



Canadian
Red Cross

Simcoe Muskoka Branch Telephone Assurance Program

The basic premise of the program is that volunteers provide a regularly scheduled, reassuring telephone call to a senior. The service provides the senior with a friendly call to brighten their day, and a safety check which helps ensure peace of mind for family members. Clients can receive calls daily, weekly, bi-weekly or even monthly depending on the client's wishes.

In speaking with Tara Bone, Program Coordinator at the Simcoe Muskoka Branch of the Red Cross, the program is in place for seniors who live alone, and phone calls are usually scheduled for once a week. When someone calls in requesting to participate in the program, they would be asked questions regarding their interests etc. so they can be matched up with a volunteer who has similar interests.

There is no need for the individuals to live in the same area, as it is all about common ground to chat; sometimes the volunteer may have a connection to the area through their childhood, or both might be interested in the same sports team. There is no cost for the program, and those interested in receiving a weekly call can contact Tara directly by phone at 705 721-3313 ext. 5266 or by email at tara.bone@redcross.ca