

MEDIA RELEASE

County support helps Aging Together as Community launch new project

September 17, 2024 - County of Haliburton, ON – The County of Haliburton is pleased to be named a recipient of the 2024-2025 Seniors Community Grant to support Aging Together as Community’s [ATAC] new project, Bridging the Gaps.

“I am greatly appreciative for this funding from the Ontario Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility to help support programming for seniors in Haliburton County,” said Liz Danielsen, Warden, County of Haliburton. “This partnership between the Province, the County, and Aging Together as Community positively benefits the senior population and County as a whole.”

The Bridging the Gaps project will provide social, health, fitness, educational and digital literacy programming to help rural, low-income and 2SLGBTQIA+ seniors stay active, connected and living independently throughout Haliburton County. The project was awarded \$25,000 through the Seniors Community Grant Program.

“This funding is perfect timing for ATAC,” said Paul Moore, ATAC Steering Committee member. “Our programme not only fits with the priorities of the Seniors Community Grant Program of reducing isolation, being connected, accessing services and programs and increasing supports for health prevention and health promotion, but also, is extremely timely overlapping with some of the outcomes and directives from our recent community survey.”

The provincial funding will enable ATAC to continue its goal of bringing more seniors throughout Haliburton County together in inclusive meetings both virtually and in-person. Meetings will also provide an opportunity for participants to hear from speakers on a variety of educational topics such as *Navigating the Health Care System* and *Understanding Digital Technology*, while sharing a healthy meal and having time to socialize and make friends.

“The renewed support for Aging Together as a Community is welcome news for Haliburton County,” said Laurie Scott, Member of Provincial Parliament for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock. “Our government is continuing their commitment to helping seniors stay active and healthy in our community and across our province.”

Haliburton County has a rural population of more than 20,000 residents, with over 35 per cent of residents being 65 or older.

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