

Ontario East Municipal Conference

September 12, 2013



Peterborough

10-year housing & homelessness plan



Peterborough Region

County of Peterborough Townships,
City of Peterborough, and First Nations

Population: 134,933

Median Age: 45.7 (Provincial Median 40.4)

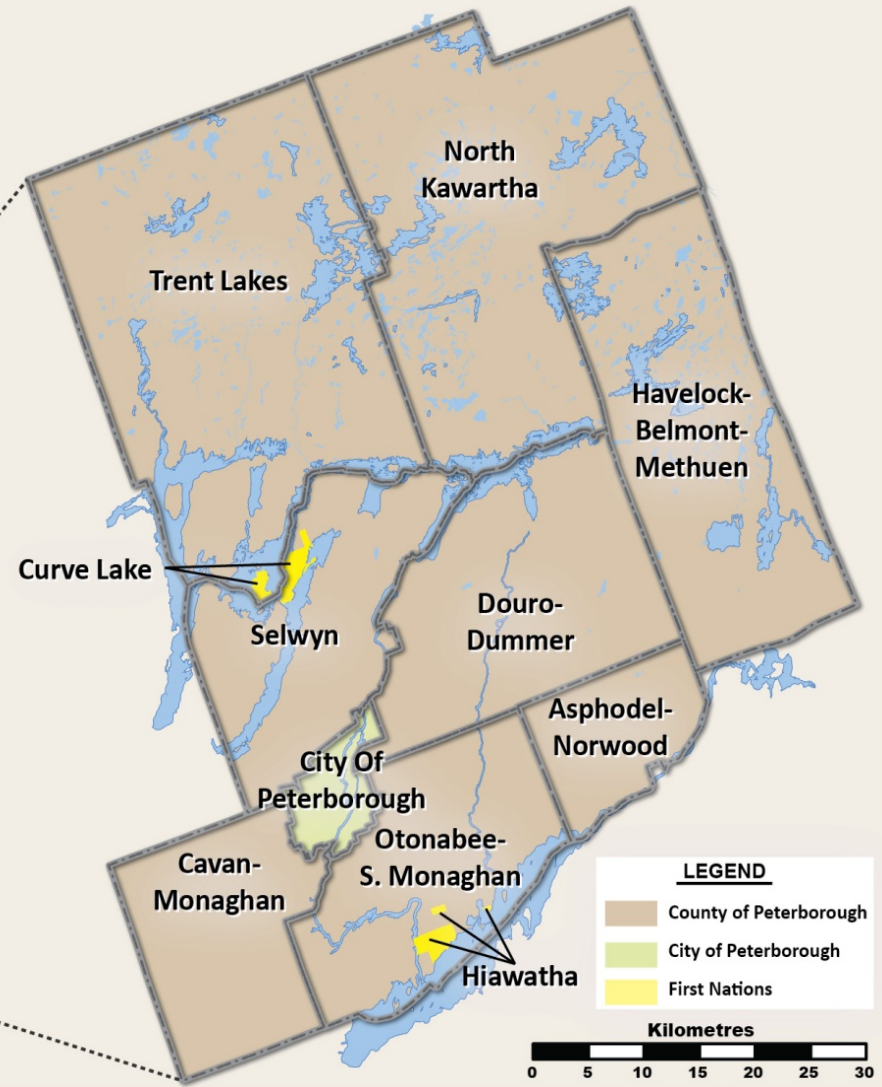
10 Municipalities

Average household is 2.4 persons

Median income \$48,000

38% of County and 35% of City residents
are 55 and over

Ontario, Canada



Demographic Information

- 75% of households own their home; 22% private rental
- Vacancy rate (Fall 2012) 2.7%
 - decrease (Fall 2011) 3.5%
- Average rent \$904 for 2-bedroom
 - moderate increases over last 5 years
- About 25% of users in the three City-funded shelters stay 6 weeks or more, usually over multiple visits

Building on Strengths

- Affordable Housing Program success (2003-2010)
- Improved collaboration and coordination for related programs and services
- Rooming house health, safety and fire enforcement improvements
- Partnership with Trent University on student rental integration in neighbourhoods

Plan Process

Ongoing:

- Project overseen by a Steering Committee, Project Team and Consultant Team
- Affordable Housing Action Committee and Homelessness Support Services Coordinating Committee regular meetings

Needs Assessment

- 10,000 low income households have affordability problems
 - 5,200 households pay 50% or more on housing
- Largest group of renter households with severe affordability problems are those under the age of 55
 - 2,000 pay 50% or more on housing
- Almost 900 people use the four emergency shelters over a 1-year period
- About 25% of users in the three City-funded shelters stay 6 weeks or more, usually accumulated over multiple visits

Consultation Process

- Over 150 individuals consulted
- 4 roundtables with County and City service providers, community advocates, market housing providers and aboriginal groups
- 4 focus groups including persons with “lived experience”



Plan Content:

Four Themes and 20 Commitments



Providing People-Centred Service

Creating Housing Affordability



Preventing Homelessness and Promoting Housing Stability



Transitioning Out of Homelessness

Action Plan

Each of the 20 commitments include relevant actions and associated timeframes, as well as indication of the City Lead Division:

- Timeframe

1-year (2014) and/or 4-year (2015-2018)

- Lead Division

Housing and/or Social Services

Action Plan

❖ Providing People-Centred Services

1. Engage members of the community, including people who use housing and homelessness services

	2014	2015-2018
1.1 Consult and engage people using various methods including survey and face to face meetings with lived experience at least bi-annually	☑	☑
1.2 Develop a peer navigation support model which includes a broad base of people (e.g. persons with disabilities, aboriginals, victims of domestic violence, youth and seniors) to enable people with lived experience to assist others as they interact with the formal service system	☑	☑
1.3 Prepare a public report about the progress towards the outcomes in the Plan and release within each term of Council		☑
1.4 Complete social housing tenant satisfaction surveys, based on the recommendations on content and timing of the 2013 Pilot Project		☑
1.5 Review complaint processes and consumer input mechanisms with community agencies to ensure that the processes and mechanisms are adequate and responsive		☑

Lead Divisions:	Housing Social Services
Outcome:	 More people will engage and provide feedback on housing and homelessness related programs and services.

Challenges

- Uncertainty of senior government funding; reluctance to add to the tax base
- 10 municipalities
- 2 departments
- Scope of the Plan
- Performance Measures

Outcomes and Realizations

- Greater engagement with community partners, community and service providers going forward
- Shift in thinking to systems approach (policy alignment, service alignment)
- For the first time there is a shared vision that everyone can rally around

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact:

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