



City of
Peterborough

To: **Members of the Committee of the Whole**

From: **Malcolm Hunt, Director of Planning and Development Services**

Meeting Date: **June 22, 2015**

Subject: **Report PLHD15-007**
Peterborough's 10-year Housing and Homelessness
Plan: 2014 Progress Report

Purpose

A report to present the 2014 Progress Report for Peterborough's 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan.

Recommendations

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report PLHD15-007 dated June 22, 2015, of the Director of Planning and Development Services, as follows:

- a) That Appendix A, being the 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan Progress Report 2014, be received, and
- b) That Appendix B, the 2015 Action Plan be approved.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budget or financial implications as a result of this report.

Background

In 2014, the City of Peterborough, as the Service Manager for Housing and Social Services for the City and County of Peterborough, launched a 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan (Plan). The Plan created a long-term vision and identified goals that reflect the distinct housing and homelessness-related issues and needs in the Peterborough region.

The Progress Report 2014, attached as Appendix A, highlights key accomplishments under nine of the 20 commitments set out in the Plan, ranging from engaging people who use housing and homelessness support services to helping developers plan and complete new affordable rental housing developments.

Joint Services Steering Committee received and endorsed the Progress Report and 2015 Action Plan at their meeting on June 11, 2015.

As 2014 is the first year of the plan, it's the "baseline year" – the year against which to compare future years' progress. 2014 saw the beginning of a number of projects and initiatives that are anticipated to make positive impacts in future. In this way, the 2014 Progress Report emphasizes early stages of projects as opposed to long-term impacts. Long-term impacts will be measured in later years of the Progress Report.

Developing the Progress Report

Committees of internal and external stakeholders had an active role in developing the 2014 Progress Report. Together with staff from Social Services, the baseline of key statistics for the report was established. The Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough, the Peterborough Social Planning Council, and the United Way provided input on how the Progress Report would complement their community reports. The Homelessness Support Services Coordinating Committee (HSSCC) and the Affordable Housing Action Committee (AHAC) reviewed drafts of the Progress Report and provided feedback.

Distribution

Starting on June 30, 2015, Service Managers are required to present their progress reports to the public and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The 2014 Progress Report will be available to the public through the City website, and presented to AHAC, the Homelessness Support Services Coordinating Committee, and submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing through the Eastern Municipal Services Office.

Peterborough context

To set the work of the Housing and Homelessness Plan in the local context, the Progress Report uses an infographic to illustrate a selection of statistics (see pages 6 and 7). These statistics include average income levels in relation to rent costs, resale house prices, shelter bed nights and applications for eviction at the Landlord and Tenant Board. These big-picture statistics are a useful backdrop for understanding the community; however it won't necessarily be possible to draw a causal link between actions under the Plan and changes in these statistics.

When the requirement for housing and homelessness plans under the *Housing Services Act* (the Act) was announced, the province indicated that a provincial performance measure would be instituted that all Service Managers would be required to report on. The province has not yet established this measure. It is anticipated that some, or all of the statistics included in the Progress Report will be included in the provincial performance measures.

Looking Forward

Priority actions under the Plan are outlined in the 2015 Action Plan, attached as Appendix B. While some of the actions from 2014 will continue in 2015, the focus will shift slightly. Key priorities for 2015 include:

- Maximizing federal and provincial funds for new affordable rental development under the Investment in Affordable Housing,
- Promoting the Community Improvement Plan for Affordable Housing,
- Enhancing the capacity of the Brock Mission to assist men who are homeless to transition into permanent housing,
- Improving the capacity of the City and agencies to collect, share and report data, to support evidence-based planning, and
- Developing a strategy to guide social housing through the end of operating agreements, mortgages and debentures.

The Progress Report on the 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan will be prepared annually to provide an update to the province, city and county councillors and the community. The Progress Report also informed the recommendations included in the City's response to the province's update of the Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy. The City will continue to engage with the community and agencies to understand and improve programs and services. This will provide a strong foundation for future years of the Plan.

Submitted by,

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Attachments:

Appendix A – 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan Progress Report 2014
Appendix B – 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan 2015 Action Plan