

# Wellbeing Waterloo Region (WWR) - DRAFT Actions\*: July 3, 2018



## Affordable Housing

End chronic homelessness so everyone has a place to call home.

- 1.1 Communicate to engage the community in the actions and story of ending chronic homelessness:** Create and implement a communication strategy to share the reality of homelessness, important information and updates about homelessness, and highlight local housing heroes.
- 1.2 Create a rent subsidy fund:** Create \$600,000 in rent subsidies to bridge the supports needed for people to make housing affordable which is anticipated to cover a one year need.
- 1.3 Create a rental unit repair fund:** Create a damage/repair fund to increase the willingness of landlords to rent to people experiencing chronic homelessness.
- 1.4 Create a campaign to increase the number of rental units available:** Create a campaign to work with landlords to increase the number of rental units available.
- 1.5 Build readiness to move to a transformative affordable housing focus:** Work with the community to prepare for the next phase of action development that will address and transform affordable housing.



## Healthy Children and Youth

Children and youth will have the foundation they need to thrive and reach their potential.

- Smart Cities: We will become the benchmark community in Canada for child and youth wellbeing by using early intervention, youth engagement and a connected-community framework to create adaptive, data-driven programs and scalable learning technologies that improve early child development, mental health and high school graduation rates.**
- 2.1 Invitation to participate in Children & Youth Planning Table (C&YPT):** Wellbeing Waterloo Region members invited to participate in the Children and Youth Planning Table (CYPT) events and process to gather input for Smart Cities (phase 2 proposal).
  - 2.2 Ongoing updates:** Obtain progress updates from Smart Cities and Children and Youth Planning table to understand progress of Smart Cities and role of WWR.
  - 2.3 Continue to leverage WWR:** Smart Cities will continue to leverage WWR connections and obtain insights where needed for the application process.
  - 2.4 Determine next steps in January 2019:** Determine direction on next steps for Healthy Children and Youth once we know the outcome of the Smart Cities application – phase 2.



## Social Inclusion

A community movement that embraces diversity, seeks equity, prevents social isolation, and enables everyone to belong.

- 3.1 Public awareness campaigns:** Use a variety of media channels to create and/or support a series of public awareness campaigns that promote equity, reduce isolation, support inclusion and strengthen belonging.
- 3.2 Public awareness events:** Increase public knowledge and understanding about issues such as racism, classism, homophobia, ageism, ableism etc. in order to understand barriers to wellbeing and to work together for solutions to enhance belonging.
- 3.3 Safe facilitated conversations:** Provide safe facilitation and spaces for restorative conversations and input which acknowledge the past and act as a catalyst for truth, reconciliation and positive action.
- 3.4 Celebrate diversity and recognize diverse leadership contributions:** Provide supports/resources and opportunities to celebrate cultural inclusion and recognize the contributions to our community by diverse leadership.
- 3.5 Loneliness awareness week:** Profile isolation and loneliness as a wellbeing issue by implementing a loneliness awareness week that includes a community call to action to address isolation.

## Connected Community: A diverse and connected network of service providers that engages people in the solutions, changes system level practices and policies to improve community wellbeing.

- 4.1 Cultural and bias awareness training:** Provide opportunities for critical reflection training that addresses cultural, bias and privilege awareness, which are led and/or developed in partnership with groups that have experienced exclusion.
- 4.2 Channels for ongoing input and engagement:** Create the opportunities to reach out, gather input and engage with diverse groups in community spaces where people feel safe and comfortable to build and foster authentic, meaningful and trusting relationships.
- 4.3 Meaningful relationships with Indigenous communities:** Develop respectful and meaningful relationships with Indigenous People to foster intercultural understanding and connection that facilitates authentic conversations and input. E.g., Explore the possibility of developing a region wide Indigenous Advisory Circle that is supported and resourced to provide advice and input on Wellbeing Waterloo Region as well as services and programs in Waterloo Region.
- 4.4 Assist networks to mobilize and engage:** Support the development and implementation of networks that experience exclusion in order to mobilize action and engagement in WWR.
- 4.5 Identify and advocate for system wide changes:** Identify, advocate for, and make system wide changes on issues that impact wellbeing (e.g. affordable transportation, poverty reduction, walkable/age friendly communities, inclusive building and public spaces etc.).
- 4.6 Inclusive and restorative culture in WWR:** Support diverse participation and implement a restorative culture into the WWR groups to facilitate safe, inclusive, authentic conversations and mindful decision-making.



## Measuring & Monitoring Wellbeing

Monitor and report on the progress of community wellbeing, track health inequities and inspire community action.

- 5.1 Monitor community wellbeing:** Track and report on community wellbeing and health inequities.
- 5.2 Identify and address gaps in wellbeing data:** Identify gaps in wellbeing data and develop methods to address these gaps in culturally appropriate ways.
- 5.3 Online data portal:** Create and implement an online portal of wellbeing indicators for partners and the community to use in visual and engaging ways.
- 5.4 Knowledge mobilization:** Create opportunities to share data and progress in ways that turns data into knowledge, action and community engagement.
- 5.5 Process/progress Evaluation:** Evaluate and report on the Wellbeing Waterloo Region (WWR) process and progress of actions in order to understand successes and address the challenges.



## Enabling Structure:

Working together differently to make transformational change in community wellbeing.  
**Courageous · Transformative · Adaptive · Inclusive · Equitable**

\*Actions are subject to resource and funding availability

# Wellbeing Waterloo Region

## \*Draft actions

### How were the actions developed?

All of the actions for Wellbeing Waterloo Region have been developed based on the following:

- **Addressed a need frequently mentioned:** The topic was frequently mentioned during consultations since the beginning of the Wellbeing Waterloo Region process.
- **Foundational:** The action is a beginning step in order to build a strong foundation for future work.
- **Feasibility:** The action can be implemented within the mandate of Wellbeing Waterloo Region.
- **Partnerships:** The action has potential for partnership support.
- **Funding and resources:** The action has potential to obtain resources (financial and in kind).
- **Promising practices:** The action has been successful in other communities and networks based on an environmental scan and some existing research.
- **Exciting and Inspiring:** The action has potential to generate excitement and inspire others to take action on an individual, organizational, network and system level.

### Parameters:

- There is a lot that can and needs to be done, and these actions are a starting point to help us build momentum (they are not an exhaustive list).
- There is a lot that is already being done around the big idea areas and we want to build on those efforts.
- By identifying these actions we will develop a work plan with timelines, resource needs, partner support, progress indicators etc. over the next couple of months. This will help us to determine what is feasible and what is not feasible.
- Actions will be prioritized in the September and approved based on feasibility.
- We will identify approach funders/partners about potential resources and supports over the summer months.
- Actions will be determined based on funding and partner support.

### Our Proposed Principles - How we will work on the actions together:

As partners we are committed to a shared vision and a focus on collective achievements. To do that we will be:

<b>Courageous:</b> Having ongoing critical reflections to help us look at issues in new and different ways rather than accept the status quo, harnessing new knowledge and opportunities.	<b>Transformative:</b> Move beyond existing organizational and collaborative boundaries by fostering trusting relationships and a culture of mutual respect.
<b>Adaptive:</b> Continuously learning, adapting and improving our mutually reinforcing actions through the use of data, shared measurement and community input.	<b>Inclusive:</b> We will be intentional about inclusion by acknowledging that biases exist and using an equity lens to identify and address these biases.
<b>Equitable:</b> All voices matter and we will provide supports and opportunities so everyone has the chance to become authentically and meaningfully involved. We will pay particular attention to and support people who have experienced oppression and people with lived experience.	