

Report Card on Homelessness - 2020

Presented To:	Community Services Committee
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Type:	Correspondence for Information Only
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Report Summary

This report provides information regarding the 2020 Report Card on Homelessness.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan, Health Impact Assessment and Community Energy & Emissions Plan (CEEP)

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan in the area of Quality of Life and Place as it aligns with the Population Health Priorities of Indigenous Youth, Mental Health, Housing, and Healthy Streets by reporting on persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. This report has no relationship to the Community Energy and Emissions Plan.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications with this report.

Background

The Community Advisory Board on Homelessness Initiatives has completed the 2020 Report Card on Homelessness (Report Card), Appendix A – 2020 Report Card on Homelessness, to be released to the community. A Report Card on Homelessness for the City of Greater Sudbury has been prepared annually since 2008. The Report Card is intended to provide information to all sectors of the community from business, education, health, government, social services, faith community, and members of the public, and will be made available on the City of Greater Sudbury's website.

This year's Report Card identifies some of the services that were initiated in early 2020 in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, and the impact COVID has had on the homelessness community in Greater Sudbury. As many community programs and public places closed, the basic needs of those experiencing homelessness have been met through providing enhanced services with recommended infection control guidelines and using emergency funding provided by the Provincial and Federal governments.

The number of persons assisted through various homelessness prevention, emergency shelter, and outreach programs is provided in the Report Card. As well, it includes information on the number of people who have

been housed through housing support programs. The continued need for affordable housing is demonstrated through data from the social housing waitlist.

This year's Report Card provides key facts surrounding homelessness and the homelessness system in Greater Sudbury, including:

- the causes of homelessness
- demographics of shelter users
- shelter capacity
- additional services implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- supports in place to prevent homelessness, including the local Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) program

The Report Card highlights the results from the Homelessness Community Engagement that took place in December 2020. The goal of this consultation was to obtain feedback from all residents about homelessness, gaps in services, safety concerns and local issues. While gaps in the system continue to be addressed, an annual Report Card on Homelessness will continue to inform the community and monitor, measure, and evaluate the system in place to address homelessness.

Next Steps

The 2020 Report Card on Homelessness will be released to the community. A Coordinated Access System and performance measurements that align with Provincial and Federal funding partners continues to be developed. As well, the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) 4.0 was recently implemented, which is a web-based system that will help the City better understand homelessness in the community and allow service providers to share data and work collaboratively to support people experiencing homelessness. Data and information from community homelessness programs will continue to be monitored and evaluated to improve system impact.

Resources Cited

APPENDIX A – 2020 Report Card on Homelessness

City of Greater Sudbury Ten-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan update (2019-2023)

<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&attachment=27902.pdf>

Emergency Shelter Review and Recommendation

<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&id=1351&itemid=15924&lang=en>