

## For Information Only

### CGS Housing and Homelessness Plan Update

Presented To: Community Services Committee

Presented: Monday, Jul 11, 2016

Report Date: Wednesday, Apr 27, 2016

Type: Correspondence for Information Only

### Resolution

For Information Only

## Health Impact Assessment

The goal of the CGS Housing and Homelessness Plan is to ensure systems are in place along the full housing continuum which facilitates citizen access to affordable housing. Measures taken and progress achieved will be monitored by CGS staff and reported annually.

## Background

The Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy developed by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing recognized that local Service Managers across the Province are best positioned to understand and respond to the changing housing and homelessness needs of their respective communities. The Housing Services Act (HSA), 2011 and the Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy required Service Managers to create comprehensive, multi-year plans for local housing and homelessness services to be in place by January 1, 2014.

The Housing and Homelessness Plan (The Plan) is intended to address areas of provincial interest while guiding municipalities in creating a flexible, community-centered housing and homelessness system. City Council approved Greater Sudbury's Housing and Homelessness Plan via resolution CS2013-53 on November 18, 2013. A copy of the Plan was reviewed by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to ensure that it met all legislated requirements.

The CGS has been working over a number of years to co-ordinate and harmonize local housing and homelessness programs, and has already established a community network to deliver services.

### Signed By

#### Report Prepared By

Cindi Briscoe  
Co-Ordinator Housing Programs  
*Digitally Signed Apr 27, 16*

#### Health Impact Review

Cindi Briscoe  
Co-Ordinator Housing Programs  
*Digitally Signed Apr 27, 16*

#### Division Review

Denis Desmeules  
Director of Housing services  
*Digitally Signed Apr 27, 16*

#### Recommended by the Department

Rob Blackwell  
General Manager of Health and Social Services  
*Digitally Signed Apr 27, 16*

#### Recommended by the C.A.O.

Ed Archer  
Chief Administrative Officer  
*Digitally Signed Jun 22, 16*

The CGS will continue to collaborate with its partners and stakeholders while moving the housing and homelessness system to a more co-ordinated, people centered system which is focused on achieving positive outcomes for individuals and families.

The goal of the CGS Housing and Homelessness Plan is to ensure systems are in place along the full housing continuum which facilitates citizen access to affordable housing.

The Plan's guiding principle is to continue to support community based delivery of housing and homelessness services.

## **Priorities**

The City of Greater Sudbury's Housing and Homelessness Plan identified six (6) priority areas:

Priority #1: There is a need to improve housing options across the housing continuum.

Priority #2: There is a need to improve housing access and affordability for low income households.

Priority #3: There is a need to strengthen approaches to preventing homelessness, increase the diversity of emergency shelter options and support individuals with multiple barriers in obtaining and maintaining their housing.

Priority #4: There is a need for additional supportive services coupled with permanent housing (both supportive housing and supports in private homes).

Priority #5: There is a need to improve co-ordination, collaboration and partnerships among a broad range of stakeholders.

Priority #6: There is a need to monitor and report on progress towards meeting the Housing and Homelessness Plan objectives and targets.

The Housing Services Section, and community partners have been developing actions and objectives to address our priorities. Appendix A provides detail on each priority, including: the objectives; actions taken and actions planned.

## **Reporting**

As part of the Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy, the government made several commitments related to performance measurement and reporting. One of the commitments required Service Managers to report annually to the public on the progress of their Plans based on the previous year's activities beginning in 2014. Creating an annual reporting progress requirement is intended to enhance local transparency and accountability, while ensuring that local communities remain engaged in the Plan through regular progress updates.

## **Next Steps**

CGS staff will continue to work in partnership with the community to meet the objectives within the Priority areas identified in the Plan and will report back annually on the measures taken and progress achieved.

## Appendix A – Housing and Homelessness Plan Priorities

Priority	Objectives	Completed in 2015	Planned for 2016 +
<b>There is a need to improve housing options across the housing continuum.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve and maintain the existing housing stock.</li> <li>• Improve the accessibility of new housing and full utilization of existing housing stock.</li> <li>• Increase the diversity of affordable housing options.</li> <li>• Increase community acceptance of and provide consistent support for multi-residential housing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CGS enforces changes to the Ontario Building Code regarding energy and water efficiency. Changes to the code are communicated to the construction industry through regular meetings. Energy Star for New Homes information is available at the Building Services counter.</li> <li>• Under the EarthCare Sudbury Action Plan, information is provided to the public about promoting energy efficiency through televised advertisement, EarthCare Minutes, along with promotion of rebates for residential or business energy programs on the CGS website, and through regular newsletters.</li> <li>• The CGS enforces accessibility requirements of the Ontario Building Code, including additional barrier free requirements that came into effect on January 1, 2015. CGS staff provide regular updates to the development community on changes to barrier free requirements and provide information on barrier free design through Building Services.</li> <li>• The CGS undertook a study on Second Units. The findings were presented to Planning Committee and the development community.</li> <li>• The Greater Sudbury Housing Corporation (GSHC) has identified the need to bring on newer affordable housing through their</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second Unit policies are being considered as part of the Phase 1, Five Year Official Plan Review in the Fall of 2016.</li> <li>• CGS participation in the Green Infrastructure Funding. A grant has been secured to retrofit a social housing complex on Bruce Avenue. The conservation measures that were proposed for the property are: installation of new heating control system to regulate power input to electric baseboard heaters; installation of new windows, balcony doors and balcony storm doors; and replacement of T8 fluorescent bulbs in corridors and common areas with LED lighting. The retrofits will be completed by March 31, 2018.</li> <li>• CGS participation in IAH-E Rental Housing Component. An RFP will be released in the Fall of 2016 in order to increase the supply of rental housing for households on, or eligible to be on, social housing wait lists. This rental housing component will ensure that safe, adequate, and affordable rental housing is available to households within the community. Units must be modest in size and amenities relative to other housing in</li> </ul>

		<p>strategic plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•52% of all new dwelling units created were single detached, 21% were apartments and 25% were semi-detached, duplex, row house, and townhouses.</li> <li>•CGS approved 7 temporary zoning applications for Garden Suites.</li> <li>•CGS approved 8 applications for second units in single detached homes.</li> <li>•CGS processed 2 Site Plan applications for Multi-Residential Buildings with a total of 30 residential units.</li> <li>•CGS processed 3 Site Plan applications for senior's housing, with a total of 202 retirement suites and 14 linked bungalows.</li> </ul>	<p>the community. Units are expected to be self-contained. Provincial average size requirements will be used for new construction projects.</p>
<p><b>There is a need to improve housing access and affordability for low income households.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Improve housing access and affordability for low income households</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information about subsidized housing, affordable housing and housing allowance programs was communicated to low income households through CGS Social Services staff, Housing Services staff, homelessness service providers, non-profit and cooperative housing providers, and community agencies.</li> <li>•27 households were assisted through the Housing Allowance Program operated by the City of Greater Sudbury Housing Services.</li> <li>•57 households were assisted through the shared delivery of the Sudbury Housing Assistance Rent Program (SHARP). CGS Investment in Affordable Housing for Ontario (IAH-E) funding was allocated to the shared delivery of the Sudbury Housing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy update was released by the Province in March 2016. The Strategy is guided by its updated vision: Every person has an affordable, suitable and adequate home to provide the foundation of secure employment, raise a family and build strong communities. The goal of the update is to support social and economic inclusion, end chronic homelessness, and meet the housing needs of all Ontarians. Four priority areas were identified in the update: Survivors of Domestic Violence Pilot Project; Supportive Housing, Community Homeless Prevention Initiative (CHPI), and Innovation,</li> </ul>

		<p>Assistance Rent Program (SHARP). We are currently in Year 2 of a five year program. CGS partners in this venture include the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs &amp; Housing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 647 were housed through the CGS Housing Registry (392 families, 188 singles, and 67 seniors (60 yrs +). Of these, 39 households were designated Special Priority Placement status (16 families, 21 singles, and 2 seniors), and 44 households received Urgent Status (13 families, 27 singles, and 4 seniors).</li> </ul>	<p>Evidence and Capacity Building Fund. There are 7 goals within the update: An appropriate and sustainable supply of housing; an equitable, portable system of financial assistance; people-centred, efficient housing programs; developing an Indigenous Housing Strategy; ending homelessness; achieving an evidence-informed system; and implementation of the strategy. CGS staff will report back on funding opportunities made available through the updated strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CGS Housing staff will maintain contact with both Provincial and Federal government to ensure the community is apprised of all future program and funding opportunities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>There is a need to strengthen approaches to preventing homelessness, increase the diversity of emergency shelter options and support individuals with multiple barriers in obtaining and maintaining their</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure emergency accommodation is available when needed, but focus on transitioning to permanent housing.</li> <li>• Address the needs of the most vulnerable populations of homeless.</li> <li>• Stop discharging people into homelessness from key points of contact like</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the second full winter CGS opened a barrier free “Out of the Cold” emergency shelter program which provided up to 30 additional cots per night for persons who were homeless, under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or otherwise disengaged from mainstream shelter programs. The program was open from December 1st 2014 to April 15th, 2015 and again from November 1st, 2015 to April 15th, 2016. An average of 30 homeless persons per night utilized the program for sleeping. Additional persons used the program as a drop in service.</li> <li>• The CGS was the successful recipient of a</li> </ul>	<p>Continued work with community partners on meeting the priorities within the Harm Reduction Strategy that will address the needs of persons who are chronically homeless with active addictions, including locating a facility that will house a full time residential program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation is underway for development of an Intensive Case Management Housing First program.</li> <li>• Evaluation and learning following the completion of the Client navigator program to understand best practices in working with people experiencing</li> </ul>

<p><b>housing.</b></p>	<p>hospitals and corrections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Address the need for additional educational and awareness of social housing providers and landlords of available crisis services and supports for tenants with special needs.</li> </ul>	<p>funding grant through the Province’s Local Poverty Reduction Fund. Funding was used to hire and evaluate the success of two Client Navigators to work directly with people using the Out of the Cold Emergency Shelter Program and assist them to access housing and health supports as required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The Canadian Mental Health Association, with committed funding from the North East Local Health Integration Network, started a Managed Alcohol Day Program as a pilot project while continuing to seek a suitable facility for a full time residential program. This program serves people who are experiencing homelessness and have history of chronic alcohol abuse.</li> <li>•Continued connectivity and relationship building has occurred between emergency shelter staff, Homelessness Network case managers, CGS social services case managers, hospital social workers and corrections discharge planners.</li> <li>•On January 15th, 2015, a “Meet and Greet” was held at the Out of the Cold Emergency shelter for community service providers to increase awareness and support enhanced access to the program.</li> <li>•On December 7th, 2015, an open house was held at 200 Larch in collaboration between the Salvation Army’s Out of the Cold Emergency Shelter program and the CMHA’s Harm Reduction Home Pilot Project.</li> <li>•The Homelessness Network began</li> </ul>	<p>chronic homelessness.</p>
------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------

implementation of a 3-year Housing First program aimed at centralizing the intake process and prioritizing individuals who are homeless for services, based on those who need it the most. They will be linking with a housing case manager who will provide ongoing supports to help them overcome these barriers and remain housed, permanently.

- Training was provided for front line service providers in the Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (SPDAT), an acuity tool used for prioritizing the most vulnerable for housing case management.
- A Period Prevalence Homelessness Count was completed to identify the number of persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in our community, including the number of chronically or episodically homeless, which will be used as a baseline to identify the success of programs aimed at providing services to the homeless in our community.
- In 2015, with support of funding received from the Provincial Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI):
  - 704 persons who were homeless used an emergency shelter.
  - 249 households who were homeless moved to permanent housing.
  - 115 households moved from emergency shelter to long term housing.
  - 1046 households who were at risk of homelessness remained housed.

<p><b>There is a need for additional supportive services coupled with permanent housing (both supportive housing and supports in private homes).</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the supports are available for individuals to achieve and maintain housing stability.</li> <li>• Ensure adequate permanent housing linked with supports.</li> <li>• Reduce barriers to accessing housing, services and supports.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cedarbrook Apartments in Lively, Ontario was built under the Affordable Housing Program. There are 30 one bedroom units, and 2 two bedroom units within the building. This building has the capacity to handle 16 households requiring support services. In 2015, 8 households were receiving support.</li> <li>• Several housing programs linked with supports operate in the community. For example, in 2015: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 23 people were housed and supported through the ASH (Addiction Supportive Housing) Program operated by Monarch Recovery Services.</li> <li>• 15 people were housed and supported at Beyond the Rock, a transitional housing program for men operated by Monarch Recovery Services.</li> <li>• 17 women were supported through Monarch Women's Aftercare program.</li> <li>• 16 people were housed and supported at Victoria place, a six bed transitional home operated by Canadian Mental Health Association.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation is underway for development of an Intensive Case Management Housing First Program.</li> <li>• The CGS will participate in the Federal/Provincial Investment in Affordable Housing – 2014 Extension Initiative. Housing proponents may submit proposals through the CGS RFP process in the fourth quarter of 2016 to build new affordable housing.</li> <li>• CGS staff are working with local developers to increase affordable housing options.</li> </ul>
<p><b>There is a need to improve co-ordination, collaboration and partnerships among a broad range of stakeholders.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve effectiveness of the local housing system by increasing coordination, collaboration and partnerships among a broad range of stakeholders involved in housing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The North East Local Health Integration Network (NE LHIN) sponsored a forum entitled "Building for the future", the first ever forum on housing and health in North Eastern Ontario dedicated to fostering partnerships, identifying barriers and opportunities and exploring creative solutions to meet the future housing needs of Northern Ontario communities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CGS Staff are participating in an Expert panel formed by the NE LHIN to develop an innovative Housing and Health Strategy for Northeastern Ontario.</li> <li>• CGS staff are participating in the Long Term Affordable Housing update review.</li> </ul>

- Community Mobilization Sudbury (CMS) began the operation of the Rapid Mobilization Table. CMS is a community partnership representing many different sectors and agencies that provide human services – health, children’s services, policing, education, mental health and addictions, and social services. Partner agencies meet twice weekly at a Rapid Mobilization Table to work together to identify situations that place individuals and families at high risk of harm. Together, they respond to those situations in a coordinated and timely way (typically within 24 or 48 hours), connecting those at risk with the services and supports that can help. “No access to permanent housing” was one of the top five risk factors identified in situations presented in 2014.
- CGS advocated through meetings with municipal associations & sector organizations i.e. Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA), Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) and Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA).
- EarthCare Sudbury is a unique partnership with the City of Greater Sudbury, approximately 185 community agencies, organizations and businesses, and hundreds of individuals coming together to chart their own course for a greener, healthier and more sustainable community.
- The 2014 Report Card on Homelessness was

	<p>released in August 2015. The Report Card on Homelessness is intended to inform, monitor and evaluate the system we have in place to address homelessness within CGS and is released widely to the public, including direct mailings to the business sector and faith based groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The CGS Coordinator of Shelters and Homelessness met with a Downtown Churches committee to provide information about homelessness initiatives within the City of Greater Sudbury and discuss opportunities for their congregations to play a role in meeting the needs of the homeless.</li> </ul>
<p><b>There is a need to monitor and report on progress towards meeting the Housing and Homelessness Plan objectives and targets.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Monitor, analyze and respond to information about the local housing and homelessness situation</li> <li>• The Community Plan update was approved for the Federal Homelessness Partnering Strategy funding. Priorities for this funding were identified through input from the Ten Year Housing and Homelessness Plan. CGS reports back to the Federal Government on outcomes achieved.</li> <li>•Phase 1 of the five year review of City's Official Plan is currently underway, and is scheduled to go before Council for their consideration in the fourth quarter of 2016.</li> <li>•CGS receives funding through the Provincial Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) and Federal Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) and reports back to both levels of government on the required measures. The goals of these funding agreements are aligned with the priorities identified in the Plan.</li> </ul>

