

# 2015 MURA Annual General Meeting



Mark Weingartner and Margaret Denton

**Mark Weingartner**, a senior policy analyst with the City of Hamilton's Neighbourhood and Community Initiatives Division, spoke about Hamilton's Plan for an Age-Friendly City, which was developed by the City of Hamilton in partnership with the Hamilton Council on Aging and the City of Hamilton's Seniors Advisory Committee. The Plan was informed by the World Health Organization's Age-friendly Cities and Communities framework and is organized around seven themes or goals:

**1. HOUSING.** Everyone should have a place to live. People are supported in ways that make sense for their unique circumstances with a full range of housing options in their neighbourhoods.

**2. GETTING AROUND GREATER HAMILTON.** The City's transportation systems, urban design and physical infrastructure enable people to participate in community life as they choose, as well as age in their community.

**3. COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION.** Older adults have access to information and systems that are better connected, and are able to influence and design the type of information systems they need; customer service and way-finding are intentional and responsive to individual needs and capacities.

**4. HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES.** Older adults have access to a wide range of supports and services that allow them to remain in their homes and attend to their health and personal needs. Aging in community is eased by good urban design, appropriate housing, and the support of family and community.

**5. SOCIAL PARTICIPATION.** Social engagement opportunities are welcoming and reflect the diverse interests and preferences of older adults in the community, and are available in a variety of formats.

**6. CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, VOLUNTEERISM AND EMPLOYMENT.** Hamilton's vibrant civic life includes meaningful roles for older people as leaders, influencers, employees and volunteers.

**7. AGE-FRIENDLY PUBLIC SERVICE.** Leaders in all City of Hamilton departments will champion age-friendly strategies in their scope of authority and practice, and in partnership with the community.

Mark then invited MURA member, Margaret Denton, a member of the Steering Committee for the report and a member of the Hamilton Council on Aging, to give her perspective.



Following Mark Weingartner's presentation MURA President Mary Johnston called the business meeting to order during which vacancies on the 2015/16 Executive and Council were filled.

## Executive

President	Les King
Vice-President	Heather Grigg
Past President	Mary Johnston
Treasurer	Beth Csordas
Secretary	Kathy Overholt

## Councillors

Serving until 2016	Brian Beckberger Shari Mercer
Serving until 2017	Dianne Bird Pam Penny* Peter Sutherland
Serving until 2018	Gail Britton Dianne Coventry Nora Gaskin

*\*Pam Penny served on MURA Council for 10 years. MURAnews reports with regret that Pam died on July 16, 2015*

A special prize draw took place for all those who had recently opted out of receiving the mailed version of *MURAnews*. Mary Poudrier (Provost's Office) was the big winner. Congratulations, Mary!