

## **Background**

The Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy developed by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Ministry of 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 Update 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 centred housing and homelessness system. City of Greater Sudbury Council approved Greater Sudbury's original Housing and Homelessness Plan via resolution CS2013-53 on November 18, 2013 at the Community Services Committee Meeting. A copy of the Plan was reviewed by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to ensure that it met all legislated requirements.

Planning, Housing, and Social Services have been working together over a number of years to coordinate and harmonize local housing and homelessness programs, and have established a community network to deliver services. These Divisions will continue to collaborate with their partners and stakeholders while moving the housing and homelessness system to a more coordinated, people centred system.

The goal of the City of Greater Sudbury's Housing and Homelessness Plan is to ensure systems are in place along the full housing continuum to facilitate 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:

- Improve housing options across the housing continuum.
- Improve housing access and affordability for low income households.
- Strengthen approaches to preventing homelessness, increase the diversity of emergency shelter options and support individuals with multiple barriers in obtaining and maintaining their housing.
- Additional supportive services coupled with permanent housing (both supportive housing and supports in private homes).

- Improve coordination, collaboration, and partnerships among a broad range of stakeholders.
- Monitor and report on progress towards meeting the Housing and Homelessness Plan objectives and targets.

Planning, Housing, and Social Services along with community partners have developed actions and objectives to address the priorities. Appendix A – Housing and Homelessness Priorities Update 2017 provides detail on each priority, including the objectives, actions taken, and actions planned.

## **Reporting**

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

## **Next Steps**

Planning, Housing, and Social Services 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 to the Community Services Committee annually on the measures taken and the progress made.

## **References**

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