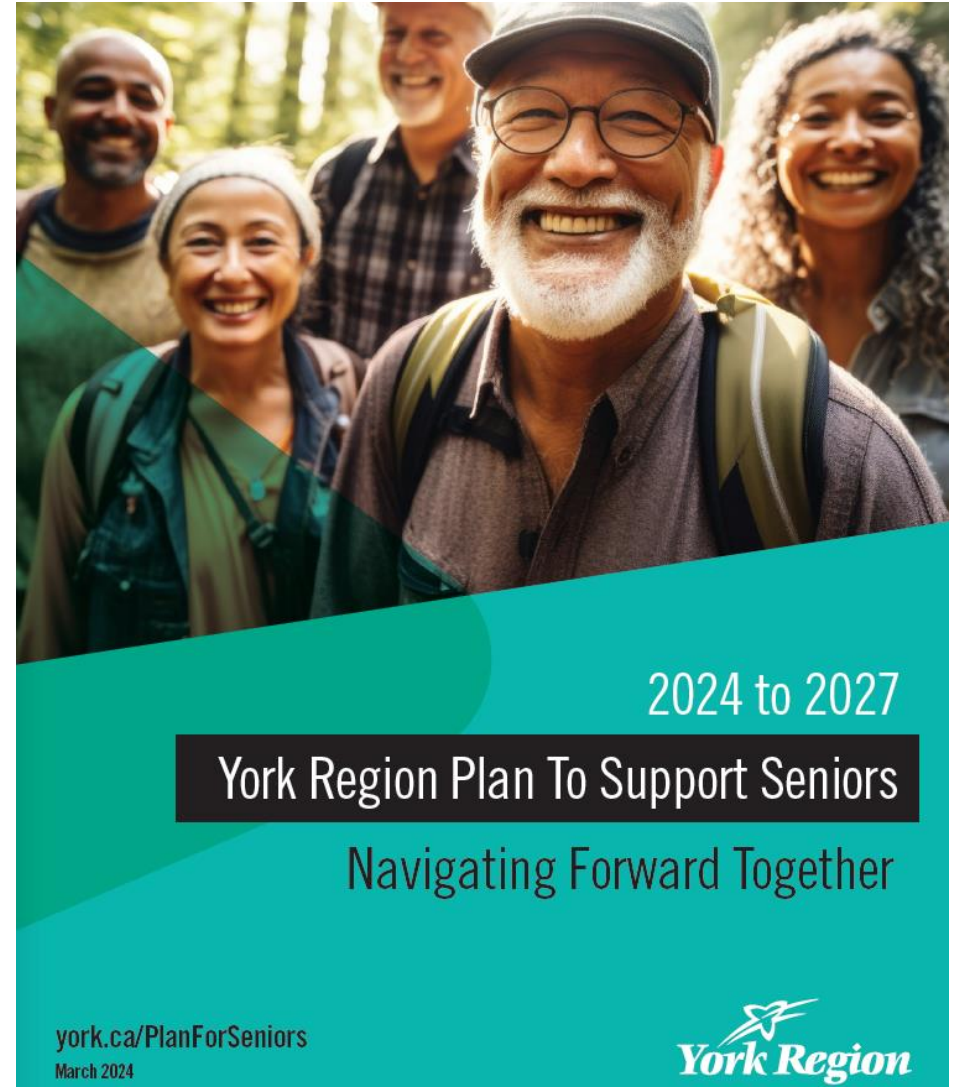
Transportation



- **Alignment to YR Plan Action** to explore opportunities that support seniors' access to York Region Transit

Questions?

- What is the best approach to continuing our collaborative work as we implement our plans?
- What are some early actions or priorities that we can focus on immediately to move forward on implementation?



Thank You

Please visit york.ca/PlanForSeniors to learn more about the 2024 to 2027 York Region Plan to Support Seniors

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