

Background

On June 20, 2018, a community forum was held to establish a call to action for Population Health. Since 2005, the City of Greater Sudbury has facilitated the implementation of the Healthy Community Strategy which has been a priority of City Council. Stemming from that strategy, this Council has supported community efforts to develop a Population Health Strategy, moving the focus to individual well-being. Population Health refers to upstream approaches where efforts are proactive through public policy and prevention.

Population Health

Population health has been defined as: “an approach to health that aims to improve the health of the entire population and to reduce health inequities among population groups. In order to reach these objectives, it looks at and acts upon the broad range of factors and conditions that have a strong influence on our health.”

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ph-sp/approach-approche/index-eng.php>

Population Health Priorities for the City of Greater Sudbury

The ten population health priorities as identified by community in 2017 are: Indigenous Youth, Resiliency, Families, Mental Health, Compassionate City, Play Opportunities, Housing, Holistic Health, Age-Friendly Strategy and Healthy Streets.

June 20th, 2018 Community Forum on Population Health

On June 20th, 2018, community partners gathered at the Garson Community Centre/Arena to discuss questions and issues surrounding the ten priorities to continue moving solutions upstream.

A total of 185 individuals representing various organizations and groups participated in World Café sessions. The focus of the sessions was to identify how the community will look 10 years out in relation to population health given success on a call to action. A comprehensive report has been prepared at the request of the partners and is attached (Appendix A). Given Council's approval of the Call to Action, the document will be circulated to all partners in attendance and other organizations who were unable to attend. It is expected that the Call to Action will be referred to by organizations undertaking strategic plans in the hope that the City of Greater Sudbury will realize an improved population health by 2028.

In addition, 10 areas were identified that require an upstream approach to arrive at improved population health. For example, Community Safety and Well-being, Community Hubs, and Right Place of Care, amongst others. Those recommendations by the community will be gathered and provided in a separate report to agencies responsible for those mandates.

Next Steps

As with a Healthy Community Strategy, a Population Health Strategy is the responsibility of all. The City has been asked to lead these initiatives in an effort to coordinate action, lead by example, and foster success. The City will continue to collaborate with the community and organizations to assist in championing improved health of citizens and the sustainability of the City of Greater Sudbury community. Planning will continue with community partners such as the NE LHIN, Public Health Sudbury Districts and Health Sciences North amongst others in regard to the call to action and upstream approaches to health. It is anticipated that regular updates will be provided to Council on Population Health.