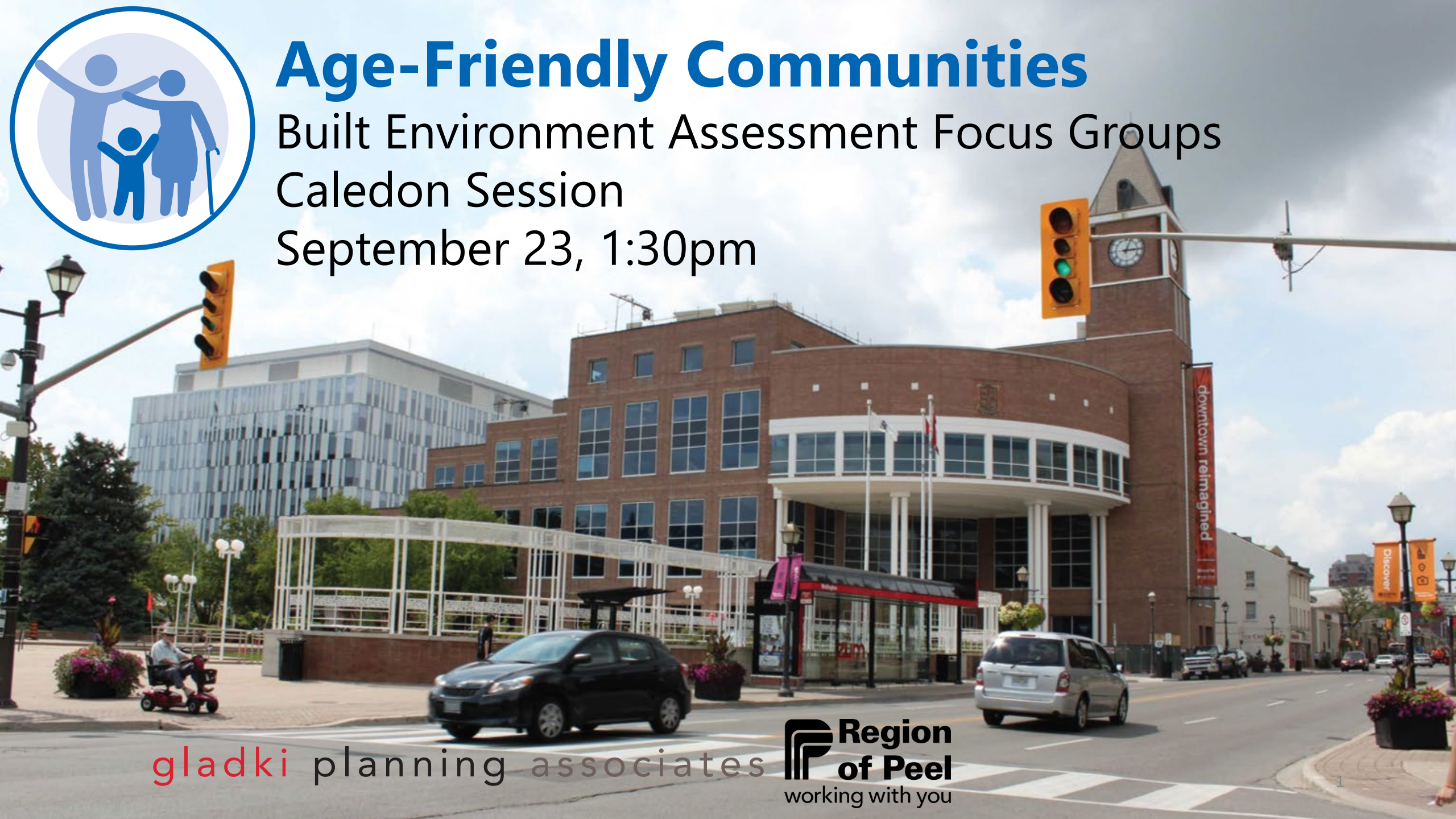




Age-Friendly Communities

Built Environment Assessment Focus Groups
Caledon Session
September 23, 1:30pm



gladki planning associates

 **Region
of Peel**
working with you

Introductions

Region of Peel

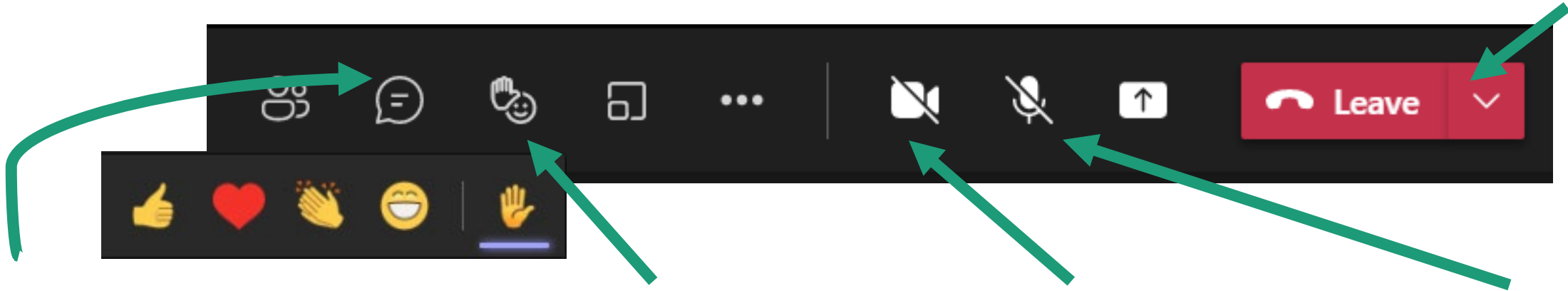
- Joy Simms, Principal Planner
- April Fang, Intermediate Planner

Gladki Planning Associates

- Lindsay Toth, Project Lead and Tech Support
- Claire Stevenson-Blythe, Planning Support and Facilitator

Microsoft Teams Tips

Exit meeting
button



Chat function.

Click to open the chat box and type in a message if you wish, or see messages from others

Raise hand

function. Click to be listed as next in line to speak. Click again to lower hand

Camera off

position. Click to turn on your camera when ready

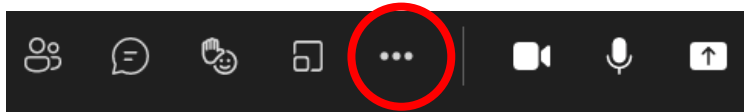
Microphone

muted position. Click to unmute your mic and speak, mute when finished.

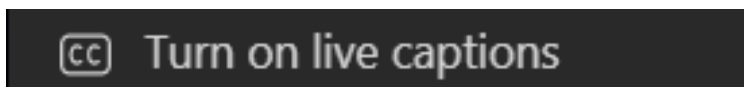
Microsoft Teams Tips

Live Captions

1. Click three dots on top panel of screen



2. Click “turn on live captions” near bottom of list



If you are having technical issues, write into the chat box and our tech support will help you.

Alternatively, e-mail
ltoth@gladkiplanning.com.

Discussion Guidelines

- Everyone is encouraged to participate
- Listen actively and respectfully
- One voice at a time
- Respect and curiosity for different opinions and perspectives
- This is an inclusive event and any discrimination or prejudice will not be tolerated
- Have fun!



Today's Agenda

- Overview of the Project
- What is Age-Friendly Planning?
- Purpose of Today's Workshop
- Project Status and Information
- Group Discussion: Virtual Site Visits
- Next Steps and Staying Connected

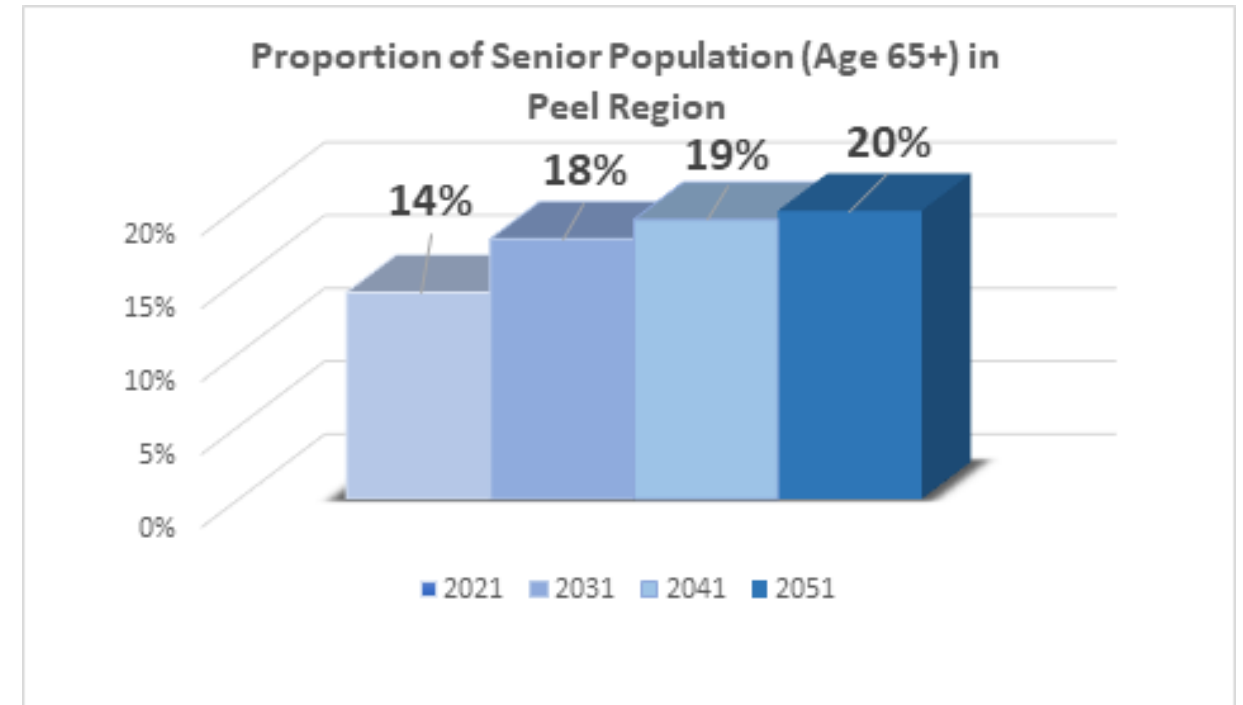


Overview of the Project

Seniors are the fastest growing age group in Peel and across Canada and the Region of Peel aims to create an Age-Friendly Community.

The Region of Peel adopted Regional Official Plan Amendment (ROPA) 27 which includes policies related to **planning communities, including public spaces and services, to best serve the aging population.**

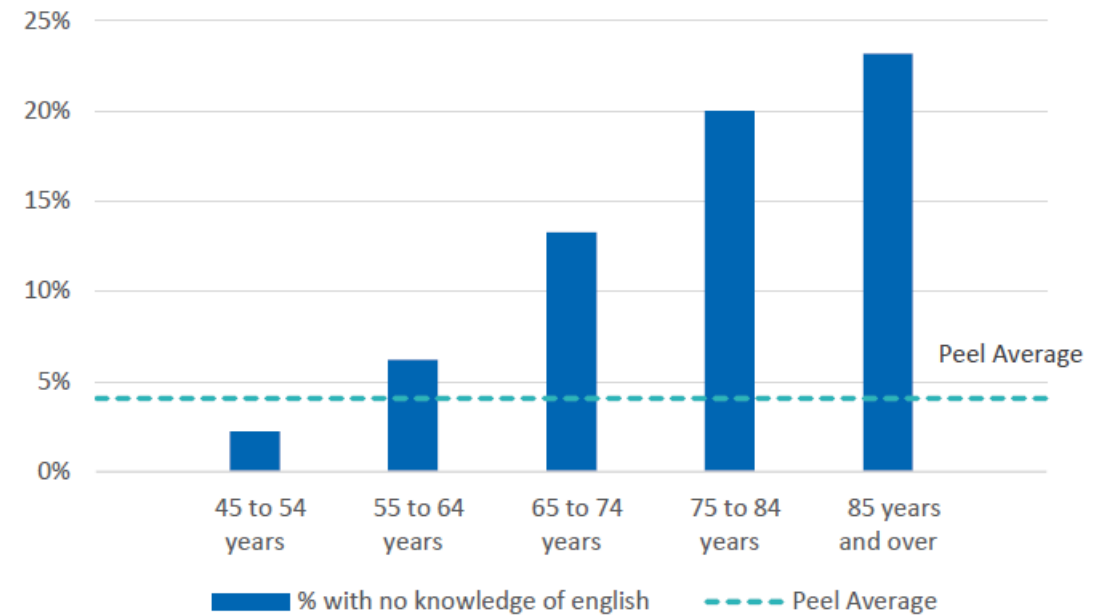
To do this, Peel Region has undertaken the **Age-Friendly Planning Built Environment Assessment Project**



Region of Peel, 2021

Diversity in Peel Region

- Almost half of seniors belong to a racialized group
- In 2016, 53% of the population was comprised of immigrants or non-permanent residents.
- The majority of the population is born outside of Canada
- Home to more established immigrants than recent immigrants



Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census

What is Age-Friendly Planning?

An **Age-Friendly Community** is a place that makes it easy for older adults (aged 65+) to

- stay active
- maintain physical and mental wellbeing
- stay connected to people that are important to them
- where services, facilities, and programs are more accessible and responsive to the specific needs of older adults

An age-friendly community enables people of all ages to be engaged and participate in community activities and treats everyone with respect, regardless of age.



Source: Unsplash

Purpose of Today's Workshop

Local residents, seniors organizations, and committees (you!) have the clearest understanding of what is accessible and what is missing in your neighbourhood.

We want to learn what you enjoy about your neighbourhood and community and what could be improved upon.



Age-Friendly Built Environment Assessment Project: Completed

Desktop Review

Identifying health and social services, connection to Peel's Trail network, Wayfinding Initiatives in Policy

Spatial Analysis

Green space allocation per resident, proximity of residents to community and retail and care facilities, street tree canopy

Neighbourhood Site Visits

Conditions and presence of outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation, housing mix, social and civic participation

Consultation

Focus Groups, Public Survey, and technical review with local municipalities

Age-Friendly Built Environment Assessment Project: In Progress

Desktop Review

Identifying health and social services, connection to Peel's Trail network, Wayfinding Initiatives in Policy

Spatial Analysis

Green space allocation per resident, proximity of residents to community and retail and care facilities, street tree canopy

Neighbourhood Site Visits

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Consultation

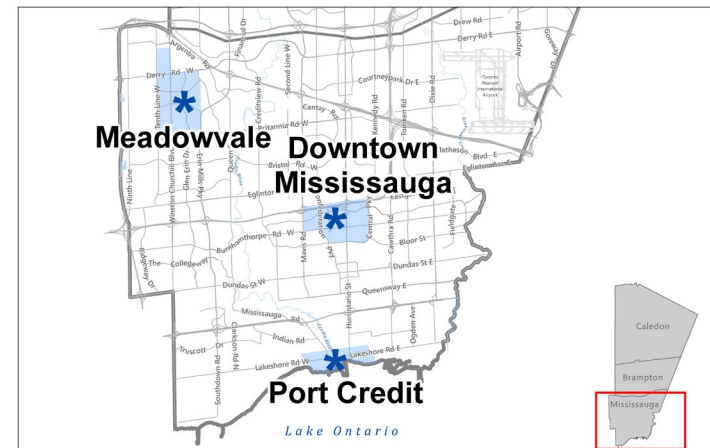
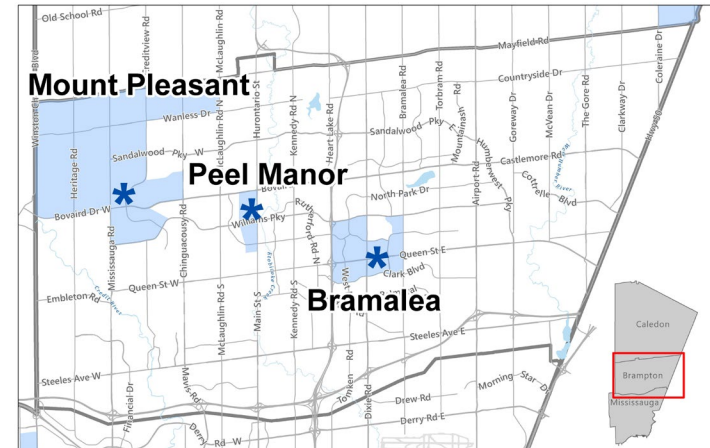
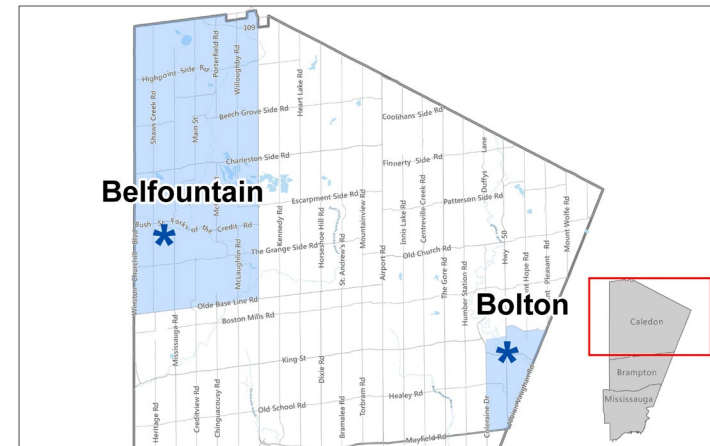
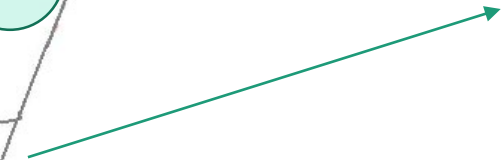
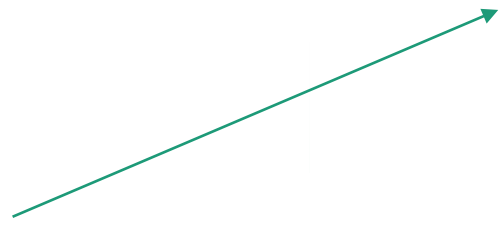
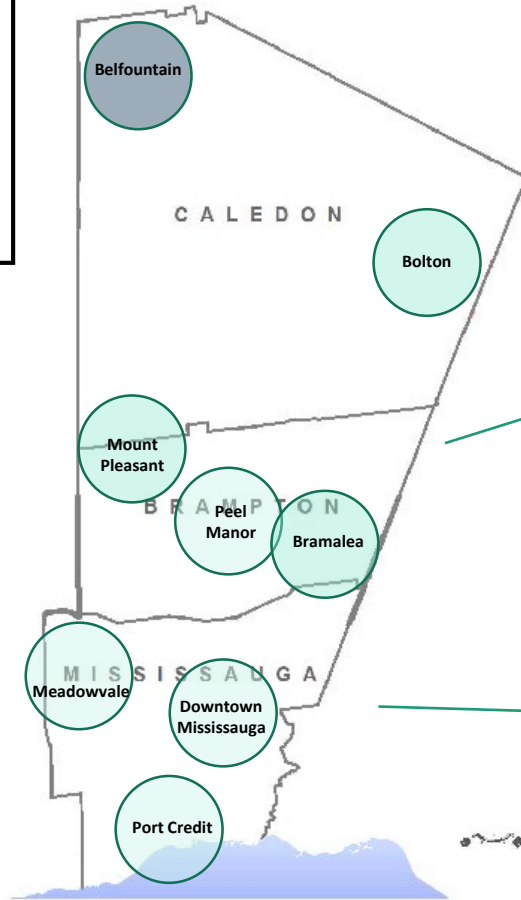
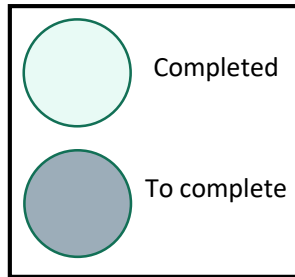
Focus Groups, Public Survey, and technical review with local municipalities

Neighbourhoods

- Consulted with working groups;
- Capture diverse physical and social landscape of Peel Region;
- Demonstrates the ability of the audit tool to respond to different local contexts across the Region; and
- Based on local context (municipality, neighbourhood type, age of built form, proportion of seniors, income, potential for growth).



Neighbourhoods



Group Discussion

Introduce yourself!

- Name
- Organization you are affiliated with, if any
- Neighbourhood
- Anything else you would like to share
- Note: COVID19 has changed how we experience our neighbourhoods. This discussion will focus on pre- and post-COVID experiences of space



WHO's Age-Friendly Communities Dimensions

- Outdoor Spaces and Buildings
- Community Support and Health Services
- Transportation
- Housing
- Social Participation
- Civic Participation and Employment



***Our analysis has included dimensions related to built form**

Virtual Site Visit

Transportation: Assess the adequacy of pedestrian crossings for seniors

Housing: Rental or owned? What is the cost? How many bedrooms?

Community Support and Health Services: Presence health and social services

Transportation: Bike Lanes

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings: Pavements are accessible: smooth and wide



Transportation: Ladder Cross Walks

Social Participation: Presence of gathering places, public art, benches (City Hall)

Virtual Site Visit: Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Bolton – Stairs in Royal Courtyards

Bolton – Benches near gas station



Bramalea –
Public Seating

Virtual Site Visit: Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Bolton – Park connected to trail network



Bolton – Accessible Parking



Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Tell us about your experience. Some prompts:

- Is it easy to **move** around your neighbourhood?
- Do you feel **safe** walking in streets and in public spaces?
- Do you use **public benches**?
- Are **public toilets** available?
- Enough **lighting** on public streets and parks?
- Do you use **public parks** near you?
- Are sidewalks **accessible** for pedestrians (e.g. wide enough)?
- Do you experience and perceive a **sense of personal safety**?
- Is the **public realm pleasant** and encouraging of walking?



Virtual Site Visit: Community Support and Health Services



Bolton – Clustered services and amenities



Bolton – Commercial plaza with services and amenities

Virtual Site Visit: Community Support and Health Services



Bolton – Seniors Recreation Centre



Bolton – Plaza with Health Services

Community Support and Health Services

Tell us about your experience. Some prompts:

- Do you feel **connected to your community**?
- Are essential **health and social services** (Service Ontario, places of worship, pharmacies, hospitals, etc.) available in your community and can they be reached a convenient mode of transportation?
- Are **residential care facilities** (retirement homes and nursing homes) located close to services and are they **integrated with the larger community**?



Virtual Site Visit: Transportation



Bolton – Ladder crosswalks, tactile strips



Bolton – Accessible push buttons

Virtual Site Visit: Transportation



Caledon – Regional Road, auto-dependent road infrastructure



Bolton- Seniors Crossing Sign



Transportation

Tell us about your experience. Some prompts:

- Are **non-automobile forms of transportation** (walking, cycling, transit, carpooling) accessible in your neighbourhood?
- Are you able to **easily access your destination** (e.g. community gatherings, errands, parks, etc.)
- Are **transit stops** near where you live? Where other seniors live?
- Do you feel **safe crossing intersections**? Is there enough time allocated to crossing, is there enough pedestrian infrastructure?

Virtual Site Visit: Housing



Bolton - Seniors Residence near town centre and close to services, amenities and embedded in residential area



Bolton – Single-family dwellings

Virtual Site Visit: Housing



Bolton – Condo/ apartment mid rise buildings near town centre

Housing

Tell us about your experience. Some prompts:

- Is there a **range of housing options**, including affordable housing, in your neighbourhood to meet the needs of older residents?
- Does your **current home** meet your **needs as you age**? E.g. Even surfaces, wide passages for wheelchairs, appropriately designed bathrooms and kitchens?
- What features do you **value most in a home**? E.g. accessibility, affordability, outdoor space, close to transit, close to shopping, etc.



Virtual Site Visit: Social Participation

Bolton – Clustered seating for social interaction



Bolton – Activities and amenities located near one another



Social Participation

Tell us about your experience. Some prompts:

- Are there **informal gathering places** within your community? E.g. café's, outdoor places, bookstores
- Does the design of **parks encourage interaction** between you and others? E.g. clustered benches, public art, chess tables, etc.
- Are **activities and events conveniently located**?



Virtual Site Visit: Civic Participation and Employment

Bolton – Caledon Community Services



Bolton – Wayfinding and Signage

Civic Participation and Employment

Tell us about your experience. Some prompts:

- Do you participate in municipal or **neighbourhood meetings and events**?
- Do you **volunteer**? Are there volunteer opportunities near you?
- Are you able to find your way around new areas you haven't yet been to? Are there enough **signs and directions** ("wayfinding")?
- Are there **public computers** available near you?




Next Steps

- Thank you for participating!
- Findings will inform recommendations and will be summarized in a final public report
- Upcoming Public Survey



How to Stay Engaged

 **Visit:** www.peelregion.ca/officialplan/review/focus-areas/age-friendly-planning.asp

 **Email/Subscribe:**

joy.simms@peelregion.ca; Bihui.fang@peelregion.ca

 **Follow:** @regionofpeel

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 **Region
of Peel**
working with you