

## Background

The Community Advisory Board on Homelessness Initiatives has completed the 2018 Report Card on Homelessness (Report Card), Appendix A – 2018 Report Card on Homelessness. A Report Card on Homelessness for the City of Greater Sudbury has been developed and released to the community annually since 2008.

As this was the tenth annual Report Card, a “ten year challenge” compared key data points from 2008 to 2018. While the number of people accessing an emergency shelter has stayed relatively static in the past ten years, the number of children using a shelter has decreased by 34%. The average market rent for a one-bedroom apartment in Greater Sudbury has increased by 30% while the maximum shelter allowance provided to Ontario Works recipients has only increased by 10%.

This year's Report Card highlights some of the objectives and priorities outlined in the City of Greater Sudbury's Ten Year Housing and Homelessness Plan.

<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&agenda=report&itemid=3&id=674>

The Report Card identifies the programs and services that:

- Strengthen approaches to addressing homelessness;
- Ensure emergency accommodation is available when needed, but focus on transitioning to permanent housing;
- Address the need of the most vulnerable populations of homeless.

It also identifies some future resources that will help address the continued need:

- To improve housing access and affordability for low income households; and
- For additional supportive services coupled with permanent housing.

One further priority identified in the Plan was “a need to monitor and report on progress towards meeting the Housing and Homelessness Plan objectives and targets”. The completion of an annual Report Card on Homelessness is one way to monitor, measure, and evaluate the system we have in place to address homelessness. Annual reporting helps inform and engage the local community and enhance local transparency and accountability.

The Report Card on Homelessness is intended to provide information to all sectors of the community from business, education, health, government, social services, faith community, and members of the general public. It will be made available on the City of Greater Sudbury's website and to the citizens of the City of Greater Sudbury through the Citizen Service Centres, Social Services Agencies, post secondary schools, and members of the Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness.

## **Next Steps**

The 2018 Report Card on Homelessness will be released widely within the community. Data and information from community homelessness programs will continue to be monitored and evaluated to improve system impact.