



## **Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility**

# **Ontario Investing in New Local Programs for Middlesex Centre**

New Seniors Active Living Centre keeping seniors fit, active and socially connected plus a new trail for people of all abilities

NEWS March 12, 2024

**MIDDLESEX CENTRE** — Today, Ontario announced two new investments in the Municipality of Middlesex Centre to improve the quality of life for seniors and build community engagement.

"This is an exciting day for everyone in Middlesex Centre," said Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility. "Both projects will help people of all abilities stay active and close to home so they can continue to live healthy and independent lives."

First, the province announced it is adding a new Seniors Active Living Centre (SALC) Program to Ilderton, Bryanston, Delaware, and Komoka. The new Middlesex Centre SALC offers seniors from the entire region the opportunity to stay fit, active healthy and socially connected through various activities.

"As a municipality, Middlesex Centre is working to ensure that residents of all ages and abilities can participate fully in community life. Through the Seniors Active Living Centre grants from the Province of Ontario, we are putting in place new recreation programs for older adults focused on physical activity and social interaction – not to mention fun!," said Aina DeViet, Mayor of the Municipality of Middlesex Centre. "We thank Minister Cho and the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility for their support of Middlesex Centre and for their commitment to the wellbeing of seniors across the Province."

Ontario also announced an Inclusive Community Grant of up to \$60,000 to the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority to build an accessible 1.1 kilometre trail loop at the Coldstream Conservation Area. This project will help people of all abilities, including seniors and people with disabilities.

"Coldstream Conservation Area is one of our most popular parks, providing opportunities for visitors near and far to connect with nature," said Pat Brown, Chair, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority. "Thanks to the funding provided by the Government of Ontario's Inclusive Community Grant, we have been able to create an accessible trail loop and install accessible picnic tables and benches, allowing people of all ages and abilities to enjoy this local gem. We would like to thank the Government of Ontario for supporting accessibility in the St. Clair Region."

The Ontario government is committed to expanding access to programs and services for older adults and people with disabilities that responds to their diverse range of needs, cultural backgrounds, interests and abilities.

### **QUICK FACTS**

- Ontario is investing in a total of 15 community-based projects as part of the 2023-24 cycle of the Inclusive Community Grants Program.
- Inclusive and Age-Friendly Communities work to promote accessibility and active living for people of all ages and abilities.
- There are now 316 Seniors Active Living Centre programs across Ontario. Seniors and caregivers can use the online <u>search tool</u> to find a program in their community.

#### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

- Inclusive Community Grants
- Seniors Active Living Centres
- Guide to Programs and Services for Seniors

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### **MEDIA CONTACTS**

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