



As outlined in the Age Friendly London (AFL) Action Plan 2017-2020, the Respect & Social Inclusion Working Group of the AFL Network is responsible for reframing how older adults are portrayed and celebrating their contributions in our community. One of the actions to achieve this objective is to advocate for a category on the Mayor's New Year's Honour List that recognizes an individual for their contributions to the empowerment of older adults and the advancement of an age friendly community. This document describes the AFL Network's proposal for the additional award category.

Proposed Name of Award Category

It is recommended that this category be called "Age Friendly" in order to reflect London's commitment to being an Age Friendly City and to align with the Council-endorsed AFL Action Plan.

Proposed Criteria

The "Age Friendly" category will be awarded to an individual for their long standing contributions to empowering older adults and advancing an age friendly community.

Contributions may be made through various means including, amongst others:

- Volunteerism
- Advocacy on older adult issues
- Building age friendly neighbourhoods and communities
- Encouraging positive attitudes towards aging

Recommending Community Organization

The recommending community organization would be the AFL Network.

Background Information

The AFL Network considered specifying that the recipient must be age sixty-five or older. Upon further discussion, the AFL Network decided to remove this requirement for the following reasons:

1. The wording of the policy for the Mayor's New Year's Honour List does not specify an age requirement or any other requirements related to the personal characteristics of the individual being nominated for the Honour List. The individual must, however, have demonstrated a long standing contribution in the category for which they are being recommended for recognition.
2. The AFL Network recognizes and promotes existing awards, such as the Ontario Senior of the Year Award (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/honours-and-awards-community#section-3>), which specifically recognize the contributions that seniors have made to the community after the age of sixty-five. In order to distinguish the Age Friendly category of the Mayor's New Year's Honour List from this and other existing awards, and to ensure that anyone who contributes to the empowerment of older adults and the advancement of an age friendly community, no matter what their age, is recognized and encouraged for their efforts, the Network is not recommending an age requirement for this category.