

2025 Edmonton Election

An Age Friendly Guide

The [Edmonton Seniors Declaration](#) affirms City Council's commitment to an age-friendly city where people of all ages feel safe, empowered, supported and connected.

City Council first adopted this declaration on June 3, 2010 and recommitted to it on October 1, 2020. The declaration states that:



Individuals are respected regardless of age. All generations have much to teach and learn from each other.



People of all ages feel safe, empowered, and supported as individuals so that they can age well, reconnect with, and enrich the community.



Urban spaces are intentionally designed to be vibrant, inclusive and accessible to meet the interests and needs of older adults.



Older persons have access to information, programs and services that promote engagement.

Key election issues related to the [Edmonton Seniors Declaration](#) are:

➤ **Service changes that do not consider accessibility needs of the community.**

Most importantly, the transition from physical transit tickets to ARC cards, and the removal of parking pay stations in favor of the E-Park app.

These changes not only create barriers for older individuals, but anyone who can't read English, does not have access to a smartphone or debit/credit card, or has trouble navigating digital platforms and QR codes. Additionally, needing support to access and navigate systems like transit is a top presenting issue seen in Hello Seniors and Social Prescribing programs. Fewer places to buy ARC cards mean accessibility has been reduced— 75 sites compared to over 300 where transit tickets used to be sold.





Lack of safe, affordable, and accessible housing for seniors.

Many seniors feel unsafe in their current housing situation and cannot afford to stay where they have lived for years.

Changes in urban planning are part of the challenge in many neighbourhoods. There are long waiting lists of up to two years for affordable supportive living and subsidized housing options. City Council's role in setting zoning policies, approval processes, and the delivery of social housing has direct impacts on the affordability and accessibility of housing.

Funding social connection and community engagement opportunities for seniors.

Social isolation is a major health issue in the seniors population. Often, financial barriers prevent older adults from being active.

Community-Based Seniors Serving (CBSS) organizations play an important role in addressing this by providing low-cost programs and services that support lifelong learning, life enrichment, health and wellness, but many CBSS organizations are worried about being able to keep their doors open.

Without these CBSS organizations, older persons have limited access to information, programs, and services that promote engagement.

Questions for Mayoral Candidates

What are you prepared to do to make City of Edmonton services more age-friendly?

How can City Council encourage more affordable housing options for seniors, in communities where they can feel safe?

What would you do to make sure there are adequate municipal resources—including funding—to support CBSS organizations to keep up with growth and diversity in the senior population?

Find more information about the 2025 Municipal Election on our website

seniorscouncil.net



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