

Clause 9 in Report No. 1 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on January 26, 2017.

9

Human Services Planning Board of York Region
2016-2018 Action Plan

Committee of the Whole recommends:

1. Receipt of the presentation by Lisa Gonsalves, Director, Strategies and Partnerships Branch.
2. Receipt of the communication from Kathy Stranks, Senior Manager, Corporate Secretariat, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority dated January 12, 2017.
3. Adoption of the following recommendations contained in the report dated December 9, 2016 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services:
 1. Council approve the Human Services Planning Board of York Region's 2016-2018 Action Plan (Attachment 1).
 2. The Regional Clerk circulate this report for information to the local municipalities, Human Services Planning Board of York Region, and the Community Partnership Council under the Local Immigration Partnership.

Report dated December 9, 2016 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services now follows:

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. Council approve the Human Services Planning Board of York Region's 2016-2018 Action Plan. (Attachment 1).
2. The Regional Clerk circulate this report for information to the local municipalities, Human Services Planning Board of York Region, and the Community Partnership Council under the Local Immigration Partnership.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the progressive employment and housing affordability actions under the Making Ends Meet in York Region: A Road Map for 2015 to 2018.

3. Background

The Board brings together top leaders from the private sector, social service agencies, funders, government, education, and health care to improve the quality of life for all residents

In November 2009, Council approved the formation of the Human Services Planning Board of York Region. From the start, the Board has engaged senior leaders from a range of sectors to ensure a balanced and collaborative approach to its work. Since 2011, the Board has played an important role in advising Council on the value of creating healthy communities with a focus on improving quality of life for low and moderate income residents. Its primary purpose is to enhance the effectiveness of human services in York Region through capacity building and collaborative advocacy. Under the capacity building stream the Board's goal is to strengthen the Region's human service sector through the delivery of more responsive services and supports. For example, the Fair Access Partnership focuses on increasing access to recreational programs for low and moderate income residents in York Region.

Under the collaborative advocacy stream, the Board seeks opportunities to advocate for funding and policy change including building partnerships with all levels of government, community partners and the private sector. For example, the Make Rental Happen campaign uses consistent and clear messaging to address the housing challenge in York Region. Through the campaign, the Board has been able to speak with 'one' voice to advocate for more purpose built private market rental housing.

Council appointed the Board to its first term in April 2010 and re-appointed the Board to a second four-year term in March 2015. The Board is co-chaired by Regional Councillor John Taylor, Town of Newmarket and Susan LaRosa, Community Leader Member.

In November 2015, Council endorsed the [Making Ends Meet in York Region: A Road Map for 2015 to 2018](#) which sets out the Board's direction until the end of the term. To date, the Board has been defining and implementing actions related to housing and employment.

4. Analysis and Implications

The Board continues to engage key stakeholders in building private market rental housing in York Region's communities

The Board is working towards improving the lives of our low and moderate income residents through the community result area of 'Housing options that are affordable for everyone in our community'.

Under housing affordability, the Board is focusing on two housing indicators:

1. **Housing options and availability:** monitors the diversity of housing tenure (ownership and rental)

Housing affordability: measures the affordability of housing (housing options that cost less than 30% of before-tax income)

The Board recognizes the realities of today's changing housing landscape

Through the Make Rental Happen campaign, which was launched in November 2013, the Board has advocated for more purpose built private market rental housing. The campaign has proven to be a good vehicle to advocate to government and raise public awareness of the housing issue. As the Board continues its work it will look at strategies to prepare our communities for the future. Meeting the housing needs of our low and moderate income residents has been identified as a priority in the Board's Action Plan. This work also aligns with the York Region Seniors Strategy that will consider options to improve opportunities for York Region residents to age within their communities for longer in the future. Building on this foundation, the Board is targeting its work within four emerging action areas where it believes it can make a difference.

Board Work Plan 2016-2018: Housing Affordability

1) Develop strategies that encourage more affordable housing options

Complete communities include a full-mix and range of housing and affordability options. Housing options within a community relies on a full-range of affordable and safe housing choices for residents of all income levels at every stage of life. More affordable ownership housing options and rental housing options at all price points are needed within York Region for those who cannot afford or do not wish to own a home. The Board will engage all levels of government, the building industry and corporate leaders to help create the conditions needed to encourage more housing and affordability options.

Specific actions in this area include:	Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CommunityBUILD <i>Blueprint: Affordable Housing Challenge</i>. This is an innovative design lab that leverages interested youth and community members to find solutions to social issues in York Region. The Region challenged the members to identify solutions to increase the supply of legal second suite units in our communities. • Identify innovative operating models and various built forms that create more affordable housing options 	<p>ventureLab, Seneca College, York Region Human Services Planning board members and their networks</p> <p>ventureLab, GTA Housing Action Lab, York Region Human Services Planning Board and their networks, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), Community & Home Assistance to Seniors (CHATS)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in partnership with other levels of government and local municipalities to explore options to meet the housing needs of an aging population by including new legislative tools, and strategies to maximize rental options suitable for all ages and stages of life 	<p>York Region and local municipal governments</p>

2) Identify programs and tools that provide incentives to increase the private market rental housing supply

In November 2016, Council endorsed the report [Housing Initiatives and Incentives](#). This report laid out the housing related initiatives to advance and address the housing supply and affordability area.

The Board’s success in creating awareness has helped encourage discussions between the Region, Town of Newmarket and a local developer for a multi-unit rental development project, at 212 Davis Drive. When completed, the project will support the creation of 225 private purpose built rental units with 56 units subsidized for low-income households. The Region, in partnership with the GTA Housing Action Lab, has conducted an incentives study to identify financial, policy, and procedural incentives to encourage homeownership affordability, affordable rental housing and market rental housing. As part of the Region’s participation in the GTA Housing Action Lab, consultant services have been offered at no cost to the Region. The study confirmed there aren’t sufficient market incentives for developers to build rental in York Region. Though the study

recognizes that costs can vary based on factors such as location, building techniques and construction material, the consultants concluded that some degree of incentivization is likely required to make these types of developments viable for the private sector.

Specific actions in this area include:	Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share research on ways to address barriers that are contributing to low levels of new private rental development. Work with all levels of government, the building industry and corporate leaders to help create the conditions needed to develop more private rental housing to meet the diverse needs of residents 	York Region, local municipal governments, Development Industry, GTA Housing Lab and federal and provincial governments

3) Advocate for funding, policies and programs that support housing affordability options

A variety of advocacy activities will be developed to engage key government decision-makers. Recent federal policy shifts have included funding dedicated to housing and homelessness prevention; funding to encourage the development of rental housing and a commitment to develop a National Housing Strategy. At the provincial level, the Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy includes a commitment to inclusionary zoning. The Board will explore ways to leverage funding and to challenge governments to meet commitments aimed to improve access to affordable and adequate housing for all residents.

Specific actions in this area include:	Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate with all levels of government for funding and programs that improve access to affordable and adequate housing for all residents 	Human Services Planning Board members and their networks, York Region, federal, provincial and local municipal governments, GTA Housing Action lab, National Housing Collaborative, United Way and CMHC

4) Enhance services and supports to help residents access affordable housing options

The Board has found the shortage of affordable housing options in the Region to be one of the most important challenges impacting the ability of many residents to make ends meet. The high cost of housing can limit low and moderate income

families' ability to pay for healthy food, recreation, clothing, child and elder care and transportation. This can result in negative impacts on the physical and mental health of residents. Specific actions in this area will focus on increasing disposable income to spend on housing costs.

Specific actions in this area include:	Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare our communities for the future by maintaining Regional programs and services that increase disposable income for housing costs such as low income transit fare. • Monitor the implications of provincial and federal policy changes, and work with all partners to better integrate services and to develop initiatives for new housing supports such as portable housing allowance 	<p>York Region, York Region Transit/VIVA, federal, provincial and local municipal governments</p> <p>York Region, federal, provincial and local municipal governments</p>

The Board is focusing on creating progressive employment opportunities for our low and moderate income residents

In September 2016, Council endorsed the report [Creating Progressive Employment Opportunities in a Changing Economy](#). This report laid out the Board's work plan and direction to advance its vision in the employment area.

Under progressive employment, the Board is focusing on two employment indicators:

1. **Underemployment:** monitors the number of residents who are working, but not at their full capability (based on their level of education, skills and experience)
2. **Precarious employment:** measures the number of temporary, casual, short-term, fixed term or self-employed (without employees) often associated with low wages, lack of benefits and greater risk of injury

In collaboration with community partners, the Board has already seen initial success in its efforts to bring employment programs to York Region. Through United Way of Toronto and York Region's Career Navigator program – a program designed to develop meaningful career opportunities for youth facing multiple barriers, 52 youth are currently enrolled in an IT training program that will lead to hands-on work placements for up to 12 weeks.

The Board is also actively working to engage employers. For example, planning is underway to deliver a Progressive Employment Learning Forum in early 2017, in partnership with IBM and the Workforce Planning Board. This event aims to

create awareness of the changing nature of employment which increasingly includes more temporary or contract work, the need for workforce reskilling and ways employers can build and retain their workforce. Employers will hear from other employers and experts who will share success stories on how they have realized benefits from adopting progressive employment practices, for example increased productivity, improved employee/employer work-life balance, elevated morale and employee engagement.

The Board will collaborate and build new partnerships to implement its 2016-2018 Action Plan over the next two years

With a clear vision of the results the Board is trying to achieve, Board members have developed measurable actions and are achieving progress towards the Making Ends Meet strategy goals. The Board will continue to engage key partners and monitor developments in both the employment and housing sectors as well as the activities of senior levels of government.

The Board's collective Action Plan is included in Attachment 1. The Board will provide regular progress updates to Council as key milestones are achieved.

The Board's work under progressive employment and housing affordability supports the Region's strategic direction and priorities

The Road Map is consistent with York Region's strategic direction and priorities included in Vision 2051, Regional Official Plan, 10-Year Housing Plan, 2016-2019 Economic Development Action Plan, YRT/Viva's Strategic Plan and Fare Strategy, the York Region Seniors Strategy and the 2015-2019 Strategic Plan. The Road Map also specifically addresses the 2015 to 2019 Strategic Plan goals to "support the development and retention of a Region-wide workforce to maintain economic progress in the Region" and to "support healthy communities through a broad range of housing choices and supports to meet the diverse needs of residents." The 2016-2018 Action Plan outlines specific actions the Board will take to achieve success.

5. Financial Considerations

Funding for the implementation of the Board's 2016-2018 Action Plan will be aligned with the Community and Health Services existing operating budget of \$612,543. No new funding is required.

The Human Services Planning Board of York Region Terms of Reference directs the Board to pursue additional resources, such as in-kind support, funding etc. In

this regard, the HSPB is pursuing opportunities for financial and in-kind contributions for the Progressive Employment Learning Forum event. In 2015, the Board received in-kind research support provided by Ryerson and the GTA Housing Action Lab at no cost to the Region. This contribution was valued at approximately \$10,000.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Creating safe, complete and healthy communities represents a common goal for local municipalities, York Region and the Board. The Board will continue the Make Rental Happen campaign to encourage the private sector to re-engage in building private market rental housing in York Region. The Board's progressive employment work aligns with Regional objectives intended to benefit local municipalities by encouraging employment opportunities for our low and moderate income residents and helping employers to reduce job precarity in the workplace.

7. Conclusion

The Board is committed to playing a leadership role in creating awareness in the community about the importance of helping low and moderate income residents make ends meet. Through its mandate of capacity building and collaborative advocacy it is expected that the Board's work will be of benefit to the broader community by nurturing innovative actions and solutions that will make a difference in the lives of our residents and in our communities.

For more information on this report, please contact Lisa Gonsalves, Director Strategies and Partnerships, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72090.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

December 9, 2016

Attachment (1)

#7234868

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

Human Services Planning Board of York Region (HSPB)

Making Ends Meet in York Region

2016 to 2018 Action Plan



HSPB believes together we can make a difference to help our low and moderate income residents.



Setting the Community Vision

Making Ends Meet in York Region Strategy

The Making Ends Meet in York Region strategy is focused on helping low and moderate income residents (households earning \$78,000 or less annually) who find it hard to bridge the growing gap between income and the high costs of living. In numbers, this is over 364,000 residents, or one-third of the Region’s population.

The HSPB Action Plan for 2016 to 2018 outlines the Board’s collective actions and builds on the direction set in the “Road Map for 2015-2018” to support the Making Ends Meet in York Region strategy.

Each collective action supports two Community Results:

-  **Housing options that are affordable for everyone in our community**
-  **Progressive employment opportunities in a changing economy**

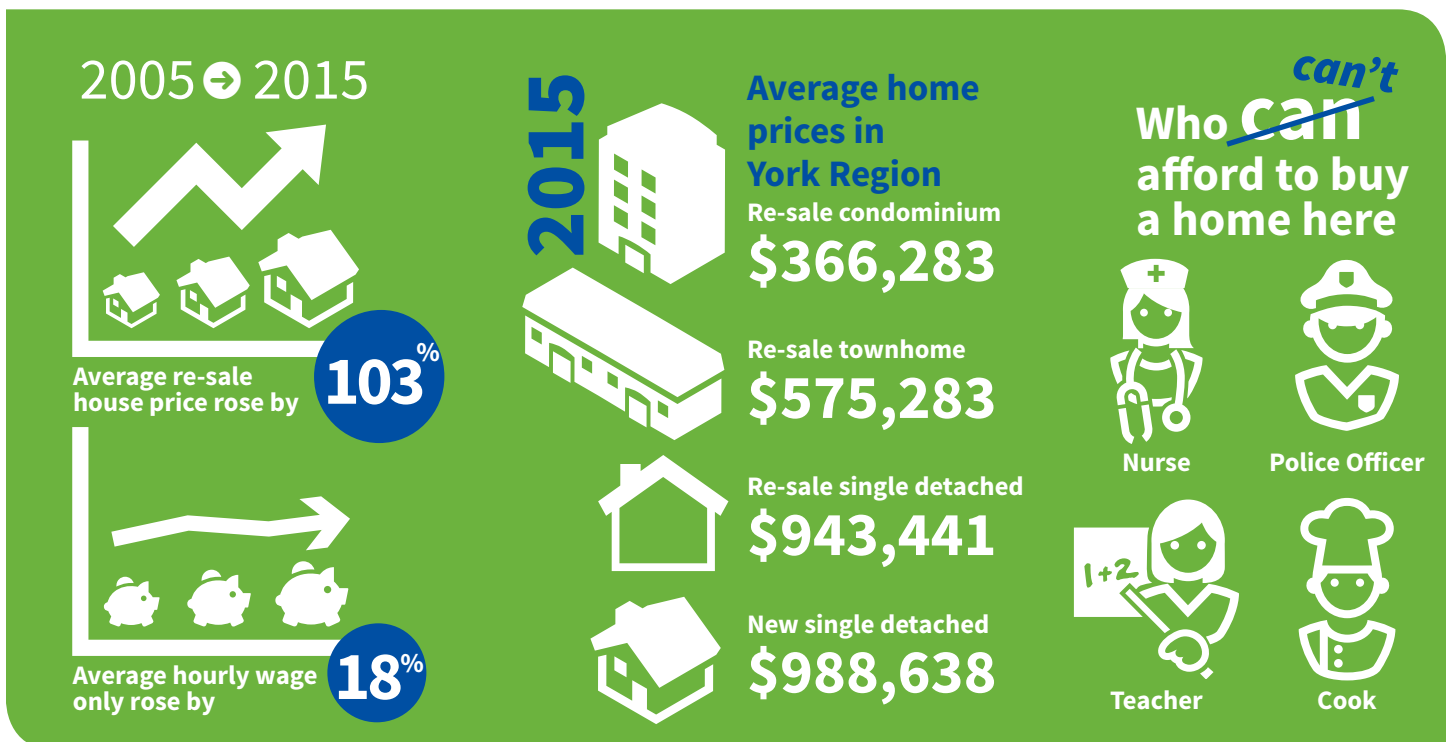


Why Housing Options and Affordability?

The high cost of housing impacts our lives in many ways. It means people are spending more of their income on housing, making it difficult to pay for healthy food, recreation, clothing, child and elder care and transportation. This can have negative impacts on the physical and mental health of our residents.

Hard working, low and moderate income York Region residents are challenged by the growing gap between household income and the high cost of housing. Between 2005 and 2015, the average resale price of a house rose by 103 per cent, while the average hourly wage only rose by 18 per cent (Source: York Region 10-Year Housing Plan, 2015 Progress Report).

This Community Result addresses the York Region 2015 to 2019 Strategic Plan goal to “support healthy communities through a broad range of housing choices and supports to meet the diverse needs of residents”.





Why Progressive Employment?

Progressive employment opportunities in York Region will allow our residents to find and sustain employment related to their education, skill level and ability. It will also help increase their access to education, training and employment supports that enhance career progression and generate income at all stages of life.

Lack of progressive employment opportunities can put residents at risk of job precarity and add to underemployment in York Region. People facing precarious employment and underemployment often have reduced quality of life, limited savings potential and increased likelihood of debt.

This Community Result addresses York Region’s 2015 to 2019 Strategic Plan goal to “support the development and retention of a Region-wide workforce to maintain economic progress in the Region”.

Job precarity impacts us all — our families, our health and our economy. By addressing precarious employment, we can create a more stable and secure environment for our workers and a better quality of life in our community,”

Adelina Urbanski
Commissioner

Community and Health Services
The Regional Municipality of York



There is a higher degree of **skills underutilization**

in employment of low and moderate income residents. More than one third of working age post-secondary graduates (ages 25-64) are working in low-skilled jobs; almost half of 15 to 24 year olds with post-secondary education are experiencing a skills mismatch.



This is resulting in reduced employment earnings and can lead to highly skilled workers leaving the Region for better matched employment.

WHO WE ARE

HUMAN SERVICES PLANNING BOARD OF YORK REGION (HSPB)

Mandate

To enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of human services in York Region through capacity building in the human services sector and collaborative advocacy.

Vision

A healthy and vibrant community enhanced through inclusive, collaborative and innovative human services.

Mission

To develop and implement system solutions which enhance community health and well-being.

Seven Guiding Principles

1. Accountability and Transparency
2. Collaboration
3. Communication
4. Community Engagement
5. Creating a Healthy Community
6. Mindset of Sharing
7. Respect and Diversity



Community Result:

Housing options that are affordable for everyone in our community

Residents experience affordable housing through:

- The availability of a full range of affordable and safe housing options for residents of all income levels at every stage of life
- An appropriate amount of money spent on housing
- Options to live in their community of choice at all ages and stages of life
- Shorter commute times and access to transportation and basic needs services
- Income that keeps pace with the cost of living



DID YOU KNOW?

The Board has been engaging all levels of government, the building industry and corporate leaders to help create the conditions needed to develop more rental housing.

#MakeRentalHappen



Community BUILD Blueprint: Affordable Housing Challenge, October 2016. Engaging with community members to generate creative solutions to address housing affordability in York Region.



Community Result:

Progressive employment opportunities in a changing economy

Residents experience progressive employment through:

- Opportunities to find and sustain employment related to their education skill level and ability
- Access to education/training and employment supports to enhance career progression and generate income at all stages of life
- Accessible and affordable supports including childcare and transportation
- Income that keeps pace with the cost of living

“York Region has a robust and diverse economy that is evolving. While manufacturing continues to be important, new employment in knowledge-based and service activities is growing.”

Economic Development Action Plan 2016-2019



Npower Canada – launching youth into meaningful and rewarding IT careers

“The potential for change is real and innovative solutions will be found right here in York Region. Ultimately, it will take all of us working together to make a difference.”

*HSPB Co-chairs
John Taylor, Town of Newmarket, Regional Councillor
Susan LaRosa, Community Leader Member*

HSPB Collective Actions:

The 2016 to 2018 HSPB Action Plan will help improve the economic,

Actions: What we will do

Develop strategies that encourage more housing affordability options

- Champion and participate in communityBUILD *Blueprint: Affordable Housing Challenge* to increase the supply of legal long-term second suite units in the Region
- Identify innovative operating models and various built forms that create more affordable housing options
- Work in partnership with other levels of government and local municipalities to explore options that meet the housing needs of an aging population, including new legislative tools and strategies to maximize rental options suitable for all ages and stages of life

Identify programs and tools that provide incentives to increase the private market rental housing supply

- Share research on ways to address barriers that are contributing to low levels of new private rental development
- Work with all levels of government, the building industry and corporate leaders to help create the conditions needed to develop more private rental housing to meet the diverse needs of residents

Advocate for funding, policies and programs that support housing affordability options

- Advocate with all levels of government for funding and housing programs that improve access to and adequate housing for all residents

Enhance services and supports to help residents access affordable housing options

- Prepare our communities for the future by maintaining Regional programs and services that increase disposable income for housing costs, such as low income transit supports
- Monitor the implication of provincial and federal policy changes, and work with all partners to better integrate services and to develop initiatives for new housing supports (e.g. portable housing allowance)



Moving from Talk to Action

social and health conditions of our low and moderate income residents.

Progressive employment



Progressive employment opportunities in a changing economy

1

Explore new workforce development strategies

- Host an Employment Learning Forum to show employers how progressive employment strategies can improve business outcomes
- Work with partners to create programs and opportunities that lead to quality jobs and meaningful careers for our residents, including youth facing barriers to gainful employment
- Explore the creation of Community Benefit Agreements that stimulate local job creation and training opportunities through infrastructure development projects

2

Build and showcase a business case for employers outlining the benefits of adopting progressive employment practices

- Identify programs and tools employers can use to mitigate precarity in the workplace
- Develop a business case and work with employers to promote progressive employment practices

3

Advocate for public policy and programming that support progressive employment practices

- Advocate for federal and provincial funding and programs that improve income security, access to benefits and government initiatives that create pathways to quality jobs

4

Enhance services and supports to help residents pursue progressive employment opportunities

- Explore opportunities to maintain Regional programs and services that support progressive employment:
 - Access to child care and after-school programs for families who are precariously employed
 - Low income transit supports
 - Flexible and alternative ways to access employment services

Actions: What we will do

Members of the Human Services Planning Board of York Region 2015-2018

Organizations

Regional Government:

- The Regional Municipality of York
- Town of Newmarket
- City of Vaughan

York Catholic District School Board

York Region District School Board

Southlake Regional Health Centre

Canadian Mental Health Association York Region

Markham Stouffville Hospital

United Way of Toronto and York Region

York Regional Police

360° Kids

CHATS – Community & Home Assistance to Seniors

IBM Canada

TD Bank

ventureLAB

Seneca College

York University

Centre for Immigrant and Community Services

(CICS), representing the Welcome Centre Immigrant Services

Human Endeavour

YMCA Greater Toronto

Community Leaders

Habitat for Humanity

Community Development Leaders

Counsel Public Affairs

Canadian Observatory on

Homelessness/Homeless Hub

Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold

Government Advisors and Resources

Ontario Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development

Central Local Health Integration Network

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation

City of Markham

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

Ontario Trillium Foundation

Greater Toronto Apartment Association

To learn more about the Board and its work visit:

York.ca/HSPB
York.ca/MakeRentalHappen

For more information please contact:

The Regional Municipality of York
Community and Health Services Department
Strategies and Partnerships Branch
17250 Yonge Street, 2nd Floor
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

1-877-464-9675 ext. 72103 | HSPB@york.ca

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.





Human Services Planning Board of York Region 2016 to 2018 Action Plan

Presentation to
Committee of the Whole

Lisa Gonsalves, Director of Strategies and Partnerships

January 19, 2017

The Human Services Planning Board (HSPB)

Innovation...Partnerships...Collaboration...Solutions



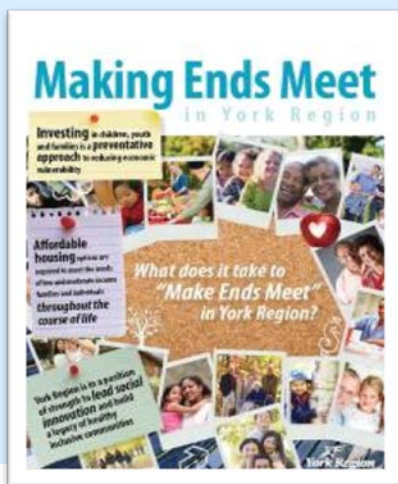
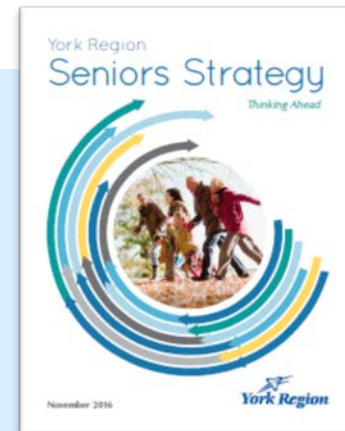
SOUTHLAKE
REGIONAL HEALTH CENTRE



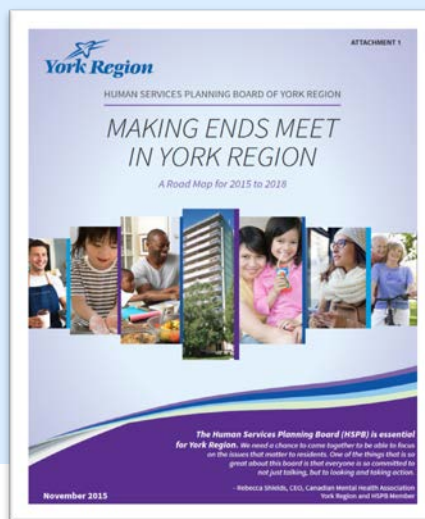
Building in
Brampton, Caledon,
Toronto & York Region



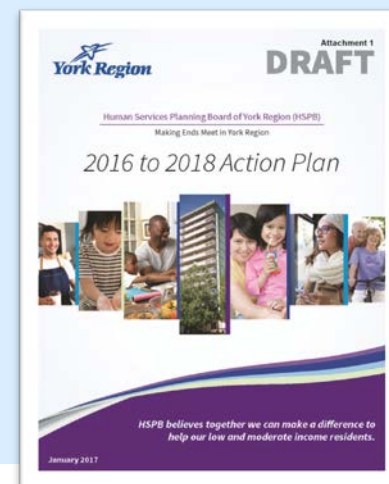
Making Ends Meet in York Region



May 2011



November 2015

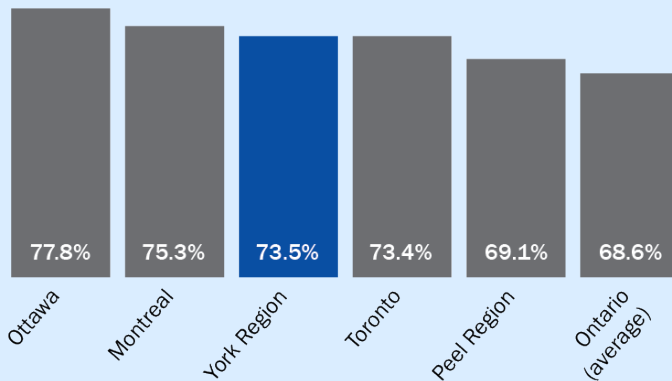


January 2017

Making Ends Meet in York Region

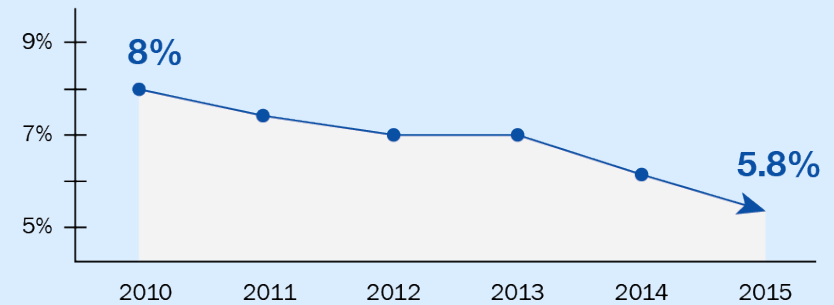
Progressive employment opportunities in a changing economy

Percentage of Population with Postsecondary Education aged 25-64 in the work force



Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011

Annual Unemployment Rates



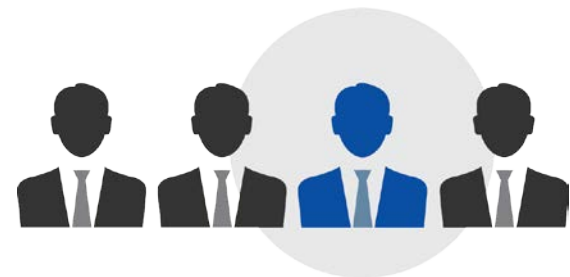
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Custom Tabulation



UNDEREMPLOYMENT

One third of low and moderate income working age residents with post-secondary education work in low skilled jobs

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 NHS, Custom Tabulation



PRECARIOUS EMPLOYMENT

Almost 1 in 4 residents are precariously employed (includes Toronto and York Region)

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Custom Tabulation

How Does This Impact Our Residents?



Mental Health



Household Well-being



Community Participation



Childcare



Training and Career Advancement

2016 to 2018 Road to Success

Theme Areas of Progressive Employment

1

EXPLORE new workforce development strategies



2

BUILD and showcase a business case for employers outlining the benefits of progressive employment

News • GTA

Uniting unemployed youths with the trades

Community Benefits Agreements provide much-needed jobs

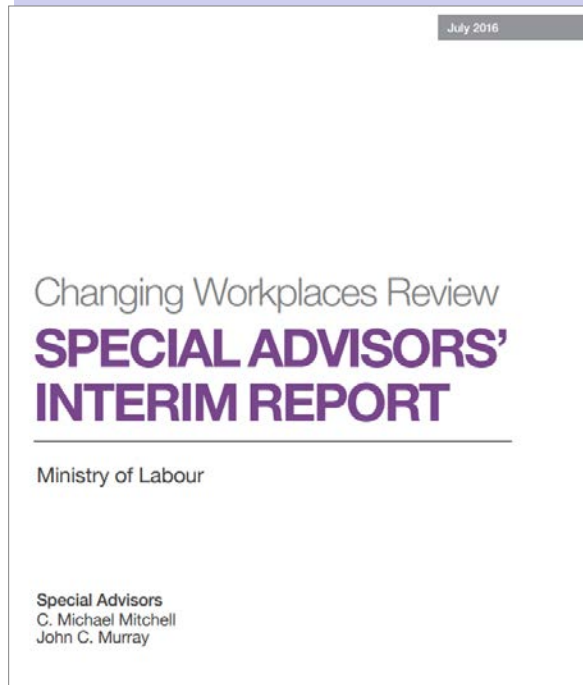


2016 to 2018 Road to Success

Theme Areas of Progressive Employment

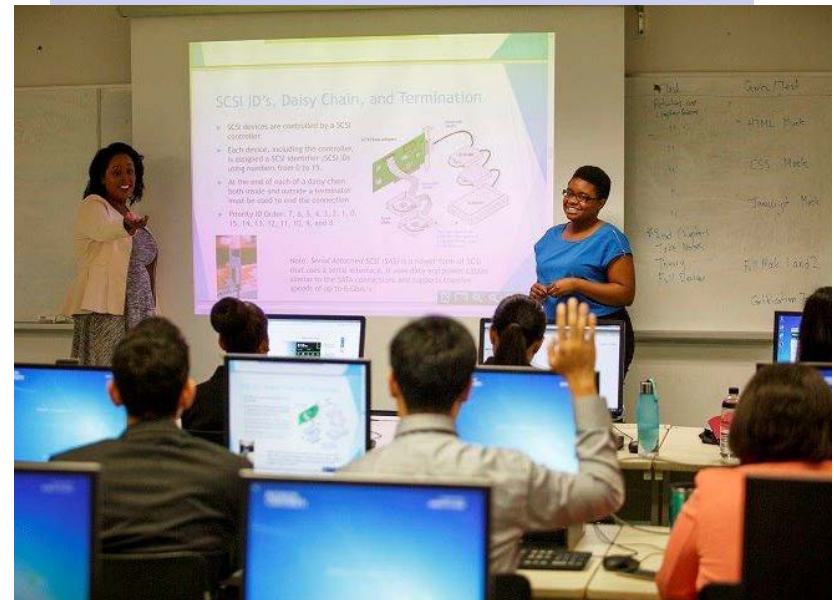
3

ADVOCATE for public policy and programming that support progressive employment practices



4

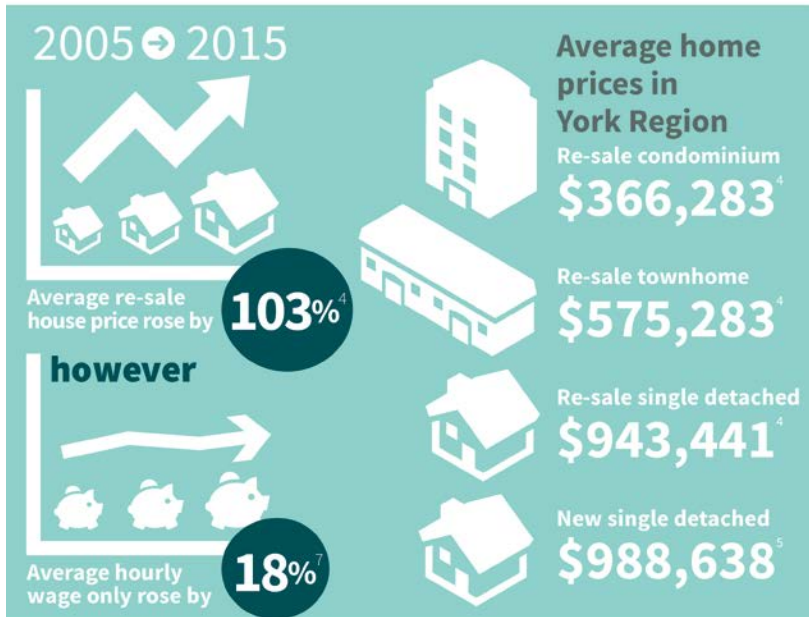
ENHANCE services and supports to help residents pursue progressive employment opportunities



Making Ends Meet in York Region

Housing options that are affordable for everyone in our community

2015 Homeowners market



Source: York Region 10-Year Housing Plan, 2015 Progress Report



Make Rental Happen

Creating the Conditions to Build Private Market Rental Housing



Building public awareness

- Local symposiums
- Global student challenge
- Social media campaign

Advocating to all levels of government

Incentives research

- Ryerson School of Urban and Regional Planning
- GTA Housing Action Lab

212 Davis Drive Rental Incentives Pilot

2016 to 2018 Road to Success

Theme Areas of Housing Affordability

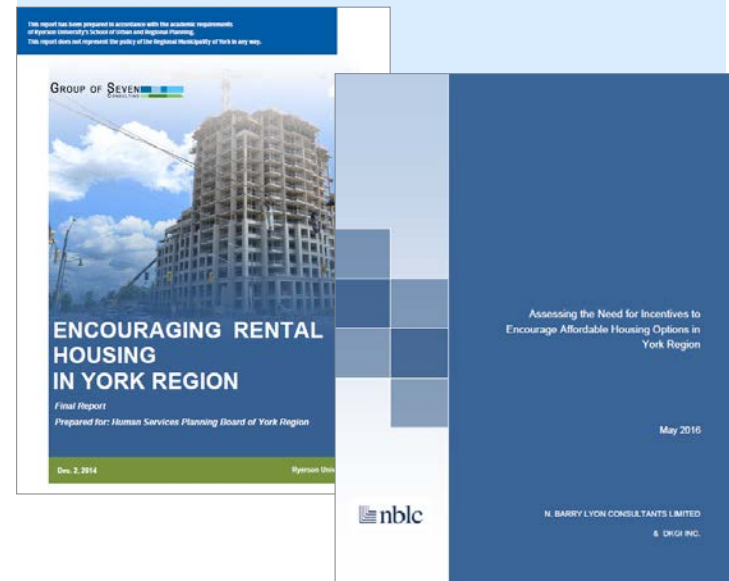
1

DEVELOP strategies that encourage more housing affordability options



2

IDENTIFY programs and tools that provide incentives to increase the private market rental housing supply



2016 to 2018 Road to Success

Theme Areas of Housing Affordability

3

ADVOCATE for funding, policies and programs that support housing affordability options



The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation

4

ENHANCE services and supports to help residents access affordable housing options



Next Steps for HSPB

- Seek approval to implement the HSPB 2016 to 2018 Action Plan
- Host an employment learning forum
- Research:
 - Community Benefit Agreements
 - Progressive employment data
 - Cost of inaction in housing
- Continue advocacy to senior levels of government





January 12, 2017

Sent via email

York Region of Council
c/o Mr. Christopher Raynor
Deputy Regional Clerk,
Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
P.O. Box 147
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

Dear Mr. Raynor:

At Authority Meeting #10/16, of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), held on January 06, 2017, Resolution #A201/16 in regard to Human Services Planning Board was approved as follows:

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) has been appointed as a Government Advisor/Resource Member of the Human Services Planning Board of York Region for the 2015 – 2018 term of York Region Council;

AND WHEREAS member organizations of the Human Services Planning Board of York Region are requested to develop and endorse an action plan in support of the priority areas of the Human Services Planning Board of York Region;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT TRCA's 2017 – 2018 Action Plan in support of York Region's Human Services Planning Board be endorsed;

AND FURTHER THAT York Region Council be so advised.

Enclosed for your information and any action deemed necessary is the report as approved by the Authority. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Darryl Gray at 416-791-0327, dgray@trca.on.ca.

Sincerely

Kathy Stranks
Senior Manager, Corporate Secretariat

cc. Darryl Gray, Director, Education, Training and Outreach, TRCA

/Encl.

RES.#A201/16 -

HUMAN SERVICES PLANNING BOARD

2017 – 2018 Action Plan. Endorsement of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's 2017 – 2018 Action Plan for York Region's Human Services Planning Board.

Moved by: Jim Tovey
Seconded by: Jim Karygiannis

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) has been appointed as a Government Advisor/Resource Member of the Human Services Planning Board of York Region for the 2015 – 2018 term of York Region Council;

AND WHEREAS member organizations of the Human Services Planning Board of York Region are requested to develop and endorse an action plan in support of the priority areas of the Human Services Planning Board of York Region;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT TRCA's 2017 – 2018 Action Plan in support of York Region's Human Services Planning Board be endorsed;

AND FURTHER THAT York Region Council be so advised.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

The Human Services Planning Board of York Region (HSPB-YR) was established in 2012 by York Region Council to bring together leaders in the human services field from across York Region to identify innovative approaches to improving the health and well-being of communities and residents. The HSPB-YR is comprised of a wide range of social and community service agencies from across York Region including municipalities, school boards, universities, colleges, housing providers, social service providers and others. In 2015 TRCA was invited to participate on the HSPB-YR as a Government Advisor/Resource Member.

The HSPB-YR has identified specific challenges and opportunities facing York Region over the coming 25 years, including:

- Sustained rapid population growth;
- An increasingly diverse population in terms of ethno-cultural, age and socio-economic profile;
- Increasing urban intensification;
- Continued under-funding by senior levels of government in the areas of health care and social services.

With this in mind, the HSPB-YR has developed two core areas of focus that require collective action to ensure that York Region remains an equitable, accessible and inclusive region to reside:

- Increasing availability and affordability of housing;
- Improving the economic and social well-being of community members.

It is around these two core priority areas that member organizations of the HSPB-YR are developing organization-specific action plans that outline the activities that each member organization is undertaking that support the objectives of the HSPB-YR.

RATIONALE

With the addition of TRCA to the HSPB-YR, new opportunities for innovative partnerships that support TRCA's strategic objectives as outlined in the 2013-2022 strategic plan Building The Living City have emerged. Early successes include the partnership with 360°kids for the restoration and adaptation of TRCA's heritage residential property at 17 Mill Street in Markham into a transition house for young people moving out of foster care, and new partnerships with CHATS to provide programming that supports improved access to TRCA facilities and greenspace systems for seniors living in York Region.

As part of TRCA's membership on the HSPB-YR, and to provide strategic guidance for the realization of new partnership opportunities through this network, a 2017 – 2018 Action Plan for TRCA's involvement in the HSPB-YR has been established (Attachment 1).

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Action areas identified in TRCA's HSPB-YR Action Plan are either already currently funded through TRCA operating and capital budgets, or would only proceed with the securement of program or project specific funding.

Report prepared by: Darryl Gray, extension (416) 791-0327

Emails: dgray@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Darryl Gray, extension (416) 791-0327

Emails: dgray@trca.on.ca

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Attachments: 1

Attachment 1

Human Services Planning Board of York Region
 Toronto and Region Conservation Action Items 2017 – 2018

HOUSING ACTIONS	PARTNERS
<p>Canada’s Innovation Park at Kortright/Sustainable Technologies Evaluation Program (STEP)</p> <p>Designed to advance building practices in support of climate change and sustainability outcomes through technology research, commercialization and knowledge transfer, Canada’s Innovation Park/STEP can support improved rental outcomes by providing expertise on best practices related to building construction and retrofits that enhances the affordability, sustainability and durability of the single- and multi-unit rental market.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Region of York • 360°Kids • Trades Associations • Economic Development/Boards of Trades • Private Developers • Colleges and Universities
<p>Support the development of complete, sustainable communities</p> <p>The Living City Policies are TRCA’s guiding document that support the creation of complete communities and reflect TRCA’s goal of building a sustainable city region. A key area of focus within The Living City Policies is improved integration of natural systems and greenspace into the urban environment to maximize community and ecological outcomes, and ensure equitable access to greenspace for all segments of the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Province of Ontario • Region of York • Local municipalities • Development Industry
<p>Leverage the value of TRCA’s rental housing stock to maximize community development outcomes</p> <p>TRCA has a rental portfolio of 19 single family homes across the Region of York. The goal of this action is to maximize the value of these rental assets to ensure best value from housing affordability, financial sustainability, accessibility, and green building perspectives. Options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of extended youth transitional housing programs within appropriate and suitable TRCA rental units (currently piloting this with 360°Kids at 17 Mill Street in Markham) • Examine establishing a not-for-profit social housing enterprise to manage TRCA’s housing stock, find opportunity for at risk segments of the population for employment, including social enterprises for the maintenance and operation of components of the rental portfolio such as 360°kids. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 360°Kids • Region of York • Housing York Inc. • Learning Enrichment Foundation

<p>Sustainable Neighbourhood Retrofit Action Plans (SNAPs) Integrate programs and services into TRCA’s Sustainable Neighbourhood programs in the Bayview Glen and Lake Wilcox communities that identify and target opportunities to improve the quality of all communities, including the rental inventory, as well as the integration of alternate rental types into the existing housing stock, including room rentals in homes with older adults, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Region of York • Local Municipalities • Homeowners Associations • Community Groups • Homeowners • Housing York Inc. • Housing Co-Ops
<p>Age-Friendly Programs and Services Canada’s population is aging and as the percentage of older adults increases, the needs of our communities will continue to diversify and shift in response. Demographic data shows that the number of persons in York Region over the age of 55 will rise to more than 20% of the population, presenting a unique set of opportunities and challenges to TRCA and the communities we serve. To address this, TRCA has developed an Older Adults and Seniors Work Plan this identifies and acts on new opportunities to support this growing segment of our population. This Work Plan focuses on two specific areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helping older adults and seniors thrive through programs that support improved community and social inclusion and belonging; • Promoting healthy, active aging through natural fitness and wellness activities. <p>Programs and services that support these key areas are delivered in the community and at TRCA community engagement centres and conservation parks, and leverage existing resources, while sourcing new partnerships and funding opportunities to maximize program investment in this area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHATS York Region • Local Municipalities • Seniors/Retirement Housing Providers
EMPLOYMENT ACTIONS	PARTNERS
<p>Bridge training for internationally trained professionals TRCA’s Professional Access into Employment (PAIE) program supports integration of internationally trained professionals into the environmental services sector.</p>	<p>Employers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipalities • Consulting Firms • Others <p>Settlement Agencies</p>
<p>Employer engagement – strategies for recruitment and retention TRCA is undertaking a research and development program to support employers in the recruitment and retention of highly skilled internationally trained professionals. This program includes the development and provisions of tools and resources that will better equip employers to respond to changing labour market forces and demands through the employment of new Canadians.</p>	<p>Employers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipalities • Consulting Firms • Others <p>Settlement Agencies</p>

<p>Youth Employment and Training TRCA employs approximately 500 summer students and seasonal contract positions. By identifying opportunities to employ at-risk or under-employed segments of the population in key TRCA workforces, TRCA can leverage our experience as a leading employer youth and young adults, while integrating advanced training and mentorship opportunities to improve economic and employment outcomes for vulnerable segments of our population.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job Connect/Employment Ontario • GTTI – The Training Centre • United Way
<p>Social Enterprise Development and Social Impact Procurement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop in-house social enterprises that support TRCA’s vision for The Living City and stated goals and outcomes of the Human Services Planning Board of York Region; • Utilize TRCA assets (physical - buildings/land, professional and economic/budgetary) to support the creation of social enterprises within the communities we serve, including community-led program and service enterprises that operate out of TRCA facilities and spaces (ie. fitness, arts or recreation programs, camps; • Support and/or partner with existing social enterprise start-ups that align with TRCA’s vision, as above (physical, professional, economic) and provide specific services or workforce needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Enrichment Foundation • GTTI – The Training Centre
<p>Family and Youth-oriented Recreation Programs Strong physical literacy skills are foundational to long-term health and wellness. Organized recreation programs play an important role in developing these skills among children and youth to build healthy lifelong habits from a young age. Yet, these types of programs can be unaffordable for many families. With the objective of reducing financial barriers to participation, TRCA piloted a collaborative program model in sports and recreation programming at its Bruce’s Mill Conservation Area during the 2016 summer season. This program engaged kids from throughout York Region to visit the conservation area with their families and take advantage of a unique variety of fun, affordable activities—from soccer and yoga to BMX biking and treetop adventure games. With excellent feedback from participants, TRCA will be exploring how to enhance this community focused model in 2017-18 through new partnerships, program options and engagement strategies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Province of Ontario • Treetop Trekking • Stouffville BMX • Local Health and Wellness Businesses • Local Sports and Recreation Businesses