



REPORT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD

MEETING DATE: JUNE 23, 2011

Session:	Public Session
Subject:	Strategic Plan: Inclusive and Accessible: Seniors - Progress Report
Prepared By:	Nancy Collister
Presented By:	Nancy Collister
Purpose of Report:	For Receipt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that this report be received.

ISSUE/OPPORTUNITY

The purpose of this report is to provide a progress report to the Library Board about the strategic initiatives of developing a service strategy and plan, including the identification of service partners, for serving seniors. London Public Library is well-positioned to help realize the opportunity and to take a leadership role in the City of London's Age Friendly Task Force that will be responsible for creating an Age Friendly Community Action Plan.

BACKGROUND & REVIEW

The LPL Strategic Plan: Inclusive and Accessible strategy has identified the need to review London Public Library's (LPL) services to seniors. London's population includes many seniors, both active and frail, whose numbers will expand in the coming years. LPL has made many efforts to provide relevant, accessible and high quality services to seniors. At the same time, based on demographic trends and projections there is a strong need to develop a focused library service strategy for this population.

With the "Age Friendly City" initiative of the City of London, there will be opportunities to create strategic alliances resulting in a network of collaborative effort to ensure full participation in the community for older persons and to ensure our services are inclusive and relevant.

Mandate

The Project Team, consisting of H. Heathcote (Project Manager), L. Holdsworth, R. Townsend, K. Hernandez, J. Skinner, L. Pidlundy, E. Mederios, S. McLeod and N. Collister will be developing a service strategy and plan for seniors in two phases. Phase one will be a research phase consisting of an environmental scan of current LPL services to seniors, city of London services to seniors and best practices. Phase two will be the written recommendations of the team that will provide the foundation on which LPL can build its service strategy and plan for seniors.

Progress To Date

The Project Team manager has begun the research phase and has been developing and strengthening current strategic alliances.

In addition, London Public Library will be part of the Age Friendly Task Force that will begin to meet in September 2011. The Task Force will develop a vision, actions, measures and outcomes that are focused on the eight pillars identified by the World Health Organization (WHO). This three year action plan, due September 2012, will prepare the City of London and London Public Library, through its participation to be an age friendly community for seniors.

Actions Underway

- Review of current literature
- Environmental scan of LPL current services
- Environmental scan of current London services
- Best practices review
- Current strategic alliances being more fully developed e.g June is Seniors Month and LPL staff have participated in co-sponsored programs to support seniors
- LPL staff are involved in the planning of the 2nd Age Friendly Conference scheduled for November 2011

Preliminary Findings

London Public Library is strategically placed to take a leadership role in developing new approaches to services for older adults and to collaborate with other professions to deliver effective services and opportunities for older adults.

NEXT STEPS

To continue the actions underway and to become a leading member of the City of London's Age Friendly Task Force. Phase Two of the service strategy and plan for serving seniors will commence in the Fall of 2011.