

Community Services Standing Committee Meeting Agenda

Date: Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Time: 9:00 o'clock a.m.

Location: Council Chambers, 1st Floor, Windsor City Hall

All members will have the option of participating in person in Council Chambers or electronically and will be counted towards quorum in accordance with Procedure By-law 98-2011 as amended, which allows for electronic meetings. The minutes will reflect this accordingly. Any delegations have the option to participate in person or electronically.

MEMBERS:

Ward 2 - Councillor Fabio Costante

Ward 3 - Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Ward 4 - Councillor Mark McKenzie

Ward 5 - Councillor Ed Sleiman (Chairperson)

Ward 6 - Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item # Item Description
1. CALL TO ORDER

READING OF LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We [] would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, which includes the Ojibwa, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi. The City of Windsor honours all First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples and their valuable past and present contributions to this land.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

- 3.1. Adoption of the Community Services Standing Committee minutes of its meeting held February 7, 2024. **(SCM 50/2024)**

4. REQUEST FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS OR WITHDRAWALS

5. COMMUNICATIONS

6. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

- 6.1. Amendment to the Windsor–Essex Child Care and Early Years Services System Plan 2020-2025: Priority Neighbourhoods for CWELCC Directed Growth **(S 32/2024)**

7. COMMITTEE MATTERS

8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- 8.1. 2024 Municipally Significant Event Status, Wards 2,3,4,9 **(S 26/2024)**
- 8.2. Temporary Exhibition Look Again! Outside! Extension and Expansion - City Wide **(S 27/2024)**

- 8.3. Pathway to Potential: Windsor-Essex County Poverty Reduction Strategy 2024 – 2028 – City Wide (**S 29/2024**)
- 8.4. Rent Supplement Program Expiries and Mitigation Update - City Wide (**S 31/2024**)
- 8.5. 2024 Ministry of Education (MEDU)- Child Care, EarlyON Child and Family Centres and Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Funding Update (**S 28/2024**)
- 8.6. Legislated Five Year Review of the 10-year Housing and Homelessness Master Plan, 2024 (**S 30/2024**)

9. QUESTION PERIOD

10. ADJOURNMENT



Committee Matters: SCM 50/2024

Subject: Adoption of the Community Services Standing Committee minutes of its meeting held February 7, 2024.

Community Services Standing Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Time: 9:00 o'clock a.m.

Members Present:

Councillors

Ward 2 - Councillor Fabio Costante

Ward 3 - Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Ward 4 - Councillor Mark McKenzie

Ward 5 - Councillor Ed Sleiman (Chairperson)

Ward 6 - Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac

PARTICIPATING VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE ARE THE FOLLOWING FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Rob Martini, Council Assistant

ALSO PARTICIPATING IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ARE THE FOLLOWING FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Andrew Daher, Commissioner, Human & Health Services

Kirk Whittal, Executive Director, Housing & Children's Services

Jen Knights, Executive Director, Recreation & Culture

Karen Alexander, Naturalist & Outreach Coordinator

James Chacko, Executive Director, Parks & Facilities

Alina Sirbu, Executive Director, Long Term Care / Administration

Michael Chantler, Chief Executive Officer – Windsor Public Library

Kelly Goz, Manager, Homelessness & Housing Support

Jennifer Tanner, Manager, Homelessness & Housing Support

Michelle Oake, Project Manager

Samantha Magalas, Executive Initiatives Coordinator

Sandra Gebauer, Council Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair calls the meeting of the Community Services Standing Committee to order at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None disclosed.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

3.1. Adoption of the Community Services Standing Committee minutes of its meeting held December 6, 2023.

Moved by: Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

THAT the minutes of the Community Services Standing Committee meeting held December 6, 2023 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.

Report Number: SCM 355/2023

4. REQUEST FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS OR WITHDRAWALS

None presented.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

None presented.

6. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

None presented.

7. COMMITTEE MATTERS

7.1. Minutes of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee of its meeting held December 5, 2023

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie
Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **CSSC 225**

THAT the minutes of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee (WAAC) of its meeting held December 5, 2023 **BE RECEIVED**.

Carried.

Report Number: SCM 15/2024

7.2. Minutes of the Windsor Essex Regional Community Safety and Well-Being Systems Leadership Table of their meeting held September 13, 2023 - City Wide

Councillor Fabio Costante asks Administration whether funding will be required now that the committee enters the execution part of the process. Andrew Daher, Commissioner, Health & Human Services appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the minutes of the Windsor Essex Regional Community Safety and Well-Being Systems Leadership Table, of their meeting held September 13, 2023, and indicates that \$100,000 has been set aside as part of the budget and will be used to develop different programs, priorities and commitments. Mr. Daher adds that periodic updates will be provided to Council.

Councillor Fabio Costante asks whether any additional funding will be provided by upper levels of government. Mr. Daher indicates that he is not aware of any additional funding at this time.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac inquires about flow-through dollars to meet the needs of the department in the community and asks whether any of these funds will directed to this organization. Mr. Daher indicates that there will not be any additional funding other than the \$100,000 that has been already set aside.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac inquires whether any discretionary power will be lost as it relates to our boards, committees and other organizations for which we develop the terms of reference. Mr. Daher indicates that discretionary power will not be lost and if there are other opportunities to work with organizations, and expression of interests can be undertaken.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac asks for clarification about the role of the group and the reason that it was mandated by the province. Michelle Oake, Project Manager, Windsor Essex Regional Community Safety and Well-Being (WERCSWB) Plan, City of Windsor appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the minutes of the Windsor Essex Regional Community Safety and Well-Being Systems Leadership Table, of their meeting held September 13, 2023, and explains that the provincial government mandated that a community safety and well-being plan be established, developed and implemented in every community, but did not provide funding for the implementation. Ms. Oake indicates that the minutes presented are a quarterly update.

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Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac asks where additional funding for the various initiatives is going to come from. Ms. Oake indicates that the initiatives are listed within the grant applications and a partnership with the grant holder is made to implement and achieve the results of the initiatives. Mr. Daher suggests that a more fulsome report be brought back to Council.

Moved by: Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **CSSC 226**

THAT the minutes of the Windsor Essex Regional Community Safety and Well-Being Systems Leadership Table meeting held September 13, 2023 **BE RECEIVED**; and,

THAT administration **BE REQUESTED** to prepare a report outlining the City of Windsor's responsibility within this mandated group as well as funding sources, possible impacts, priorities and implementation plan.

Carried.

Report Number: SCM 365/2023

7.3. Minutes of the Meetings of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, Willistead Manor Inc., held November 9, 2023

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie
Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **CSSC 227**

THAT the minutes of the Executive Committee and Board Directors, Willistead Manor Inc. of its meeting held November 9, 2023 **BE RECEIVED**.

Carried.

Report Number: SCM 320/2023

7.4. Report No. 132 of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee - Accessible purchases from the Capital Fund for Huron Lodge

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie
Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **CSSC 228**

THAT Report No. 132 of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee indicating:

THAT **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$25,000 of invoiced costs from the Capital Fund 7086008 tied to the purchase of a Wheelchair Accessible Bike,

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Height adjustable tab, Accessible Picnic Tab, Genie Messaging Platform and Abby Engagement model for Huron Lodge.

BE APPROVED.

Carried.

Report Number: SCM 12/2024

7.5. Report No. 133 of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee - Accessible purchases from the Capital Fund for the Windsor Public Library

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **CSSC 229**

THAT Report 133 of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee indicating:

THAT **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$15,000 of invoiced costs from the Capital Fund 7086008 for the Riverside Library Branch tied to the purchase of a LyriQ reader, Desktop Magnifier, two (2) Large print keyboards, Audio books, and accessibility software and programming for persons with disabilities.

BE APPROVED.

Carried.

Report Number: SCM 13/2024

8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

8.1. Response to CQ 12-2022 & CQ 22-2022 - Solar Lights on City Trails – City Wide

Councillor Mark McKenzie asks administration whether solar lights are currently being installed on all new trails in the city. James Chacko, Executive Director, Parks & Facilities, appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the administrative report entitled “Response to CQ 12-2022 & CQ 22-2022 - Solar Lights on City Trails – City Wide” and indicates that currently the City does not have the funds within the Capital Budget to support this but if grant funding becomes available solar lighting will be installed.

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires if lighting is a deterrent for vandalism. Mr. Chacko indicates that lighting is a deterrent and explains that ongoing work with Windsor Police Service and the CEPTED assessments in the parks indicate that increased lighting helps to better activate the parks to allow for increased positive activity and deters bad actors from vandalism.

Councillor Mark McKenzie asks whether administration would be open to exploring other solar lighting options. Mr. Chacko indicates that the Department is certainly open to exploring other cost-effective alternatives as long as they meet standards requirements.

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Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac asks administration if there is an opportunity to utilize ward funds to address areas of major concern. Mr. Chacko responds that the majority of lighting installed have been paid through ward fund initiatives and through grant or sponsorship opportunities.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac asks if the areas of focus are those identified as areas of significant damage or vandalism or security. Mr. Chacko indicates that the areas of focus are those where there are incidents of concern where lighting acts as a deterrent to drive out the bad actors causing the damage, and also where there is an opportunity to allow increased community usage of a parks trail within each ward.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino asks administration if the City utilizes any portable solar trailer units. Mr. Chacko indicates that the Parks Department uses them only as temporary installations for special events, indicating that the units are borrowed from the traffic department. The solar light heads currently available are easily installed and easy to relocate.

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie
Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **CSSC 230**

THAT the report of the Executive Initiatives Coordinator, Community Services dated January 21, 2024 entitled Response to CQ 12-2022 & 22-2022 – Solar Lights on City Trails – City Wide” **BE RECEIVED** for information; and,

THAT Council **APPROVE** option #2 being that City Council could direct Administration to accelerate the timeline and install lighting on 10 kms of trail per year so that all trails are fully lit by 2035 at an annual capital cost of \$420,000 (plus applicable HST) plus maintenance operating budget. Any new trails that are created would need to have adequate solar lighting worked into the proposed capital and operating budgets; and,

That administration **BE DIRECTED** to forward this to the 2025 Budget to determine a funding source; and,

THAT administration **BE REQUESTED** to investigate more cost effective solar lighting options.
Carried.

Report Number: S 11/2024
Clerk’s File: SR2024

8.2. Response to CR 655/2020 – Invasive Plant Management Strategy - City Wide

Moved by: Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Fabio Costante

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Decision Number: **CSSC 231**

THAT the report of the City Naturalist and Outreach Coordinator dated January 21, 2024 entitled "Response to CR 655/2020 Invasive Plant Management Strategy – City Wide" **BE RECEIVED** for information. Carried.

Report Number: S 10/2024

Clerk's File: SR2024

8.3. Update on Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy (2019 - 2028)

Councillor Fabio Costante asks administration for a breakdown of where the federal funds were going and what services could potentially be lost as a result of reduced funding. Andrew Daher, Commissioner, Health & Human Services appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the administrative report entitled "Update on Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy (2019 - 2028)" and indicates that the majority of the budget of about \$3.5 Million prior to the cuts, has been directed towards the operation of the H4. The funding cuts over the next couple of years, of about \$230,000, can be absorbed within the existing budget however, the 2026-2027 budget cuts cannot be absorbed and there will be concerns if there are no increases in future years to that budget.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires as to what can be done to secure additional funding. Mr. Daher indicates that they will have to be innovative with their funding, adding that they have already reached out to OMSSA and FCM and the Canadian Alliance for Ending Homelessness to increase advocacy efforts. Mr. Daher indicates that the Canadian government needs to be aware that decreasing funding will have the opposite effect of ending homelessness. If funding is not increased, the programming will need to be evaluated and the cost may come back on the municipal tax base in order to continue to maintain the current levels of service.

Councillor Ed Sleiman asks about the current state of homelessness. Kelly Goz, Manager, Homelessness & Housing Support appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the administrative report entitled "Update on Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy (2019 - 2028)" indicates that approximately 700 households are experiencing some form of homelessness in Windsor-Essex, which is consistent to what they have seen year over year. The community partners are doing the best that they can with the allotted funding and resources available in order to secure safe and affordable housing.

Councillor Ed Sleiman asks about advocacy efforts. Mr. Daher indicates that they are always working with community partners and organizations to ensure there is ongoing funding for their efforts and indicates that advocacy to the provincial and federal governments to secure as much funding as possible is an ongoing effort.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino asks administration if they have lobbied the provincial government for mental health funding. Mr. Daher indicates that they have advocated and secured \$20 Million

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dollars, which was a 34% increase last year, because of advocacy efforts but indicates that more funding is needed. Mr. Daher indicates that they are trying to be as innovative as possible in order to provide health support within the community, adding that by securing more health support, they can look to expand those services that would positively affect our community.

Moved by: Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac

Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **CSSC 232**

THAT the report from the Acting Manager, Homelessness & Housing Support dated January 22, 2024 entitled "Update on Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy (2019 - 2028)" **BE RECEIVED**; and,

THAT the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and City Clerk or their designates **BE AUTHORIZED** to:

- i. Execute and submit applications and related submissions and amendments to secure funding related to Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy and any subsequent programs or program extensions, provided they are in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, satisfactory in financial content to the City Treasurer, and technical content to the Commissioner, Human and Health Services and Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services; and,
- ii. Execute the Funding Agreements and any related amendments and extensions between the City of Windsor as the Community Entity for Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy including any current or subsequent programs and program extensions, and Infrastructure Canada or successor ministries, provided that the Funding Agreements and any related amendments and extensions are in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, satisfactory in financial content to the City Treasurer, and technical content to the Commissioner, Human and Health Services and Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services; and,
- iii. Execute the Mid-Year dialogue, annual work plan, signing officers form and any other documents where required by Infrastructure Canada or successor ministries, to remain in compliance with mandatory reporting requirements under Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy provided they are in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, satisfactory in financial content to the City Treasurer, and in technical content to the Commissioner, Human and Health Services and Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services; and,

THAT the Commissioner, Human and Health Services or their designate **BE AUTHORIZED** to enter into agreements to participate in initiatives related to the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness Built for Zero – Canada Campaign; and,

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THAT the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services or their designate **BE AUTHORIZED** to issue a Request for Proposal, as required, consistent with the municipal purchasing by-law and requirements established by Infrastructure Canada or successor ministries, under Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy to identify and select sub-projects to deliver program components to address local community needs at a cost not to exceed the funding allocation provided by the Federal government or as allocated in the approved City budget in each respective year; and,

THAT the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services or their designate **BE AUTHORIZED**, throughout the duration of Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy, to approve projects, allocate funds, withdraw, negotiate and re-allocate program funds, including re-allocation between the different program components and program recipients, agencies and organizations to maintain and ensure compliance with program rules and criteria, and/or to enable full take-up of program funds, and/or to address local community housing needs; and,

THAT as the Community Entity for Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy, the Commissioner, Human and Health Services or their designate **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute, sign, amend, and terminate agreements with Purchase of Service agencies on behalf of the City, provided such agreements and documents comply with the governing program requirements and are in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; satisfactory in financial content to the City Treasurer and satisfactory in technical content to the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services; and,

THAT for any agreements above \$1 million dollars, that in addition to the Commissioner, Human and Health Services or their designate, the Chief Administrative Officer or their designate **BE REQUIRED** to sign as a secondary authority; and,

THAT the Executive Director of Housing & Children's Services and City Treasurer or their designates **BE AUTHORIZED** to sign and submit financial claims and any amendments as required by Infrastructure Canada; and,

THAT the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services or their designate **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute and submit to Infrastructure Canada any required Forecast of Project Expenditure (FPE), Activity Reports and any other such forms or reports as required by Infrastructure Canada; and further,

THAT the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services or designate **BE AUTHORIZED** to acquire resources and partner to deliver Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy and any affiliated programs, at a cost not to exceed the federal funds provided by Infrastructure Canada or successor ministry under Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy, or any amounts allocated to the programs in the approved City budget in each respective year.

Carried.

Report Number: S 13/2024

Clerk's File: SS/4274

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9. QUESTION PERIOD

None registered.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting of the Community Services Standing Committee is adjourned at 9:38 o'clock a.m. The next meeting of the Community Services Standing Committee will take place on March 6, 2024

Carried.

Councillor Sleiman (Chairperson)

Deputy City Clerk / Supervisor of Council
Services



Subject: Amendment to the Windsor–Essex Child Care and Early Years Services System Plan 2020-2025: Priority Neighbourhoods for CWELCC Directed Growth

Reference:

Date to Council: March 6, 2024
Author: Dawn Bosco
Manager, Children's Services
dbosco@citywindsor.ca
519-255-5200 ext. 5290
Housing and Children's Services
Report Date: 2/16/2024
Clerk's File #: SS/13629

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

Recommendation:

THAT this report from the Manager of Children's Services: Amendment to the Windsor-Essex Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan 2020-2025 Priority Neighbourhoods for CWELCC Directed Growth **BE ACCEPTED**; and further,

THAT the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services **BE AUTHORIZED** to submit The Amendment to the Windsor-Essex Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan 2020-2025: Priority Neighbourhoods for CWELCC Directed Growth to the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Education (MEDU) as required under the *Child Care and Early Years Act*, 2014 (CCEYA); and further,

THAT the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services **BE AUTHORIZED** to submit subsequent reports and updates on The Amendment to the Windsor-Essex Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan 2020-2025: Priority Neighbourhoods for CWELCC Directed Growth to the Ministry of Education (MEDU) as required

Executive Summary:

N/A

Background:

The City of Windsor is the Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) for Children's Services in Windsor and Essex County. CMSMs are the designated child care and early years service system managers responsible for planning and managing licensed child care services and EarlyON Child and Family Centres in their

communities, ensuring an increasingly integrated, high quality child care and early years system that is governed and funded by the Ministry of Education (MEDU).

The Child Care and Early Years Act (CCEYA) requires that service system managers establish a child care and early years programs and services plan (Service System Plan) for their service areas that address matters of provincial interest under the Act. The information provided in these plans will allow for province wide opportunities to analyze the impacts of programs and services, identify progress, service gaps, and foster evidence-based decision making to support service managers and the early years and child care sector.

As set out in the CCEYA service system managers:

- May establish, administer, operate and fund licensed child care and early years programs, including providing assistance to licensees and evaluating as assessing the impact of public funding;
- Deliver and administer local polices respecting the operation of child care and early years programs and services;
- Coordinate the planning and operation of child care and early years programs with the planning and provision of other human services delivered by the service system manager; and
- Assess the economic viability of child care and early years programs and facilitate changes to make programs more viable.

CMSM's are responsible for planning and managing the delivery of early years and child care services for children pre-natal to 12 years of age at the local level to ensure an increasingly integrated, high quality, child care and early years system. These programs and services are managed through a local service planning and managing process that reflects current legislation, regulations, and policies/directives. Provincial funding is provided to allow CMSMs to have the flexibility to determine how to allocate child care and early years funding to best meet the needs of children, families and service providers within their community. Service system managers possess critical knowledge about community needs, maintain close connections with community partners, are well-positioned to establish strong links between child care and early years program and relevant community and municipal services.

Planning is done in conjunction with the Windsor-Essex Children and Youth Planning Committee (CYPC) and five supporting Networks that focus on program specific initiatives, issues and objectives. With consistent usage of boundaries Best Start Neighbourhoods (BSN) were established in our community, in partnership with the former Best Start Network (now known as CYPC) in 2006. Understanding that consistency is critical in making comparisons of data over periods of time, between neighbourhoods and/or other geographies, Best Start Neighbourhoods were developed. BSN are geographical areas within Windsor-Essex used by the Children's Services department for early years and child care planning purposes. This aligns with the Ministry of Education's vision of a "schools first" concept. As a result, an opportunity of a "hub" located within a school, including a child care and early years program was developed. These programs would be accessible to children and families living in Windsor-Essex prior to utilizing the school system.

A total of seven (7) best start neighbourhoods have been established for the City of Windsor and seven (7) best start neighbourhoods have been established for Essex County.

Table 1: Best Start Neighbourhoods

City of Windsor	Essex County
• Forest Glade/Riverside	○ Amherstburg
• East Windsor/Fontainebleau	○ LaSalle
• West	○ Lakeshore
• Central	○ Essex
• Central - South	○ Leamington
• Sandwich South & Industrial Area	○ Kingsville
• South	○ Tecumseh

Brought before Council in 2019, the initial 2020-2025 Windsor–Essex Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan, developed in conjunction with the CYPC, community agencies/partners, child care and early years programs as well as parents, families and caregivers, collectively determined that there should be three priorities for child care and early years programs in Windsor-Essex. The priorities are *Access to Services*; *System Coordination*; and a focus on *Services for Children with Special Needs*.

Discussion:

In March 2022, an announcement of the Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Agreement was made. This agreement was signed between the Federal and Provincial governments. With a goal to reach an average parental child care fee of \$10/day by 2025-2026, and create 86,000 new child care spaces across the province under a Directed Growth Strategy. The CWELCC System is focused on increasing quality, accessibility, affordability, and inclusivity, building upon the current early learning and child care system. The Government of Canada has identified child care as a national priority to enhance early learning and childhood development, support workforce participation and contribute to economic recovery. Under this agreement, Ontario will receive 13.2 billion dollars over six years.

The Ministry created an Access and Inclusion Framework, which is designed to support CMSMs with developing and implementing local service plans with an increased focus on access as it relates to inclusion. This new Framework was informed by the feedback and consultations conducted in early 2023 with CMSMs, Indigenous partners, Francophone stakeholders, other provincial government ministries and a range of external partners. It is also now more closely linked with the Directed Growth Strategy.

As part of the CWELCC Directed Growth Strategy, the MEDU identifies the criteria for priority neighbourhoods as follows: Low-income families, Children with disabilities and children needing enhances or individual supports, Francophone children, Indigenous children, Black children, Other racialized children and New Immigrants.

As part of the CWELCC Agreement, a Directed Growth Strategy (2022-2026) was announced and includes the creation of 86,000 new high-quality, affordable licensed child care spaces (relative to 2019 levels), predominantly through not-for-profit licensed child care. Dedicated age requirement for CWELCC funding and expansion, is set at 0-6 years. More specifically for Windsor-Essex, the Ministry has allocated 1,587 new licensed child care spaces to be created in both community (909) and school based (678) settings. As a requirement for this new space allocation, an amendment to child care and early years service system plans had to be created and submitted to the Ministry, identifying priority neighbourhoods that met the criteria for directed growth.

The Province has taken steps to prioritize its funding towards the not-for-profit child care sector and has introduced a “for-profit auspice threshold” as part of CWELCC Directed Growth. CMSMs are mandated to be at or below the current for-profit auspice threshold of 70%, as outlined by the Ministry of Education by the end of the CWELCC Agreement in 2026.

Table 2: Windsor-Essex Directed Growth Allocation (2022-2026)

Directed Growth CWELCC Child Care Expansion Allocation (Total 1,587)					
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
School Based Spaces	146	288	--	73	171
Community Based Spaces	134	*--	266	365	144
Total Spaces	280	288	266	438	315

*50 community spaces were moved from 2023 to 2024

An amendment to the plan to identify which priority neighbourhoods met the directed growth criteria was developed in partnership with the Children and Youth Planning Committee, as well as the early years and child care community, through ongoing collaboration. Data used to amend the plan was based on the following demographics in Windsor-Essex.

Reports utilized in the initial 2020-2025 Child Care & Early Years Service System Plan & the Amended CWELCC Directed Growth Plan:

- EDI: Early Development Instrument, Cycle 5 2017-2018
- Social Risk Index 2016
- The Journey Together, 2017 (Indigenous Led)
- The OEYCFC Initial Plan (Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres), 2017
- Child Care Environmental Scan, 2017
- Special Needs Resourcing Funding Review, 2019

Reports utilized to identify CWELCC Directed Growth Priority Neighbourhoods:

- Knowing Our Numbers (KON)
- Statistics Canada, Census 2021
- Social Determinants of Health, Children First
- Autism Reporting, Children First
- Special Needs Resourcing (SNR) Referrals
- Windsor-Essex Child Care Expansion Survey
- Windsor-Essex Child Care Mapping

Table 3 below outlines the priority criteria used for each of the BSN.

Table 3: Priority Criteria by Best Start Neighbourhoods (BSN)

Criteria	City				County		
	Central (10)	East Fontainebleau (7)	West (6)	Forest Glade/Riverside (2)	Leamington (8)	Essex (4)	Amherstburg (3)
Prevalence of low income (LIM-AT)	X	X	X		X		
SNR Data	X	X				X	X
Unemployment Rate	X	X	X				
% of Neither English nor French (Census)	X				X		
Lone Parent Families	X	X	X				
EDI Cycle 5	X		X		X		
% No certificate, diploma or degree	X				X		
High Population 0-4 years	X	X			X		
High Population 5-9 years					X		
% Immigrating 2016-2021 (Census)	X		X				
SNR Referrals	X	X		X	X		
Aboriginal Identity- (Census)		X	X			X	X
CC & EY Service System Plan (2020-2025)				X	X	X	X
Child Care flexibility/lack of infant spaces						X	

Since its inception in 2022, CWELCC has reduced daily child care fees, by a 52.75% reduction in daily child care fees for infant, toddler and preschool aged children attending licensed child care, in our community. While the vision of affordable and accessible child care is positive and a benefit to many, it has resulted in child care centres being full and has created a waitlist for child care spaces. The CWELCC Directed Growth Expansion Plan, will allow opportunities in our community for child care expansion in areas of need. CWLECC Directed Growth neighbourhoods meeting priority criteria for child care expansion spaces, are listed by Best Start Neighbourhood in the table above (criteria was scored out of ten).

Risk Analysis:

The Ministry of Education's CWELCC Directed Growth Plan, allocated child care expansion targets for CMSMs across the Province. The Amendment to the Windsor-Essex Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan 2020-2025: Priority Neighbourhoods for CWELCC Directed Growth outlines the underserved service areas by Best Start Neighbourhoods in Windsor-Essex. Without the plan and the data supporting the identified priority neighbourhoods, we will not be able to meet the Ministry targeted allocations for directed growth.

Climate Change Risks

Climate Change Mitigation:

N/A

Climate Change Adaptation:

N/A

Financial Matters:

To support the CWELCC Directed Growth Plan, within each CMSM's 2023-2027 transfer payment agreements, the Ministry will include an allotment of CWELCC Start-up Grant funding to offset initial costs eligible licensees may incur in expanding or creating new, affordable child care spaces, such as costs for purchasing equipment or for minor renovations of facilities. Currently, no capital funding has been allocated for directed growth. In addition to the Start Up Grant, each CMSM's CWELCC allocation includes Fee Reduction and Workforce Compensation funding specifically to support the Directed Growth spaces created. No municipal contribution towards these funds is required.

Consultations:

Linda Higgins, Manager of Intergovernmental Funding

Conclusion:

Through continued collaboration, Children's Services will continue to work with the child care and early years community and partners to strive to create an increasingly integrated, high quality, child care and early years system. This Amendment plan outlines a multi-year approach to create new child care spaces in areas of need. This will support positive growth for the early years sector, creating a foundation for the future, focusing on the unique needs of our community and the needs of all children and families, enhancing opportunities for the betterment of all.

Planning Act Matters:

N/A

Approvals:

Name	Title
Dawn Bosco	Manager, Children's Services
Kirk Whittal	Executive Director, Housing and Children's Services
Tony Ardovini	On behalf of Commissioner, Finance & City Treasurer
Andrew Daher	Commissioner, Human & Health Services
Ray Mensour for Joe Mancina	Chief Administrative Officer

Notifications:

Name	Address	Email
County of Essex; CAO		szwiers@countyofessex.ca

Appendices:

1 Appendix A - CCEY Service System Plan Amendment- Priority Neighbourhoods



AMENDMENT TO THE (W.E) WINDSOR-ESSEX CHILD CARE AND EARLY YEARS SERVICE SYSTEM PLAN 2020-2025

PRIORITY NEIGHBOURHOODS FOR CWELCC DIRECTED GROWTH

December, 2023



LOOKING BACK AND BUILDING UPON

“All children and families have access to a range of high-quality, inclusive and affordable early years and child care programs and services that are child-and family-centred and contribute to children’s learning, development and well-being.”

Ontario’s Renewed Early Years and Child Care Policy Framework 2017

3

OVERVIEW

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OVERVIEW

- WHERE WE STARTED
- CANADA-WIDE EARLY LEARNING CHILD CARE SYSTEM (CWELCC)

WHERE WE STARTED

The City of Windsor is the Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) for Children’s Services in Windsor and Essex County. As the CMSM, the City of Windsor, Children’s Services is responsible for planning and managing licensed child care services in the region, ensuring an increasingly integrated, high-quality child care and early years system that is governed and funded by the Ministry of Education.

The Children's Services sector has a strong focus on moving toward an increasingly integrated system of services for families and children. The Windsor-Essex Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan 2020-2025 (Service System Plan) was developed based on community needs that were determined through extensive consultations with more than 4,000 individuals. The Service System Plan had constructed the community priorities around the Four Components of Ontario's Vision:

Four Components of Ontario's Vision for Child Care and Early Years

Accessibility	Responsiveness	Affordability	High-Quality
---------------	----------------	---------------	--------------

In line with Ontario’s Vision for child care and the early years, **The Windsor-Essex County Children and Youth Planning Committee (CYPC)*** identified in the Service System Plan priorities for child care and early years in Windsor-Essex:

- **Access to services**
- **System coordination**
- **Focus on services for children with special needs**

CANADA-WIDE EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE SYSTEM (CWELCC)

On March 28, 2022, the Government of Canada and Province of Ontario signed the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Agreement. Under this agreement, Ontario received \$13.2 billion dollars over six years (beginning in 2021-2022).

Ontario plans to support the creation of 86,000 new CWELCC licensed child care spaces for children 0-5 years of age, across the Province, by the end of 2026. Ontario will focus on creating affordable child care spaces in communities with populations that need them the most. This Directed Growth approach will support space creation in underserved areas of the Province.

The Government of Canada had identified ***child care as a national priority*** to enhance early learning and childhood development, support workforce participation and contribute to economic recovery.

The CWELCC System has two components:

- Fee reduction for parental child care fees
- Workforce compensation for those working in child care and early years program

The "Ontario's Access and Inclusion Framework 2023" states that child care is foundational to supporting early childhood development, learning, well-being, and student success. Quality child care experiences provide lifelong benefits to children, and are a key enabler of workforce participation, particularly for women. The Ontario government is committed to providing access to high-quality, affordable child care to as many families as possible. Currently, children are supported by a system of early learning and child care that is offered in a variety of community-based settings and in publicly funded schools to support seamless access and experiences for all Ontario families.



CANADA-WIDE EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE SYSTEM (CWELCC)

Funding under CWELCC is to be used to build and leverage the success of Ontario's existing early learning and child care system by increasing **quality, accessibility, affordability, and inclusivity**, by achieving the following objectives of:

- Providing 25% fee reduction retroactive to April 1, 2022, building to a 50% reduction in average parent costs (based on 2020 levels) for licensed early learning and child care by the end of calendar year 2022
- Reaching an average fee of \$10 a day by 2025-2026 for licensed child care spaces;
- Creating 86,000 new high-quality, affordable licensed child care spaces (relative to 2019 levels), predominantly through not-for-profit licensed child care;
- Addressing barriers to provide inclusive child care; and
- Valuing the early workforce and providing them with training and development opportunities

Ontario's Child Care Vision



CWELCC System: where more families in Ontario have access to high quality, affordable, flexible, and inclusive early learning and child care throughout the province.

Ontario has developed an Action Plan with **five key pillars** to achieve this vision:



Affordability: Ontario commits to reduce parent fees for CWELCC spaces for children under age 6 by an average of 50% from 2020 levels by the end of December 2022. Ontario commits to reduce parent fees for full-time CWELCC spaces for children under age 6 to an average of \$10 per day by the end of fiscal year 2025 to 2026



Access: Ontario commits to increase the net number of licensed child care spaces for children under age 6 to support the creation of 76,700 spaces (from 2019 levels) by March 31, 2026, and 86,000 child care spaces (from 2019 levels) by December 31, 2026



Quality: Maintaining and improving evidence based quality frameworks, standards, and tools for CWELCC. Developing a wage framework for Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) and committing to its implementation, by setting a wage floor and instituting wage improvements. Increasing the percentage of child care workers providing licensed child care in the province for children age 0 to 5 who fully meet Ontario's requirements for qualified employees in regulation under the CCEYA to at least 60% by fiscal year 2025 to 2026



Inclusive: Ontario commits to develop and fund a plan that supports access to licensed child care spaces for vulnerable children and children from diverse populations, including, but not limited to, children living in low income families, children with disabilities and children needing enhanced or individual supports, Indigenous children, Black and other racialized children, children of newcomers to Canada, and official language minorities. Ontario will engage with a broad range of partners to develop a plan



Data sharing and reporting: Ontario commits to share financial and administrative data (including micro data) needed to monitor progress in establishing the Canada-wide system

CWELCC IN OUR COMMUNITY



**Windsor-Essex
CWELCC Enrollment**



**Child Care Providers
enrolled in CWELCC**



**As of December 31, 2023, a total of 13,147
spaces in infant, toddler and preschool
groupings benefitted by CWELCC rate
reductions**

(This number does not include Home Based Child Care and Recreation Sites)

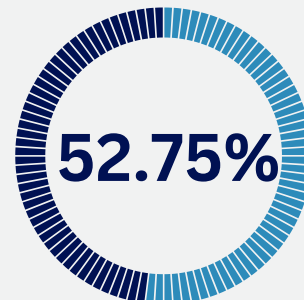


GOAL

**CWELCC Reduction Average
to \$12 / day by 2026**

**Total Reduction of
Daily Fees since 2022**

**In 2022, per diem rates
were reduced by 25%, and
an additional reduction of
37% was added in 2023**





WORKFORCE

- RECRUITMENT & RETENTION
- KNOWING OUR NUMBERS (KON)

WORKFORCE: RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

In August 2021, Canada and Ontario signed a new Early Childhood Workforce Funding Agreement, which was to provide \$149.9M in a one-time federal funding to support the retention and recruitment of a high-quality child care and early years workforce.

This additional federal funding was intended to **sustain, enhance, grow, and attract** staff into the child care and early years workforce. Under the agreement with the federal government, the Ministry of Education was able to allocate the funding over two fiscal years (2021-2022 and 2022-2023). This approach provided for flexible, multi-faceted strategies that recognizes the importance of not only recruiting new individuals into the profession, but also retaining, supporting and recognizing the existing child care and early years workforce.

GOALS

- SUSTAIN** the existing child care and early years workforce to ensure a more stable and high-quality early years and child care system
- ENHANCE** access to opportunities for the workforce that promote retention and recruitment, including professional development, training and qualification upgrade programs
- GROW** the number of qualified staff in the early years and child care workforce to increase access to high quality licensed child care for families
- ATTRACT** and support the development of an increasingly diverse workforce to more effectively reflect the children & families accessing child care and early years programs

WORKFORCE: RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

In our community, the City of Windsor, Children's Services used a multi-pronged approach with the Workforce Strategy to reach the identified goals, with intention to create foundational opportunities to continue this work. Strategies were developed based on community feedback through surveys and network meetings. All child care agencies, EarlyON Child and Family Centre (CFC) operators, Special Needs Resourcing agencies, School Boards and Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) providing direct service to children and families, had the opportunity to participate and provide feedback.

The advertisement features two young children in superhero costumes (one green, one blue) on the left. The text on the right reads: "Their Future is in our hands. Find out how you can become an Early Childhood Educator today! WERECEWINDSORESSEX.CA". Logos for Windsor Children's Services, Ontario, and WERECE are also present.

WINDSOR
CHILDREN'S SERVICES
Supporting Learning in the Early Years

Ontario

**Their Future is in
our hands.**

Find out how you can become an
Early Childhood Educator today!

WERECEWINDSORESSEX.CA

WINDSOR ESSEX REGISTERED
WERECE
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS

Windsor-Essex Registered Early Childhood Educators (WERECE) Campaign

The WERECE Campaign was developed locally to support the recruitment and retention of the Child Care and Early Years Workforce. The demand for ECEs is extremely high, as we constantly hear from child care providers and EarlyON CFC agencies about staffing shortages in our community. The Ministry of Education allowed flexibility for the delivery of the Workforce initiative by encouraging innovative partnerships, creative ideas and opportunities to engage the community. The goal of our campaign is to empower, engage and enhance ECEs in order to create a robust, quality system, connected to the community, supporting children and families.

WORKFORCE: RECRUITMENT & RETENTION



Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens and Commissioner Andrew Daher joined The City of Windsor, Children’s Services to support the WERECE Campaign press conference held March 16, 2023.



PHOTO BY DAN JANISSE /Windsor Star

Children’s Services is leading an innovative and robust Early Childhood Educator workforce campaign which involves paid professional learning, mentorship programs, community partnerships, recruitment and retention strategies, and foundational initiatives that will continue in our community.

WERECE CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

- Promotion and marketing of the ECE profession and the range of career options available
- Encourage approaches that are rooted in evidence-based adult learning models while ensuring linkages to How Does Learning Happen? (Ontario’s Pedagogy for the Early Years)
- Develop long lasting partnerships with the Community Colleges to support success in transitioning graduates into the field of ECE
- Assist new students with resources and supports to equip them for success in the field
- Understanding the needs of the new graduates of the field to better serve the child care and early years community



“

The WERECE Campaign is focused on empowering, engaging and enhancing the early childhood educator (ECE) workforce across our region. The first five years are critical to the development of a child; as ECEs we nurture their development and growth through guided play and self discovery, giving them the tools they'll need for success in everything they'll do. The campaign serves to highlight that registered ECEs are **qualified, creative, dedicated, and in demand.**

- Dawn Bosco, Manager of Children’s Services

”

WORKFORCE: RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: 2022-2023

WERECE Ambassadors Team

34 outreach initiatives including job fairs, community events, highschool career days and Employment Ontario service provider visits reaching **4486** participants



Over **15,000** views since the launch of the **werecewindsoressex.ca**

We ARE ECEs- Commercial produced in both English/ French to build on awareness with **12,976** expressions through LinkedIn & YouTube, **werecewindsoressex.ca**

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING



Creation of community awards in Child Care and Early Years given out annually for ECE Appreciation Day

All Child Care & EarlyON CFC's received funding to invest in technology to support ongoing professional learning opportunities

Paid professional learning opportunities for early learning professionals

Children First led Circle of Security sessions across Windsor-Essex as a form of mentorship and professional development

WORKFORCE: RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

Children's Services partnered with John McGivney Children's Centre to employ ECE students in the summer camp program

Children's Services partnered with Children First to employ ECE summer students in the "Jump Start on Learning" initiative

Children's Services partnered with Connections Child & Family Centre to lead a mentorship program

Connections developed a Mentorship Hub including a resource lending library, tools & materials for creating classroom resources

Partnership with St. Clair College and College Boreal to provide tuition assistance

Five collaborative classrooms established (opportunity for students to interact with children in a specially designed environment)

Creation of resource lending libraries for ECE students at College Boreal & St. Clair College

St. Clair College ECE students received resource kits to equip them for success in the field

Professional WERECE LinkedIn account to promote the field of ECE and professional development

Creation of the resume repository www.eceresumes.ca

CREATION OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES

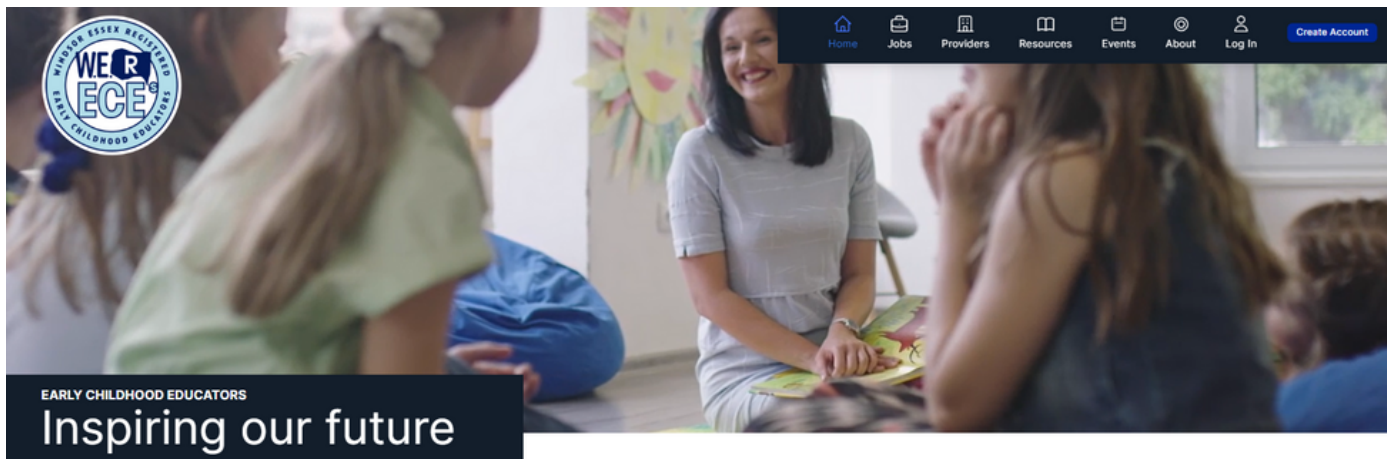
WORKING FOR YOU... RESUME REPOSITORY



Our new website, **eceresumes.ca** has been launched that highlights a resume repository!

This website will assist Registered Early Childhood Educators and others looking to enter the child care and early years workforce in Windsor-Essex.

The resume repository allows individuals to create an account profile and upload their resume. Individuals can make their resume/profile visible to child care and early years program operators to be considered for available positions. Individual profiles contain detailed information about each candidate, such as qualifications, experience, specialization, hours of availability and more. The website not only contains job postings but also includes resources such as a resume builder tool and tips for interviewing. There are also linkages for ongoing education and professional development to enhance an individuals ECE portfolio.



Windsor-Essex Registered Early Childhood Educators (WERECE) is the name of Windsor-Essex's Workforce Strategy for child care and early years. In Windsor-Essex we are using a multi-pronged approach with the Workforce Strategy to achieve the best possible results for our community.



Latest Job Posts

4 Jan 2024
Montessori Teacher - Child Care Centre
Bright Path Kids Corp. - LaSalle Montessori
Permanent | Part Time

4 Jan 2024
Registered Early Childhood Educator (rece)
Bright Path Kids Corp. - LaSalle Montessori
Permanent | Part Time

KON: KNOWING OUR NUMBERS 2023

The City of Windsor, Children's Services is one of many CMSM's that are participating in KON "Knowing our Numbers"- A community approach to understanding the ECE workforce, which is a project facilitated by the University of Toronto, Atkinson Centre. This initiative will provide a provisional overview and also identify key issues/concerns voiced from the ECE's in our community, Windsor-Essex.

Atkinson Centre for Society and Child Development strives to mobilize the best available evidence to strengthen the quality of early childhood practice and inform public policy and discourse. In partnership with George Brown College's School of Early Childhood, the Centre provides training in policy research to undergraduate and graduate students. The Centre is guided by an understanding of the reciprocal nature of research, policy and practice and works in collaboration with advocates and researchers across Canada. Researchers with the Atkinson Centre at the University of Toronto are conducting a study of staff (supervisors, directors, RECEs, DECEs, non-ECEs, ECAs, and special needs support staff) in licensed child care centres, after-school programs, Full Day Kindergarten, early years programs, EarlyON, and staff and providers in licensed home child care. The study is being conducted for Children's Service Managers in 43 regional governments and the College of Early Childhood Educators (CECE), with support from the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA). Atkinson Centre plans to explore the feasibility of creating a sustainable, regional-level child care and early years workforce data collection process, whose findings could also be rolled up to provide a province- wide picture.

Data from the survey will help inform the development of a workforce strategy to support the advancement of a diverse, trained and thriving workforce that delivers high-quality programs to meet the needs of all children and their families. The information will be used to identify trends in educator recruitment and retention, provide information about working conditions and work satisfaction, and allow for the sharing of promising practices.

Knowing our Numbers is a province wide collection system with a local lens. Findings will allow for community comparators, highlight common trends, identify staffing gaps and workforce deserts, track year-by-year trends and regional strengths, and pinpoint priority areas.

Phase 1: Achieving Success

- An overview of data currently being collected by each Municipal Service Managers (CMSM)
- Identification of data gaps across the province
- Partners will be identified to support ongoing data collection and analysis

Phase 2: Achieving Quality

- Review wages of professions with similar qualifications/experience as Early Childhood Educators
- Design a survey tool for collection to examine wages, staff turnover, recruitment challenges, job satisfaction
- Review of current living wages
- Data collection, analysis and reporting





INFORMING THE PLAN

BUILDING UPON

DATA USED TO DETERMINE PRIORITY AREAS:

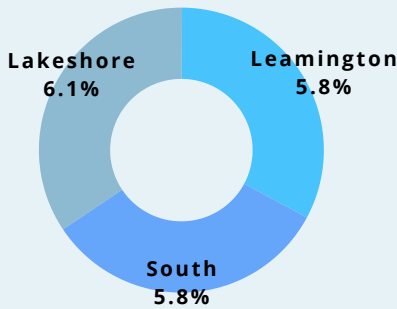
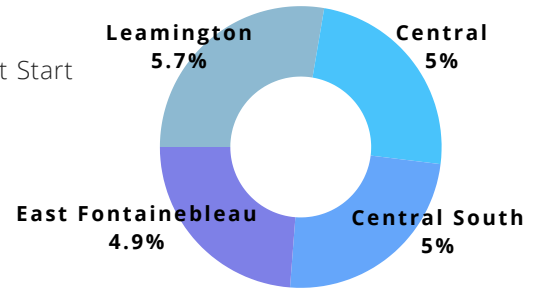
- STATISTICS CANADA, CENSUS 2021
- SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCING
- CHILD CARE EXPANSION SURVEY

STATISTICS CANADA, CENSUS 2021

Population by Age 0-4 Years

According to Statistics Canada Census 2021 data, the highest Best Start Neighbourhoods with children ages 0-4 years are:

- Leamington
- Central
- Central South
- East Fontainebleau



Population by Age 5-9 Years

According to Statistics Canada Census 2021 data, the highest Best Start Neighbourhoods with children ages 5-9 years are:

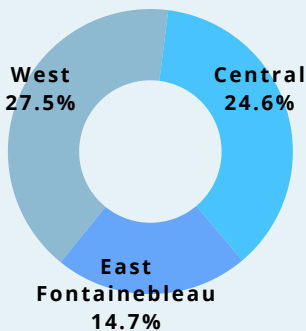
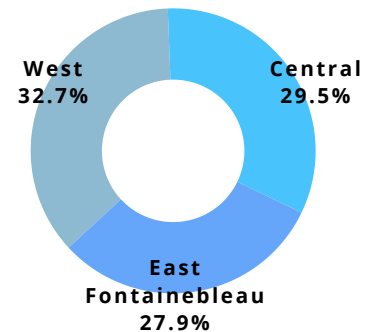
- Lakeshore
- Leamington
- South

Lone-Parent Families

Lone-parent family is defined as one parent living with at least one child, living in the same dwelling.

According to Statistics Canada Census 2021 data, the highest Best Start Neighbourhoods with lone-parent families are:

- West
- Central
- East Fontainebleau



Prevalence of Low Income Measure (LIM-AT)

The prevalence of low income is the proportion or percentage of units whose income falls below a specified low income line.

According to Statistics Canada Census 2021 data, the highest Best Start Neighbourhoods with prevalence of low income are:

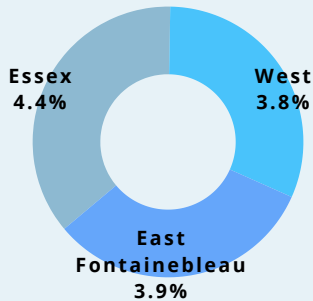
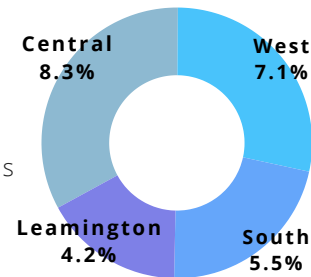
- West
- Central
- East Fontainebleau

STATISTICS CANADA, CENSUS 2021

Immigration Status and Period of Immigration 2016-2021:

'Immigrant status' refers to whether the person is a non-immigrant, an immigrant or a non-permanent resident. 'Period of immigration' refers to the period in which the immigrant first obtained landed immigrant or permanent resident status. According to Statistics Canada Census 2021 data, the highest Best Start Neighbourhoods with population of individuals with immigrant status and period of immigration for the population in private house holds are:

- **Central**
- **West**
- **South**
- **Leamington**



Aboriginal Identity

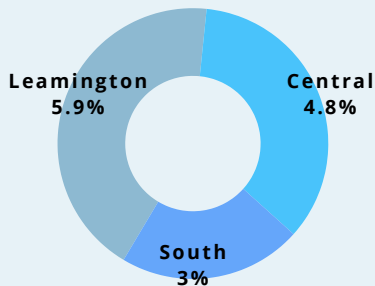
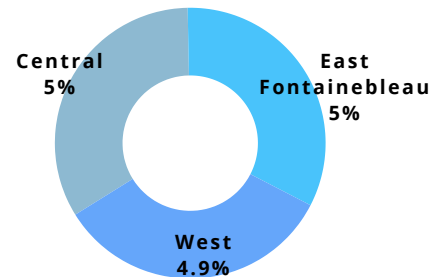
According to Statistics Canada Census 2021 data, the highest Best Start Neighbourhoods are:

- **Essex**
- **West**
- **East Fontainebleau**

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force. According to Statistics Canada Census 2021 data, the highest Best Start Neighbourhoods are:

- **Central**
- **East Fontainebleau**
- **West**



Neither English or French

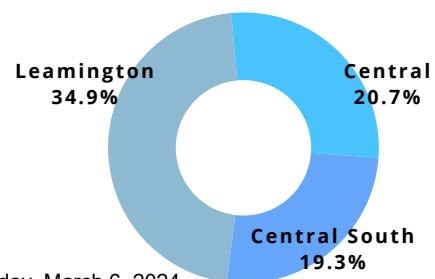
According to Statistics Canada Census 2021 data, the highest Best Start Neighbourhoods with a population that neither speak English or French are:

- **Leamington**
- **Central**
- **South**

Educational Attainment: No Certificate, diploma or degree

According to Statistics Canada Census 2021 data, the highest Best Start Neighbourhoods with a population that have no certificate, diploma or degree are:

- **Leamington**
- **Central**
- **Central South**



SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH & 0-3 INTERRAI EARLY YEARS

This Social Determinants of Health Report was compiled by Children First and is a representation of children and families involved with the agency locally (2017-2020).

InterRAI Early Years is a comprehensive assessment instrument specifically for evaluating the needs, strengths and preferences for infants, toddlers and preschoolers ages zero to 47 months with developmental, social, behavioural or emotional concerns as well as physical and intellectual delays or disabilities.

According to the World Health Organization, the social determinants of health (SDH) are the non-medical factors that influence health outcomes. They are the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age, and the wider set of forces and systems shaping the conditions of daily life. These forces and systems include economic policies and systems, development agendas, social norms, social policies and political systems.

17 Social Determinants of Health

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT		
Income and Distribution	Gender	Food Insecurity
Unemployment and Job Security	Education	Social Safety Net
Employment and Working Conditions	Immigration	Social Exclusion
Housing	Geography & Globalization	Indigenous Ancestry
Health Services	Disability	Race

Through the Social Determinants of Health report, the key areas of need are:

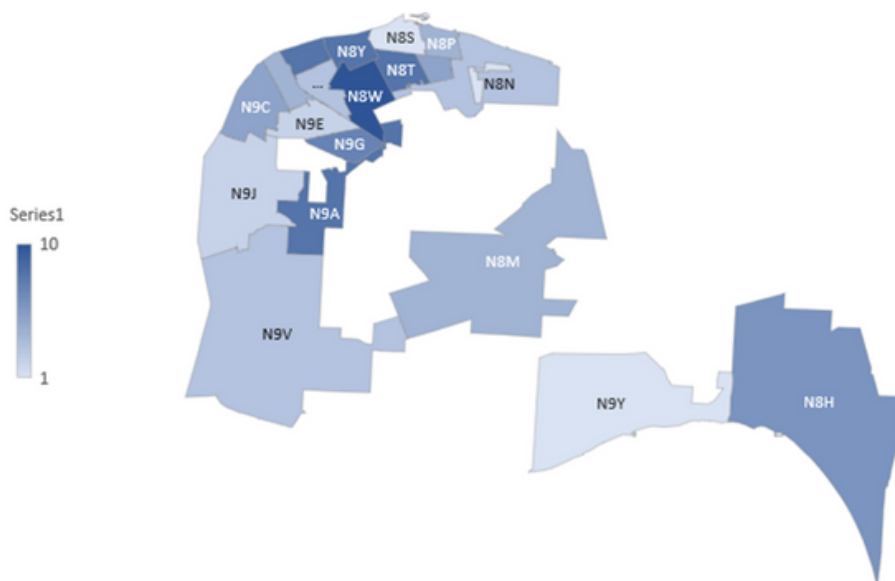
- 8% - **Central**
- 7.5% - **Amherstburg / Essex / Kingsville**
- 7.5% - **East/ Fontainebleau**



SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCING: QUERIES OF AUTISM

Children First data shows a sample of 100 children diagnosed with autism by postal code in 2019-2021:

- 70% of children require substantial support (moderate to severe)
- 4 years- Average age at time of diagnosis
- 50/104 (48%) diagnosed prior to school entry with average age being 3 years.
- 57/104 (55%) received dual diagnosis. Most Common = Language Impairment and Global Developmental Delays
- 31/49 (63%) of those younger than school age received a dual diagnosis.



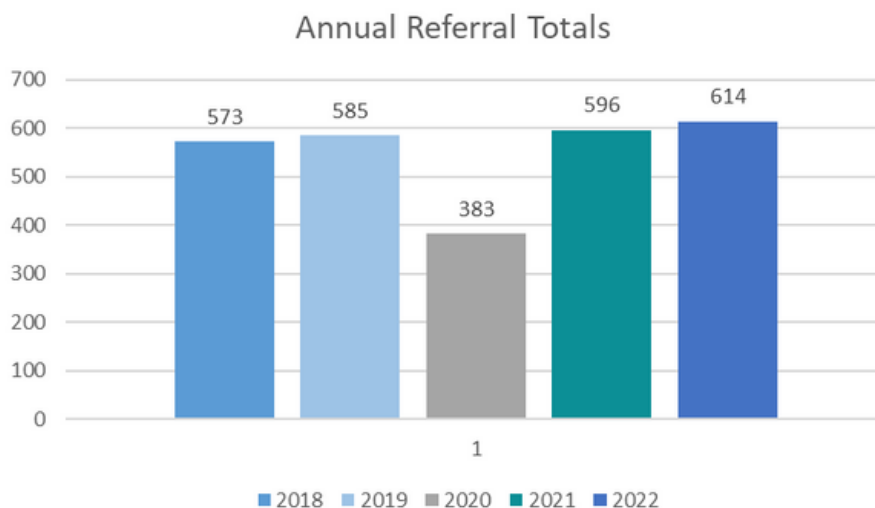
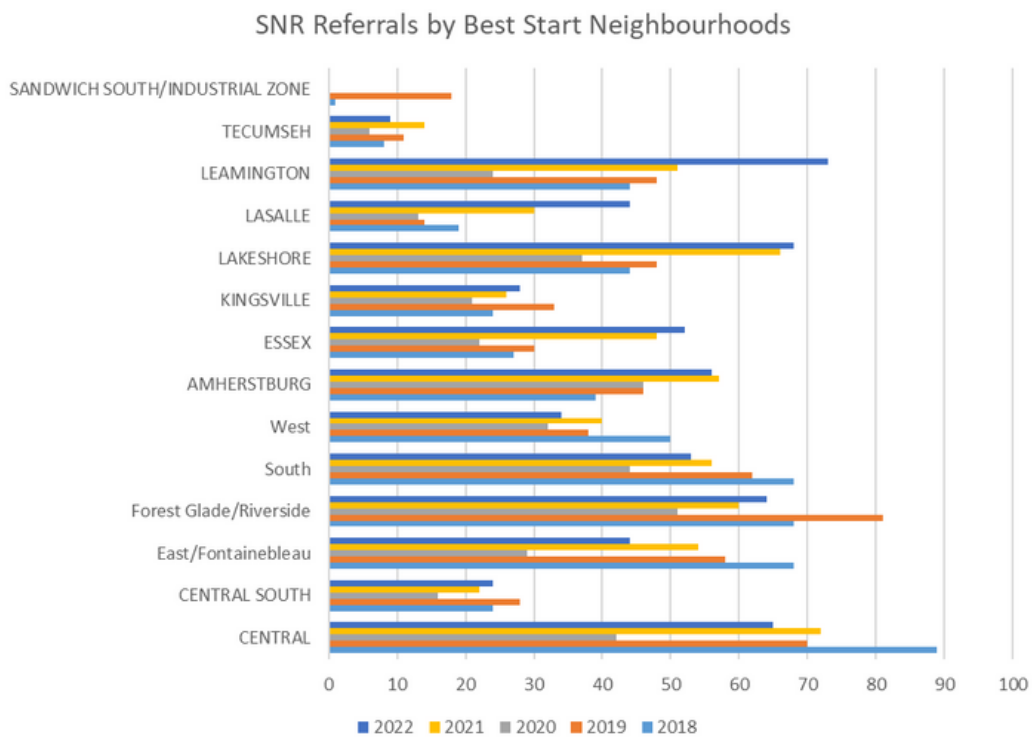
The table below identifies the highest neighbourhoods of children diagnosed with autism in a sample of 100 children (2019-2021):

N0R	Amherstburg/ Essex/ Kingsville
N8W	Central/ Central South/ East/ Fontainebleau
N8T	East/ Fontainebleau
N8Y	Central - East/ Fontainebleau
N9A	Central

SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCING: REFERRALS*

The data provided by Children First, shows children/families *referred for special needs resourcing annually (2018-2022). Based on the data shown in 2022, the highest priority neighbourhoods are:

Leamington, Lakeshore, Central and Forest Glade/Riverside





WHERE ARE THE NEEDS IN OUR COMMUNITY?

- **CHILD CARE EXPANSION SURVEY**
- **CHILD CARE MAPPING**

WINDSOR-ESSEX CHILD CARE EXPANSION SURVEY

Ontario's Vision for the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system is that more families in Ontario have access to high quality, affordable, flexible, and inclusive early learning and child care no matter where they live. As the CMSM, Children's Services conducted a survey to review the needs in Windsor-Essex. The data was provided and reviewed with the child care community. This data helped inform system planning and to determine opportunities to support services.

The Child Care Expansion survey was conducted in January 2023. Out of 156 child care centres, **113 responses were provided:**

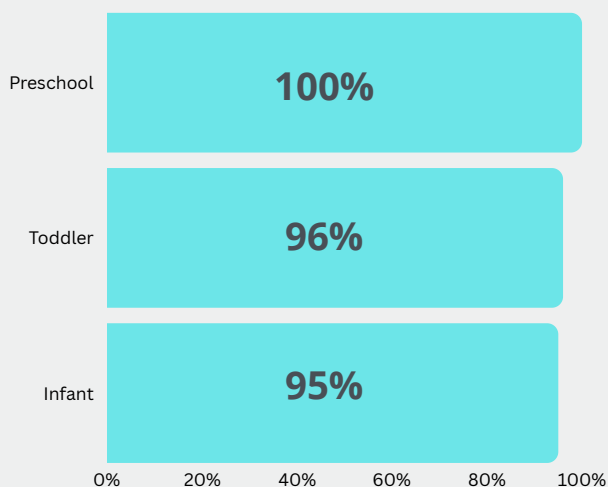
- 43% of these child care centres are stand alone sites in the community
- 55% of these child care centres are within a school
- 14% are for profit child care centres
- 86% are not for profit child care centres
- 82% of child care centres reported that they are not at full licensed capacity



CHILD CARE WAITLIST



Of the 43 centres that responded to this question, **93% of them have a wait list**, resulting in the following pressures by age group:



INCREASING CAPACITY



112 centres responded: **64%** are interested in increasing operating capacity to full licensed capacity

SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCING

- 107 centres responded to the question, **do you currently have children with special needs attending your centre?** **66%** said **yes** while **34%** said **no**.
- 111 centres responded to the question, **has your centre ever turned away children with special needs?** **9%** responded with **yes**

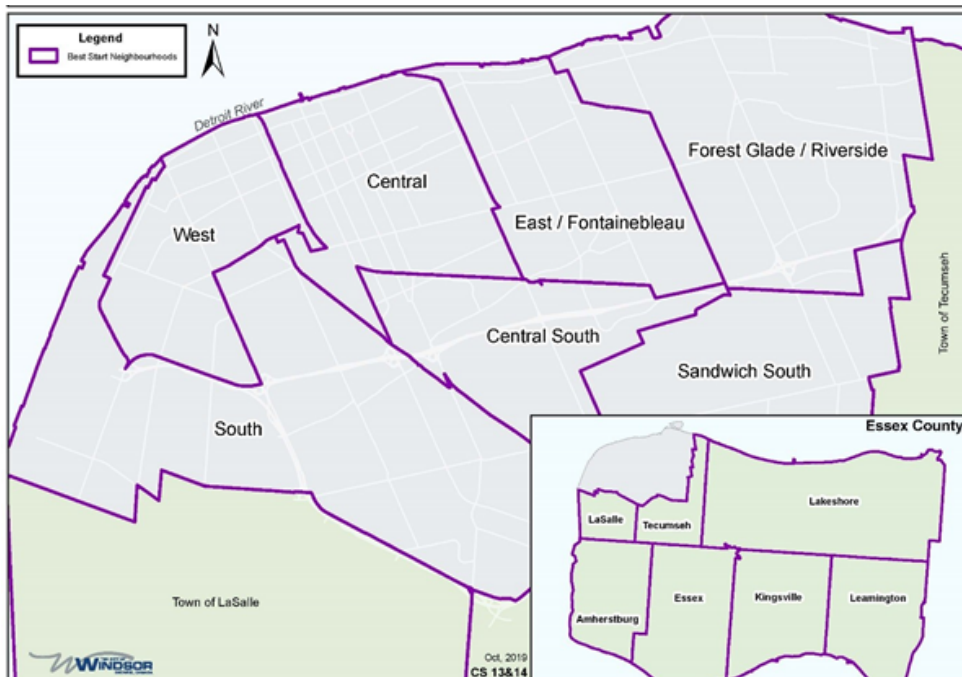
BEST START NEIGHBOURHOODS

Best Start Neighbourhoods (BSN) were established in partnership with the former Best Start Network (now the CYPC) in 2006. Understanding that consistent usage of boundaries is critical in making comparisons of data over periods of time, between neighbourhoods or other geographies, BSN were developed. BSNs are geographical areas in Windsor-Essex used by the City of Windsor, Children’s Services for planning purposes.

Aligning with the Ministry of Education vision of “Schools First” concept, the opportunity for the creation of a hub including a child care and Early Years program was developed. These services would be accessible to children and families living in Windsor-Essex prior to utilizing the school system.

A total of seven (7) best start neighbourhoods have been established for the City of Windsor and seven (7) best start neighbourhoods have been established for Essex County.

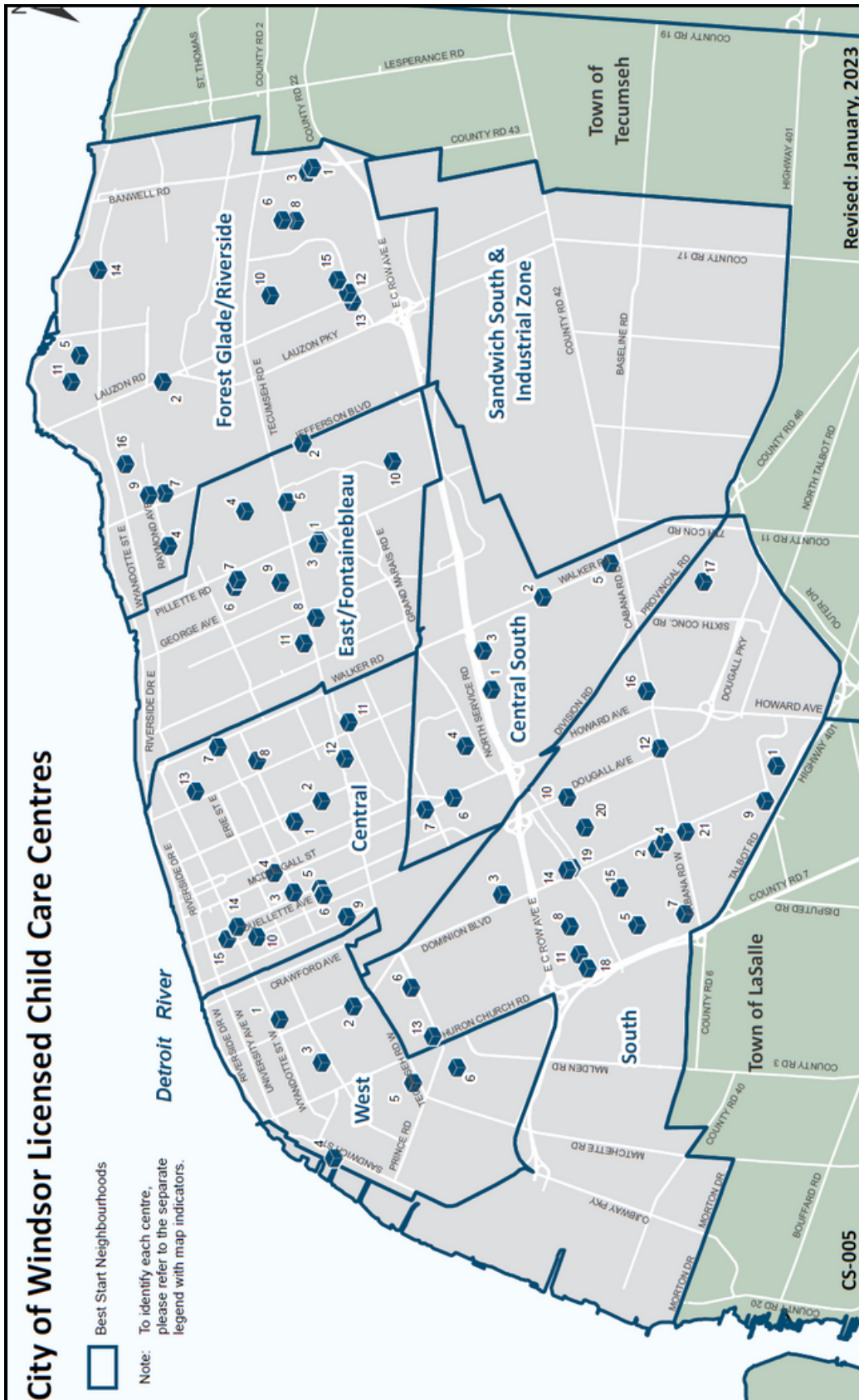
Best Start Neighbourhoods	
City of Windsor	Essex County
• Forest Glade/Riverside	• Amherstburg
• East Windsor/Fontainebleau	• LaSalle
• West	• Lakeshore
• Central	• Essex
• Central – South	• Leamington
• Sandwich South & Industrial Area	• Kingsville
• South	• Tecumseh



WINDSOR-ESSEX CHILD CARE MAPPING: CITY

Map No	Centre	Address	PC	Best Start		
				Neighbourhood	French	
1	A Place to Grow - Ellis	816 Ellis Street East	N8X2H7	Central		In School
2	ABC Day Nursery of Windsor - Hanna	888 Hanna Street East	N8X2N9	Central		Stand Alone
3	Cosmopolitan Kids Inc.	42 Giles Boulevard East	N9A4B4	Central		Home Child Care
4	Delta Chi Beta - James Dunn Campus	1167 Mercer St	N9A1N8	Central		
5	Delta Chi Early Childhood Centre - Ouellette	1385 Ouellette Avenue	N8X1J6	Central		
6	Delta Chi Early Childhood Centre - Queen Victoria School	1376 Victoria Ave.	N8X1P1	Central		
7	Delta Chi Early Education Centre - St. Anne School	1140 Monmouth Rd.	N8Y3L8	Central		
8	La Garderie Les Petites Mains (Windsor) Inc. - L'Envolee School	1799 Ottawa Street	N8Y1R4	Central	Yes	
9	Sakeena Child Care Centre	1480 Janette Avenue	N8X1Z4	Central		
10	Sundowners Day Care & Resource Centre - Dougall School	811 Dougall Avenue	N9A4R2	Central		
11	Sundowners Day Care & Resource Centre - Hugh Beaton School	2229 Chilver Road	N8W2V4	Central		
12	Sundowners Day Care & Resource Centre - John Campbell School	1255 Tecumseh Rd. E.	N8W1B7	Central		
13	Sundowners Day Care & Resource Centre - King Edward School	853 Chilver Road	N8Y2K5	Central		
14	Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor-West	201- 647 Ouellette Ave	N9A4J4	Central		
15	YMCA of Windsor and Essex County - Frank W Begley	1093 Assumption	N9A 3C5	Central		
16	YMCA of Windsor and Essex County - Victoria Site	500 Victoria Ave.	N9A4M8	Central		
1	A Place to Grow - St. Christopher School	1213 EC Row Ave E.	N8W1Y6	Central South		
2	Kinder Academy	3511 Walker Rd.	N8W3S6	Central South		
3	Latch Key Day Care & Learning Centre - John McWilliam School	1901 E.C. Row Ave. E.	N8W1Y6	Central South		
4	A Place to Grow - Our Lady of Perpetual Help School	775 Capitol Street	N8X5E3	Central South		
5	The Toy Box Early Childhood Education Centre - Walker	3966 Walker Rd	N8W3T3	Central South		
6	The Toy Box Early Childhood Education Centre Inc. - Howard Site	2665 Howard Avenue - Unit 3	N8X4Z3	Central South		
7	The Toy Box Early Education Centre - McDougall Site	2550 McDougall Avenue	N8X3P1	Central South		
1	ABC Day Nursery of Windsor - Arthur	2495 Arthur Road	N8W4V8	East/Fontainebleau		
2	ABC Day Nursery of Windsor - Jefferson	2605 Jefferson Blvd	N8T3E7	East/Fontainebleau		
3	ABC Day Nursery of Windsor - Somme	4540 Somme Avenue	N8W1V5	East/Fontainebleau		
4	Delta Chi Early Childhood Centre - Coronation School	5400 Coronation	N8T1B1	East/Fontainebleau		
5	Franco-Sol - Ste. Therese School	5305 Tecumseh Road East	N8T1C5	East/Fontainebleau		
6	Ska.Na Family Learning Centre - David Maxwell School	1648 Francois	N8Y4L9	East/Fontainebleau		
7	Ska.Na Family Learning Centre - Home Based Child Care	1684 Ellrose Avenue	N8Y3X7	East/Fontainebleau		
8	Ska.Na Family Learning Centre - Ellrose	1684 Ellrose Avenue	N8Y3X7	East/Fontainebleau		
9	The School House Academy Inc.	3450 Ypres Ave	N8W5K9	East/Fontainebleau		
10	The Toy Box Early Education Centre - Herman	1905 Bernard Street	N8W0A8	East/Fontainebleau		
11	The Toy Box Early Education Centre - W. J. Langlois	3110 Rivard	N8T2J2	East/Fontainebleau		
12	YMCA of Western Ontario - St. Teresa of Calcutta	1860 Chandler Road	N8W4E1	East/Fontainebleau		
1	ABC Day Nursery of Windsor - Banwell	3335 Banwell Rd E., Unit 500	N8N0B4	Forest Glade/Riverside		
2	ABC Day Nursery of Windsor - Lauzon	1225 Lauzon Road	N8S3M9	Forest Glade/Riverside		
3	Alexander's Day Care Centre Limited	3990 Wildwood Dr	N8R2L1	Forest Glade/Riverside		
4	Delta Chi Beta - Princess Elizabeth	5399 Raymond Ave	N8S1Z6	Forest Glade/Riverside		
5	Delta Chi Early Childhood Centre - Hetherington School	8800 Menard St.	N8S1W4	Forest Glade/Riverside		
6	Delta Chi Early Childhood Centre - L.A. Demarais School	10715 Eastcourt Dr.	N8R1E5	Forest Glade/Riverside		
7	Franco-Sol - George P Vanier School	6200 Edgar Street	N8S2A6	Forest Glade/Riverside		
8	Sundowners Day Care & Resource Centre - Dr. David Suzuki School	6320 Raymond	N8S1Z9	Forest Glade/Riverside		
9	Sundowners Day Care & Resource Centre - Forest Glade Public School	9367 Esplanade	N8R1J3	Forest Glade/Riverside		
10	Sundowners Day Care & Resource Centre - St. John Vianney School	8405 Cedarview Street	N8S1K9	Forest Glade/Riverside		
11	Sundowners Day Care and Resource Centre - Eastview	3555 Forest Glade Dr.	N8R1X8	Forest Glade/Riverside		
12	The Learning Corner	3199 Lauzon Road	N8T2Z7	Forest Glade/Riverside		
13	Windsor East Day Care Services Inc. - Home Care	10273 Paulina Court	N8P1H6	Forest Glade/Riverside		
14	YMCA of Windsor and Essex County - H.J. Lassaline	3145 Wildwood Drive	N8R1Y1	Forest Glade/Riverside		
15	YMCA of Windsor and Essex County - St. Rose School	871 St Rose Ave	N8S1X4	Forest Glade/Riverside		
1	Academie Ste. Cecile Child Enrichment Centre	926 Cousineau Rd	N9G1V8	South		
2	Best Friends Learning Centre of Windsor - St. Gabriel School	1400 Roselawn Drive	N9E1L8	South		
3	Delta Chi Beta - Northwood School	1100 Northwood Street	N9E1A3	South		
4	Delta Chi Early Childhood Centre - Curry	3600 Curry Street	N9E2T6	South		
5	Franco-Sol - Monseigneur Jean Noel School	3225 California Ave.	N9E3K5	South		
6	Franco-Sol - St. Edmond School	1880 Totten Street	N9B1X3	South		
7	La Garderie Les Petites Mains - Louise-Charron	2520 Cabana Rd W.	N9G1E5	South		
8	Latch Key Day Care & Learning Centre - Notre Dame School	2751 Partington Avenue	N9E3A9	South		
9	Latch Key Day Care & Learning Centre - Our Lady of Mount Carmel School	1400 Cousineau Road	N9G1V9	South		
10	Little Stars	3139 Dougall	N9E1S5	South		
11	Montessori School of Windsor - Bellewood	2500 Labelle Street	N9E1B6	South		
12	Olivia DiMaio - Cabana	315 Cabana Rd W	N9G1B1	South		
13	Ska.Na Family Learning Centre Northway	1699 Northway Ave	N9B3L8	South		
14	YMCA of Windsor and Essex County - Christ The King School	1200 Grand Marais Road West	N9E1C9	South		
15	Sundowners Day Care & Resource Centre - Glenwood School	1601 Norfolk Street	N9E1H6	South		
16	Sundowners Day Care & Resource Centre - Roseland School	620 Cabana Road East	N9G1A4	South		
17	Sundowners Day Care & Resource Centre - Talbot Trail School	4000 Ducharme Street	N9G0A1	South		
18	The Children's House Montessori Bright Path Kids - Windsor	2611 Labelle Street	N9E4G4	South		
19	The School House Early Learning Centre	1235 Grand Marais West	N9E1E1	South		
20	YMCA of Windsor and Essex County - Central School	700 Norfolk St.	N9E1H4	South		
21	YMCA of Windsor and Essex County - Southwood School	1355 Cabana Road West	N9G1C3	South		
1	Delta Chi Beta - West Campus	1585 Wyandotte St W.	N9B1H6	West		
2	Delta Chi Early Childhood Centre - Westgate School	1275 Campbell Ave.	N9B3M7	West		
3	Great Beginnings Child Centred Co-operative Inc. - Home Care	820 California Avenue	N9B3T3	West		
4	Great Beginnings Child Centred Co-operative Inc. - University & Home Care	820 California Avenue	N9B3T3	West		
5	Sundowners Day Care & Resource Centre - General Brock School	3312 Sandwich Street	N9C1B1	West		
6	YMCA Child Care Centre - Marlborough	3557 Melbourne Rd	N9C1Y6	West		
7	YMCA Child Care Centre - St James	1601 St. James Street	N9C3P6	West		

WINDSOR-ESSEX CHILD CARE: CITY

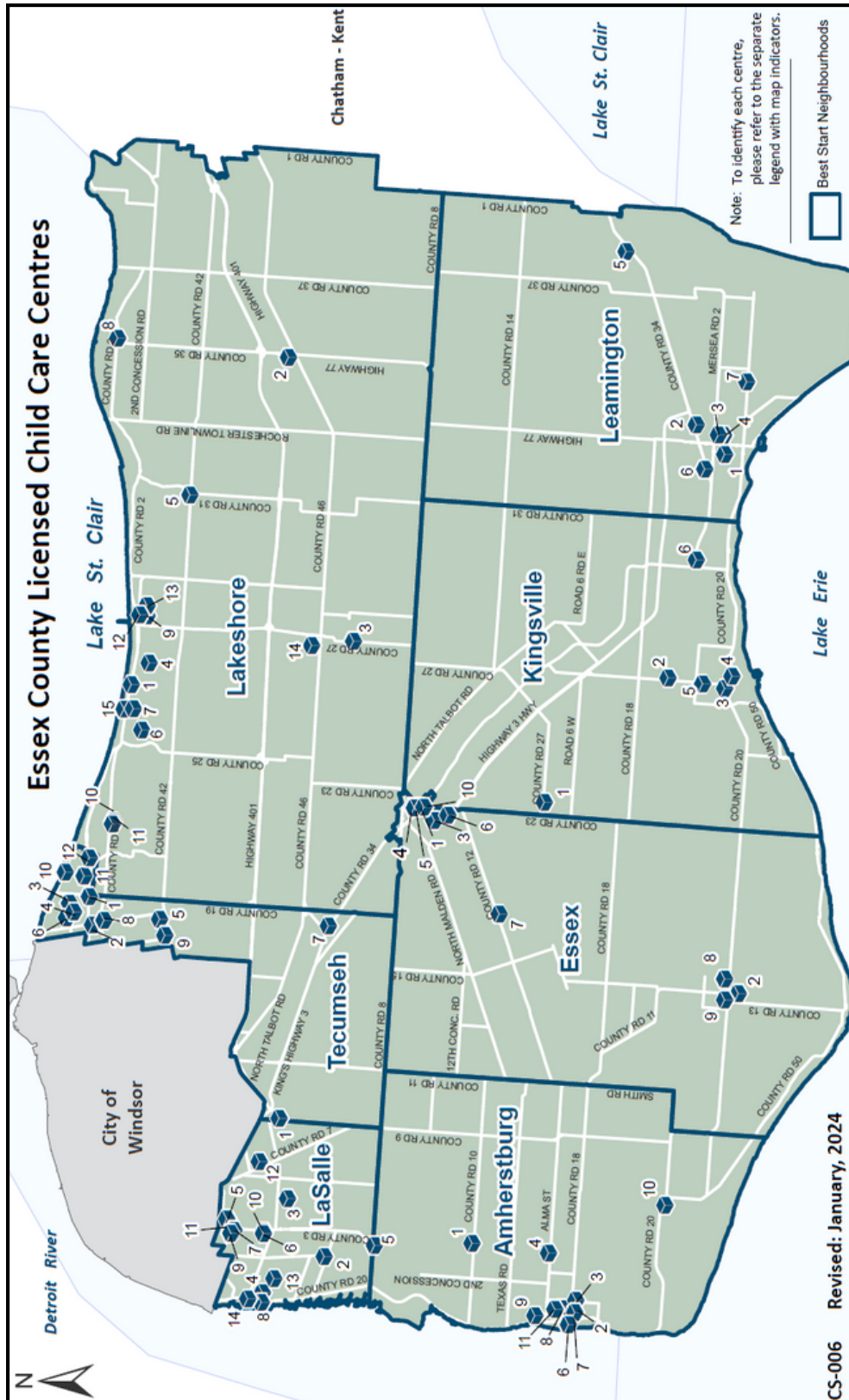


WINDSOR-ESSEX CHILD CARE MAPPING : COUNTY

Map No	Centre	Address	PC	Best Start Neighbourhood	FRENCH	
1	Anderdon Child Care Inc	3170 Middle Side Rd	N9V2Y9	Amherstburg		In School
2	Bright Child Montessori Inc.	236 Cherrylawn Cres.	N9V1P8	Amherstburg		Stand Alone
3	Franco-Sol - St. Jean Baptiste School	365 Fryer Street	N9V0C3	Amherstburg	Yes	Home Child Care
4	Good Shepherd Lutheran Christian Day Care	11 Concession 3 North	N9V2Y9	Amherstburg		In School
5	Latch Key Day Care & Learning Centre - St. Joseph School	9381 Townline Road	N9J2W6	Amherstburg		Stand Alone
6	Little Buddies Preschool Inc (Schoolage)	287 Dalhousie St	N9V2H4	Amherstburg		Home Child Care
7	Little Buddies Preschool Inc.	193 Simcoe St.	N9V1M3	Amherstburg		In School
8	The Creative Child - Murray Street	260 Murray Street	N9V3R1	Amherstburg		Stand Alone
9	The Creative Child Learning Centre Inc. - Stella Marais School	140 Girard St.	N9V2X3	Amherstburg		Home Child Care
10	The Toy Box Early Childhood Education Centre Inc. - Malden Central School	5620 County Rd. 20	N9V2Y8	Amherstburg		In School
11	YMCA of Windsor and Essex County - Amherstburg Public School	252 Hamilton Dr.	N9V1E1	Amherstburg		Stand Alone
1	First Steps Child Care Centre - Essex	169 Irwin Avenue	N8M2T4	Essex		In School
2	Harrow Day Care	243 McAfee Street - Unit 12	NOR1G0	Essex		Stand Alone
3	Once Upon A Time - Holy Name Separate School	200 Fairview Avenue West	N8M1Y1	Essex		Home Child Care
4	Story Book Early Learning Centre	70 Brien Avenue East	N8M2N8	Essex		In School
5	Story Book Early Learning Centre - Essex Public School	72 Brien Avenue East	N8M2N8	Essex		Stand Alone
6	Wee Watch Enriched Home Child Care (LaSalle Day Care Services)	185 Oak Dr.	N8M3C6	Essex		Home Child Care
7	YMCA Child Care - Colchester North Site	2651 County Road 12	N8M2X6	Essex		In School
8	YMCA of Windsor and Essex County - Harrow Sr. Elementary School	400 Centre St. E.	NOR1G0	Essex		Stand Alone
9	Discovery School-Based Child Care Program - St. Anthony School	166 Centre St	NOR1G0	Essex		Home Child Care
10	First Steps Child Care Centre- Maedel Community Centre	25 Gosfield Townline W	N8M0A1	Essex		In School
1	Discovery School-Based Child Care Program - Gosfield North	302 County Road 27	NOR1B0	Kingsville		Stand Alone
2	Discovery School-Based Child Care Program - Jack Miner School	79 Road #3 East, R.R.#2	N9Y2E5	Kingsville		In School
3	Discovery School-Based Child Care Program - Kingsville Public School	36 Water Street	N9Y1J3	Kingsville		Stand Alone
4	Discovery School-Based Child Care Program - St. John de Brebeuf School	43 Spruce Street South	N9Y1T8	Kingsville		Home Child Care
5	Division Road Preschool (Kingsville) Inc.	1723 Division Road North	N9Y2H1	Kingsville		In School
6	Ruthven Montessori Academy	1695 Elgin Street	NOP2G0	Kingsville		Stand Alone
1	Alexander's Daycare Centre	197 Auburn Ave.	NOR1A0	Lakeshore		In School
2	Audrey's Clubhouse - Centennial Central Public School	6420 Taylor Street	NOP1J0	Lakeshore		Stand Alone
3	Bella's Busy Bee Childcare Inc.	2548 County Road 27	NOR1V0	Lakeshore		Home Child Care
4	Franco-Sol - Pavillon des Jeunes School	RR #3 Rourke Line Road	NOR1A0	Lakeshore	Yes	In School
5	Franco-Sol - St. Ambroise	2716 County Road 42	NOR1S0	Lakeshore	Yes	Stand Alone
6	Lakeshore Township Community Day Care - Discovery School	376 I.C. Roy Drive	NOR1A0	Lakeshore		Home Child Care
7	Lakeshore Township Community Day Care - St. Williams School	1217 Faith Drive	NOR1C0	Lakeshore		In School
8	Lakeview Montessori	13797 Riverside Drive East	N8N1B5	Lakeshore		Stand Alone
9	Latch Key Day Care & Learning Centre - Our Lady of Annunciation School	7343 Tecumseh Road East	NOR1N0	Lakeshore		Home Child Care
10	Latch Key Day Care & Learning Centre - St. Andre School	13765 St. Gregory Rd.	N8N1K3	Lakeshore		In School
11	Latch Key Day Care & Learning Centre - St. John the Baptist School	494 St. Peter Street	NOR1A0	Lakeshore		Stand Alone
12	Montessori by Bright Path - Lakeshore	444 Advance Boulevard	N8N5G8	Lakeshore		Home Child Care
13	Olivia DiMaio Inc. - Lakeshore	430 Advance Blvd	N8N5G8	Lakeshore		In School
14	Sunflower Academy	220 Dupuis St.	NOR1A0	Lakeshore		Stand Alone
15	YMCA of Western Ontario - Belle River Public School	370 St. Peter St.	NOR1A0	Lakeshore		Home Child Care
16	YMCA of Windsor and Essex County - D.M. Eagle School	14194 Tecumseh Road East	N8N1M7	Lakeshore		In School
17	YMCA of Windsor and Essex County - St. John the Evangelist School	1757 Oriole Park Dr.	NOR1V0	Lakeshore		Stand Alone
18	Your Wooden Treehouse - Emeryville Site	1204 County Road #22	NOR1C0	Lakeshore		Home Child Care
1	Al Hijra Mosque and School	5100 Howard	N9A6Z6	LaSalle	Yes	In School
2	Franco-Sol - Monseigneur Caron School	8200 Matchette Road	N9J3P1	LaSalle		Stand Alone
4	Latch Key Day Care & Learning Centre - Sacred Heart School	200 Kenwood Boulevard	N9J2Z9	LaSalle		Home Child Care
5	Latch Key Day Care & Learning Centre - Sandwich West School	2055 Wyoming Avenue	N9H1P6	LaSalle		In School
3	Latch Key Day Care & Learning Centre- Legacy Oak Trail	2648 Leptis Magna Drive	N9J0E4	LaSalle		Stand Alone
6	Montessori - Bright Path, LaSalle	6555 Malden Road - Units 2 & N9H1T5	LaSalle		Home Child Care	
7	Montessori Academy of Windsor	1775 Sprucewood Avenue - Unit N9J1X7	LaSalle		In School	
8	Montessori Early Years	1550 Front Road W	N9J2B6	LaSalle		Stand Alone
9	Olivia DiMaio Early Childhood Education Centre	1700 Sprucewood	N9J1X6	LaSalle		Home Child Care
10	Olivia DiMaio Inc. - Malden	6535 Malden Road - Unit 3	N9H1T5	LaSalle		In School
11	Serendipity Childcare Centre	5844 Malden Road - Unit 1	N9H1S4	LaSalle		Stand Alone
12	Sundowners Day Care & Resource Centre - Holy Cross School	2555 Sandwich West Parkway	N9H2P7	LaSalle		Home Child Care
13	Sundowners Day Care & Resource Centre - LaSalle Public School	1600 Mayfair Avenue	N9J3K6	LaSalle		In School
14	The Sunshine Academy Daycare Inc	805 Front Rd	N9J2A4	LaSalle		Stand Alone
1	Audrey's Clubhouse - Margaret D. Bennie Public School	259 Sherk Street	N8H3K8	Leamington		In School
2	Audrey's Clubhouse - St. Louis School	176 Talbot St. E.	N8H1M2	Leamington		Stand Alone
3	Discovery School-Based Child Care Program - Queen Elizabeth School	4 Maxon Drive	N8H2E2	Leamington		Home Child Care
4	Franco-Sol - St. Michel School	33 Sherman Street	N8H5H6	Leamington	Yes	In School
5	Latch Key Day Care & Learning Centre - East Mersea School	547 County Rd. 21	NOP2P0	Leamington		Stand Alone
6	The Toy Box Early Childhood Education Centre Inc.	197 Talbot Street W.	N8H1N8	Leamington		Home Child Care
7	Discovery School-Based Child Care Program - Gore Hill Public School	1135 Mersea Rd 1	N8H3V7	Leamington		In School
1	First Steps Child Care Centre - Tecumseh	13291 Tecumseh Road East	N8N3T4	Tecumseh		Stand Alone
2	Franco-Sol - St. Antoine School	1317 Lesperance Road	N8N1X6	Tecumseh	Yes	In School
3	Franco-Sol - Ste. Marguerite d'Youville School	13025 St. Thomas Road	N8N3P3	Tecumseh	Yes	Stand Alone
4	Latch Key Day Care & Learning Centre - A.V. Graham School	815 Brenda Cres.	N8N2G5	Tecumseh		Home Child Care
5	Latch Key Day Care & Learning Centre - St. Peter School	2451 St. Alphonse Street	N8N2X2	Tecumseh		In School
6	Latch Key Day Care & Learning Centre - St. Pius School	644 Lacasse Avenue	N8N2C1	Tecumseh		Stand Alone
7	Once Upon A Time - St. Mary's Separate School	12096 County Rd #34	NOR1K0	Tecumseh		Home Child Care
8	Playful Steps Daycare Centre Inc.	12315 Westlake Road	N8N4W3	Tecumseh		In School
9	Sundowners Day Care & Resource Centre - Tecumseh Vista Academy School	11665 Shields St.	N8N0C1	Tecumseh		Stand Alone

Revised December 2023

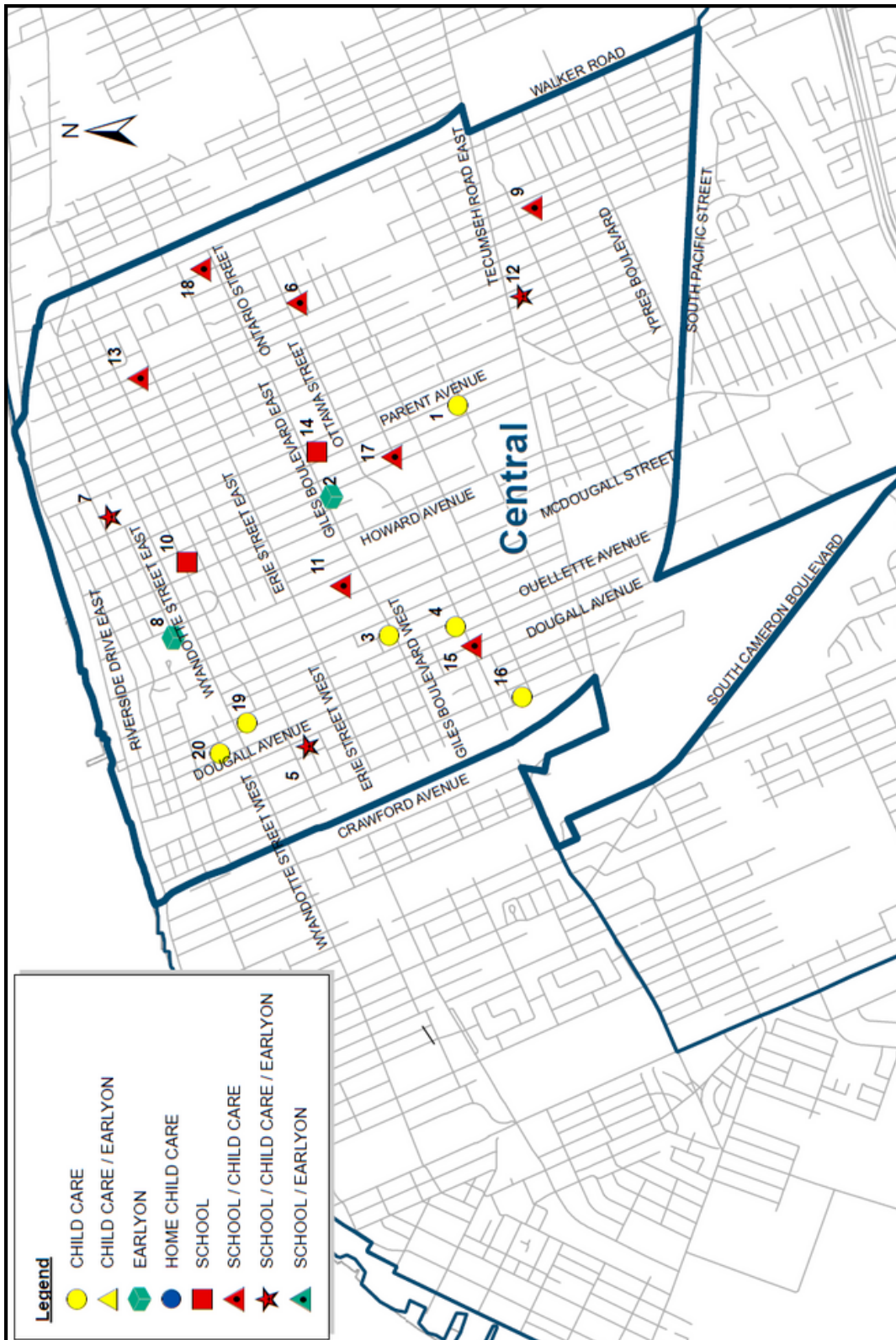
WINDSOR-ESSEX CHILD CARE: COUNTY



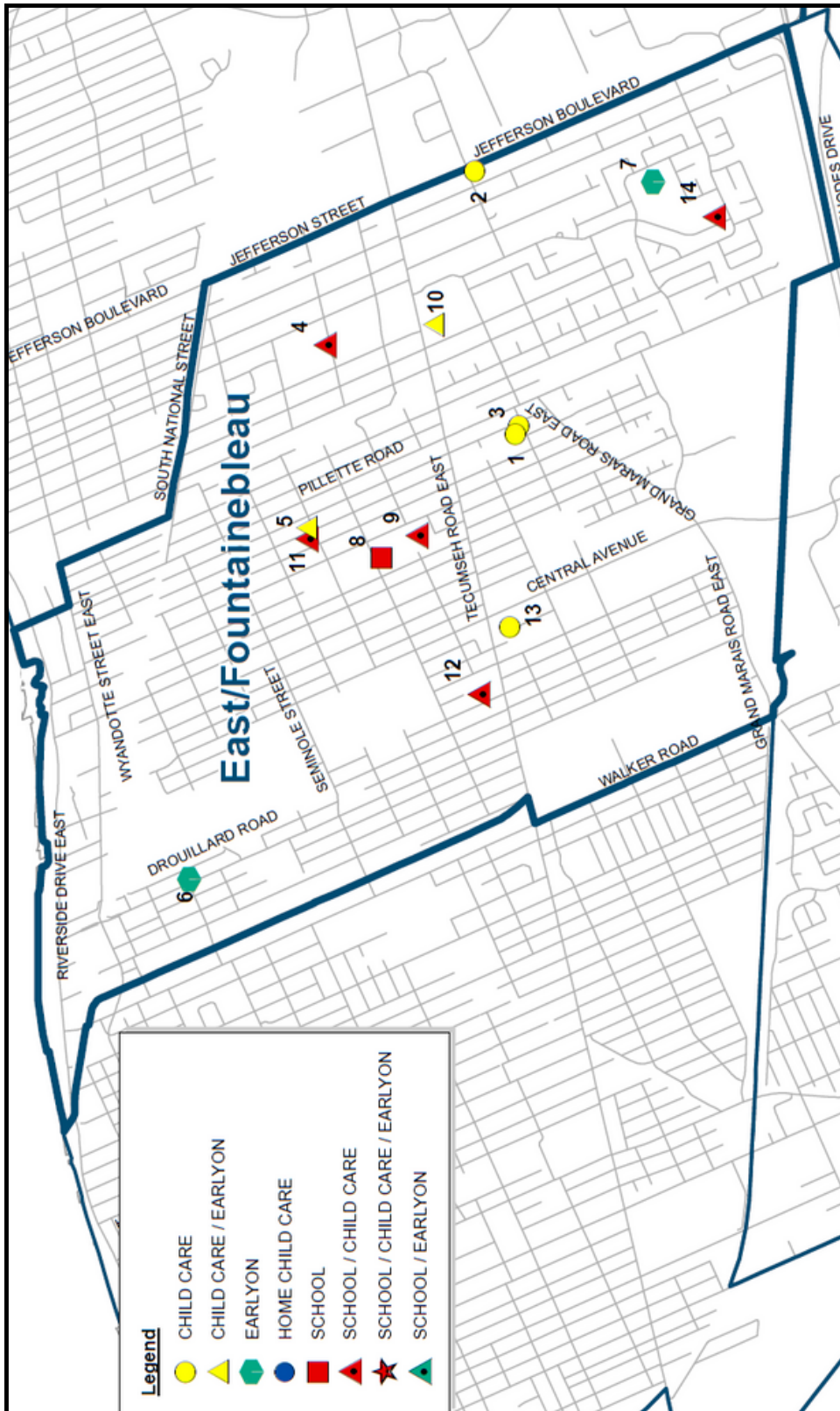


PRIORITY NEIGHBOURHOODS

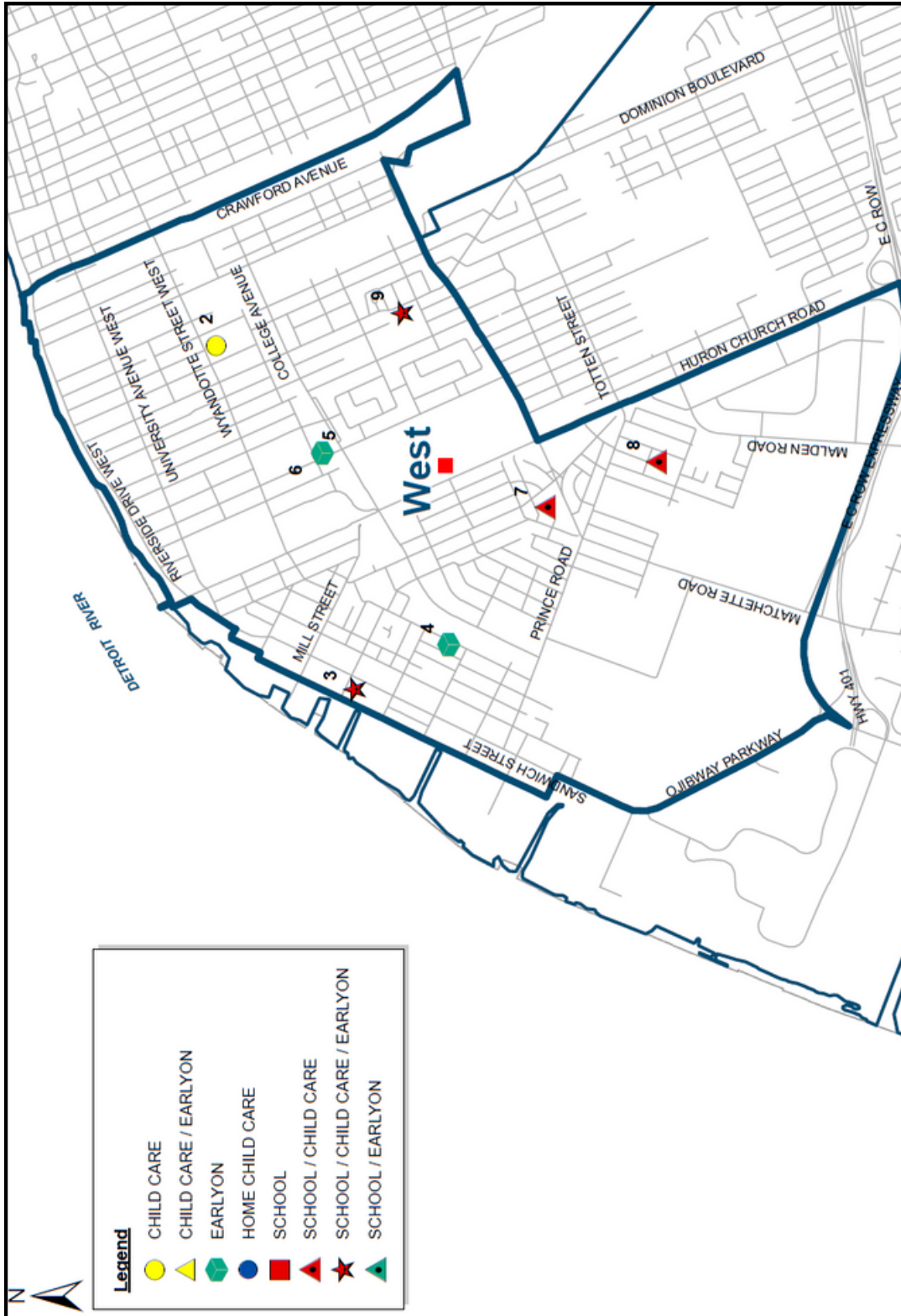
CHILD CARE IN PRIORITY- BSN: CENTRAL



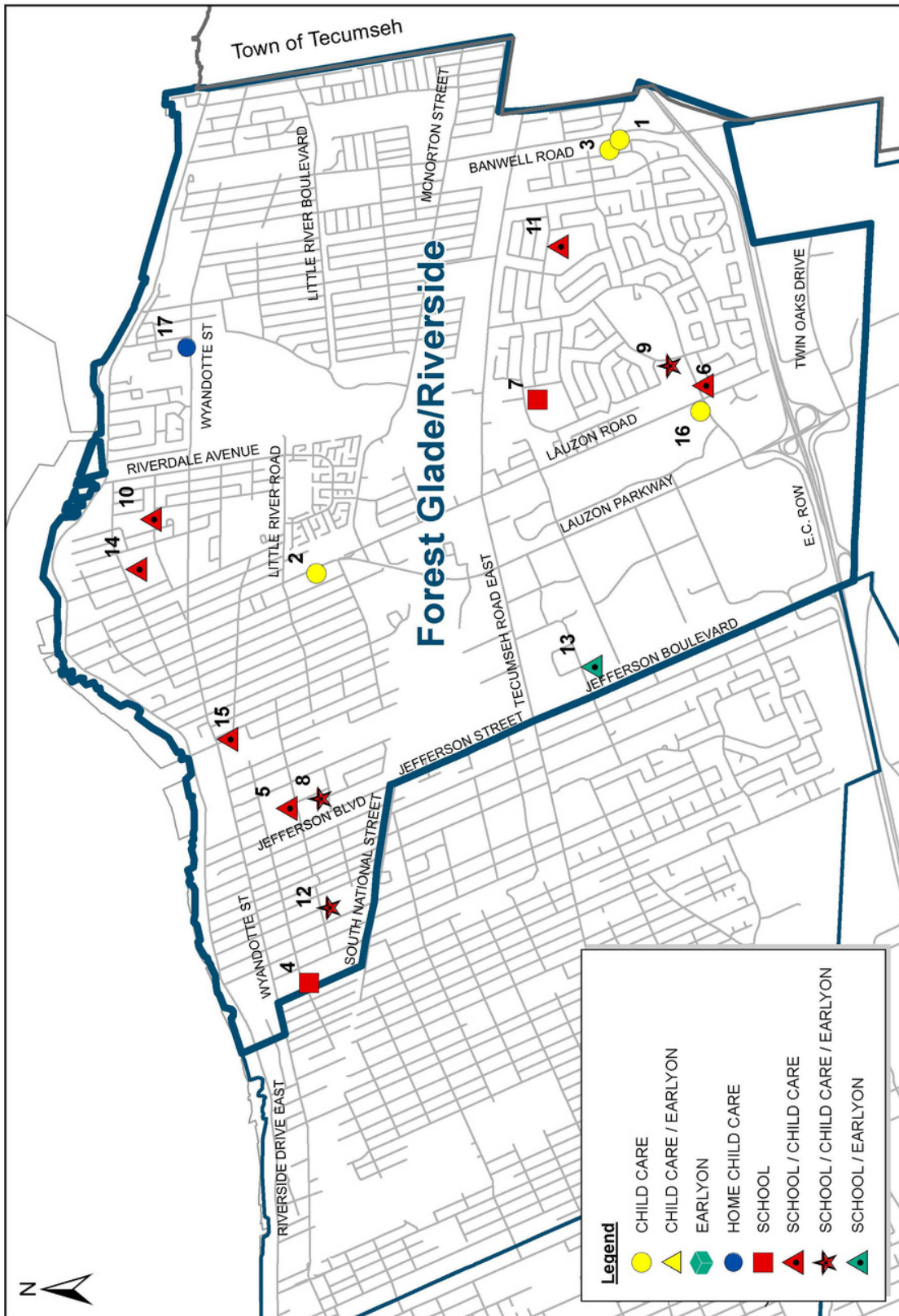
CHILD CARE IN PRIORITY- BSN: EAST FONTAINEBLEAU



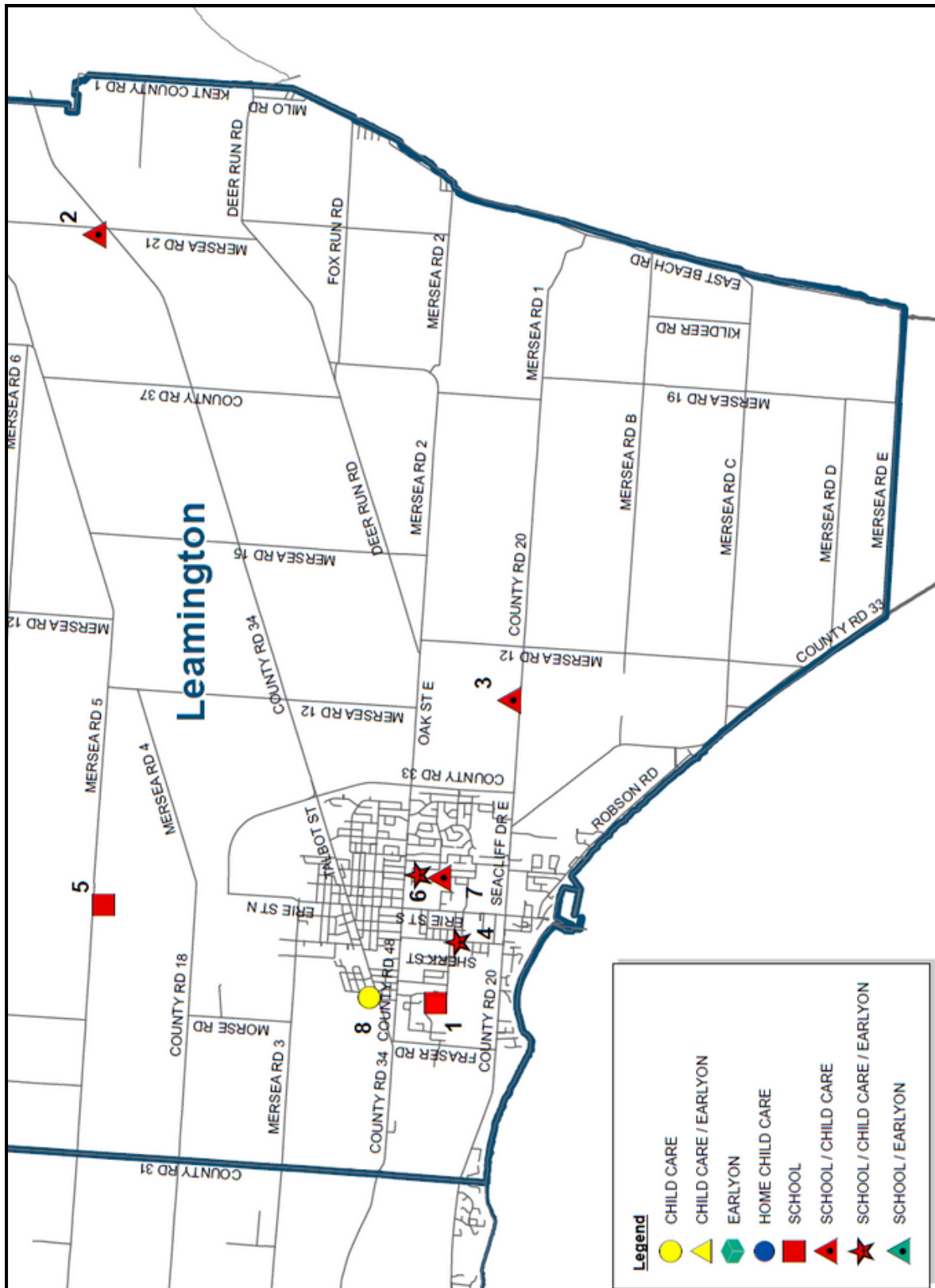
CHILD CARE IN PRIORITY- BSN: WEST



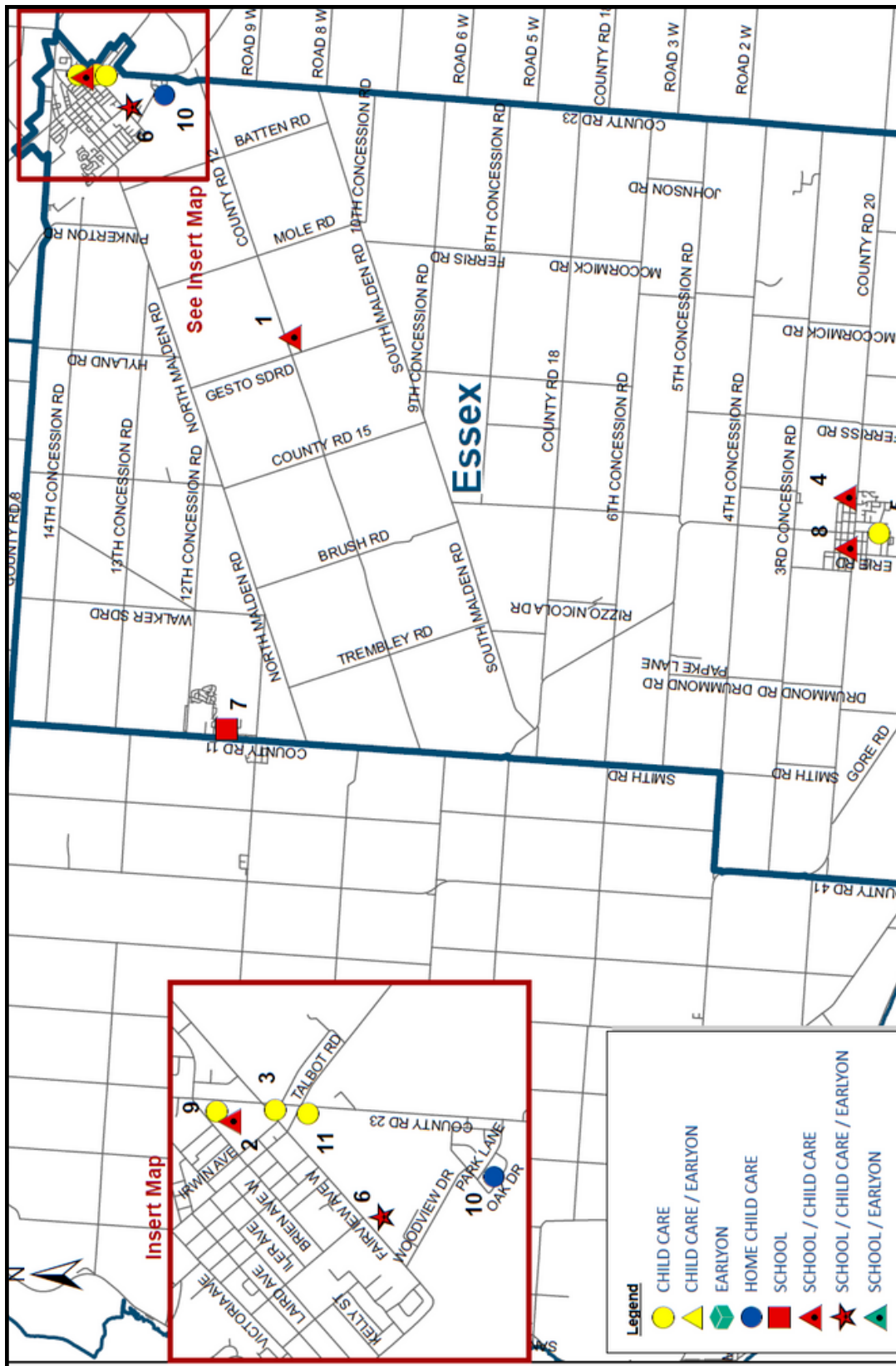
CHILD CARE IN PRIORITY- BSN: FOREST GLADE/ RIVERSIDE



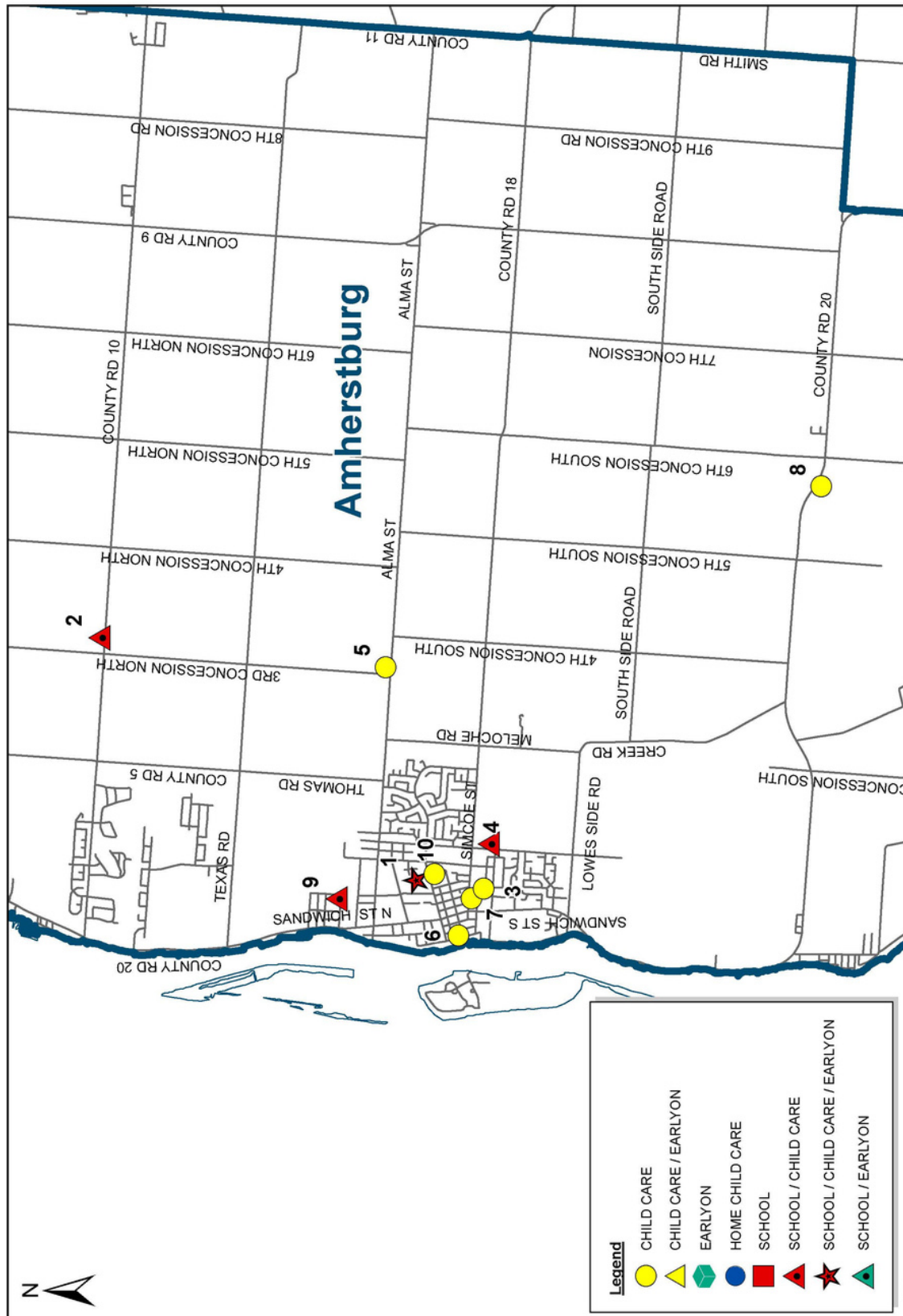
CHILD CARE IN PRIORITY- BSN: LEAMINGTON



CHILD CARE IN PRIORITY- BSN: ESSEX



CHILD CARE IN PRIORITY- BSN: AMHERSTBURG





DIRECTED GROWTH: EXPANSION

- WINDSOR-ESSEX DIRECTED GROWTH EXPANSION: SPACES
- 4 P'S FOR CHILD CARE DIRECTED GROWTH

WINDSOR-ESSEX DIRECTED GROWTH EXPANSION: SPACES 2022-2026

Funded through CWELCC, the Ministry of Education led the directed growth plan including the creation of 86,000 **(1,587 spaces allocated for Windsor-Essex)** new high-quality, affordable licensed child care spaces (relative to 2019 levels), predominantly through not-for-profit licensed child care.

TOTAL SPACE ALLOCATION (1587)	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
School Based Spaces	146	288	---	73	171
Community Based Spaces	134	*-----	266	365	144
Total Spaces	280	288	266	438	315

***50 community spaces were moved from 2023 to 2024**

According to the 2023 Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) guidelines, there is a commitment to the protection of for-profit and non-profit child care spaces in the province. The proportion of not-for-profit licensed child care spaces for children age 0 to 5 years, must be maintained at 70% or increased by the end of the CWELCC agreement.

The 4P's for Directed Growth: Purpose, Planning, Priorities & Process



Moving forward, the City of Windsor, Children's Services identified the **4 Ps for Child Care Directed Growth: Purpose, Planning, Priorities and Process** to work towards a successful directed growth plan for the Windsor-Essex community.

4 P'S FOR CHILD CARE DIRECTED GROWTH: PURPOSE



Ontario's Vision for the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system is that more families in Ontario have access to high quality, affordable, flexible and inclusive early learning and child care no matter where they live.

PURPOSE

As part of the CWELCC Directed Growth Plan, the Ministry of Education (MEDU) identifies the criteria for priority neighbourhoods as follows:

- Low-Income families
- Children with disabilities and children needing enhances or individual supports
- Francophone children
- Indigenous children
- Black children
- Other racialized children
- New Immigrants

4 P'S FOR CHILD CARE DIRECTED GROWTH: PLANNING

P LANNING

The following data collection was compiled during the creation of the Service System Plan 2020-2025 and has been used as a resource with CWELCC Directed Growth:

- EDI: Early Development Instrument, Cycle 5 2017-2018
- Social Risk Index 2016
- The Journey Together, 2017 (Indigenous Led)
- The OEYCFC Initial Plan (Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres), 2017
- Child Care Environmental Scan, 2017
- Special Needs Resourcing Funding Review, 2019

In addition to the above data listed, the **Service System Plan** identified the following concerns:

- In the County, child care centres are spread further apart, while supply is similar, access is less convenient
- Infant care appears to be lacking in some areas, particularly in Essex
- 40% of families (almost half) in Amherstburg and Essex reported that they had to use more than one location to meet their child care needs
- Many families with children who have special needs, have to use more than one child care provider
- Lack of extended hours is an issue
- Many parents reported having made employment decisions as a result of child care difficulties, particularly for parents in Forest Glade/Riverside, Amherstburg and Leamington
- Local challenges include lack of high-quality staff and associated staff turnover

Moving Forward...

Reports that have been analyzed to further identify the Priority Neighbourhoods:

- Knowing Our Numbers (KON), pg. 15
- Statistics Canada, Census 2021, pg. 17
- Social Determinants of Health, Children First, pg. 19
- Autism Reporting, Children First, pg. 20
- Special Needs Resourcing (SNR) Referrals, pg. 21
- Windsor Essex Child Care Expansion Survey, pg. 23
- Windsor Essex Child Care Mapping, pg. 25

Future reports to be analyzed to further identify the Priority Neighbourhoods:

- Knowing Our Numbers (KON) Results
- Indigenous-Led Environmental Scan
- EDI: Early Developmental Instrument, Cycle 6 2022-2023

4 P'S FOR CHILD CARE DIRECTED GROWTH: PRIORITIES

P RIORITIES

Priorities have been identified through the planning phase to determine expansion spaces/areas of need based on the best start neighbourhoods. The priority neighbourhoods are identified as:



- **Central**
- **Leamington**
- **East/ Fontainebleau**
- **West**
- **Essex**
- **Amherstburg**
- **Forest Glade/ Riverside**

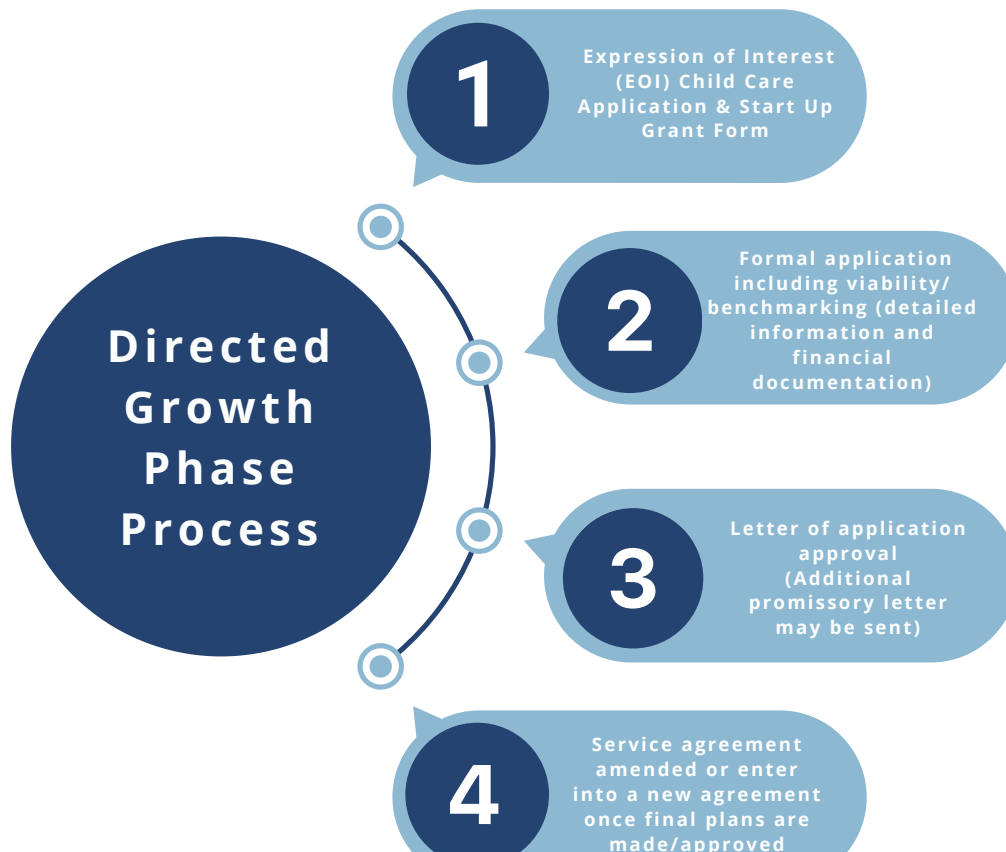
Dedicated age requirement is set at 0- 6 years; however, we continue to review the needs of school age child care spaces on a regular basis.

4 P'S FOR CHILD CARE DIRECTED GROWTH: PROCESS

P ROCESS

The City of Windsor, Children's Services has taken on a phased process for directed growth child care expansion of current child care locations. Priority will be based on child care centres within Windsor-Essex in the priority neighbourhoods.

- Phase 1:** Note their interest- Expression of interest application and start up grant application is sent
- Phase 2:** Formal application including detailed information and financial documentation
- Phase 3:** Letter of application approval sent, additional promissory letter may be sent
- Phase 4:** Once finalized between parties, service agreement amended or enter into a new agreement once final plans are made/approved



PRIORITY NEIGHBOURHOODS WITHIN THE CITY

Priority neighbourhoods were determined utilizing the compiled data outlined previously in this document. The top neighbourhoods within the City listed by BSN are identified as: *Central (10), East/Fontainebleau (7), West (6) and Forest Glade/ Riverside (2)*

Central (10)

- Prevalence of low income (LIM-AT)
- SNR Data
- Unemployment Rate
- % Neither English or French
- Lone Parent Families
- EDI Cycle 5
- % No certificate, diploma or degree
- High Population 0-4 years
- % Immigrating 2016-2021
- SNR Referrals

East/ Fontainebleau (7)

- Prevalence of low income (LIM-AT)
- Unemployment Rate
- Aboriginal Identity- Census 2021
- High Population 0-4 years
- Lone Parent Families
- SNR Referrals
- SNR Data

West (6)

- Prevalence of low income (LIM-AT)
- Unemployment Rate
- Aboriginal Identity- Census 2021
- Lone Parent Families
- EDI Cycle 5
- % Immigrating 2016-2021

Forest Glade/ Riverside (2)

- Service System Plan (2020-2025)
- SNR Referral

PRIORITY NEIGHBOURHOODS WITHIN THE COUNTY

Compiled data summary to determine expansion spaces / areas of need based on the best start neighbourhoods. The top county neighbourhoods are identified as:

Leamington (8), Essex (4) and *Amherstburg* (3)

Leamington (8)

- Prevalence of low income (LIM-AT)
- Highest Population 0-4 years
- High Population 5-9 years
- Service System Plan (2020-2025)
- SNR Referral
- EDI Cycle 5
- % Neither English or French
- % No certificate, diploma or degree

Essex (4)

- Aboriginal Identity- Census 2021
- Child Care flexibility/lack of infant spaces
- Service System Plan (2020-2025)
- SNR Data

Amherstburg (3)

- Aboriginal Identity- Census 2021
- Service System Plan (2020-2025)
- SNR Data

REFERENCES

- Ontario's Renewed Early Years and Child Care Policy Framework, 2017
 - CWELCC Guidelines , June 2023
 - Ontario's Access and Inclusion Framework , 2023
 - Ontario Child Care Management System (OCCMS) Reporting, 2023
 - The Early Childhood Workforce Agreement, 2021
 - University of Toronto, Atkinson Centre, Knowing Our Numbers 2023
 - Statistics Canada, 2021 Census Data
 - Social Determinants of Health, Children First
 - Special Needs Resourcing: Queries of Autism, Children First 2019
 - Special Needs Resourcing: Referrals, Children First 2022
-

APPENDIX

A- CYPC Terms of Reference & Membership

WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY CHILDREN AND YOUTH PLANNING COMMITTEE: TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Windsor-Essex County Children and Youth Planning Committee is working to build an effective integrated system of services that supports children and youth, ages birth to 12 years and their families. The committee provides leadership for this process in the form of input, advice and recommendations. This serves to inform the broader system planning as well as planning done by individual agencies/sectors in an effort to integrate services into a system and create a seamless service experience for children, youth and their families.

Vision: All children, youth and families are healthy and valued.

Mission Statement: Through a collaborative, integrated approach, we plan, lead and implement strategies to achieve the best outcomes for children, youth and families in Windsor-Essex County.

Guiding Principles: The following principles guide the work of the Children and Youth Planning Committee:

Family Centred	Children, youth and families are our priority. They are engaged in decisions made and plans developed.
Respect	We value each other's knowledge and input and commit to treating each other with integrity and respect.
Accountable	We accomplish our work in a professional and transparent manner and are accountable to families, communities and other planning groups.
Strength Based	We plan together for an integrated service system that builds on strengths of children, youth, families and our community.
Responsive	We aspire to create an integrated service system that is responsive to the changing needs of children, youth and families.
Inclusive	We plan for an integrated service system that is uniquely designed to meet the needs of all children, youth and families and celebrates differences to foster a sense of belonging.
Evidence Based	We plan together for an integrated service system that is evidence based and outcome focused.

Outcome

We will achieve the following outcomes for all children, youth and their families:

- Improved quality of life
- Increased integration of services
- Improved access to services and supports
- Increased quality of services and supports
- Increased engagement of stakeholders in service planning

Structure and Membership

The Windsor-Essex County Children and Youth Planning Committee is comprised of representatives from a diverse cross sector of agencies that reflect the unique composition of our community. Individuals representing agencies at the planning table reflect the mandate of their organization and those individuals representing sectors reflect the views of the sector.

It is the expectation that additional members will join the table as gaps in representation of services for children and youth are identified. The planning table is comprised of (but not limited to) representatives from the following organizations/sectors:

- The City of Windsor, Manager of Children's Services (Chair)
- Parent Representatives
- Data Analysis Coordinator
- Community Engagement Coordinator
- EarlyON Child and Family Centres (City of Windsor and Agency Led)
- Local School Boards (Greater Essex County District School Board, Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board, Conseil Scolaire de District du Centre-Sud-Ouest, Conseil Scolaire de District des Ecoles Catholiques du Sud-Ouest, John McGivney Children's Centre School Authority)
- Windsor-Essex County Health Unit
- Children First
- John McGivney Children's Centre
- Preschool Speech and Language/Infant Hearing Program (Talk 2 Me)
- Blind Low Vision Program (CNIB)
- Building Blocks for Better Babies
- Ready Set Go
- St. Clair College Early Childhood Education Program Faculty
- United Way Centraide/Windsor-Essex County
- Windsor Public Library
- Essex County Public Library
- City of Windsor Recreation
- Ska:na Family Learning Centre (Indigenous-led Child Care and EarlyON CFC)
- Caldwell First Nation
- Franco-sol (Francophone Child care and EarlyON CFC)
- CAN AM Indian Friendship Centre of Windsor
- Windsor-Essex Children's Aid Society
- City School-Based Child Care Operators
- City Non-School Based Child Care Operator
- County School-Based Child Care Operators
- County Centre-Based Child Care Operator
- Licensed Home Child Care
- Pathway to Potential
- Family Respite Services
- Building Blocks for Better Babies
- Windsor Regional Children's Centre
- The Summit Centre
- Erie St. Clair LHIN
- Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County
- Essex Community Care Access Centre
- Workforce Windsor Essex
- Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership
- Ministry of Education

In order to maintain equity in representation, one representative will be identified for each agency/sector, except in cases where an agency has multi-program delivery which requires program specific representation. When unable to attend meetings, the member may name a replacement representative. Sector representation such as child care and EarlyON Child and Family Centre satellites have a two year term and the call for membership goes out to the sector on a bi-annual basis to ensure an inclusive approach.

This committee is chaired by the City of Windsor, Manager of Children's Services.

The Children and Youth Planning Committee has five Networks which report to the main committee. The five Networks include (see organizational chart below):

Network	Purpose
Inclusion Network	The purpose of the Inclusion Network is to give input/advice to the City of Windsor as Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) for child care in Windsor/Essex County. This advice will serve to assist in service system management responsibilities for the planning and implementation of services for children with special needs ages 0 – 12 years with a focus on children ages 0 to 5 years, including the transition to services with the Boards of Education.
EarlyON Child and Family Centre Network	The purpose of the EarlyON Child & Family Centre Network is to give input/advice to the City of Windsor as the Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) with respect to identifying gaps and overlaps of early years services for families with children 0 – 6 years and to integrate parenting programs into the early learning and care hubs.
Professional Development Network	The purpose of the Professional Development Network is to give input/advice to the City of Windsor as Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) for training opportunities to early childhood educators/caregivers working with children ages 0 to 12 years of age in early learning programs in Windsor/Essex County. Through the CMSM, this committee will also provide advice to the Ministry of Education (MEDU) on issues relative to the needs of early childhood educators/ caregivers providing services to children and their families in our community.
Urban Indigenous Early Child Development Network	The purpose of the Urban Indigenous Early Child Development Network will be to give input/advice to the City of Windsor as Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) for planning purposes as it relates to child care, EarlyON Child and Family Centres and system integration for children and youth in Windsor/Essex County. Through the CMSM, this network will also provide advice to the Ministry of Education (MEDU) on issues relative to the needs of children and their families in our community.
Child Care Network	The purpose of the Child Care Network is to provide input/advice to the City of Windsor as Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) for child care and as applicable to the Windsor-Essex County Children and Youth Planning Committee. This advice will serve to assist in service system management responsibilities for the planning and delivery child care funding and child care services. Through the CMSM, this committee will also provide input/advice to the Ministry of Education (MEDU) as applicable.

Each Network has its own Terms of Reference.

The chair/those with responsibility for the program area of each of the Networks sits on the Children and Youth Planning Committee. The agenda of the Children and Youth Planning Committee has a standing agenda item for Network reporting. Each of the chairs reports back on the work of the Networks. These updates are usually verbal in nature and they then appear in the minutes of the meeting for others to review. In some cases, the chair of the Network brings a recommendation for approval and/or a document for review and input.

On occasion, a working group or task group is established to work on a specific, time limited task.

Decision Making

It is a clear expectation that all committee members will work cooperatively and collaboratively in decision-making and implementation activities, with a primary focus on broad community needs and the needs of all children and families rather than individual agency interests. Due to this, a consensus decision making model is employed by the planning committee and its networks. If consensus can't be reached, the majority will rule.



Last Revised 2023



CHILDREN'S SERVICES
Supporting Learning in the Early Years





Council Report: S 26/2024

Subject: 2024 Municipally Significant Event Status, Wards 2,3,4,9

Reference:

Date to Council: March 6, 2024
Author: Michelle Staadegaard
Manager of Culture & Events
519-253-2300 ext. 2726
mstaadegaard@citywindsor.ca

Will Alexander
Special Events Supervisor
519-253-2300 ext. 2724
walexander@citywindsor.ca

Recreation and Culture
Report Date: February 13, 2024
File # SR2024

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

Recommendation:

THAT the request from; Northern Heat Rib Series; Rotary Club of Windsor (1918); Poutine Feast Ontario Inc.; Windsor-Essex Pride Fest; SOTC Productions; Zalent Creatives; and Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare Foundation for approval of designation as 'municipally significant' for the purpose of applying for their Special Occasions Permit – Public Event **BE APPROVED** by City Council subject to the terms and conditions of the Special Event Agreement with the City; and further,

THAT City Council **APPROVE** the following proposed significant event dates for 2024:

Thursday May 23, 2024 through Sunday May 26, 2024

- Windsor Rib Fest (Riverfront Festival Plaza and Riverfront Civic Terrace) hosted by Northern Heat Rib Series

Friday May 31, 2024 through Sunday June 2, 2024

- Art in the Park (Willistead Park) hosted by Rotary Club of Windsor (1918)

Thursday June 6, 2024 through Sunday June 9, 2024

- Poutine Feast (Riverfront Festival Plaza and Riverfront Civic Terrace) hosted by Poutine Feast Ontario Inc.

Saturday June 8, 2024

- The Pier (Assumption Park- Pier) hosted by SOTC Productions

Saturday July 27, 2024 or Saturday August 24, 2024

- The Hangar (Canadian Aviation Museum) hosted by SOTC Productions
- This event takes place on private property that does not hold a liquor license
- The event will only take place on one of the dates, not both

Friday August 9, 2024 through Sunday August 11, 2024

- Pride Fest (Lanspeary Park and Outdoor Rink) hosted by Windsor-Essex Pride Fest

Friday August 16, 2024 through Sunday August 18, 2024

- Windsor International Diaspora African Festival (Lanspeary Park) hosted by Zalent Creatives

Saturday September 14, 2024

- Survivor Challenge (Malden Park) hosted by Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare Foundation

Executive Summary:

N/A

Background:

The Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) administers the Special Occasion Permit (SOP) program, which allows for the sale, service and in most cases consumption of liquor on special occasions, such as cash bars at weddings or private receptions, as well as larger scale events that are open to the public, such as charity fundraisers.

A Special Occasion Permit (SOP) is required any time liquor is sold or served anywhere other than in a licensed establishment or a private place. SOPs are for occasional, special events only, and not for personal profit or running an ongoing business.

AGCO defines a Public Event as an event that is advertised to the public to attend. These events can be advertised and fundraising and/or profit from the sale of liquor at the event is permitted.

Public Event permits can be issued for events of “municipal significance”.

An event of municipal significance requires a designation by the municipality in which the event will take place. SOP applications for a municipally significant public event must be accompanied by either a municipal resolution or a letter from a delegated municipal official designating the event as municipally significant. Requests for municipal significance must be requested on an annual basis.

Discussion:

Previously, Council approved seven events as “municipally significant” at its meeting of March 30, 2023 as per CR 145/2023 CSPA 205. Administration has received a request for eight (8) events for the 2024 season to be designated as “municipally significant”.

All eight (8) events listed have received no objection from either Administration or the Special Events Resources Team (SERT). Administration has consulted with the local AGCO representatives (included as part of SERT), who did not object to any of the events applying for “municipal significance” status noted in this report.

The event organizers will be required to enter into an agreement with the Corporation to the extent similar to the other festivals and events that currently are presented at other City of Windsor municipal locations, including indemnifying the City of Windsor from liability associated with the event.

Risk Analysis:

There is a significant risk that if the eight (8) events noted in this report are not approved for Significant Event Status designation, they will not get approval for an SOP by the AGCO. If Significant Event Status were not approved, these public events would not be able to occur.

The consumption of alcohol within the festival/event site will occur at these events if they are granted an SOP. For events on City owned property, the applicant will be required to provide the required insurance. All liquor services will adhere to the AGCO regulations and the Municipal Alcohol Policy, which provides information that covers requirements for Smart Service staffing resources. These factors will mitigate the risk factor to the Corporation.

For events that are not on City owned property, there is minimal risk to the Corporation.

Climate Change Risks

Climate Change Mitigation:

N/A

Climate Change Adaptation:

N/A

Financial Matters:

The applicants hosting events on City owned public property would be required to rent the respective venue and pay the applicable fees as per the 2024 Schedule of Fees.

Consultations:

SERT (Special Events Resource Team)

AGCO (Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario)

Conclusion:

The City of Windsor recognizes the importance of special events and festivals enhancing the quality of life, tourism, culture, recreation and education, not all of which would be possible without the invaluable services of volunteers, community groups, and sponsors that add their support and skills to enhancing the community events.

Planning Act Matters:

N/A

Approvals:

Name	Title
William Alexander	Supervisor, Special Events
Michelle Staadegaard	Manager, Culture & Events
Jen Knights	Executive Director, Recreation & Culture
Ray Mensour	Commissioner, Community Services
Wira Vendrasco	City Solicitor(A)
Dana Paladino	Commissioner, Corporate Services
Joe Mancina	Chief Administrative Officer

Notifications:

Name	Address	Email

Appendices:



Subject: Temporary Exhibition Look Again! Outside! Extension and Expansion - City Wide

Reference:

Date to Council: March 6, 2024
Author: Michelle Staadegaard
Manager, Culture & Events
mstaadegaard@citywindsor.ca
519 253-2300 ext. 2726

Salina Larocque
Cultural Development Coordinator
slarocque@citywindsor.ca
519 253-2300 ext. 2746

Recreation and Culture
Report Date: February 16, 2024
Clerk's File #: SR/13926

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

Recommendation:

THAT the request from the Art Gallery of Windsor (AGW, currently operating as Art Windsor-Essex AWE) to extend the *Look Again! Outside!* temporary exhibition of up to thirty-one (31) reproduction paintings in frames in the spring of 2024 for a period of up to ONE YEAR **BE APPROVED**; and further,

THAT the request from the AGW to relocate two (2) of these reproduction paintings in frames currently displayed in various locations in Sandwich Town to Paterson Park until the end of 2024 **BE APPROVED**; and further,

THAT the City Solicitor, or designate **BE AUTHORIZED** to prepare a Consent to Enter Agreement for the Art Gallery of Windsor to allow its employees, agents and contractors (collectively "**AGW**") to enter Paterson Park (the "**Consent Lands**") for the purpose of installing and maintaining the reproduction paintings (the "**Works**") to be relocated to the Consent Lands approved as to form and content by the City Solicitor, and in content by the Executive Director, Recreation and Culture, and the Executive Director, Parks and Facilities including the following terms:

- (i) The term of the agreement shall be for a period of up to one (1) year, commencing in the spring of 2024;

- (ii) The cost for the Consent to Enter Agreement will be granted for nominal consideration of \$1.00;
- (iii) AGW will be responsible for ensuring there is no damage to the Consent Lands and, upon termination of the Consent to Enter Agreement, any disturbance of the Consent Lands resulting from AGW's carrying out of its Works will be restored by AGW at its own cost to the satisfaction of the Executive Director, Parks and Facilities;
- (iv) AGW will be required to provide the City with indemnification and require proof of insurance with the following minimal coverage, satisfactory to the City: \$5,000,000 Commercial General Liability coverage, with "The Corporation of the City of Windsor" listed as an additional insured and cross-liability coverage and 30 days' notice of cancellation. The coverage must not exclude the Consent Lands and must specifically acknowledge the Consent Lands are included on the proof of insurance. The City reserves the right to amend, restate and/or supplement the above requirements as determined by the City's Risk and Insurance Department from time to time.

THAT Administration **BE AUTHORIZED** to work with AGW to determine an appropriate area for the relocation of two (2) other existing framed reproduction paintings to new Sandwich Town locations until the end of 2024; and further,

THAT City Council **AUTHORIZE** the waiver of fees of up to \$8,525.00 for the permit to extend the total thirty-one (31) temporary art displays, as well as the refundable indemnity fee; and further,

THAT the Chief Administrative Officer and City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to sign an agreement with the AGW for the installation of the artworks in the City Right-of-Way, including the Consent Lands, for a period of up to ONE YEAR beginning in the spring of 2024, approved as to form and content by the City Solicitor, or designate and in technical content by the Manager of Right-of-Way, in financial content to the City Treasurer, and in content by the Executive Director, Recreation and Culture, and the Executive Director, Parks and Facilities.

Executive Summary:

N/A

Background:

On September 11, 2020, The AGW submitted a request to install eight (8) temporary reproduction artworks in frames in Windsor's downtown core. This was approved by Council on November 9, 2020 (CR545/2020).

In 2021, the AGW launched *Look Again! Outside!* in downtown Windsor, placing reproductions of artworks from the AGW collection directly in the community. These reproduction artworks in frames were placed within the Right-of-Way and permit fees were waived in support of the initiative. By all accounts, the project was a success.

On September 15, 2022, the AGW submitted a request to expand the temporary art exhibition into all Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) across Windsor to further

enhance cultural vibrancy throughout neighbourhoods across the community. This brought the total number of artworks displayed in the project to thirty-one (31). With some of the reproduction artworks being displayed in the Sandwich Heritage Conservation District, the request went through the Development & Heritage Standing Committee, and received the committee's endorsement. This request was approved by Council on December 12, 2022 (C 207/2022).

On January 12, 2024, the AGW submitted a request via email to extend the display period on all thirty-one (31) pieces for one additional year – until the end of 2024, and to update some of the existing installations with new artworks to keep the installations fresh.

Discussion:

The Art Gallery of Windsor (AGW) is a non-profit art gallery focused on presenting the visual arts of Canada. The AGW was formed on October 1, 1943, and incorporated on June 8, 1944, with the mandate of serving the Southwestern Ontario region and the international border community of Windsor, Ontario, Canada and Detroit, Michigan, USA. In the years since then, the gallery has become a pillar cultural institution situated in a premium and purpose-built downtown riverfront location in Windsor overlooking the Detroit River and downtown skyline. The AGW shares this City-owned building with Museum Windsor's Chimczuk Museum. The AGW has a long and well-respected position within the cultural community.

Over the years, AGW has actively engaged in projects and initiatives to transform into a community-centered gallery for the 21st century. As part of their strategic plan, they are striving to make the works in their collection relevant, accessible, and compelling to diverse and evolving audiences. *Look Again! Outside!* brings artworks out of the vault and into the streets and neighbourhoods. These reproductions are installed in selected sites for a period of at least one year. Installation and removal are handled by the AGW.

Since the project launched in Windsor, there have been successful iterations and editions of *Look Again! Outside!* at St. Clair College's main campus in Windsor, as well as in neighbouring Amherstburg with support from community donors and partners.

For the Windsor edition of this project, the AGW approached the City of Windsor and all BIAs to ensure a smooth planning and installation process. All parties remain enthusiastic in their support of this innovative project. The AGW continues to work closely with each partner noted below to ensure all locations are and remain suitable:

- Via Italia BIA: Brandi Myles, BIA Coordinator Filip Rocco, BIA President; BIA Board members
- Olde Riverside BIA: Chris Ryan, BIA President; BIA Board members
- Pillette Village BIA: Bridget Schuerman, BIA Executive Director; BIA Board members
- Ottawa Street BIA: Mike Osborne, BIA Coordinator; Ettore Bonnato, BIA President; BIA Board members

- Walkerville BIA: Shannon Gilbert, BIA Chair; BIA Board members
- Ford City BIA: Kaitlyn Karns, BIA Coordinator; Shane Potvin, BIA President; BIA Board members
- Wyandotte Town Centre BIA: Dana Horowitz, BIA Member
- Sandwich Town BIA: Thomas Coke, BIA Coordinator; Mary Ann Cuderman, BIA President; BIA Board members

For this project and its City of Windsor locations, the following requirements, established through previous approvals, remain in place:

- Permits are required for each installation.
- Each installation will be located within the Right-of-Way or within the approved location within the consent lands.
- Installations will be located on sidewalks or pre-existing cement pads, using the guidelines provided by the Manager of Right-of-Way.
- The AGW will be flexible on the locations in order to respect sightlines for traffic and pedestrian traffic moving through the spaces.
- The AGW project lead is required to coordinate with the City's Planning and Building Department for coordination with decorative streetscape elements within BIAs, and to consider relevant policies and guidelines (e.g. in Heritage Conservation District, Heritage and Community Improvement Program areas).
- The City's Culture & Events staff serve as liaisons between the AGW and the City's Planning and Building Department, Heritage Planner, and members of the Parks department to ensure the installations continue to meet requirements, and to assist the AGW in responding to any evolving requirements for installations sites.
- Any request for expansion of the number of artworks or extension of the display timeframe must be submitted to Administration for consideration by Council.

In response to the AGW's most recent request to extend the project timeframe, and in consultation with the City's Planning and Building Department, as well as the Heritage Planner, it was agreed that four (4) of the current installations in Sandwich Town will need to be removed or relocated in order to accommodate upcoming infrastructure work on roads and sewers likely to begin in the spring of 2024 and run through 2025. The AGW asked to relocate the pieces, rather than remove them, and submitted proposed locations in Sandwich Town for the relocation. That proposal document is included as Appendix A. Paterson Park has been deemed a suitable location for two (2) of these reproduction artworks. The AGW will work with City Administration, including the Planning and Building Department, Right-of-Way and the Heritage Planner to determine the best suitable Sandwich Town location for the other two (2) reproduction artworks.

As Paterson Park is a City-owned park, a right-of-way permit cannot be used for the installation of the two (2) reproduction artworks within the park. Should the recommendations be approved, the City will enter into a Consent to Enter Agreement with the AGW, to ensure the AGW can access the Consent Lands to complete its Works. The AGW will be responsible for repairing any damage to the Consent Lands that may result from their Works, at its own cost and to the satisfaction of the Executive Director, Parks and Facilities.

The AGW has requested that fees be waived for the current one-year duration of the project – until the end of 2024.

Risk Analysis:

Community Impact Risks: The creative community of Windsor has welcomed the temporary art exhibitions that have been placed into the downtown core and throughout neighbourhoods across the city in the past. These community members view the installations as further evidence of the support that Council is directing towards the arts, culture, and heritage community in Windsor.

Risks relative to Paterson Park: Risk Management indicates that the City's risk increases when allowing third parties to access City owned land. In order to manage this risk, the AGW will be required to indemnify the City in the event of a loss and will be required to provide proof of liability insurance coverage for incidents arising from its use of the Consent Lands.

Other Risks: The Public Art Policy supports temporary art installations with the City of Windsor. The AGW provided an insurance certificate to the City of Windsor at the start of the exhibition that is satisfactory to our Risk Management department. The AGW will maintain that certificate of insurance in good standing throughout the duration of the exhibition. The AGW will also be responsible for all copyright costs, reproduction costs, framing and framing costs, installation costs, as well as all costs associated with the repair, maintenance, and removal of the exhibition at the end of the project. The installation/exhibit must at all times meet with the approval of the City of Windsor.

Climate Change Risks

Climate Change Mitigation:

N/A

Climate Change Adaptation:

N/A

Financial Matters:

Permit Fees:

The permit fee to install one (1) sign (framed reproduction artwork) within the right-of-way is \$275.00. The request to install all thirty-one (31) framed reproduction artworks

will result in a total waiver of fee request of \$8,525.00. Administration also recommends that, consistent with the prior 2021 and 2022 agreements, the refundable indemnity fee of \$2,000 for all locations be waived. There are no direct costs to the City to enter into the Consent to Enter Agreement relative to Paterson Park and the operating budget impact of waiving the fees is limited to the loss of permit revenues.

As discussed in the original report to Council on December 12, 2022, (C 207/2022), the request for the waiver of fees does not specifically meet the City's policy requirements in two key areas: first, the condition that the AGW is not a registered charity as recognized by Canada Revenue Agency; and second, that the timing of the request being made does not fall within the 90-day requirement for requests of waiver of fees.

However, the organization has a history of delivering effective exhibitions and programming that are impactful and supportive of the creative community in Windsor. In addition, the City's Public Art Policy supports the temporary exhibition of art within our public spaces, and the social and community benefits outweigh the nominal cost of the waiver of fees. As such, Administration once again supports the provision of the waiver of fees once again in this circumstance.

Consent Agreement:

The cost to grant the one-year Consent to Enter Agreement is a nominal consideration of \$1.00.

In addition, AGW is responsible for ensuring that there is no damage to the Consent Lands and that any disturbance to the Consent Lands will be restored by AGW at its own expense, to the satisfaction of the Executive Director, Parks and Facilities.

Accordingly, the approval of the Consent Agreement has no financial impact to the operating budget of the Culture and Event department.

Right of Way

At the completion of the agreement AWE shall remove and restore locations at their expense within 60 days notice from the City.

All work to City standard and to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Infrastructure Services.

Consultations:

Kevin Alexander, City Planner, Special Projects
Kristina Tang, Heritage Planner
Stefan Fediuk, City Planner, Landscape Architect
Karen Kong, Permit Clerk, Right of Way
Adam Pillon, Manager, Right of Way
Dave Nicholls, Manager, Parks Operations
Aaron Farough, Senior Legal Counsel, Legal & Real Estate
Alex Vucinic, Manager, Purchasing and Risk Management
Denise Wright, Manager of Real Estate Services

Conclusion:

Through continuation of this successful and impactful Art Gallery of Windsor project, a public art installation, with thirty-one (31) individual displays will remain available for the community to enjoy twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week in neighbourhoods across the city. This is an excellent complement to the City of Windsor's existing collection of contemporary public art. The City of Windsor, through Council, has made a significant contribution to the cultural fabric of the community and continues working to develop cultural hubs throughout the BIAs. This initiative also encourages residents and visitors to take advantage of the opportunity to get outside and explore, which is of significant benefit to the collective well-being, both physical and mental, of all community members. This temporary public art installation will also continue to support and enhance opportunities within the creative community, and beyond to celebrate Windsor's rich arts, culture and heritage assets, stories, and experiences.

Planning Act Matters:

N/A

Approvals:

Name	Title
Salina Larocque	Cultural Development Coordinator
Tracy Ou	FPA – Recreation & Culture
Michelle Staadegaard	Manager, Culture & Events
Jen Knights	Executive Director, Recreation and Culture
James Chacko	Executive Director, Parks and Facilities
Ray Mensour	Commissioner of Community Services
Wira Vendrasco	City Solicitor (Acting)
Dana Paladino	Commissioner of Corporate Services (Acting)
Mark Winterton	Commissioner of Infrastructure Services (Acting)
Tony Ardovini	On behalf of Commissioner of Finance & City Treasurer
Ray Mensour for Joe Mancina	Chief Administrative Officer

Notifications:

Name	Address	Email

Appendices:

- 1 Appendix A - Look Again! Outside! Sandwich Town Proposed Relocations from the AGW



Look Again! Outside
Sandwich Re-location Proposed Sites
Feb 2024



Look Again! Outside: Sandwich Proposed Relocations.

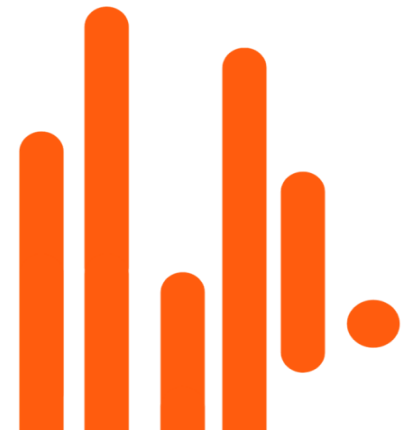
In consultation with the Sandwich BIA and community partners, AWE proposes moving four installations from areas soon to be under construction to Paterson Park. AWE seeks to renew permissions for the existing location in Mill Park.

Installations in Sandwich blend with existing and planned street furniture and have been well-received by the community. Relocating reproductions will encourage residents and visitors to gather in the park, helping the neighbourhood to retain its vital pedestrian life during the construction. Maintaining installations in Sandwich will support the BIA goals of attracting visitors. AWE has planned programming with the BIA and other community partners for 2024/2025 in the area.

AWE is happy to collaborate with city staff and leadership on identifying locations that meet all stakeholder needs and ensure the continued safe enjoyment of public spaces.



AWE received a Community Benefits grant for *Look Again! Outside* in Sandwich, and through that support hired local resident Reginald S. Tolson as Co-Curator to select the works and locations. Reginald selected work that he feels represents the “Past, present and future” of the neighbourhood.



Reproductions to Relocate



A. Daphne Odjig, *Vision*,
(from the *Jerusalem Series*),
not dated, ca. 1976,
Serigraph on Arches paper,
156/250, 74.5 cm x 55.5 cm
Gift of Philip Gevik, 2017,
2017.023



B. Frederick Verner, *View of Sandwich*, December 1879
watercolour over graphite on paper
Gift of W.T. Grant in memory of his wife Janet B. Grant, 1980 size C, drawer C 10 5 1/2 x 18 7/8 1980.017

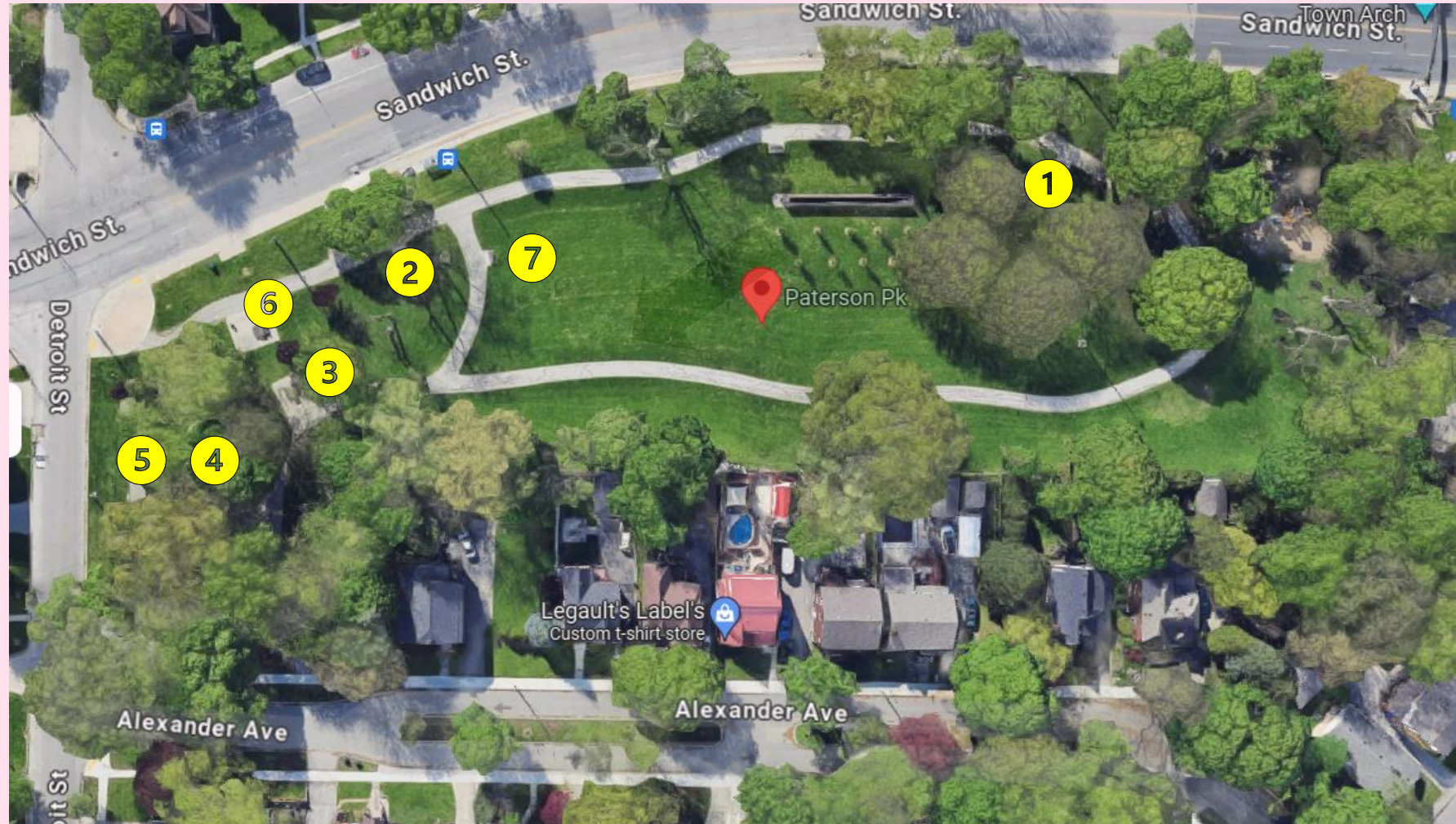


C. Kenneth Saltmarche, *Untitled*
(panel for the *Cleary Auditorium*), 1959-1960,
oil and gold leaf on masonite, 122.0 cm x 244.0 cm
Gift of the Cleary International Centre, 1993, 1993.024



D. Eleanor Bond, *Study after Protective Communities in an Aging City*, 1998-2000, oil on board, 41.0 cm x 57.0 cm
Gift of the artist, 2001, 2001.009

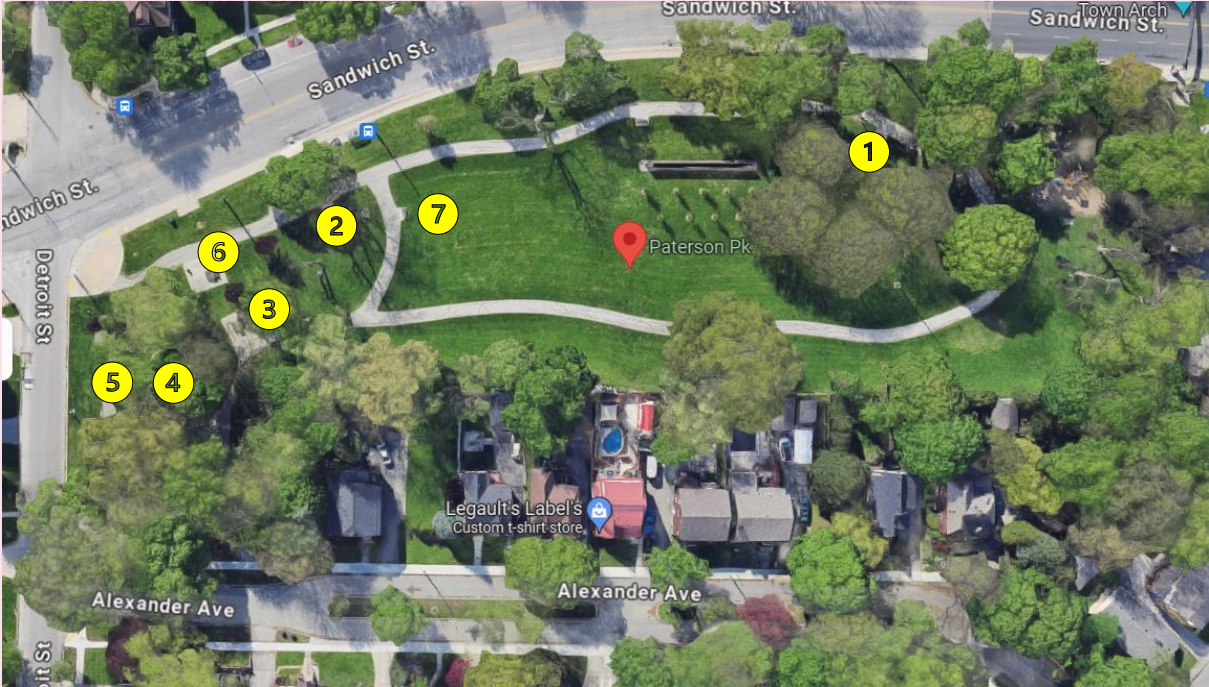
Proposed Sites for Relocation: Paterson Park



Together with the local BIA, AWE has identified seven possible locations for relocating the four installations that need to be moved to accommodate planned construction.

We are happy to work with City of Windsor staff to select the best locations from this list or identify other suitable locations within the park to relocate installations.

Location #1: Bench on path near playground

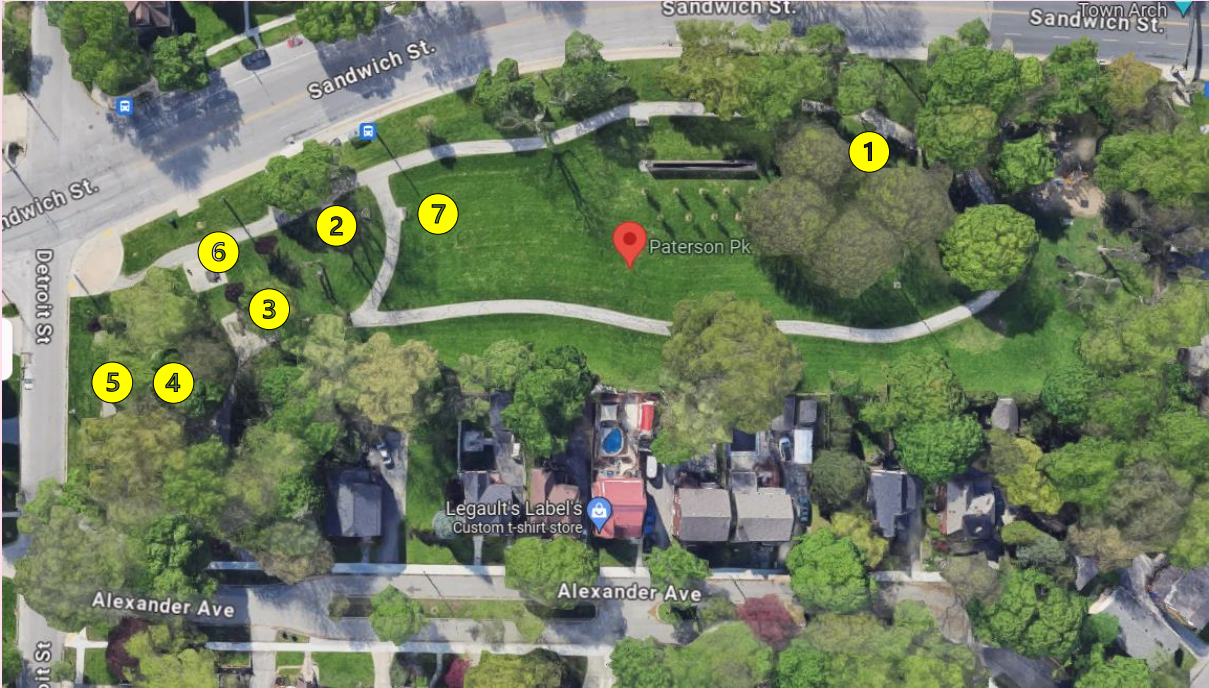


This location is visible to those using the path to travel East along Sandwich, and to those entering the park towards the playground. Installation would be mounted behind the bench on the concrete pad.

Reproduction for location:
Kenneth Saltmarche, *Untitled (panel for the Cleary Auditorium)*



Location #2: Bench Area Facing Sandwich Street



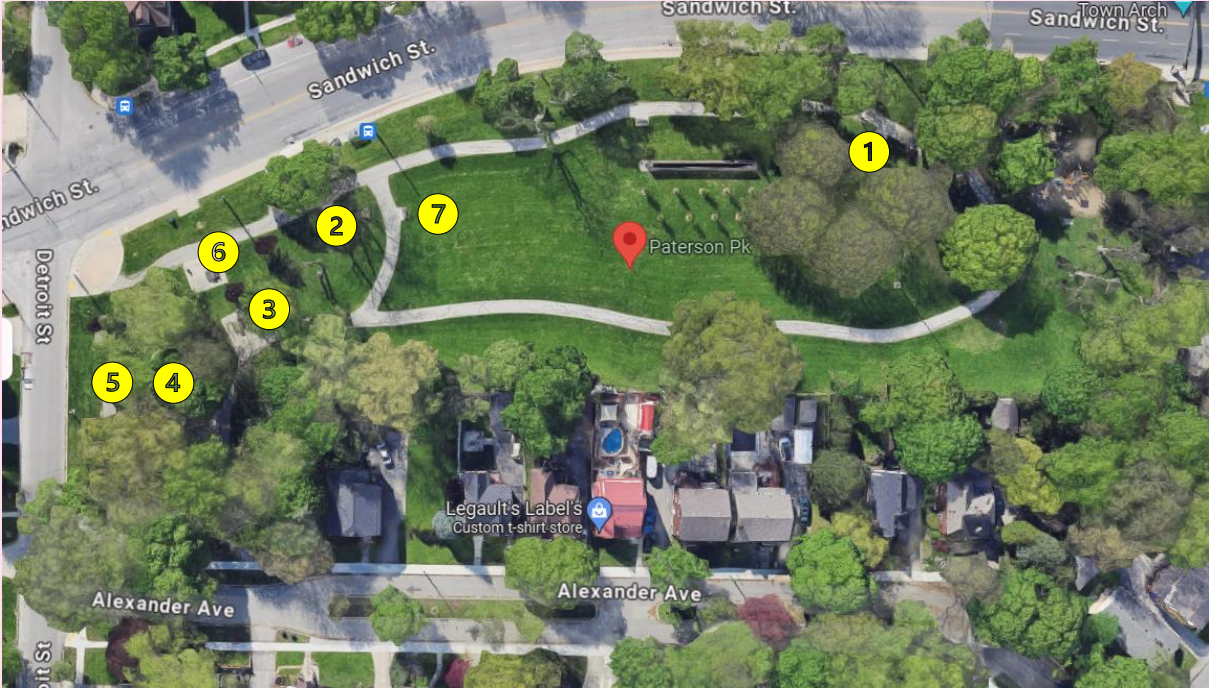
This location is visible to those using the path to travel East along Sandwich, and to those entering the park.

Installation would be mounted behind the bench on the concrete pad.

Reproduction for location:
**Frederick Verner, *View of Sandwich*,
December 1879**



Location #3: Concrete pad picnic bench area

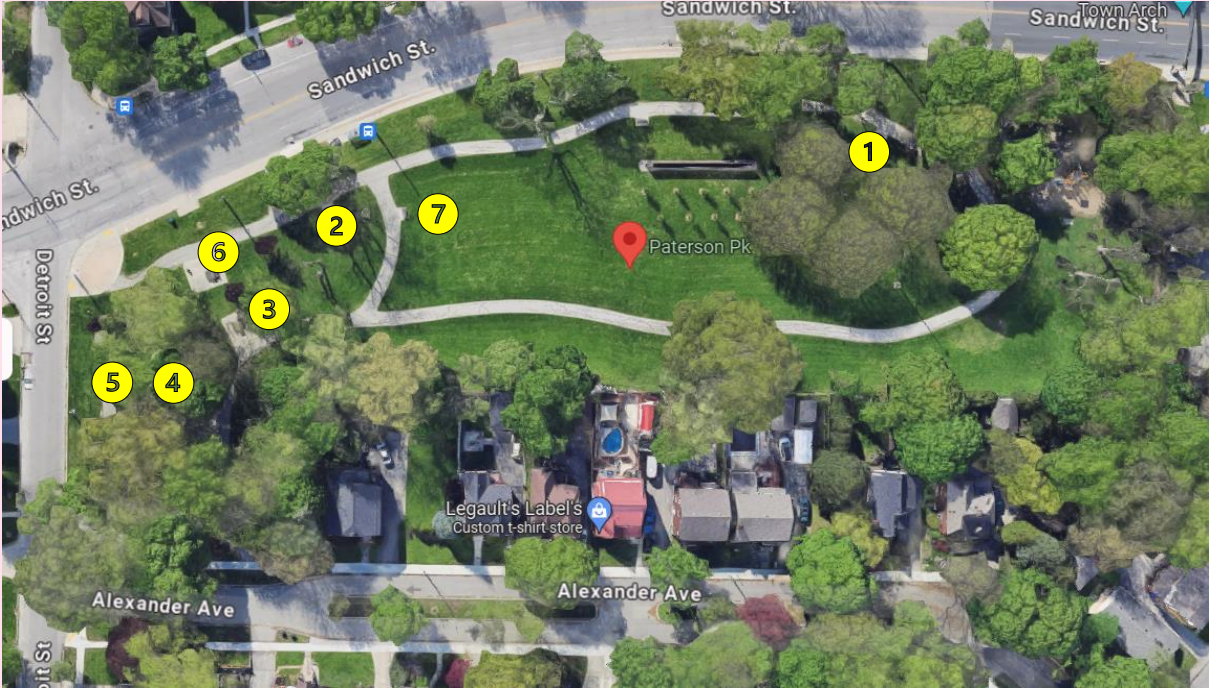


This location is visible to those visiting the park. Installation would be mounted on the corner of the concrete pad where indicated.

Reproduction for location:
Eleanor Bond, Study after Protective Communities in an Aging City



Location #4: Concrete pad picnic bench area

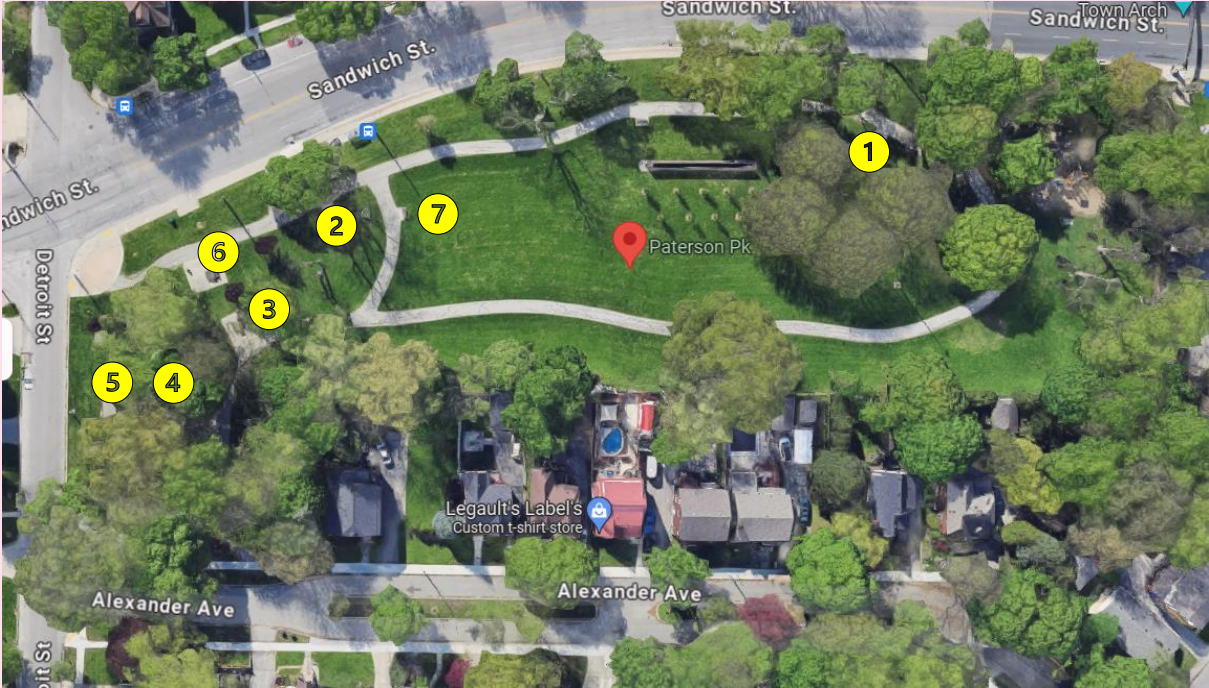


This location is visible to those visiting the park. Installation would be mounted on the corner of the concrete pad where indicated.

Reproduction for location:
Daphne Odjig, *Vision*



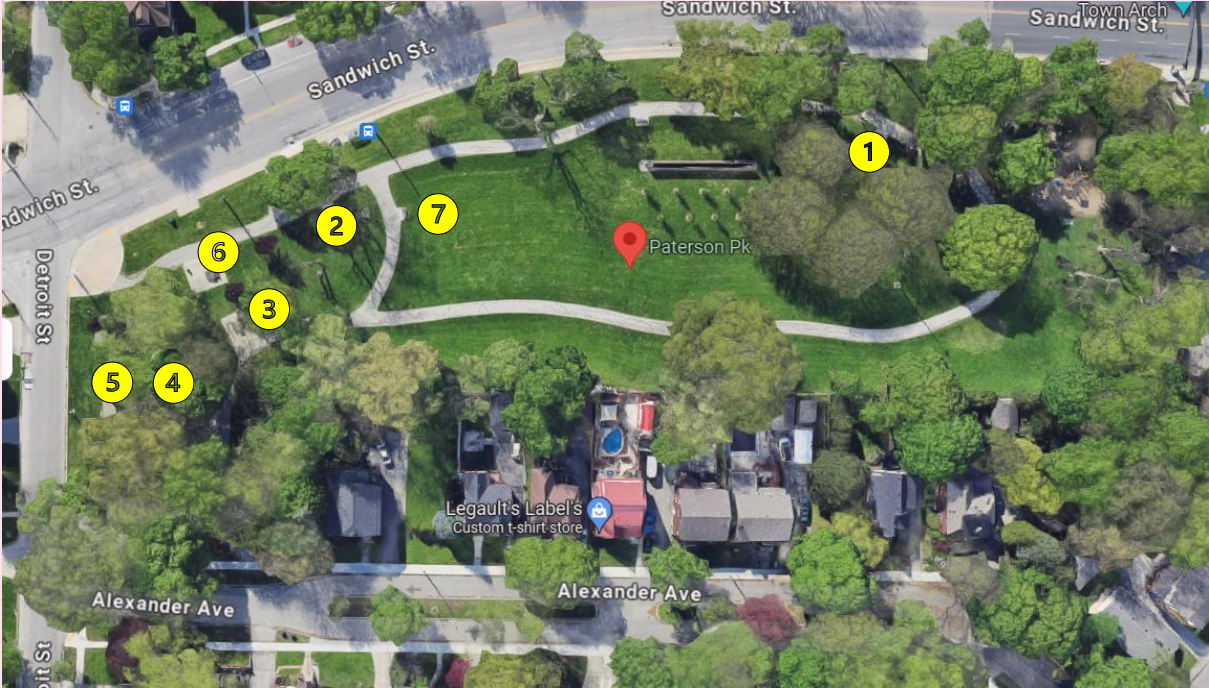
Location #5: Concrete pad picnic bench area (Alternate location)



This location is visible to those visiting the park. Installation would be mounted on the corner of the concrete pad where indicated.



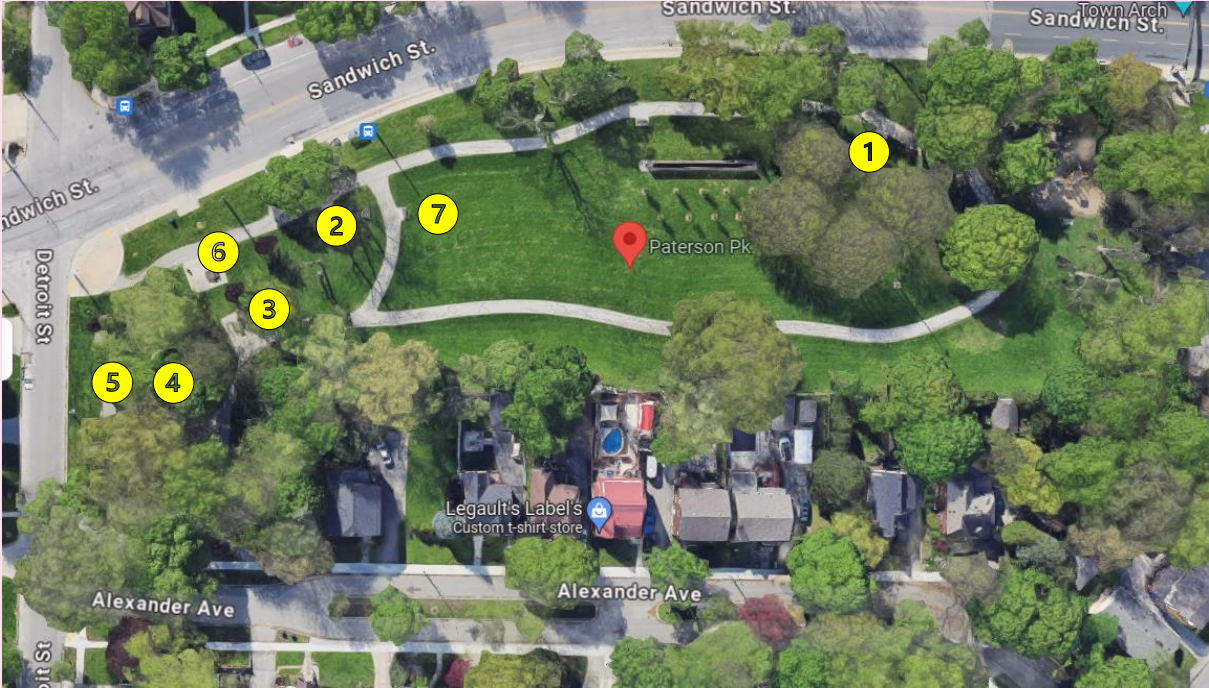
Location #6: Concrete pad picnic bench area (Alternate location)



This location is visible to those using the path to travel East along Sandwich, and to those entering the park.
Installation would be mounted on the concrete pad where indicated.



Location #7: Bench Area in park near Bus Stop (Alternate location)

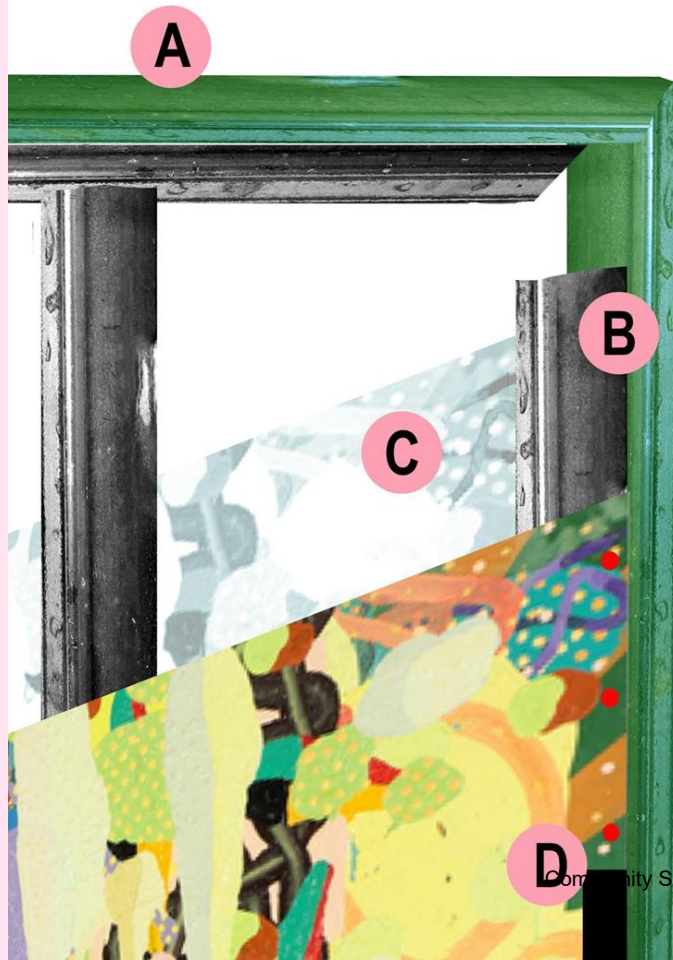


This location is visible to those using the path to travel East along Sandwich, and to those entering the park. Installation would be mounted behind the bench on the concrete pad.



Fabrication & Materials:

Reproductions are printed on outdoor quality 3M vinyl, and mounted on rigid alupanel. The frames are made from steel, and finished in high-quality, weatherproof paint.



Frame Construction: (cutaways for detail)

A. Exterior (green for contrast) and Interior frames constructed from steel. Larger works also have vertical supports on the interior frame.

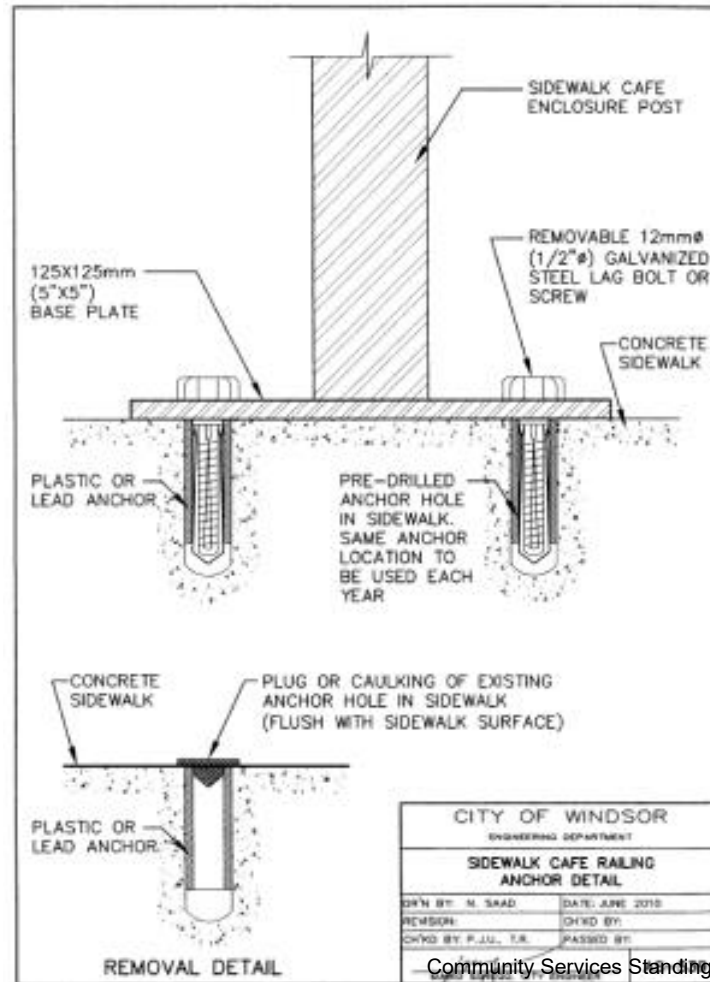
B. Interior frame provides additional strength and mounting surface for the prints.

C. Images are mounted and secured to interior frame

D. Hardware is concealed with channel of black plastic, also sealing work from weather.



Installation Details:



Installations are placed in existing concrete, in the time this project has been mounted there have been no issues with the mounting of the installations.

AWE regularly conducts site visits, and communicates with our community stakeholders and partners.



Look Again! Outside

Emily McKibbin
Head of Collections & Exhibitions
emckibbin@artwindsor.essex.ca
519.977.0013

Nadja Pelkey
Digital Initiatives & Partnerships Coordinator
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Subject: Pathway to Potential: Windsor-Essex County Poverty Reduction Strategy 2024 – 2028 – City Wide

Reference:

Date to Council: March 6, 2024
Author: Charmaine Valbuena
Coordinator, Social Planning
cvalbuena@citywindsor.ca
519-255-5200 ext 5302

Report Date: 2/16/2024
Clerk's File #: SS/10488

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

Recommendation:

THAT City Council **ACCEPT** the report titled “Pathway to Potential: Windsor-Essex County Poverty Reduction Strategy 2024 - 2028”; and,

THAT City Council **APPROVE** the new plan titled Pathway to Potential: Windsor Essex County Poverty Reduction Strategy 2024-2028.

Executive Summary:

N/A

Background:

In April 2023, City Council received an update on the intention to renew the Pathway to Potential (P2P) Strategy and proceed with a comprehensive community consultation (CR 159/2023). The goal of the strategy renewal was to update P2P's framework, including a vision and goals that continued to meet the needs of residents living in poverty across Windsor and Essex County.

StrategyCorp Inc. was obtained through a Request for Proposal (RFP) issued by Social Policy and Planning to develop a renewed strategy and conduct a community consultation. Between July and November 2023, a comprehensive community consultation took place to understand the current state of poverty within Windsor-Essex County and existing efforts aimed at addressing poverty.

A progress update on the renewed Pathway to Potential Strategy was presented to the City of Windsor Community Services Standing Committee and County of Essex Council

in December 2023. The presentation included findings from the community consultation process, a draft of the renewed framework and an update on the project timeline.

Between December 2023 and February 2024, further revisions to the Pathway to Potential Strategy were made, incorporating feedback from City and County Councils, administration, stakeholders and residents.

Discussion:

Since its inception, Pathway to Potential efforts have been aimed at addressing poverty within Windsor-Essex County. While efforts through Pathway to Potential have improved the lives of many Windsor-Essex residents living with poverty, poverty remains a complex challenge. Findings from research and community consultation conducted for the Pathway to Potential Strategy Renewal revealed that residents living in poverty face challenges and barriers, including increased cost of living, access to proper health and social services, affordable housing options, language barriers, mental health and addictions. Many of these barriers are beyond municipal government control and require new investments to make significant changes.

Over the years, the development of local efforts and networks aimed at addressing various dimensions of poverty has increased. These important efforts include but are not limited to Home Together: Windsor-Essex Housing & Homelessness Master Plan, Windsor-Essex Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan 2020 – 2025, ProsperUs Cradle to Career Strategy (with backbone support from United Way/Centraide Windsor-Essex County), and the Windsor-Essex Regional Community Safety & Well-Being Plan.

The development of these efforts addresses various dimensions of the challenges and barriers faced by residents living in poverty. The renewed strategy is more focused and aims to ensure that Pathway to Potential efforts continue supporting those living in poverty while complementing other local initiatives designed to reduce or alleviate poverty in the region.

More than 400 stakeholders throughout Windsor-Essex County contributed their input and feedback to the development of the strategy, including residents with living/lived experience with poverty, members of the public, community organizations, City and County Council members and municipal staff. Inclusionary practices to remove barriers to participation in the consultations were implemented, such as free childcare provision during public consultations, the City of Windsor Let's Talk website, translation of project information into multiple languages, and subsidized Transit Windsor bus tickets and smart card passes. Feedback received through interviews, surveys and consultations was incorporated into the development of a renewed vision, values, goals and priorities for Pathway to Potential.

The renewed Pathway to Potential Strategy aims at addressing poverty through a citizen-centred focus. The strategy applies community-based approaches while leveraging partnerships with agencies that support residents living in poverty. It also leverages Pathway to Potential's capabilities with data and research to drive continuous learning and to ensure that efforts evolve with the needs and challenges that residents

living in poverty face. The renewed Pathway to Potential Strategy is guided by the following vision, mission and values (to read the full report, please refer to Appendix A – Pathway to Potential: Windsor-Essex Poverty Reduction Strategy 2024 – 2028):

Vision: Windsor-Essex County is a thriving community, where residents have access to resources and opportunities to reach their full potential.

Mission: Through a collective and citizen-centred approach, Pathway to Potential aims to improve the quality of life for Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty by fostering a collective sense of pride and belonging to the community, increasing access to affordable services and supports, and enhancing collaboration across the regional community.

Values: Equity, Collaboration, Compassion, Inclusivity, Citizen-Centred

The strategy adopts the Government of Canada's official definition of poverty, which is the "condition of a person who is deprived of the resources, means, choices and power necessary to acquire and maintain a basic level of living standards and to facilitate integration and participation in society." It identifies three goals that will guide Pathway to Potential between 2024 and 2028:

1. Strengthening Neighbourhoods Strategy – Pathway to Potential will use a community-based approach to strengthen priority neighbourhoods through the Neighbourhood Programs where Neighbourhood Leads will support the coordination of services and programs in the Windsor-Essex region.
2. Advancing Affordable Regional Programs – Pathway to Potential will collaborate with key stakeholders to advance existing affordable municipal services available for Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty.
3. Measuring Regional Impact – Pathway to Potential will collect data and conduct research to measure progress on P2P strategic initiatives and to provide support for the development of municipal policies aimed at addressing poverty in Windsor-Essex.

Each goal within the strategy is mutually reinforcing. Initiatives, action items and deliverables have been established for each goal. In total, the Pathway to Potential Strategy includes 10 initiatives, 29 action items, and 26 deliverables. The details of each action and deliverables can be found in the report.

Within the renewed strategy, Pathway to Potential will continue to fund the 90% Recreation Discount and Affordable Pass Programs. The 90% Recreation Discount program aims to increase opportunities for Windsor-Essex residents living with poverty to participate in recreational, cultural and artistic activities. The program is delivered by municipal Recreation departments within City of Windsor, Municipality of Leamington, Town of Amherstburg, Town of LaSalle, Town of Essex, Town of Kingsville, Municipality of Lakeshore and Town of Tecumseh.

The Affordable Pass Program aims to increase affordable transportation options for residents living with poverty. Eligible residents receive subsidized monthly bus passes

through Transit Windsor and Municipality of Leamington. The program is available for residents living in Windsor, LaSalle, Leamington, Essex and Kingsville.

The renewed strategy adopts the Government of Canada's Quality of Life framework for measuring Pathway to Potential efforts and the impact on the community. The Quality of Life framework includes 84 indicators across five domains (prosperity, health, society, environment and good governance, aimed at measuring Canadians' well-being. The framework enables Pathway to Potential to measure the impacts of its investment on the quality of life of Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty. Annual impact reports will be brought to City and County Councils, providing updates on Pathway to Potential's progress.

The renewed Pathway to Potential strategy was undertaken to address the evolving needs and challenges of Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty. Through a focused approach, Pathway to Potential aims to address poverty by meeting residents where they are at to provide supports. The renewed strategy leverages opportunities for Pathway to Potential to collaborate with the many important local efforts existing within the region. The renewed strategy also enables Pathway to Potential to measure and evaluate its progress over the next four years, and to ensure that efforts are leading towards a thriving Windsor-Essex community.

Risk Analysis:

The relevant criteria outlined in the Corporate Risk Assessment tool indicates the following:

Resource Risks: No additional funds are requested to implement the Pathway to Potential Strategy.

Cross-Corporate Impact Risks: Pathway to Potential provides funding allocations to the City of Windsor Transit and Leamington Transit (Affordable Pass Program), as well as the City of Windsor Recreation and County Recreation Departments (Subsidized Recreation Program and Brokerage/Third-Party Program). These initiatives are best practices and are well aligned with the poverty reduction strategy. They will continue to be delivered through the renewed strategy.

Community Impact Risks: The renewed poverty reduction strategy is intended to reduce the impact of poverty on residents of our community through the establishment of programs and planning efforts. In alignment with our community partners, Human and Health Services will continue striving to reduce poverty in Windsor-Essex County.

Climate Change Risks

Climate Change Mitigation:

N/A

Climate Change Adaptation:

N/A

Financial Matters:

The total 2024 approved budget for programming and administration of the Pathway to Program is \$2,191,322. This program is funded through discretionary contributions by the City and County as shown below:

Municipality	2024 Pathway to Potential Budget
City of Windsor	\$ 1,521,768
County of Essex	\$ 669,554
Total Funds	\$ 2,191,322

Consultations:

Jennifer House, Financial Planning Administrator

Conclusion:

Poverty has no single cause and different groups face different barriers to economic self-sufficiency. The renewed Pathway to Potential strategy is a focused effort that leverages community collaboration, focuses on citizens and adopts best practices for combating poverty. Over the next four years, Pathway to Potential will dedicate efforts to delivering on the goals and initiatives outlined in the renewed strategy including strengthening priority neighbourhoods, advancing affordable regional programs and measuring regional impact. Through a focused approach, Pathway to Potential is committed to improving the quality of life for those living with poverty in Windsor-Essex County.

Planning Act Matters:

N/A

Approvals:

Name	Title
Charmaine Valbuena	Coordinator, Social Policy
Stephen Lynn	Manager, Social Policy & Planning

Name	Title
Linda Higgins	Manager, Intergovernmental Funding & Human Services Integration
Andrew Daher	Commissioner, Human & Health Services
Tony Ardovini	On behalf of Commissioner, Finance & City Treasurer
Ray Mensour for Joe Mancina	Chief Administrative Officer

Notifications:

Name	Address	Email
Shelley Fellows	ProsperUs	
Jessica Sartori	ProsperUs	
Tyson Cragg	Transit Windsor	
David Calibaba	Transit Windsor	
Eric Nadalin	Windsor-Essex County Health Unit	
Lorraine Goddard	United Way	

Appendices:

1 Appendix A - Pathway to Potential - Windsor-Essex County Poverty Reduction Strategy 2024-2028



PATHWAY TO POTENTIAL

Windsor-Essex Poverty Reduction Strategy 2024 - 2028



**PATHWAY TO
POTENTIAL**

Poverty Reduction Windsor Essex
Community Services Standing Committee - Wednesday, March 6, 2024
Page 106 of 181



**County of
Essex**

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CITY OF WINDSOR

We [I] would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, which includes the Ojibwa, the Odawa, and the Potawatomie. The City of Windsor honours all First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples and their valuable past and present contributions to this land.

COUNTY OF ESSEX

We acknowledge the land on which the County of Essex is located is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, comprised of the Ojibway, Odawa and Potawatomie Peoples. We specifically recognize Caldwell First Nation and other First Nations which have provided significant historical and contemporary contributions to this region. We also value the contributions of all Original Peoples of Turtle Island, who have been living and working on this land from time immemorial.



Peche Island, TWEPI



Pelee Island, TWEPI

SECTION 1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document presents the City of Windsor and County of Essex’s renewed Pathway to Potential strategy for poverty reduction within the region. This strategy, developed through extensive community consultation and engagement, recognizes the multifaceted nature of poverty. Our research and stakeholder engagement highlighted that to address poverty, a collaborative, unified, and citizen-centred approach is critical across the region. With that in mind, the City and County are taking a targeted approach that moves beyond traditional measures, addressing poverty in a broader, more comprehensive manner with the citizen at the centre of all efforts.

This renewed strategy embraces community-based approaches with a focus on continuous data-informed learning and improvement to ensure that the region’s efforts are consistently evolving with the needs of the people living with poverty in our local communities. At the heart of this strategy are three core goals:

GOAL 1

STRENGTHENING PRIORITY NEIGHBOURHOODS

GOAL 2

ADVANCING AFFORDABLE REGIONAL PROGRAMS

GOAL 3

MEASURING REGIONAL IMPACT



Civic Centre, County of Essex

THE GOALS ARE SUPPORTED BY
10 INITIATIVES,
29 ACTION ITEMS &
26 DELIVERABLES
OVER THE COURSE OF THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

This citizen-centered approach is built on equity, collaboration, compassion, and inclusivity, and aims to create communities where every individual has the opportunity to thrive.



City Hall, City of Windsor

SECTION 2

BACKGROUND

First developed in 2008, Pathway to Potential (P2P) is the City of Windsor and County of Essex's poverty reduction strategy. Central to P2P's work is a desire to improve the lives of Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty. P2P has an extensive history and its growth reflects the changing landscape of poverty reduction efforts within the Windsor-Essex community:

- **2008:** The City of Windsor and County of Essex launch a regional poverty reduction strategy known as "Pathway to Potential" (P2P).
 - **2010 – 2015:** P2P launches a Request for Proposal (RFP) process. The selected service providers deliver community and municipal programs aimed at supporting Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty.
 - **2010 – 2016:** P2P develops and implements a multi-sectoral advisory committee. The committee focuses on building awareness, advocating for systemic change and developing local innovations to address poverty.
 - **2015:** P2P launches a second RFP process for community programs aimed at targeting the root causes of poverty rather than its symptoms.
 - **2016 – 2023:** Selected community service providers operate P2P-funded programs throughout Windsor-Essex County. Affordable municipal programs continue to serve Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty beyond 2023.
 - **2017:** A comprehensive strategy renewal is launched and P2P is rebranded as the 9-Point Social Investment Plan. The plan is designed to enhance the existing assets of residents by making strategic social investments in Windsor and Essex County
- Since P2P's last strategy renewal in 2017, substantial changes have occurred within the poverty landscape and the dynamics impacting Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty:
- **COVID-19 Pandemic –** The pandemic impacted inequality and exacerbated unemployment levels, particularly for those living with poverty. A lockdown to protect public safety against the coronavirus has led to uncertainty in the lives of families and individuals in the region and across Canada.
 - **Support Networks and Strategies –** The strategies and networks of support services related to addressing poverty have changed since 2017. Various poverty-related strategies at all levels of government have been released including:
 - Government of Canada's first poverty reduction strategy, Opportunity for All, which included for the first time in Canada's history an official definition of poverty and official measurement of poverty
 - Province of Ontario's poverty reduction strategy Building a Strong Foundation for Success
 - ProsperUs Cradle to Career Strategy (backboned by the United Way Centraide/ Windsor-Essex County)
 - Windsor-Essex Regional Community Safety and Well-Being Plan
 - Home Together: Windsor-Essex Housing & Homelessness Master Plan

- Windsor Essex Community Opioid and Substance Strategy (WECOSS)
- Windsor-Essex Local Immigration Partnership (WE LIP)
- Windsor-Essex Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan 2020-2025
- Data-Informed Decision-Making – The availability of new, rich data has increased at all levels of government. Increased access to data enables P2P to understand the poverty context within the region, and how P2P can support poverty reduction efforts.

To address the uncertainty and changing dynamics of the poverty landscape within Windsor-Essex County, P2P embarked on a comprehensive renewal of the 9-Point Social Investment Plan.

The goal of the Pathway to Potential (P2P) Strategy Renewal is to update the 9-Point Social Investment Plan. The renewed strategy aims to provide continuity in addressing regional poverty while recognizing the importance of teamwork and collaboration in improving the lives of those with lived/living experiences with poverty. It will aim to center citizens first in its delivery of services and programs, and it will leverage the use of technology to make data-informed decision-making. This renewed strategy includes a revised framework, updated vision and priorities for the next four years.

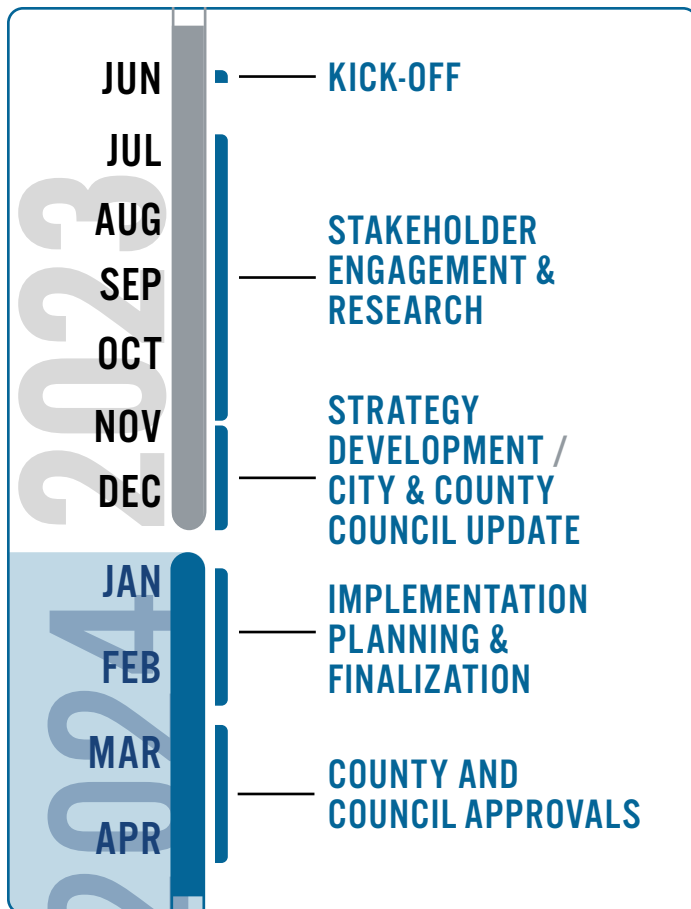
THE 9-POINT SOCIAL INVESTMENT INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING PRIORITIES:

1. Promote foundational services or programs that support those who require assistance with basic needs
2. Work with lead community organizations on key projects aimed at improving the quality of life for residents
3. Champion opportunities toward betterment for residents at senior levels of government
4. Enhance or collaborate on equity and social inclusion frameworks to existing municipal programming
5. Remove transportation barriers for individuals living on a low-income
6. Create inclusive opportunities for children in low-income families through recreation and culture
7. Invest in neighbourhoods impacted by poverty and other complex community challenges
8. Communicate the strengths and community achievements through strategic promotion
9. Utilize best practices in data collection, analysis and reporting to enhance social investments

SECTION 3

ABOUT THE PROCESS

In April 2023, P2P staff received City of Windsor and County of Essex Council approvals to renew the 9-Point Social Investment Plan and to launch an RFP process for a consultant to lead in the strategy renewal. StrategyCorp was the successful consultant from the RFP process. In June 2023, the Pathway to Potential (P2P) Strategy Renewal project was launched and included four phases:



Thorough research and extensive consultations were key in developing the renewed Pathway to Potential strategy. The consultation process included a range of engagement initiatives to encourage community participation including

interviews, online engagement strategies, translated project information, focus groups, public consultation sessions and surveys. More than 400 stakeholders shared their input and perspectives into the renewed strategy:

- 20 City of Windsor and County of Essex Councillor Interviews
- 11 City of Windsor and County of Essex Staff Interviews
- 72 Participants through Seven Focus Groups and Seven Interviews with Community Organizations and Pathway to Potential Partners
- 71 City of Windsor and County of Essex Residents with Lived/Living Experiences with Poverty through Four In-Person Focus Groups
- 269 Respondents to Two Digital Community Surveys through the City of Windsor Let's Talk Website
- 38 Participants attended two hybrid community feedback sessions in the City and County

REPRESENTATIVES FROM ACROSS THE REGION WORKED TOGETHER TO INFORM THE RENEWED FRAMEWORK, INCLUDING:

- **City of Windsor Human & Health Services staff members from the following departments:**
 - Housing Services
 - Children's Services
 - Employment & Social Services
- Windsor-Essex County Health Unit
- County of Essex staff

SECTION 4

KEY FINDINGS FROM STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL POLICY RESEARCH

Social policy research was conducted to better understand the Windsor-Essex region’s poverty reduction ecosystem and external trends influencing poverty reduction policies and programs. The following presents the findings from the social policy research.

SOCIAL POLICY RESEARCH FINDINGS

Defining Poverty

- To adequately analyze poverty reduction efforts in Windsor-Essex, it is necessary to first define poverty. Based on research and best practices, Pathway to Potential is adopting the Government of Canada’s definition of poverty:

“The condition of a person who is deprived of the resources, means, choices and power necessary to acquire and maintain a basic level of living standards and to facilitate integration and participation in society.”

- This definition underscores that poverty goes beyond solely financial constraints. It emphasizes that it is not just about financial issues but also about lacking essential resources, choices, and the ability to participate in society. Therefore, an effective poverty reduction strategy should extend beyond mere financial assistance. It must provide sustainable access to necessary resources, empower individuals with the



Downtown Windsor, TWEPI

autonomy to make decisions, and facilitate their active engagement in the community.

Lessons Learned from Poverty & Pathway to Potential’s Previous Strategy

- The previous Pathway to Potential strategy, the 9-Point Social Investment Plan, was too broad and did not have a targeted approach that effectively addressed poverty related issues.
- Poverty is a complex issue that requires a strategic, unified and citizen-centered approach that is consistently applied across all organizations, governments and communities across the region.
- With \$2.1M per year currently allocated for addressing poverty through Pathway to Potential, a more focused approach is needed to drive impact.
- With a focused approach, the P2P strategy complements other important initiatives in the region designed to address various elements of poverty.

CURRENT STATE OF POVERTY IN WINDSOR-ESSEX REGION

Poverty Rate

Data from the 2021 Census indicate a decline in the poverty rate compared to the 2016 Census, as defined by the Market Basket Measure (MBM):²

THE POVERTY RATE FOR WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY IS

7.5% IN 2021

(▼15.1% FROM POVERTY RATE IN 2016)

30,980 RESIDENTS

ARE LIVING WITH POVERTY IN WINDSOR-ESSEX

THE TREND IS SIMILAR ACROSS THE PROVINCE:
THE POVERTY RATE FOR ONTARIO IS

8.3% IN 2021

(▼15.5% FROM POVERTY RATE IN 2016)

Poverty is more prevalent in the City of Windsor (10.8% poverty rate in 2021, decline from 21.5% poverty rate in 2016) compared to the surrounding municipalities in Essex County. For more detail on the poverty rates for each municipality within Windsor-Essex, please refer to *Appendix A - Community Profiles*.

The decline in poverty rate could be attributed to an increase in government transfers between the 2016 and 2021 Census data collection periods (2015 to 2020). These income supports include the introduction of the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) in 2016 and relief efforts provided during the COVID-19 pandemic, such as the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB). Statistics Canada has forecasted an increase in the overall poverty rate in Canada in 2022 and 2023.³ It is anticipated the poverty rate for Windsor-Essex will also increase as updated data become available.

Unemployment Rate

The Windsor-Essex region continues to face issues with employment post-pandemic and the unemployment rate is higher than the Ontario average. A higher unemployment rate exacerbates the Windsor-Essex region's challenges with poverty. Without steady employment, individuals and families are likely to struggle to afford basic necessities and experience financial hardship.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE⁴

8.1%

6.3%

IN WINDSOR CENSUS
METROPOLITCAN AREA (CMA)

IN ONTARIO

PARTICIPATION RATE

62.4%

64.8%

IN THE WINDSOR CMA

IN ONTARIO



Affordable Housing & Homelessness

- The Windsor-Essex region has limited affordable and attainable housing stock. The demand for Windsor’s subsidized housing is evident with a waitlist for publicly subsidized accommodation surpassing 7,700 households. 2021 Census data indicate that housing costs have increased for both Owned and Rented households in Windsor-Essex compared to 2016.^{5,6}

AVERAGE MONTHLY SHELTER COST IN 2021:



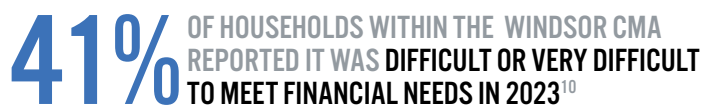
The Windsor-Essex region has acknowledged the need to address the housing crisis, leading to the implementation of the Windsor-Essex Housing & Homelessness Master Plan (HHMP). Data indicate that the number of households experiencing chronic homelessness increased 7.76% in 2022 (393 households) compared to 2021 (365 households).⁷

Increase in Cost of Living

Estimates of cost of living are a critical input in the calculations involved in income-based poverty measures, such as the Market Basket Measure (MBM), as an individual’s ability to maintain a basic standard of living depends on what portion of their income is needed to cover these needs.

The cost of groceries for a family of four is \$262.68 weekly (\$1,137.39 per month), as reported in the Real Cost of Eating in Windsor Essex report released by the Windsor Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) in November 2023.⁸ The report states:

"For people living on either the minimum wage, Ontario Works, or the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), it is often difficult to make ends meet. After paying rent, these individuals must also pay for other necessities such as heat and hydro, transportation, car maintenance and gas, childcare, phone/internet, and other expenses. This means that often little money is left for buying food and people go hungry."
 ~ The Real Cost of Eating in Windsor Report (WECHU)



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS

Stakeholder engagement was implemented between July and November 2023 to gather community feedback and insights into the renewed strategy. The following presents the findings from the stakeholder engagement.

Common Challenges and Barriers Facing People Experiencing Poverty in Windsor-Essex

- **Access to proper health and social services** - Individuals facing economic hardship struggle to obtain essential healthcare, hindering their ability to address both physical and mental health concerns. This lack of access exacerbates existing health disparities, creating a cycle of illness and financial strain.
- **Affordable housing options** - Many individuals and families grapple with the scarcity of viable housing options. The increasing cost of living further compounds this problem, making it difficult for those in poverty to secure stable and suitable accommodation. The ripple effect of housing instability contributes to various social issues, from strained family dynamics to challenges in education and employment.
- **Food insecurity** - The inability to consistently access sufficient and healthy food options perpetuates a cycle of poverty, as malnutrition hampers one's ability to pursue education and employment opportunities.
- **Increasing cost of living** - Higher costs for essential goods and services, coupled with limited income, create a financial strain that is difficult to overcome. This dynamic further deepens the divide between the impoverished and those with greater financial means, exacerbating social inequalities.
- **Language barriers** - Language barriers pose a significant obstacle for individuals in Windsor and Essex County, particularly for newcomers and immigrants. Limited proficiency can impede access to employment and essential services, creating a cycle of disadvantage that is difficult to break.
- **Mental health and addictions** – Limited access to mental health services and addiction support programs compound the challenges faced by those in poverty. The stigma associated with mental health and substance use disorders can also deter individuals from seeking help, perpetuating a cycle of untreated conditions and continued hardship.
- **Transportation and accessibility** - Limited public transportation options and the associated costs can isolate individuals, hindering their social mobility and perpetuating the cycle of poverty.

QUOTES:

“We don’t want to live like this...but whenever we try to make our situation better, they (government/institutions) send us on a wild goose chase and ask us for so many things that don’t make sense.” - Anonymous Focus Group Participant

“How can we get anything done without a roof over our head? We need something consistent so we can rest and feed safe.” - Anonymous Focus Group Participant

“We already have so little...now with everything so expensive, we literally don’t have anything at all. We will never get better now without more help from you guys.” - Anonymous Focus Group Participant

SECTION 5

FRAMEWORK OVERVIEW

VISION

Windsor-Essex County is a thriving community, where residents have access to resources and opportunities to reach their full potential.

MISSION

Through a collective and citizen-centred approach, Pathway to Potential aims to improve the quality of life for Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty by fostering a collective sense of pride and belonging to the community, increasing access to affordable services and supports, and enhancing collaboration across the regional community.

VALUES

Equity, Collaboration, Compassion, Inclusivity and Citizen-Centered

GOAL 1

STRENGTHENING PRIORITY NEIGHBOURHOODS

- Identify priority Neighbourhoods
- Develop Framework for neighbourhood strengthening
- Launch and support Neighbourhood Programs
- Establish Regional Neighbourhood Council

GOAL 2

ADVANCING AFFORDABLE REGIONAL PROGRAMS

- Establish a citizen-centred approach to the delivery of Pathway to Potential-funded programs
- Increase awareness of regional affordability programs available for Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty
- Expand the Transit Affordable Pass Program throughout the Windsor-Essex Region

GOAL 3

MEASURING REGIONAL IMPACT

- Adopt the Government of Canada's Quality of Life Framework for measuring impact
- Establish a governance framework for collecting and managing data generated from Pathway to Potential-funded programs and initiatives
- Establish a Policy & Research Resource Committee

SECTION 6

PATHWAY TO POTENTIAL STRATEGY

The renewed Pathway to Potential strategy leverages its existing strengths, notably its strong network across the Windsor-Essex region, affordable transit and recreation programs, and its role and capabilities as a governing body. To further enhance Windsor-Essex's efforts towards poverty reduction, this strategy adopts a community-based approach focused on continuous improvement. It emphasizes affordability and accessibility through the enhancement of existing services and programs and underscores the importance of regional collaboration to strengthen partnerships across municipalities and communities. In addition, the approach is dedicating efforts towards enhanced data collection to better inform decision-making and ongoing efforts.

The strategy is designed so that each goal influences the trajectory of other initiatives, ensuring that Pathway to Potential's efforts are always evolving with and responding to the needs and trends of the local communities. By building upon the established strengths of Pathway to Potential and integrating them into this new strategy, it amplifies communication, streamlines services, and optimizes the impact of collective efforts.

VISION

"Windsor-Essex County is a thriving community, where residents have access to resources and opportunities to reach their full potential."

Pathway to Potential recognizes that for families and individuals living with poverty, there exists gaps in their capabilities to live in dignity. Pathway to Potential seeks to support those living with poverty by reducing or removing those gaps.

MISSION

Through a collective and citizen-centred approach, Pathway to Potential aims to improve the quality of life for Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty by fostering a collective sense of pride and belonging to the community, increasing access to affordable services and supports, and enhancing collaboration across the regional community.

VALUES

EQUITY: Recognizing that everyone has unique circumstances and tailoring supports to help ensure individuals achieve equal outcomes.

COLLABORATION: Encouraging partnerships between the government, community organizations and residents.

COMPASSION: Approaching the challenges faced by individuals and families living with poverty with respect and empathy.

INCLUSIVITY: Empowering marginalized and vulnerable populations, and ensuring their voices are part of the process and solutions to addressing poverty.

CITIZEN-CENTRED: Centering service delivery improvements on the needs, perspectives, and satisfaction of citizens, particularly those living with poverty.

GOAL 1

STRENGTHENING PRIORITY NEIGHBOURHOODS

Pathway to Potential will use a community-based approach to strengthen priority neighbourhoods through the Neighbourhood Programs where Neighbourhood Leads will support the coordination of services and programs in the Windsor-Essex region.

CONTEXT

Adopting a community-based approach has emerged as a best practice in poverty reduction efforts. This approach emphasizes empowerment and tailored solutions for reducing poverty. While the Windsor-Essex region has various services and supports to address poverty, there is a critical need to increase awareness and improve accessibility to these supports. A community-based approach leverages local expertise and existing resources ensuring that interventions resonate with the needs and realities of the local neighbourhood. Neighbourhood Leads will work with local residents, businesses and organizations to address the needs and challenges within their respective neighbourhoods. Our aim is to enhance the effectiveness and accessibility of existing services and supports, not just for immediate relief but also to build long-term community resilience and growth, paving a sustainable path to prosperity for those in need.



INITIATIVE(S)

1. Identify Priority Neighbourhoods: In consultation with stakeholders, implement a neighbourhood selection process to identify and select priority neighbourhoods.

Action Item(s):

- a. Engage with partners to define and identify neighbourhoods.
- b. Develop criteria for priority neighbourhoods.
- c. Develop and publish neighbourhood profiles for selected neighbourhoods.

Deliverable(s):

- Neighbourhood Selection Process Report
- Published Neighbourhood Profiles of Selected Neighbourhoods

2. Develop Framework for Neighbourhood Strengthening: This framework will set reporting standards and criteria that align with the Government of Canada's Quality-of-Life Framework. It will guide Neighbourhood Leads in crafting, executing, and reporting on local action plans.

Action Item(s):

- a. Develop a framework for Pathway to Potential and selected priority neighbourhoods.
- b. Develop a Program Implementation Guide for Neighbourhood Programs.

Deliverable(s):

- Neighbourhood Program Implementation Guide

3. Launch and Support Neighbourhood Programs: Pathway to Potential will select agencies as Neighbourhood Leads and enter into agreements to fund their respective neighbourhood programs.

Action Item(s):

- a. Launch Request for Proposals (RFP) to select Neighbourhood Lead(s) for identified priority neighbourhoods within Windsor-Essex County.
- b. Enter into multi-year service agreements with selected partners.
- c. Lead agencies to develop multi-year neighbourhood action plans for their respective neighbourhoods in consultation with residents, external stakeholders, and other municipal departments.

Deliverable(s):

- Request for Proposals (RFP)
- Pathway to Potential Multi-Year Service Contracts
- Neighbourhood Action Plans



Sandwich Town, TWEPI

4. Establish Regional Neighbourhood Council: The Council, consisting of Neighbourhood Leads and key stakeholders, will serve as a dedicated platform for discussing observed trends, addressing identified issues, and reviewing and sharing best practices.

Action Item(s):

- a. Develop and implement a Communities of Practice Framework.

Deliverable(s):

- Communities of Practice Framework

GOAL 2

ADVANCING AFFORDABLE REGIONAL PROGRAMS

Pathway to Potential will collaborate with key stakeholders to advance existing affordable municipal services available for Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty.

CONTEXT

Our research and stakeholder engagement found that Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty have limited awareness and face barriers to accessing affordable municipal services and programs. Pathway to Potential is committed to seeking ways to increase awareness and streamline access to affordable municipal services and programs available within Windsor-Essex County. Through collaborations and partnerships, Pathway to Potential aims to advance the accessibility and awareness of existing affordable municipal services aimed at supporting Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty.



Downtown Windsor, City of Windsor

INITIATIVE(S)

- 1. Establish a citizen-centered approach to the delivery of Pathway to Potential-funded programs:** A citizen-centered approach focuses on improving the delivery of Pathway to Potential-funded programs to the satisfaction of citizens, particularly those who are living with poverty. Through this approach, Pathway to Potential, will be able to track success through measuring the level of citizen satisfaction with the delivery of and access to services.

Action Item(s):

- a. Develop Program Implementation Guides for the Affordable Pass Program and Affordable Recreation Program.
- b. Provide training supports and resources for staff delivering Pathway to Potential-funded programs.
- c. Update Pathway to Potential program eligibility requirements for the Affordable Pass Program and Affordable Recreation Program.
- d. Investigate opportunities to reduce barriers to accessing services by leveraging technology and streamlining processes.

Deliverable(s):

- Program Implementation Guides for the Affordable Pass Program and Affordable Recreation Program
- Program Eligibility Criteria for Affordable Pass Program and Affordable Recreation Programs
- Online Application Forms for the Affordable Pass Program and Affordable Recreation Program
- Citizen-Satisfaction Surveys



Nature Fresh Farms Recreation Centre, Leamington, TWEPI

- 2. Increase awareness of regional affordability programs available for Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty:** Pathway to Potential will collaborate, partner, and implement marketing tactics to increase awareness among Windsor-Essex residents and families living with poverty about various affordable programs available in the region. This effort will focus on effectively communicating the benefits and eligibility for these programs, ensuring the information reaches and assists the most vulnerable and underserved in the region.

Action Item(s):

- a. Implement a marketing strategy for promoting Pathway to Potential-funded programs and initiatives.
- b. Facilitate learning opportunities aimed at raising awareness on poverty and available programs for Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty.
- c. Seek opportunities with Indigenous leaders for increasing access to affordable services and programs for regional Indigenous communities.
- d. Explore the development of a regional Affordability Package, which may include a bundle of services and programs provided by local municipalities for Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty.

Deliverable(s):

- Expanded network of formal partnerships and collaborators inside and outside of Windsor-Essex County
- Feasibility Report for Regional Affordability Package
- Annual P2P Events Calendar
- Refreshed P2P Website
- Increased availability of P2P information in top languages
- Increased number of referrals and direct online traffic to P2P resources and supports

- 3. Expand the Transit Affordable Pass Program throughout the Windsor-Essex Region:** Increase access to affordable public transit for residents living with poverty to travel between the City and County.

Action Item(s):

- a. Explore opportunities to expand subsidized bus passes throughout the County of Essex.

Deliverable(s):

- Feasibility Report for the Affordable Pass Program Expansion

GOAL 3

MEASURING REGIONAL IMPACT

Pathway to Potential will collect data and conduct research to measure progress on P2P strategic initiatives and to provide support for the development of municipal policies aimed at addressing poverty in Windsor-Essex.

CONTEXT

Effective decision-making in poverty reduction within Windsor-Essex hinges on data-driven and well researched policy development. Recognizing that obtaining current and precise data on poverty is a persistent challenge, this goal aims to establish infrastructure and processes for comprehensive data-oriented research. Bringing together key internal stakeholders for collaborative research and policy formulation will encourage innovation and ensure regional alignment on optimal poverty reduction efforts. This collaborative approach will be critical to enabling policymakers and community partners to make evidence-based decisions, thereby enhancing the impact and efficiency of poverty reduction efforts.



INITIATIVE(S)

1. Adopt the Government of Canada's Quality of Life Framework (QoL) for measuring impact:

The Government of Canada's [Quality of Life Framework](#), developed to guide evidence-based decision-making, encompasses 84 indicators across five domains: Prosperity, Health, Society, Environment and Good Governance, aimed at measuring Canadians' well-being. Adopting the framework will allow Pathway to Potential to evaluate and measure the impacts of its investments on the quality of life of Windsor-Essex individuals and families living with poverty.

Action Item(s):

- b. Identify performance indicators that measure outcomes of Pathway to Potential-funded programs in alignment with the QoL framework.
- c. Develop and implement a Data Quality Assurance Procedure.
- d. Develop a Data Collection Toolkit for Pathway to Potential partners.
- e. Develop and present Annual Impact Report for City and County Council approvals.

Deliverable(s):

- Pathway to Potential Annual Impact Report
- Pathway to Potential Strategy Indicators
- Data Quality Assurance Procedure
- Data Collection Toolkit

2. Establish a governance framework for collecting and managing data generated from Pathway to Potential-funded programs and initiatives:

The governance framework will establish clear roles and responsibilities for stakeholders in the Affordable Pass, Affordable Recreation, and Neighbourhood Programs, streamlining the reporting and data management processes. It will be supported by targeted policies and procedures to enhance the framework's effectiveness and ensure high-quality reporting.

Action Item(s):

- a. Identify and define the roles between Pathway to Potential and its program partners in relation to the reporting and data management process.
- b. Develop tools and resources to support program reporting and data management.
- c. Develop policies and procedures that support the governance framework.
- d. Explore partnership with Windsor-Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) to establish a joint "committee" with Windsor-Essex County In-Motion.

Deliverable(s):

- Pathway to Potential Data Governance Framework

3. Establish a Policy & Research Resource Committee: The committee is intended as an internal committee led by Pathway to Potential. The purpose of this committee will be to provide specialized knowledge and research support to inform Pathway to Potential's selection of initiatives to address poverty. Composed of subject-matter experts, the committee's responsibilities will include project review, selection, information exchange, and support for specific research initiatives.

Action Item(s):

- a. Develop and implement a project selection process for Pathway to Potential.
- b. Identify committee members that would support Pathway to Potential research initiatives.
- c. Perform research and evaluation on poverty-related issues identified by Pathway to Potential, Human & Health Services Department, City and County Councils and other key stakeholders.

Deliverable(s):

- Memorandum of Understanding with Policy & Research Resource Committee Members
- Policy & Research Resource Committee Terms of Reference
- Published Reports on Pathway to Potential's Virtual Library



Seacliff Amphitheatre, Leamington, TWEPI

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Pathway to Potential team would like to thank everyone that participated in the development of the Windsor-Essex Poverty Reduction Strategy. The dedication and assistance provided by our partners within the City and County departments and community organizations are greatly appreciated. We would especially like to thank all the Windsor-Essex residents and stakeholders that were involved in the consultation by providing your input through the survey, interviews, focus groups, and participating in the feedback sessions. We look forward to fostering current and future partnerships as the strategy is implemented across the Windsor-Essex region.



Riverfront Fireworks, City of Windsor

- Residents of Windsor-Essex
- City of Windsor Departments
 - Housing
 - Employment & Social Services
 - Children's Services
 - EarlyON staff
 - Communications
 - Recreation
 - Information Technology
 - Transit Windsor
 - Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change
- County of Essex Departments
 - Community Services
 - Communications
- Municipal Partners
 - Town of Essex Recreation
- City of Windsor and County of Essex Councillors
- Community Partners
 - South Essex Community Council (SECC)
 - Housing Information Services
 - Homelessness and Housing Help Hub (H4)
 - Windsor Essex Community Housing Corporation (CHC)
 - Connections Early Years Family Centre
 - Windsor Essex County Health Unit (WECHU)
 - Workforce WindsorEssex
 - Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership (WE LIP)
 - Tamarack Insitute
 - Tourism Windsor Essex Pelee Island (TWEPI)

Appendix A: Windsor-Essex Community Profiles

WINDSOR-ESSEX COMMUNITY PROFILES

This section provides a detailed profile of the economic and social context of the Windsor-Essex region and its encompassing local municipalities. These profiles provide a snapshot of the communities where this new strategy will be focused on supporting poverty reduction.

Data presented in each profile are sourced from the 2021 Census of Population.¹² The poverty rates for each municipality are defined by the 2021 Market Basket Measure (MBM), Canada's first official poverty line. The MBM calculates the level when a household does not have the income to purchase a specific basket of essential goods and services.¹³

COMMUNITY PROFILE

WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY

Demographics:

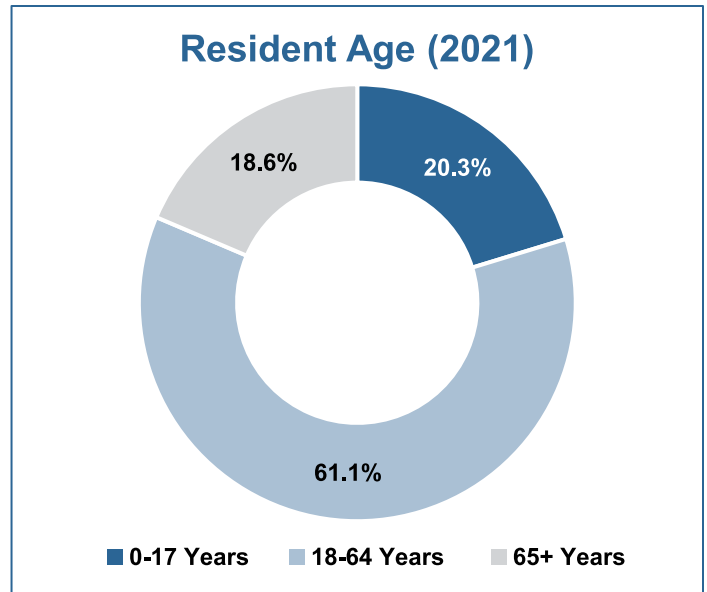
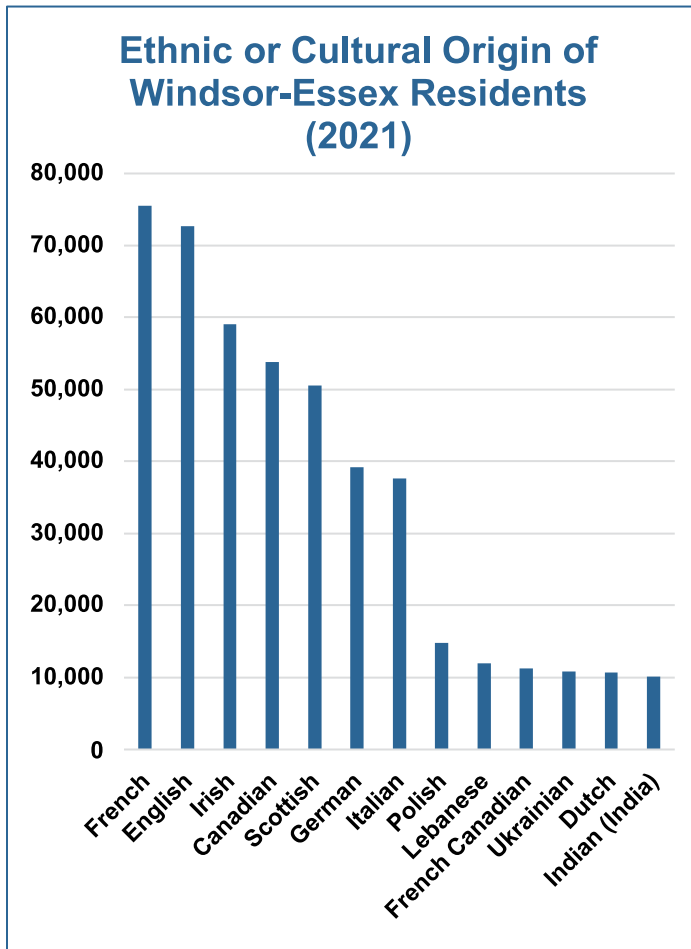
Population: 422,860

Households: 165,785 (Average of 2.6 persons per household)

- One-person Households: 46,500 (28.0%)
- Two or more person Households: 119,290 (72.0%)

Diversity of Windsor-Essex Residents:

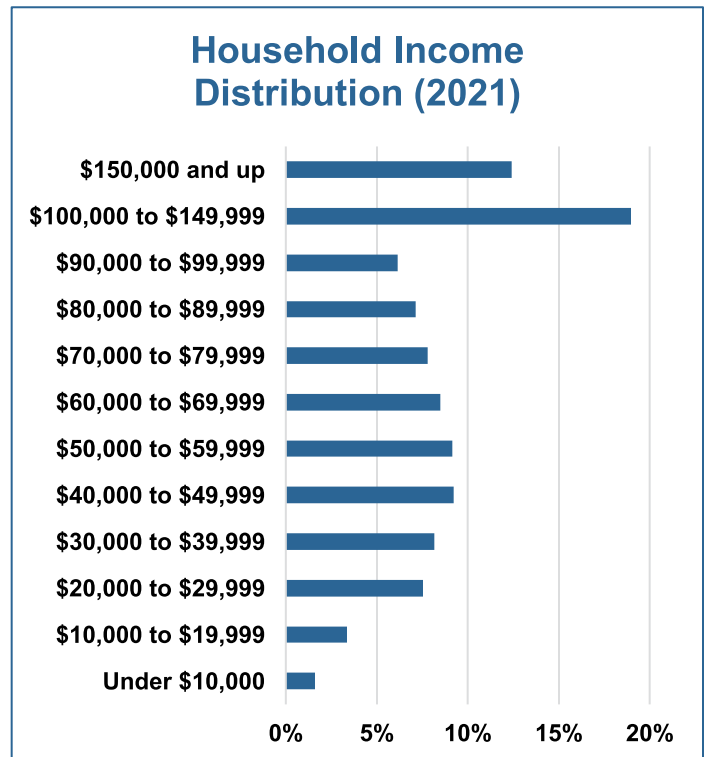
- 23.3% are Immigrants (96,940)
- 2.9% identify as Indigenous (12,055)
- 23.6% identify as a Visible Minority (98,220)



Income:

Median Household Income (after-tax): \$73,000

- Approximately 78,775 households have an income less than the median
- One-person Households: \$37,600
- Two or more person Households: \$90,000



Poverty

7.5% of Windsor-Essex residents (30,980) are living in poverty

- Children and youth (8.5%), especially young children 0 to 5 years old (9.8%), and young adults between 18 and 24 years old (11.2%) are more likely to be living in poverty compared to other age groups. Older adults aged 55 to 64 (8.3%) also show a slightly higher poverty rate than overall.



Residents Living in Poverty (MBM)	# of Residents	# in Poverty	Poverty Rate (%)
Total	415,725	30,980	7.5%
0 to 17 years	84,345	7,195	8.5%
0 to 5 years	24,745	2,415	9.8%
6 to 17 years	59,600	4,780	8.0%
18 to 24 years	37,370	4,170	11.2%
25 to 54 years	156,185	11,990	7.7%
55 to 64 years	60,505	5,040	8.3%
65+ years	77,315	2,595	3.4%

Note: 2021 Market Basket Measure threshold for family of four = \$45,776 (Ontario population size 100,000-499,999)

Housing

17.4% of Windsor-Essex households (28,765) are spending more than 30% of their income on shelter costs

- 120,155 households are Owned
 - 10.9% of owner households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for owned dwellings: \$1,261
- 45,630 households are Rented
 - 34.8% of tenant households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for rented dwellings: \$1,069

Employment

Latest Labour Force Report from Workforce Windsor-Essex indicated the following employment statistic for the Windsor CMA:

- 8.1% Unemployment Rate (+0.2% from Dec 2022)
- 57.4% Employment Rate (-1.6% from Dec 2022)
- 62.4% Participation Rate (-1.6% from Dec 2022)

COMMUNITY PROFILE

TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG

Demographics:

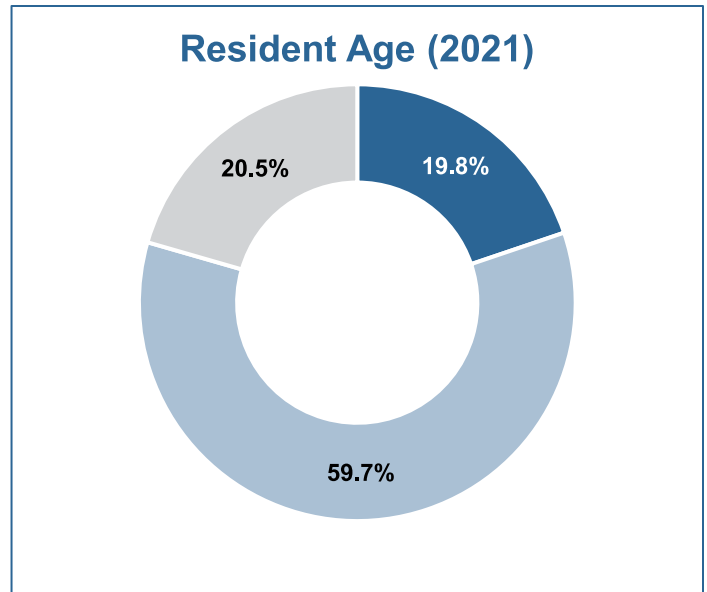
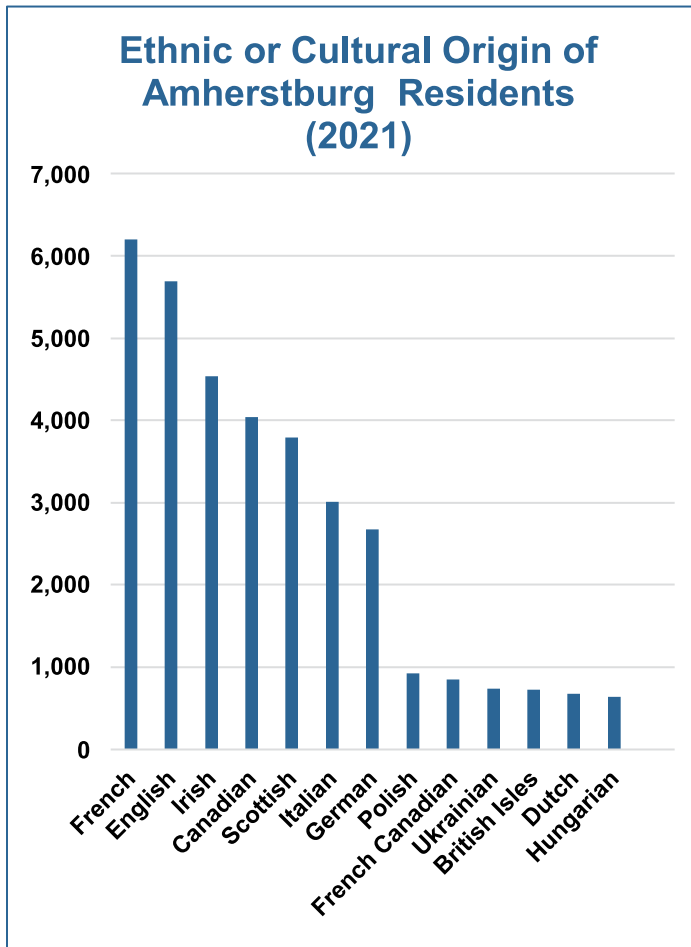
Population: 23,524

Households: 9,195 (Average of 2.6 persons per household)

- One-person Households: 2,055 (22.3%)
- Two or more person Households: 7,140 (77.7%)

Diversity of Amherstburg Residents:

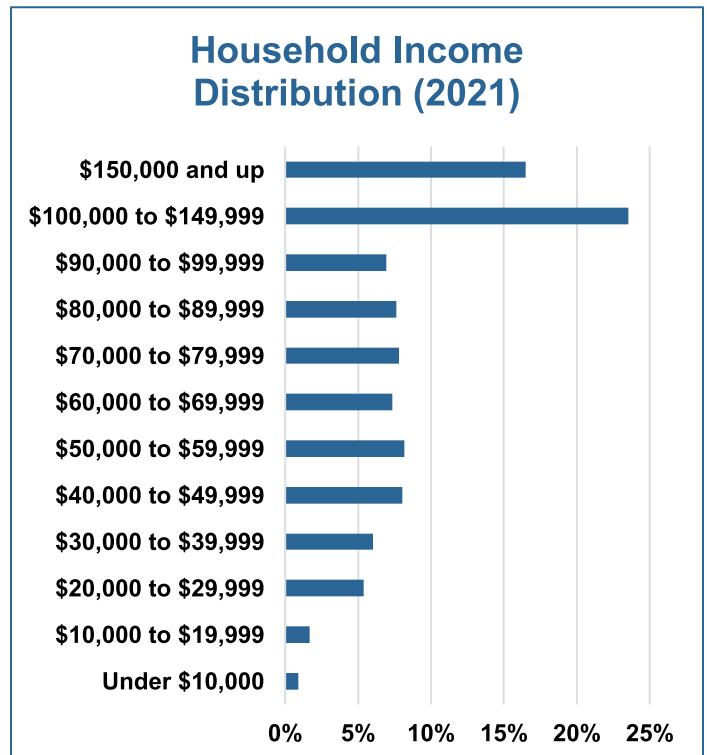
- 10.1% are Immigrants (2,360)
- 3.9% identify as Indigenous (920)
- 5.6% identify as a Visible Minority (1,310)



Income:

Median Household Income (after-tax): \$86,000

- Approximately 4,175 households have an income less than the median
- One-person Households: \$41,200
- Two or more person Households: \$100,000



Poverty

3.3% of Amherstburg residents (775) are living in poverty

- Children and youth between 6 and 17 years old (4.2%) and adults between 55 and 64 years old (5.3%) are more likely to be living in poverty compared to other age groups.

Residents Living in Poverty (MBM)	# of Residents	# in Poverty	Poverty Rate (%)
Total	23,305	775	3.3%
0 to 17 years	4,630	170	3.7%
0 to 5 years	1,405	40	2.8%
6 to 17 years	3,235	135	4.2%
18 to 24 years	1,755	55	3.1%
25 to 54 years	8,340	230	2.8%
55 to 64 years	3,755	200	5.3%
65+ years	4,820	120	2.5%

Note: 2021 Market Basket Measure threshold for family of four = \$43,985 (Ontario population under 30,000)

Housing

13.0% of Amherstburg households (1,200) are spending more than 30% of their income on shelter costs

- 7,855 households are Owned
 - 8.7% of owner households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for owned dwellings: \$1,366
- 45,630 households are Rented
 - 39.0% of tenant households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for rented dwellings: \$1,123



Downtown Amherstburg, TWEPI

COMMUNITY PROFILE

TOWN OF ESSEX

Demographics:

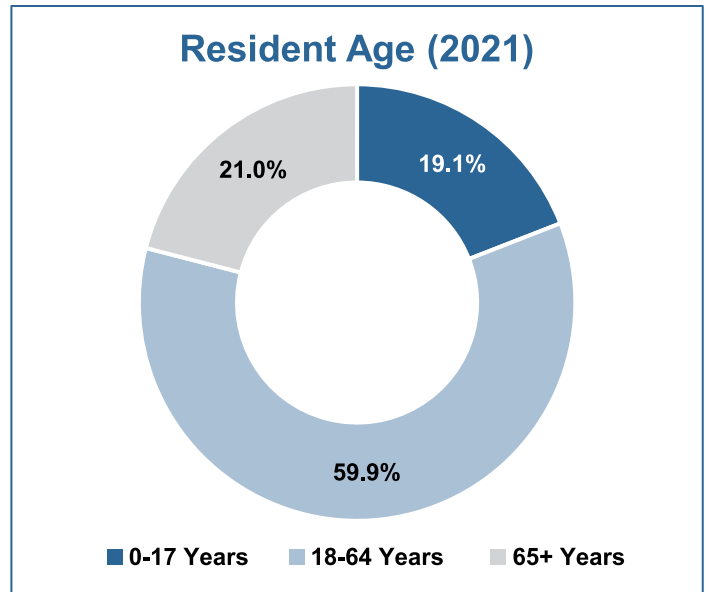
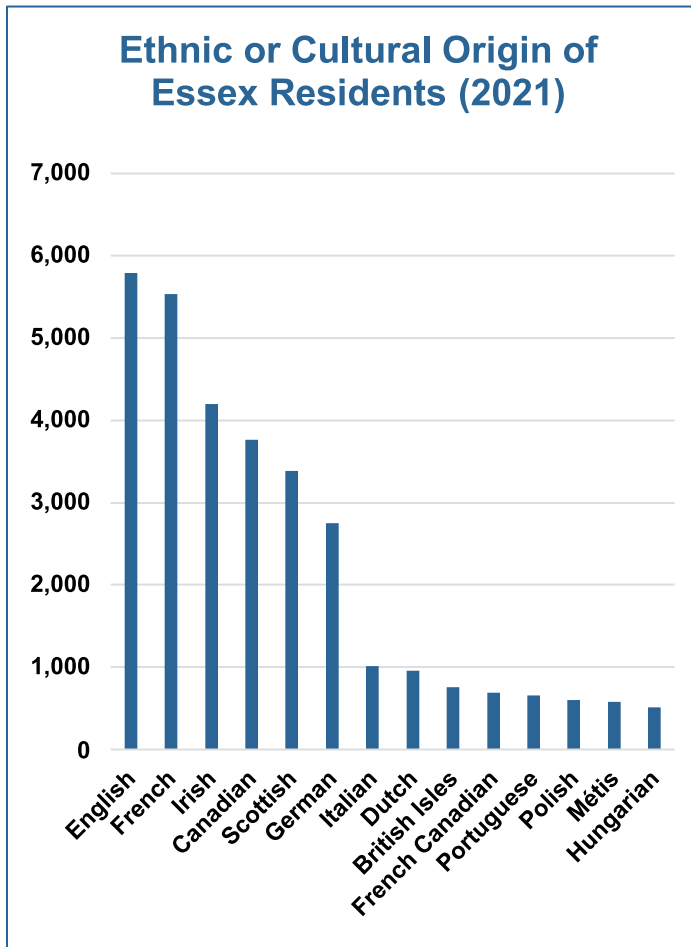
Population: 21,216

Households: 8,390 (Average of 2.5 persons per household)

- One-person Households: 2,155 (25.7%)
- Two or more person Households: 6,235 (74.3%)

Diversity of Amherstburg Residents:

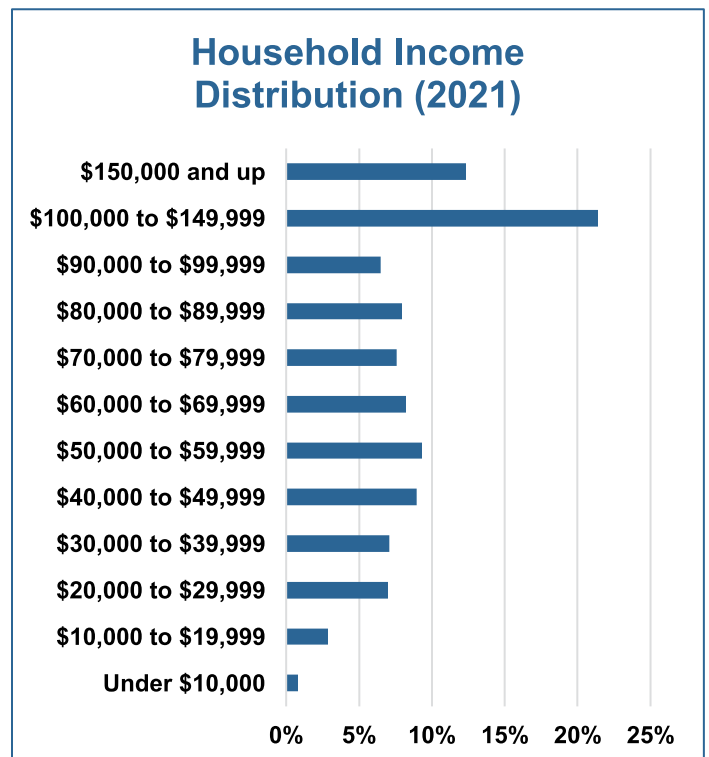
- 8.7% are Immigrants (1,800)
- 4.5% identify as Indigenous (925)
- 4.6% identify as a Visible Minority (955)



Income:

Median Household Income (after-tax): \$77,500

- Approximately 3,020 households have an income less than the median
- One-person Households: \$37,200
- Two or more person Households: \$93,000



Poverty

3.6% of Essex residents (735) are living in poverty

- Older adults between 55 and 64 years old (5.9%) are more likely to be living in poverty compared to other age groups.

Residents Living in Poverty (MBM)	# of Residents	# in Poverty	Poverty Rate (%)
Total	20,660	735	3.6%
0 to 17 years	3,875	145	3.7%
0 to 5 years	1,170	45	3.8%
6 to 17 years	2,705	100	3.7%
18 to 24 years	1,650	35	2.1%
25 to 54 years	7,315	290	4.0%
55 to 64 years	3,490	205	5.9%
65+ years	4,335	60	1.4%

Note: 2021 Market Basket Measure threshold for family of four = \$43,985 (Ontario population under 30,000)

Housing

11.9% of Essex households (995) are spending more than 30% of their income on shelter costs

- 7,165 households are Owned
 - 9.1% of owner households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for owned dwellings: \$1,212
- 1,230 households are Rented
 - 29.0% of tenant households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for rented dwellings: \$968



Downtown Essex, TWEPI

COMMUNITY PROFILE

TOWN OF KINGSVILLE

Demographics:

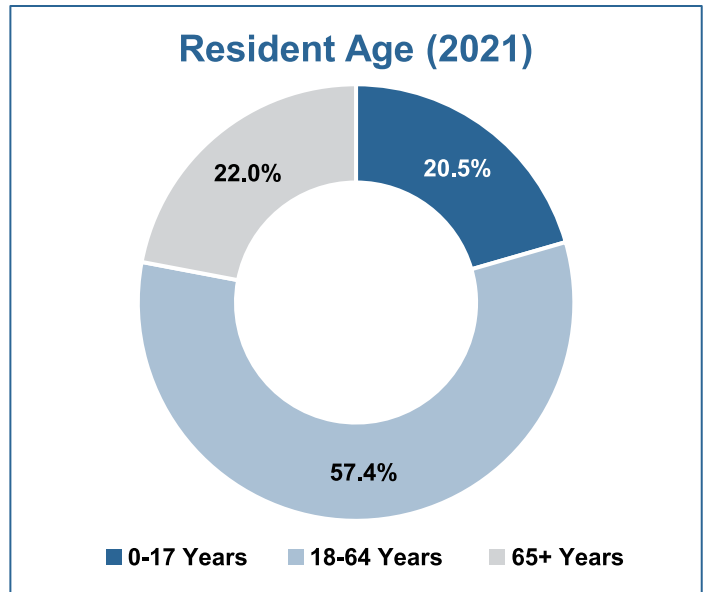
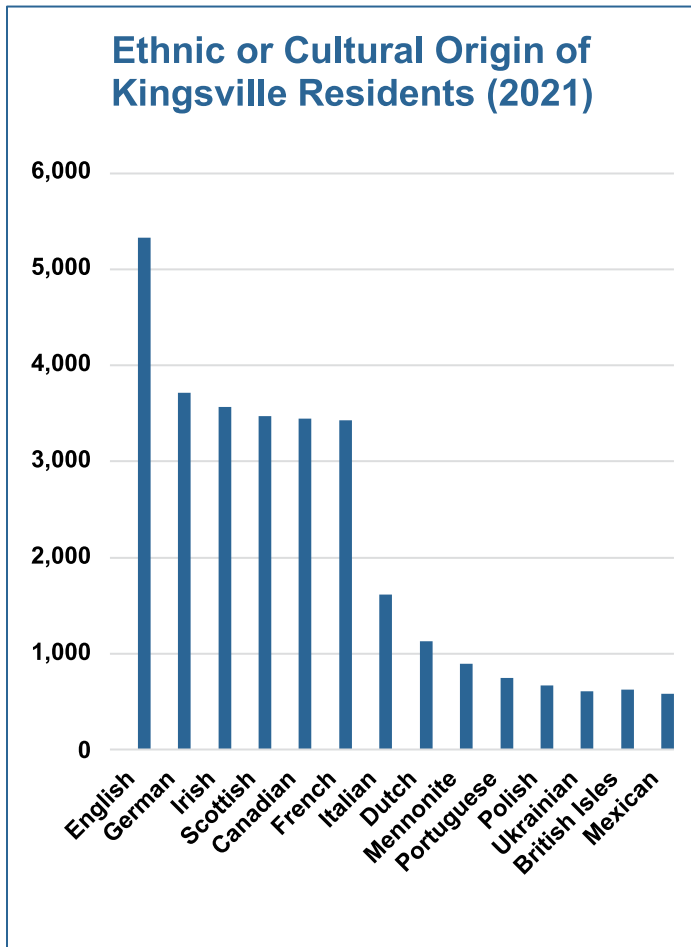
Population: 22,119

Households: 8,285 (Average of 2.7 persons per household)

- One-person Households: 1,885 (22.8%)
- Two or more person Households: 6,400 (77.2%)

Diversity of Kingsville Residents:

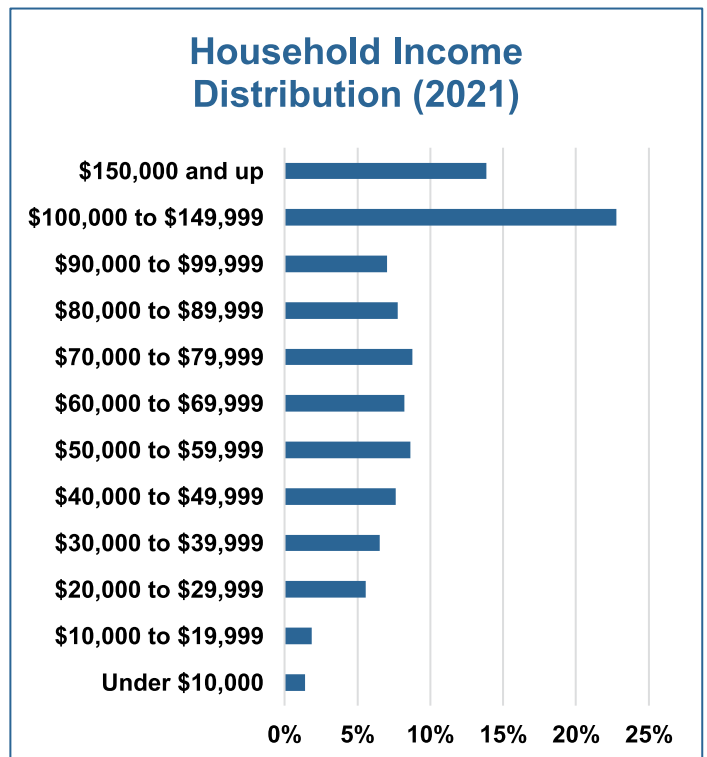
- 13.3% are Immigrants (2,810)
- 2.3% identify as Indigenous (495)
- 5.2% identify as a Visible Minority (1,105)



Income:

Median Household Income (after-tax): \$82,000

- Approximately 4,020 households have an income less than the median
- One-person Households: \$40,000
- Two or more person Households: \$96,000



Poverty

3.6% of Kingsville residents (770) are living in poverty

- Older adults between 55 and 64 years old (7.0%) are more likely to be living in poverty compared to other age groups

Residents Living in Poverty (MBM)	# of Residents	# in Poverty	Poverty Rate (%)
Total	21,190	770	3.6%
0 to 17 years	4,375	130	3.0%
0 to 5 years	1,275	35	2.7%
6 to 17 years	3,100	95	3.1%
18 to 24 years	1,610	35	2.2%
25 to 54 years	7,325	290	4.0%
55 to 64 years	3,210	225	7.0%
65+ years	4,665	90	1.9%

Note: 2021 Market Basket Measure threshold for family of four = \$43,985 (Ontario population under 30,000)

Housing

11.0% of Kingsville households (910) are spending more than 30% of their income on shelter costs

- 7,015 households are Owned
 - 8.0% of owner households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for owned dwellings: \$1,203
- 1,270 households are Rented
 - 29.7% of tenant households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for rented dwellings: \$1,108



Kingsville Open Streets, TWEPI

COMMUNITY PROFILE

MUNICIPALITY OF LAKESHORE

Demographics:

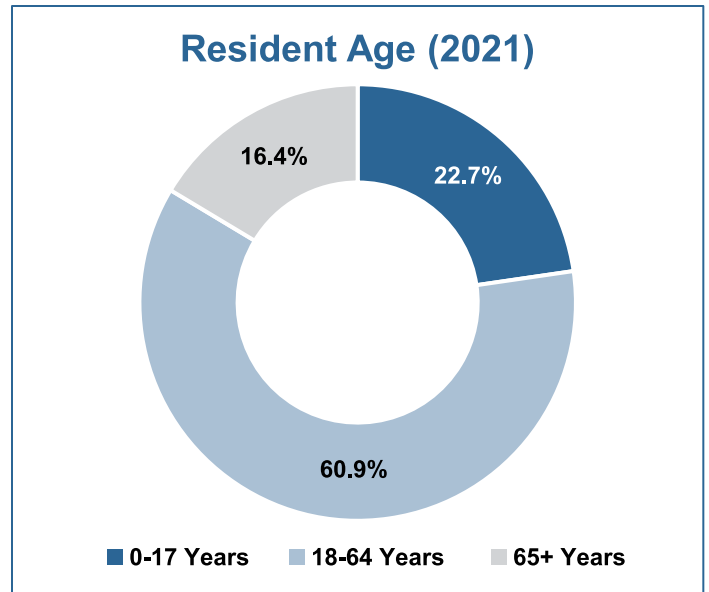
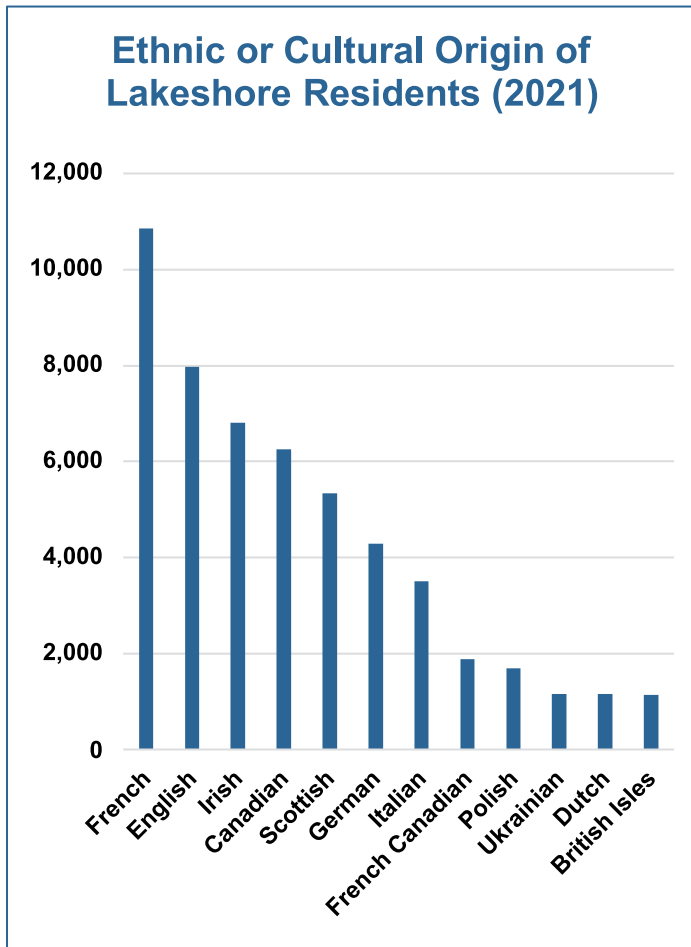
Population: 40,410

Households: 14,385 (Average of 2.8 persons per household)

- One-person Households: 2,480 (17.2%)
- Two or more person Households: 11,910 (82.8%)

Diversity of Lakeshore Residents:

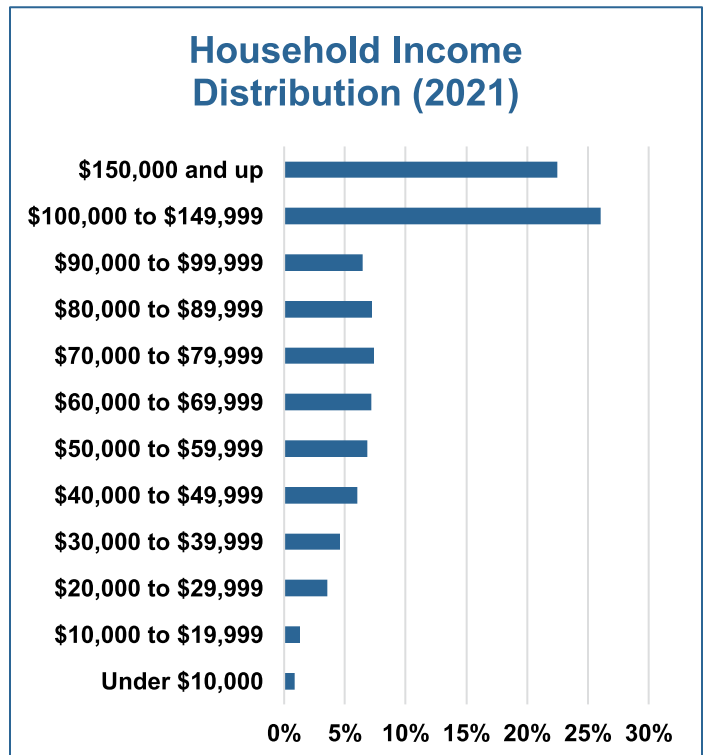
- 13.5% are Immigrants (5,420)
- 3.4% identify as Indigenous (1,365)
- 11.0% identify as a Visible Minority (4,435)



Income:

Median Household Income (after-tax): \$98,000

- Approximately 6,475 households have an income less than the median
- One-person Households: \$43,600
- Two or more person Households: \$110,000



Poverty

2.8% of Lakeshore residents (1,145) are living in poverty

- Young children between 0 and 5 years (4.0%) and older adults between 55 and 64 years (3.8%) are more likely to be living in poverty compared to other age groups.

Residents Living in Poverty (MBM)	# of Residents	# in Poverty	Poverty Rate (%)
Total	40,225	1,145	2.8%
0 to 17 years	9,115	280	3.1%
0 to 5 years	2,375	95	4.0%
6 to 17 years	6,740	185	2.7%
18 to 24 years	3,520	55	1.6%
25 to 54 years	14,950	410	2.7%
55 to 64 years	6,055	230	3.8%
65+ years	6,595	165	2.5%

Note: 2021 Market Basket Measure threshold for family of four = \$43,462 (Ontario population size 30,000 to 99,999)

Housing

11.1% of Lakeshore households (1,590) are spending more than 30% of their income on shelter costs

- 13,165 households are Owned
 - 9.9% of owner households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for owned dwellings: \$1,504
- 1,215 households are Rented
 - 25.9% of tenant households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for rented dwellings: \$1,078



Belle River Beach, TWEPI

COMMUNITY PROFILE

TOWN OF LASALLE

Demographics:

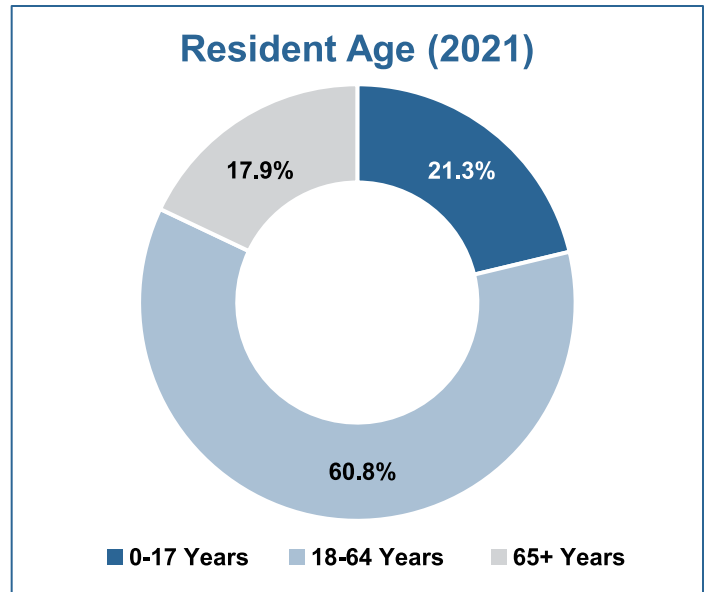
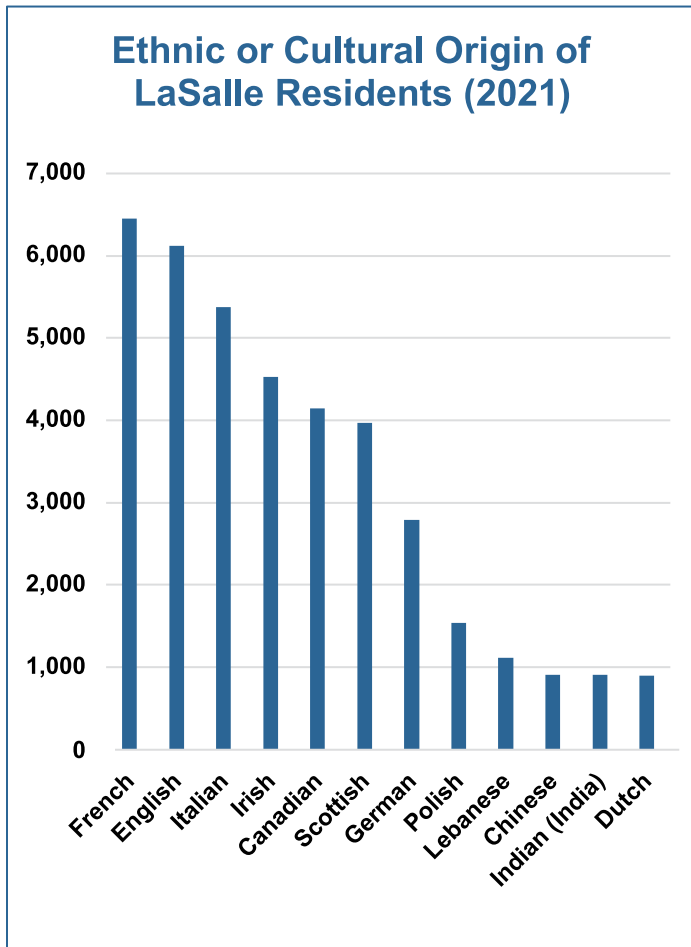
Population: 32,721

Households: 11,645 (Average of 2.8 persons per household)

- One-person Households: 2,090 (17.9%)
- Two or more person Households: 9,550 (82.0%)

Diversity of LaSalle Residents:

- 20.1% are Immigrants (6,535)
- 2.2% identify as Indigenous (700)
- 18.8% identify as a Visible Minority (6,110)

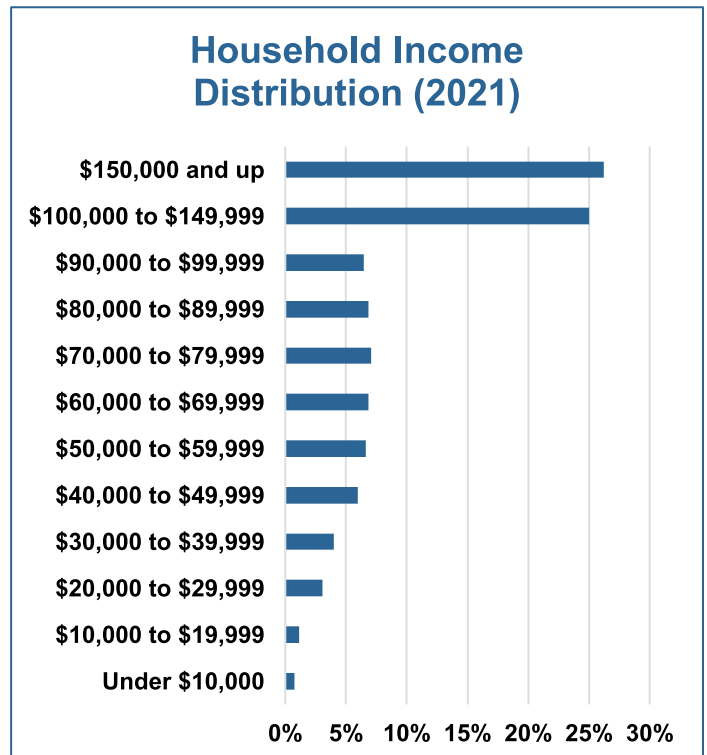


Income:

Median Household Income (after-tax): \$102,000

- Approximately 5,675 households have an income less than the median

- **One-person Households:** \$48,400
- **Two or more person Households:** \$116,000



Poverty

2.6% of LaSalle residents (845) are living in poverty

- Children and youth (3.2%), in particular young children aged 0 to 5 (4.1%), and older adults between 55 and 64 years (3.7%) are more likely to be living in poverty compared to other age groups.

Residents Living in Poverty (MBM)	# of Residents	# in Poverty	Poverty Rate (%)
Total	32,475	845	2.6%
0 to 17 years	6,905	220	3.2%
0 to 5 years	1,825	75	4.1%
6 to 17 years	5,080	150	3.0%
18 to 24 years	2,985	75	2.5%
25 to 54 years	11,770	275	2.3%
55 to 64 years	4,985	185	3.7%
65+ years	5,830	90	1.5%

Note: 2021 Market Basket Measure threshold for family of four = \$43,462 (Ontario population size 30,000 to 99,999)

Housing

10.8% of LaSalle households (1,260) are spending more than 30% of their income on shelter costs

- 10,640 households are Owned
 - 8.7% of owner households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for owned dwellings: \$1,468
- 1,010 households are Rented
 - 33.5% of tenant households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for rented dwellings: \$1,416



COMMUNITY PROFILE

MUNICIPALITY OF LEAMINGTON

Demographics:

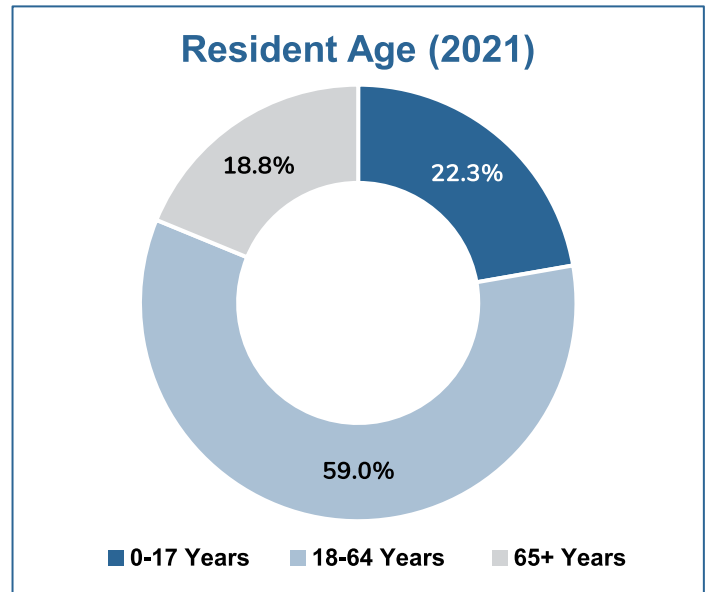
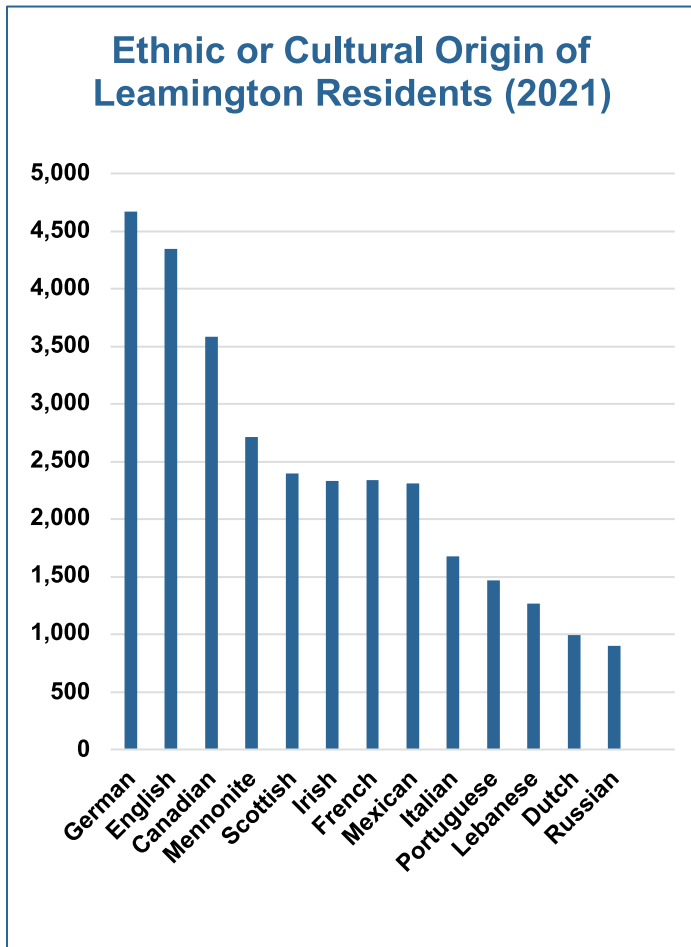
Population: 29,680

Households: 10,550 (Average of 2.8 persons per household)

- One-person Households: 2,690 (25.5%)
- Two or more person Households: 7,855 (74.5%)

Diversity of Leamington Residents:

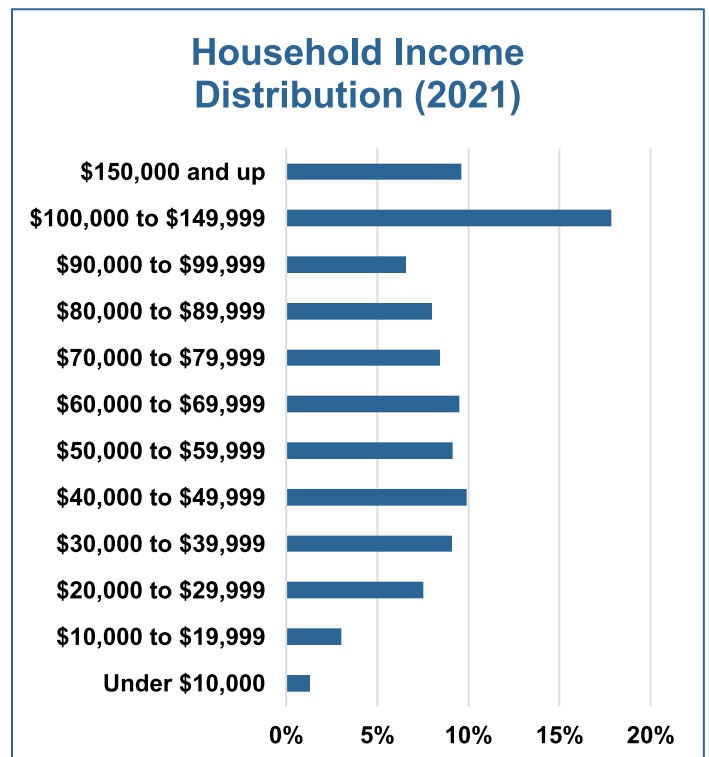
- 25.6% are Immigrants (7,225)
- 1.7% identify as Indigenous (465)
- 20.2% identify as a Visible Minority (5,695)



Income:

Median Household Income (after-tax): \$70,500

- Approximately 5,230 households have an income less than the median
- One-person Households: \$36,800
- Two or more person Households: \$84,000



Poverty

6.4% of Leamington residents (1,800) are living in poverty

- Children and youth (7.7%) are more likely to be living in poverty than other age groups; particularly young children aged 0 to 5 (9.5%). The poverty rate is also higher than overall for adults 25 to 64 years old (7.8%) and older adults 55 to 64 years old (7.4%).

Residents Living in Poverty (MBM)	# of Residents	# in Poverty	Poverty Rate (%)
Total	28,170	1,800	6.4%
0 to 17 years	6,315	485	7.7%
0 to 5 years	2,055	195	9.5%
6 to 17 years	4,260	290	6.8%
18 to 24 years	2,395	140	5.8%
25 to 54 years	10,230	795	7.8%
55 to 64 years	3,940	290	7.4%
65+ years	5,290	90	1.7%

Note: 2021 Market Basket Measure threshold for family of four = \$43,985 (Ontario population under 30,000)

Housing

18.4% of Leamington households (1,945) are spending more than 30% of their income on shelter costs

- 7,305 households are Owned
 - 11.5% of owner households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for owned dwellings: \$1,200
- 3,240 households are Rented
 - 34.8% of tenant households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for rented dwellings: \$1,151



Mill St Market, Leamington, TWEPI

COMMUNITY PROFILE

TOWN OF TECUMSEH

Demographics:

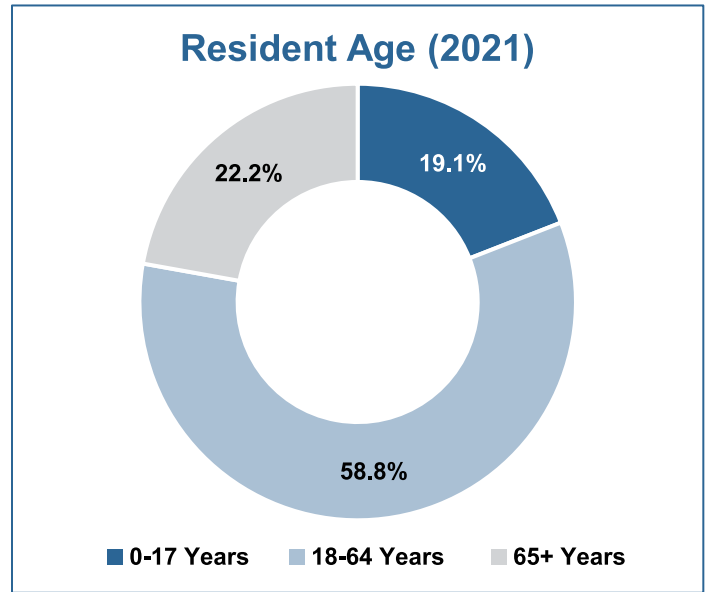
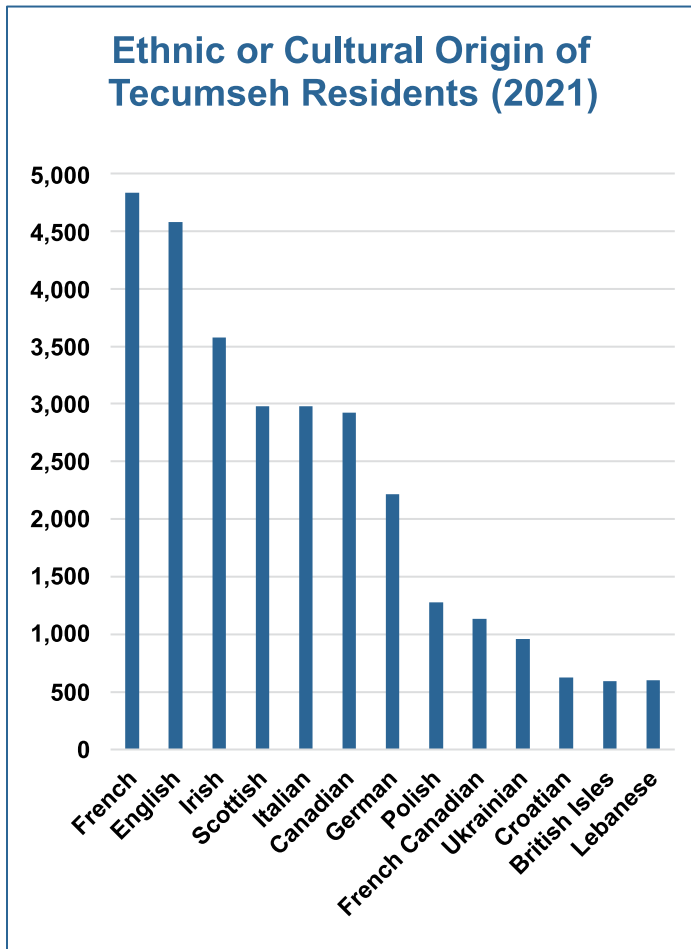
Population: 23,300

Households: 8,945 (Average of 2.6 persons per household)

- One-person Households: 1,895 (21.2%)
- Two or more person Households: 7,055 (78.9%)

Diversity of Tecumseh Residents:

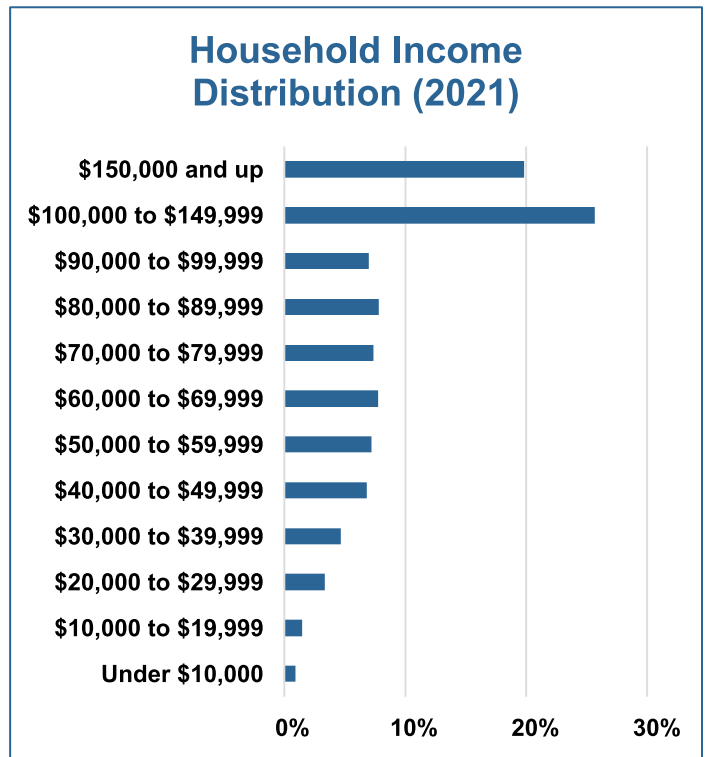
- 18.0% are Immigrants (4,145)
- 2.6% identify as Indigenous (605)
- 11.3% identify as a Visible Minority (2,605)



Income:

Median Household Income (after-tax): \$94,000

- Approximately 4,245 households have an income less than the median
- One-person Households: \$47,200
- Two or more person Households: \$107,000



Poverty

2.4% of Tecumseh residents (550) are living in poverty

- Older adults between 55 to 64 years old (4.2%) are more likely to be living in poverty than other age groups.

Residents Living in Poverty (MBM)	# of Residents	# in Poverty	Poverty Rate (%)
Total	23,010	550	2.4%
0 to 17 years	4,410	105	2.4%
0 to 5 years	1,250	25	2.0%
6 to 17 years	3,160	80	2.5%
18 to 24 years	1,820	25	1.4%
25 to 54 years	7,865	195	2.5%
55 to 64 years	3,805	160	4.2%
65+ years	5,120	70	1.4%

Note: 2021 Market Basket Measure threshold for family of four = \$43,985 (Ontario population under 30,000)

Housing

11.1% of Tecumseh households (995) are spending more than 30% of their income on shelter costs

- 7,945 households are Owned
 - 8.9% of owner households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for owned dwellings: \$1,326
- 1,000 households are Rented
 - 30.3% of tenant households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for rented dwellings: \$1,230



Lakewood Park, Tecumseh, TWEP

COMMUNITY PROFILE

CITY OF WINDSOR

Demographics:

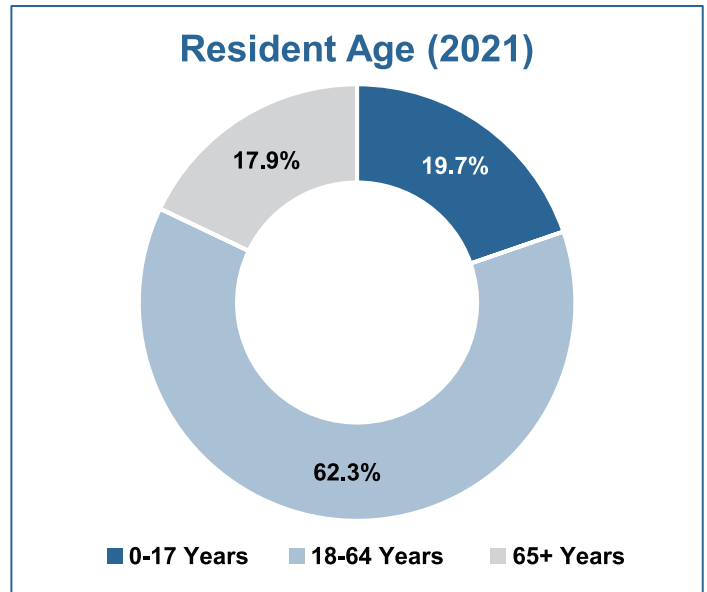
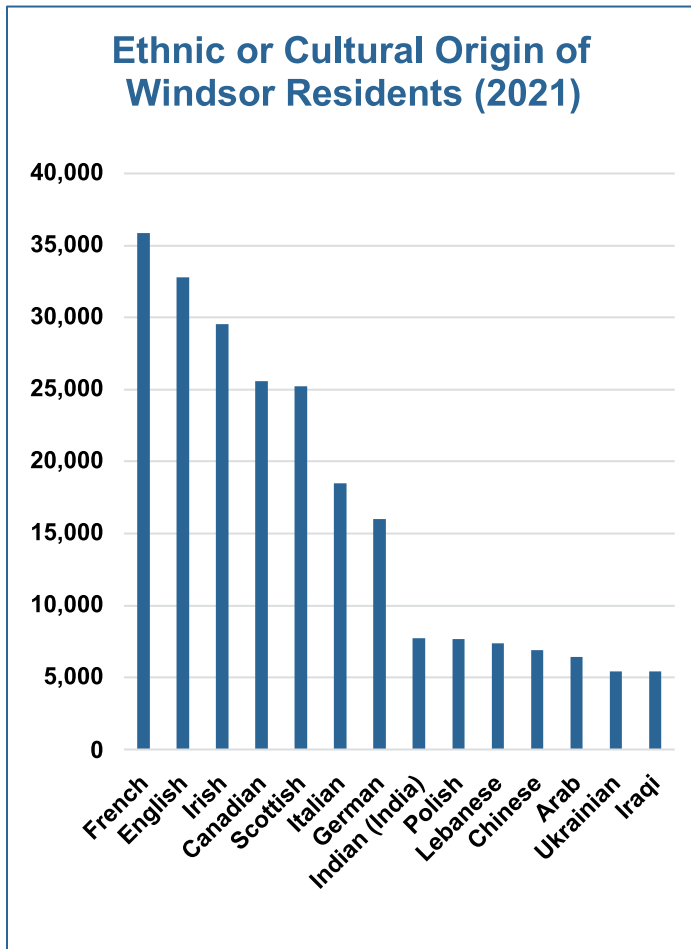
Population: 229,660

Households: 94,270 (Average of 2.4 persons per household)

- One-person Households: 31,210 (33.1%)
- Two or more person Households: 63,065 (66.9%)

Diversity of Windsor Residents:

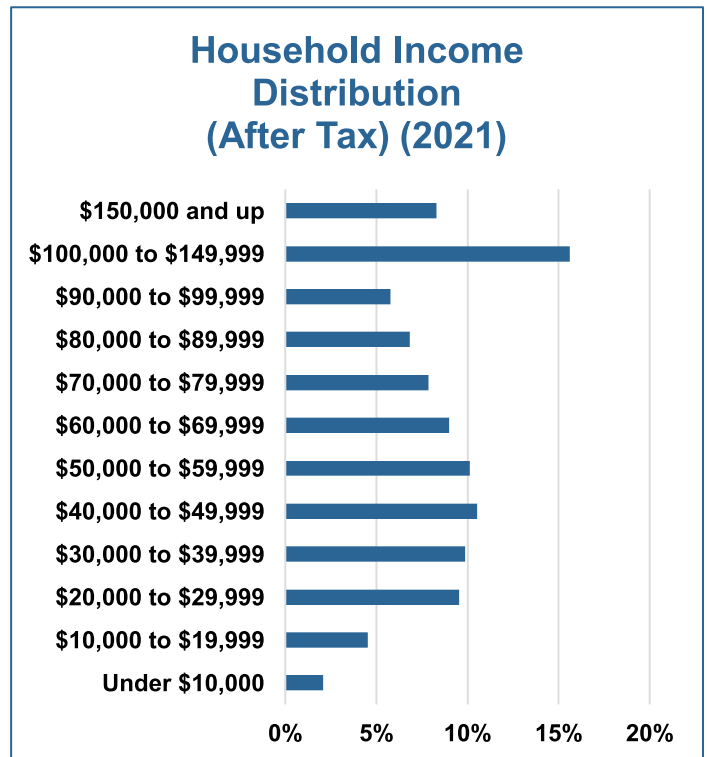
- 29.4% are Immigrants (66,610)
- 2.9% identify as Indigenous (6,585)
- 33.6% identify as a Visible Minority (76,005)



Income

Median Household Income (after-tax): \$63,600

- Approximately 43,965 households have an income less than the median
- One-person Households: \$35,600
- Two or more person Households: \$81,000



Poverty

10.8% of Windsor residents (24,355) are living in poverty

- Children and youth (12.7%), particularly young children 0 to 5 years old (14.3%), and young adults between 18 and 24 years old (17.4%) are more likely to be living in poverty compared to other age groups. Older adults aged 55 to 64 (11.3%) also show a slightly higher poverty rate than overall.

Residents Living in Poverty (MBM)	# of Residents	# in Poverty	Poverty Rate (%)
Total	226,465	24,355	10.8%
0 to 17 years	44,700	5,655	12.7%
0 to 5 years	13,385	1,910	14.3%
6 to 17 years	31,310	3,745	12.0%
18 to 24 years	21,630	3,755	17.4%
25 to 54 years	88,345	9,500	10.8%
55 to 64 years	31,195	3,535	11.3%
65+ years	40,595	1,910	4.7%

Note: 2021 Market Basket Measure threshold for family of four = \$45,776 (Ontario population size 100,000-499,999)

Housing

21.0% of Windsor households (19,835) are spending more than 30% of their income on shelter costs

- 58,960 households are Owned
 - 12.6% of owner households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for owned dwellings: \$1,169
- 35,315 households are Rented
 - 35.5 % of tenant households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs
 - Average monthly shelter costs for rented dwellings: \$1,046



ENDNOTES

- 1 Canada. (2018). Opportunity for all—Canada’s first poverty reduction strategy. Retrieved from <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/poverty-reduction/reports/strategy.html>
- 2 Canada’s first official poverty line. The Market Basket Measure (MBM) calculates the level when a household does not have the income to purchase a specific basket of essential goods and services. Data sourced from: Statistics Canada. Table 98-10-0113-01 Individual Market Basket Measure poverty status by economic family characteristics of persons: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions
- 3 Gustajtis, B. & Heisz, A. (2024, January 18). Modelled Market Basket Measure poverty rates for 2022 and 2023. Income Research Paper Series. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 75F0002M.
- 4 Workforce WindsorEssex Labour Force Report – December 2023. Statistics Canada: Labour Force Survey data for Windsor CMA (includes Lakeshore, Tecumseh, Windsor, LaSalle, and Amherstburg).
- 5 Statistics Canada. 2023. Census Profile. 2021 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2021001. Ottawa. Released February 8, 2023.
- 6 Statistics Canada. 2017. Census Profile. 2016 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2016001. Ottawa. Released November 29 2017.
- 7 2022 Annual Report Home Together: Windsor Essex Housing & Homelessness Master Plan.
- 8 Each year the Windsor Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) calculates the cost of groceries per week in the region using the Ontario Nutritious Food Basket (ONFB) survey.
- 9 Living wage is defined as "the minimum amount a person must earn to afford to live and participate in a specific community; Windsor-Essex County Health Unit: November 2023 Board of Health Meeting - Ontario Nutritious Food Basket & Food Insecurity Information Report.
- 10 Statistics Canada (2023, November 3). Labour Force Survey, October 2023. The Daily, November 3, 2023.
- 11 Kotsis, J. (2023, August 8). Rising cost of living earned Windsor title of SW Ontario poverty capital, Windsor Star. <https://windsorstar.com/news/local-news/poverty-in-windsor>
- 12 Statistics Canada. 2023. Census Profile. 2021 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2021001. Ottawa. Released February 8 2023.
- 13 Statistics Canada. Table 98-10-0113-01 Individual Market Basket Measure poverty status by economic family characteristics of persons: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions.

FRONT PAGE PHOTO CREDITS

Photos courtesy of Tourism Windsor Essex Pelee Island (TWEPI).



- 1 McAulliffe Park, Tecumseh
- 2 Bright Lights Windsor
- 3 Kingsville Open Streets
- 4 Windsor Riverfront



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OUR WEBSITE AT [PATHWAYTOPOTENTIAL.CA](https://pathwaytopotential.ca)
OR EMAIL US AT P2P@CITYWINDSOR.CA



Subject: Rent Supplement Program Expiries and Mitigation Update - City Wide

Reference:

Date to Council: March 6, 2024
Author: Jolayne Susko
Coordinator, Housing Administration & Policy
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jsusko@citywindsor.ca

Mike Deimling
Social Housing Analyst
(519) 255-5200 ext. 5358
mdeimling@citywindsor.ca
Housing and Children's Services
Report Date: 2/16/2024
Clerk's File #: GH/14271

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

Recommendation:

THAT this update report from the Coordinator, Housing Administration & Policy and the Social Housing Analyst regarding Rent Supplement Expiries and Mitigation Efforts **BE RECEIVED**; and further,

THAT the Executive Director, Housing and Children's Services **BE AUTHORIZED** to pursue additional funding opportunities, and take action as required to reduce the amount of funding that may be requested from the municipal tax base; and further,

THAT the Commissioner, Human and Health Services **BE AUTHORIZED** to **APPROVE** and **SUBMIT** applications and related submissions and amendments to secure operating funding for the purpose of extending expiring rent supplement/housing allowance households, beyond their March 31, 2024 expiry, if in core housing need and at risk of homelessness without the assistance of a rent subsidy/housing benefit; and further,

THAT the City Clerk and Chief Administrative Officer and City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to **EXECUTE** any Agreements and related documents, amendments and/or extensions related to operating funding for the purpose of extending rent supplement households beyond their March 31, 2024 expiry, if in core housing need and at risk of homelessness without the assistance of a rent subsidy/housing benefit, provided the Funding Agreements and any related documents, amendments and/or extensions are in a form

satisfactory to the City Solicitor, satisfactory in financial content to the City Treasurer, and technical content to the Commissioner of Human and Health Services, provided that any agreements do not exceed the funding in the approved City budget in each respective year; and further,

THAT for the duration of the rent supplement/housing allowance/housing benefit programs the Commissioner of Human and Health Services **BE AUTHORIZED** to submit any necessary reports and documents required by the respective provincial and/or federal ministry and/or other funder(s) to remain in compliance with mandatory reporting requirements under the program(s) provided they are satisfactory in financial content to the City Treasurer or designate, and in technical content to the Executive Director, Housing and Children's Services; and further,

THAT the Executive Director, Housing & Children's Services **REPORT BACK** on the outcome of the expiring rent supplement and any other mitigation strategies post completion.

Executive Summary:

N/A

Background:

The City of Windsor is the Service Manager with respect to Social and Affordable Housing for the City of Windsor and the County of Essex. The City administers several affordable housing programs funded municipally, as well as provincially and federally, including Rent Supplement (RS) and Housing Allowance (HA) Programs.

These programs provide rental assistance to low-income households living in private rental accommodations, and in social and affordable market housing units in Windsor and Essex County. A portion of these programs are municipally funded through a shared contribution agreement between the City of Windsor (as Service Manager) and the County of Essex since the devolution of social housing in 2001. In addition, the federal and provincial governments have provided RS/HA funding under time-limited housing program funding envelopes such as, Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH and IAH-E), Social Infrastructure Fund (SIF) and Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI).

RS/HA(s) have not only benefited low-income households in Windsor and Essex County but have also assisted social and/or affordable housing landlords in our communities with their housing project's financial viability by providing RS/HA(s) to a specific number of qualifying tenants and as a means of expanding affordable housing options in our communities for years.

In 2020, Housing Services began actively working with RS/HA Program Administrators on a rent supplement expiry mitigation strategy. In November 2021, approximately \$3.29 million was being allocated to RS/HA(s) assisting on a monthly basis approximately 500-549 households throughout Windsor and Essex County.

Rent Supplement Program Expiries and Mitigation Strategy and Updates were brought forward to Council on January 5, 2022 (Council Report: S 144/2021; CR 36/2022) and April 11, 2022 (Council Report: C 51/2022), respectfully and captured mitigation efforts through March 31, 2023.

The remaining programs outlined in the above noted report to Council (S144/2021), set to expire March 31, 2024 which are funded under the Investment in Affordable Housing-Extension (IAH-E), Social Infrastructure Funding (SIF) and Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI) represent 274 units. At that time, annual funding for the 274 households totaled approximately \$1.731 million per year.

Discussion:

Since 2020, Housing Services in conjunction with efforts of RS/HA Administrators have successfully reduced the number of households requiring mitigation after March 31, 2024 from 274 to 171. Table 1 provides a summary of the funding programs associated with the March 31, 2024 RS/HA expiries as well as, the number of households, approximate annualized subsidy and populations served for each of the 171 remaining households.

Table 1: Expiring Rent Supplement Programs Set to Expire on March 31, 2024

Program Name	Populations Served	No. of Households (at Dec 23)	Estimated Annual Subsidy (at Dec 2023)
Investment in Affordable Housing (Ext) (IAHE)	In crisis, homeless, seniors, survivors of domestic violence, working poor	126	\$958,000
IAHE – Social Infrastructure Funding (SIF)	seniors, youth	33	\$165,000
SIF – Anti-Human Trafficking (SIF-AHT)	Survivors of human trafficking	8	\$77,000
Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI – HA) - Yearly allocation	Homeless and/or at-risk-of-homelessness	4	\$30,000
ESTIMATED UNFUNDED RS/HA TOTAL		171	\$1,230,000

Late in 2022 our priority and efforts began to focus on the mitigation efforts for these RS/HA households with a RS/HA set to expire on March 31, 2024. As part of our on-going mitigation strategy and efforts, all expiring RS/HA households have been notified of the expiry in writing and advised on required action(s) in order to be considered for an alternate benefit such as, a Canada Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB), Windsor Essex Housing Benefit (WEHB), Rent-Geared-to-Income (RGI) unit. Each expiring RS/HA participant must be on and/or eligible to be on, the Community Housing Registry-Windsor Essex County’s (CHR-WEC) centralized waitlist to be considered eligible for an alternate housing benefit option.

Housing Services identified the following options to offset the identified RS/HA funding shortfalls (in order of preference) understanding that not all options are available to all expiring RS/HA households:

- **Rent Geared to Income (RGI) Assistance**– A small number of the RS/HA recipients reside in market units within social housing buildings; therefore, the service manager is able to provide approval for a conversion (PII Market to RGI) of these RS units to RGI subsidized units funded within the City of Windsor Housing Services base budget allocation.
- **Commercial/Municipal Rent Supplement Programs** - The City of Windsor administers and funds a number of municipally funded legacy rent supplement programs, which form part of the City's legislative service levels under the *Housing Service Act*. A limited amount of annualized funding is available in these program budgets. Costs associated with these legacy social housing programs are also cost shared with the County of Essex.
- **Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP)** – This consolidated annual provincial funding envelop was introduced in 2022, combining Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) funding with Strong Communities Rent Supplement Program (SCRSP) funding envelop providing affordable housing and support services for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness and offering stability for long-term SCRSP households beyond the program's original planned expiry of March 31, 2023.
- **Windsor Essex Housing Benefit (WEHB)** – The WEHB program was introduced as a 2020 operating budget issue (#2020-0230) and approved by City Council on January 27, 2020 (Decision #B55/2020) and was further presented to Council on June 1, 2020 (Council Report: S 73/2020; CR274/2020). Additional funding was approved by Council in the following two years on Budget issue's 2021-0107 and 2022-0035. A total Gross funding of \$750,000 was approved in the three years. Unlike other forms of housing assistance (e.g. rent-geared-to-income, rent supplement), the WEHB is tied to the household and not a physical housing unit, allowing the benefit to move with the household within Windsor and Essex County. The WEHB is a monthly benefit paid directly to eligible low-income households to bridge the gap between affordable rent (roughly 30 percent of income) and average market rent. Housing Services has requested a budget carry forward of the City's share of unused WEHB funding in 2023 in order to mitigate the remaining expiring RS/HA's that are scheduled to end on March 31/2024.
- **Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB)** - The COHB is a monthly benefit paid directly to eligible low-income households that is provincially & federally cost shared. Eligible applicants will receive a monthly benefit based on the difference between the greater of 80% of the COHB Program's Average Market Rent (AMR) for the Windsor Essex service area or shelter cost up to 100% of AMR and 30% of their Adjusted Family Net Income (AFNI). Like the WEHB, the COHB is tied to the household and not a physical housing unit and allows the benefit to move with the household within the Province of Ontario.

At this time, Housing Services has **no** information about a Windsor-Essex COHB allocation for 2024-2025 year (and beyond). Should an allocation of COHB be announced by MMAH, this program funding would continue to be provided as an alternative funding program to support the expiring RS/HA households where deemed an appropriate replacement.

- **Canada Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) RS Program** – Introduced as part of the Community Housing Renewal Strategy (CHRS) in 2019 COCHI funding is to be used to protect affordability for households in social housing, to support the repair and renewal of existing social housing supply, and to expand the supply of community housing over time. Rent supplements, which are paid to the landlord on behalf of a household, to support social and/or community housing are an allowable operating expense under the program. At the time of writing this report, no funding allocations beyond March 31, 2025 have been announced.
- **Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI) RS/HA Program** – Introduced as part of the Community Housing Renewal Strategy (CHRS) in 2019 OPHI funding is to be used to address local housing priorities, including affordability, repair and new construction. The City has been notified of a 2024-2025 OPHI funding allocation of \$2 million. To date, a pre-commitment of up to \$150,000 has been planned for RS/HA expiry mitigation efforts.

For reference, CHRS Programs were announced as nine-year program funding and scheduled to end in 2027-2028 i.e., March 31, 2028. At the time of writing this report, no funding allocations beyond March 31, 2025 have been announced.

- **City of Windsor / County of Essex Operating Budget** – Housing Services was approved a one-time allocation of up to \$200,000 from the Budget Stabilization Reserve (BSR) as part of the approved 2024 budget (BI 2024-0036), to fund any potential shortfall associated with the March 31, 2024 expiry of provincially funded RS/HA households after all alternative sources of funding (detailed above) have been explored and maximized. This funding will be used to temporarily fund a portion of the RS/HA's that are expiring until a decision is made on the budget carry forward request.

Alternate housing benefit offers and/or assignments for expiring rent supplement households are based on each household's unique circumstances (e.g., rental address, CHR application date) and include the following:

- A RGI offer
- RGI conversions in place for expiring RS/HA households renting a market unit with a social housing provider/geared to income property as a rent subsidized market renter (i.e. PII Market to RGI)
- Conversions to an alternate housing benefit program (COHB, WEHB). In determining appropriate alternate housing benefit program conversions, Housing Services created a COHB and WEHB benefit estimator and with the assistance of Rent Supplement Administrators gathered unique household information (annual income, total rental cost, household size etc.) for each expiring RS/HA household.

Using the populated estimators, Housing Services proceeded to estimate each household's COHB and WEHB, and using this data assigned housing benefit conversions whereby households would not be paying more than 30% of their income for rent.

There have also been households who have left expiring RS/HA programs naturally for a variety of reasons e.g., deceased, moved out, increased to market rent.

Risk Analysis:

Housing Services is confident that as a result of the ongoing mitigation efforts all expiring rent supplement households will have the ability to transfer to a replacement housing benefit, maintaining their housing affordability at a target of no more than 30% of their household income. Although mitigation efforts have been successful to date, there continues to be a moderate risk to households, as the majority of newly assigned benefits or alternate benefit options being considered for mitigation are based on annualized funding allocations. As noted in Table 2, one-time municipal funding sources are being applied to bridge our mitigation efforts for 2024-25. Housing Services will be required to prioritize future provincial and federal funding sources to further mitigate. Without annualized committed funding there is the potential that it may result in evictions and ultimately homelessness for some of these households. The Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services continues to lobby and advocate for replacement funding at Ministry forums and tables in order to support expiring RS/HA mitigation efforts.

Climate Change Risks

Climate Change Mitigation:

N/A

Climate Change Adaptation:

N/A

Financial Matters:

As at December 2023, 171 RS/HA units remain under programs expiring on March 31, 2024. The cost of funding the remaining 171 RS/HA units approximates \$1.23 million per year. These expiring RS/HA programs represent various programs which are delivered through an authorized RS Administrator (service agreement with the City) to offer a set number of rent supplements based on a fixed funding allocation.

These RS/HA units have been delivered through Investment in Affordable Housing Program Extension (IAHE), Social Infrastructure Fund (SIF) and Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI) funding. As a result of the pending expiry of program funding under these RS/HA programs, Housing Services placed a pause on attrition/turnovers and actions outlined above have been undertaken to transition eligible households into an alternative housing benefit program prior to the March 31, 2024 program expiry or effective April 1, 2024.

Projection – RS/HA subsidies – April 2024 and forward

Housing Services is expecting through planned mitigation efforts to successfully mitigate all March 31/2024 expiring RS/HA units providing that the WEHB carry forward request is approved. Table 2 depicts all of the expiring RS/HA programs and identifies funding sources to assist with the overall RS/HA expiry mitigation efforts.

Table 2: Identified Funding Sources to Mitigate RS/HA's - Effective April 1, 2024

	<u>Units</u>	<u>Dollars (\$)</u>
Funding Available @ April 1, 2024:		
HPP – Funded by Province (annualized)		\$1,327,000
COCHI – RS – funded by Province (one-time)		\$ 150,000
Sub-total Approved Funding:		\$1,477,000
One-time 2023 WEHB Budget Carry Forward Funding (Pending Council Approval)		\$ 484,000
Total Available Funding (Pending Council Approval):		\$1,961,000
Less Estimated RS/HA Unit Costs:		
HPP conversions	133	\$ 810,000
March 31, 2024 Expiring RS/HA Funded Units (see Table 1)	171	\$1,230,000
Estimated # of Households to be Transferred to an alternate housing benefit	(53)	(\$ 156,700)
Estimated Annual Cost subtotal*:	251	\$1,883,300
Net Surplus/(Deficit) Impact **		\$ 77,700

*The estimated costs may increase if a household is forced to move to a unit with a higher rental cost.

** It should be noted this projected net surplus is subject to change and has the potential to decrease if, for example, a RS/HA household is forced to move to a unit with a higher rent. An additional \$200,000 was approved for one-time Budget Stabilization Reserve (Budget Issue 2024-0036) funding as part of the 2024 municipal budget (not included in the chart). This amount will only be drawn upon should other potential sources of funding not be realized.

Housing Services receives a municipally funded (City/County) allocation of \$750,000 yearly to provide a Windsor Essex Housing Benefit (WEHB) to recipients in Windsor-Essex. Current take-up of this program is 88 households at a cost of \$675,000 per year.

At the end of 2023, an estimated Gross municipal WEHB budget surplus of approximately \$484,000 (City share \$ 313,031, County share \$170,969) was realized. This projected WEHB program surplus was the result of utilizing IAH-E and SIF provincial program funding first (expiring March 31, 2024) to cover the WEHB program costs for the period April 2023 to December 2023. To assist with the mitigation effort, Housing Services has requested a one-time budget carry forward of the City's share of the unused 2023 WEHB funding to alleviate the impact on 2024 expiring RS/HA(s) participant households. If approved, the one-time budget carryover funding would help to mitigate the remaining expiring RS/HA recipients for 2024-25. This request will be brought forward in a future council report.

In addition to the above, Housing Services requested and was approved for one-time funding from the Budget Stabilization Reserve (BSR) (Budget Issue 2024-0036) as part of the 2024 municipal budget in the amount of up to \$200,000. This funding will only be drawn upon should other potential sources of funding not be realized.

Consultations:

Nancy Jaekel, Financial Planning Administrator

Kelly Goz, Manager Homelessness and Housing with Supports

Jennifer Tanner, Manager Homelessness and Housing with Supports

Kate Tracey, Senior Legal Counsel

Conclusion:

The current demand for affordable housing continues to exceed the supply for all municipalities in the Windsor Essex service area. Housing Services and RS Program Administrators will continue mitigating strategy efforts seeking to find a more permanent replacement affordable housing benefit for households currently mitigated with one-time unsecured permanent funding.

The mitigation efforts associated with maintaining a housing benefit for RS/HA households funded under housing funding programs expiring March 2024 continues to limit Housing Services ability to assist new households with a rent supplement as all available resources have gone into saving housing allowances for our existing RS/HA households.

Planning Act Matters:

N/A

Approvals:

Name	Title
Jolayne Susko	Coordinator, Housing Administration & Policy
Mike Deimling	Social Housing Analyst
Kirk Whittal	Executive Director, Housing and Children’s Services
Andrew Daher	Commissioner Human and Health Services
Tony Ardovini	On behalf of Commissioner, Finance & City Treasurer
Dana Palladino	Commissioner, Corporate Services (A)
Ray Mensour for Joe Mancina	Chief Administrative Officer

Notifications:

Name	Address	Email
Windsor Essex Community Housing Corporation		
Housing Information Services		
Assisted Living Southwestern Ontario		
Windsor Homes Coalition		
T.W.C. Development Corporation		
WECEN		
Family Services Windsor Essex		
Community Living Essex		
Windsor Essex Brokerage for Personal Supports		
House of Sophrosyne		
County of Essex; CAO		

Appendices:

1 Appendix A - C85 2022 Rent Supplement Expiries and Mitigation Update Report

**Subject: Rent Supplement Program Expiries and Mitigation Update - City Wide****Reference:**

Date to Council: July 6, 2022
Author: Jolayne Susko
Coordinator, Housing Administration & Policy
(519) 255-5200 ext. 6278
jsusko@citywindsor.ca
Housing and Children's Services
Report Date: May 9, 2022
Clerk's File #: GH/14271

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

Recommendation:

THAT this update report from the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services regarding Rent Supplement Expiries and Mitigation Efforts **BE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION.**

Executive Summary:

N/A

Background:

The City of Windsor is the Service Manager with respect to Social and Affordable Housing for the City of Windsor and the County of Essex. The City administers a number of affordable housing programs funded municipally, as well as provincially and federally, including Rent Supplement (RS) and Housing Allowance (HA) Programs.

The programs provide rental assistance to low-income households living in private rental accommodations, and in social and affordable housing units in Windsor and Essex County. A portion of these programs are municipally funded through a shared contribution agreement between the City of Windsor (as Service Manager) and the County of Essex since the devolution of social housing in 2001. In addition, the federal and provincial governments have provided RS/HA funding under time-limited housing program funding envelopes such as, Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH and IAH-E), Social Infrastructure Fund (SIF) and Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI).

RS/HA(s) have not only benefited low-income households but have also assisted social and/or affordable housing landlords with their housing project's financial viability by providing RS/HA(s) to a specific number of qualifying tenants.

Windsor Essex has offered RS/HA programs as a means of expanding affordable housing options in our community for years. As of November 2021, approximately \$3.29 million was being allocated to RS/HA(s) assisting on a monthly basis to approximately 500-549 households throughout Windsor and Essex County.

The funding programs for RS/HA(s) have been long standing and considered quasi-permanent funding by recipients, their Program Administrators and the community support agencies, ALSO, Community Living Essex County, Windsor Essex Brokerage for Personal Supports, as examples.

Discussion:

In 2020, Housing Services began actively working with RS/HA Program Administrators on a rent supplement expiry mitigation strategy and through these efforts the majority of households with a RS/HA expiring March 31, 2022 successfully transitioned to an alternate benefit for example, a Windsor Essex Housing Benefit (WEHB) or Rent Geared to Income (RGI). Mitigation efforts continue for households with RS/HA(s) expiring on March 31, 2023 and March 31, 2024.

All expiring RS/HA households are notified of the expiry in writing and advised on required action(s) in order to be considered for an alternate benefit such as a Canada Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB), Windsor Essex Housing Benefit (WEHB) or Rent-Geared-to-Income (RGI) unit. Each participant must be on and/or eligible to be on, the CHR-WEC's centralized waitlist to be considered eligible for these three alternate housing subsidy options. All expiring rent supplement participants have been offered Priority II status on the CHR-WEC's centralized waitlist and the participant's date of application goes back to their original application date; understanding RGI units and the WEHB must be offered from the centralized waitlist in order of priority.

Further to the Rent Supplement Program Expiries and Mitigation Strategy report presented to Council on January 5, 2022 (Council Report: S 144/2021; CR 36/2022) the following is a status update on rent supplement/housing allowance RS/HA expiries and mitigation efforts:

Program Name	Populations Served	Expiry Date	No. of Households (at September 2021)	Approx. Annual Subsidy	Mitigation/ Funding Program Replacement as of May 2022
Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH)	In crisis, homeless, persons with disabilities, seniors, survivors of domestic violence, working poor	Mar-31-2022	82	\$460,000	Majority funded with municipally funded housing benefit program (WEHB) and RGI

Rent supplement administrators actively worked with each RS/HA household with a rent supplement agreement expiring on March 31, 2022 (82 households; Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH)), assessing the value of each alternate housing option so households were able to make an informed choice on an alternate benefit.

The 82 households with Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH) RS/HA's expiring March 31, 2022 were mitigated over the course of 2021-22 as follows:

- 47 households converted to WEHB
- 2 households were deemed eligible for a WEHB < \$25 therefore, no benefit issued
- 4 households with WEHB applications in process/outstanding paperwork
- 16 households were housed RGI
- 2 recipient's deceased
- 2 households moved out of province/moved in with family
- 5 households voluntarily withdrew
- 1 household evicted
- 1 household converted to IAH-E RS/HA expiring March 31, 2024 due to an administrative error
- 2 households – no response to mitigation efforts

Program Name	Populations Served	Expiry Date	No. of Households (at September 2021; April 2022)	Approx. Annual Subsidy (at September 2021; April 2022)	Mitigation/ Funding Program Replacement as of May 2022
Strong Communities Rent Supplement (SCRSP)	persons with disabilities, seniors, working poor	SCRSP Mar-31-2023; HPP 22-23 annualized funding	195; 190	\$1,164,000; \$1,115,000	Funded through Mar 2023 with new Housing and Homelessness Program which is annualized funding (HHP; announced March 7/2022)

As reported to council on April 11, 2022 (Council Report: C 51/2022), in March 2022 the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) announced the new Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) which came into effect starting April 1, 2022. HPP is a consolidation of three funding programs, including Strong Communities Rent Supplement Program (SCRSP).

The HPP recognizes the importance and integral part SCRSP RS/HA(s) play within the affordable housing system and addresses the significant concerns raised regarding the program's scheduled end on March 31, 2023 by continuing to fund this program through this new consolidated annualized funding allocation until such time the HPP program is modified or terminated. The conversion of SCRSP to HPP, equates to approximately \$1.18 million in annual funding allowing the continuance of funding for approximately 195 RS/HA households, wherein many of the households assisted require supportive housing as a result of their physical and/or cognitive needs. Thereby, mitigating some of the risks associated with expiring RS/HA funding programs.

Program Name	Populations Served	Expiry Date	No. of Households (at September 2021; April 2022)	Approx. Annual Subsidy (at September 2021; April 2022)	Mitigation/ Funding Program Replacement as of May 2022
Investment in Affordable Housing (Ext) (IAHE)	In crisis, homeless, seniors, survivors of domestic violence, working poor	Mar-31-2024	203; 176	\$1,400,000; \$1,264,000	Mitigation efforts underway
IAHE – Social Infrastructure Funding (SIF)	seniors, youth	Mar-31-2024	48; 42	\$190,000; \$208,000	Mitigation efforts underway
SIF – Anti-Human Trafficking (SIF-AHT)	Survivors of human trafficking	Mar-31-2024	17; 14	\$111,000; \$112,600	Mitigation efforts underway
Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI – HA) (yearly allocation)	Homeless and/or at-risk-of-homelessness	Originally scheduled to expire Mar-31-2022, funding extended through Mar-31-2023	6; 6	\$30,000; \$50,000	Funding through March 31, 2023 with 2022-23 OPHI funding. Mitigation efforts underway
ESTIMATED UNFUNDED RS/HA TOTAL			274; 238	\$1,731,000; \$1,634,600	

The programs expiring March 31, 2024 were offered as extension/companion programs to the provincially funded IAHE program RS/HA programs which expired March 31, 2022 and assist specific populations with their affordable housing needs. At the writing of this report, these specific programs are not being extended and no replacement funding announcements have been made to offset the March 31, 2024 expiring programs. Therefore, Housing Services as Service Manager has paused offering new RS/HA's on attrition/turnovers in these expiring programs and is actively working with RS/HA Program Administrators to determine next steps to mitigate and assist RS/HA recipient households with

their transition to an alternative housing benefit/assistance program on or before the March 31, 2024 program expiry.

Risk Analysis:

There continues to be a critical risk to RS/HA households linked to an expiring RS/HA funding agreement requiring immediate, significant and ongoing action to mitigate the negative effect the loss of subsidies will have on the housing affordability for these households, which may result in evictions and ultimately homelessness for some of these households.

Ongoing efforts with RS/HA households with an expiring RS/HA will need to be made to assist them in navigating and applying for a replacement housing benefit, understanding a replacement benefit may not provide the same level of subsidy as their expiring subsidy/allowance. There is also significant risk there may not be a replacement subsidy available for all households experiencing this loss as future funding allocations are unknown and/or may not meet the demand. Furthermore, the loss of RS/HA funding continues to have an impact on our ability to assist new households in Windsor-Essex seeking assistance with their affordable housing need.

The Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services will continue to advocate for replacement funding at Ministry forums and tables and continue to support expiring RS/HA mitigation efforts.

Climate Change Risks

Climate Change Mitigation:

N/A

Climate Change Adaptation:

N/A

Financial Matters:

The City of Windsor, as Service Manager for Windsor-Essex, is responsible for delivering a number of RS/HA programs in the service area. Funding allocations to operate and administer these programs form part of the Housing Services ongoing annual provincial operating budgets and HPP provincial budget.

As noted in the body of the report, RS/HA programs that expired as of March 31, 2022 have been mitigated and the affected households have been transferred, for the most part, to an alternative housing benefit program such as, WEHB and RGI.

The balance of the expiring RS/HA programs represent programs where a rent supplement administrator is authorized through a service agreement with the City to offer a set number of rent supplements based on a fixed funding allocation.

The remaining RS/HA programs, by expiry date and the updated potential budget effect, are as follows:

Expiry - March 31, 2023

Program: Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP)

- formerly Strong Communities Rent Supplement Program (SCRSP)

Funding Allocation: \$ 1.118 million / year

Current Take-up: 190 units; Yearly Subsidy: \$ 1.115 million/year

As noted above, in March 2022 the Province announced the consolidation of three funding programs into the Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP). With the introduction of the HPP, the SCRSP was effectively terminated March 31, 2022 and the yearly funding allocation of \$1.118 million became a component of this new program allocation. Housing Services will continue to fund SCRSP RS/HA households through to the original SCRSP expiry date of March 31, 2023. Housing Services and Homelessness and Housing with Supports staff are working to design and deliver a RS/HA program under the new HPP program. Every effort will be made to successfully mitigate RS/HA tenancies set to expire on March 31, 2023 by continuing to fund households under the HPP program or transition them to an alternate housing benefit/assistance program e.g., WEHB, COHB, RGI. The HPP is a provincially funded program with no additional costs to the City or County.

Expiry – March 31, 2024

Program: Investment in Affordable Housing Extension (IAHE)

Funding Allocation: \$ 8.02 million; Period: 2015 – 2024

Current Take-up: 176 units; Yearly Subsidy: \$ 1.264 million/year

Program: Social Infrastructure Fund (SIF-IAHE)

Funding Allocation: \$ 1.0 million; Period: 2016 – 2024

Current Take-up: 42 units; Yearly Subsidy: \$ 208,000/year

Program: Social Infrastructure Fund – Anti Human Trafficking (SIF/IAHE/AHT)

Funding Allocation: \$ 568,000; Period: 2018 – 2024

Current Take-up: 14 units; Yearly Subsidy: \$ 112,600/year

As of the writing of this report, the above programs have not been extended and no replacement funding announcements have been made to offset the March 31, 2024 expiring programs. Should the Service Manager choose to consider funding programs expiring March 31, 2024, the municipal cost, based on current take-up, is estimated to be \$1.6 million annually (\$1.0 million City).

Consultations:

Mike Deimling, Social Housing Analyst

Nancy Jaekel, Financial Planning Administrator

Conclusion:

The current demand for affordable housing continues to exceed the supply for all municipalities in the Windsor Essex service area. The expiry of RS/HA funding envelopes over the course of the next two years has the potential to increase affordable housing demand, evictions and homelessness by approximately 270 RS/HA households which are currently in receipt of an expiring rent supplement. Housing Services and program administrators will continue the mitigating strategy efforts to find these households a replacement affordable housing benefit but at this time, the demand continues to exceed available funding.

Planning Act Matters:

N/A

Approvals:

Name	Title
Jolayne Susko	Coordinator, Housing Administration & Policy
Nancy Jaekel	Financial Planning Administrator
Kirk Whittal	Executive Director, Housing and Children's Services
Debbie Cercone	Acting Commissioner Human and Health Services
Joe Mancina	Commissioner, Corporate Services CFO/City Treasurer
Onorio Colucci	Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Notifications:

Name	Address	Email
Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee (HHAC; Clerks to send)		
Windsor Essex Community Housing Corporation		jsteele@wechc.com
Housing Information Services		angelidis@lscdg.com
Assisted Living Southwestern Ontario		RalphGanter@alsogroup.org
Windsor Homes Coalition		angela@wfhcp.com
Mariner's Co-operative Housing Development		marinerscoop@outlook.com
Frank Long Co-op		FrankLong@cogeco.ca
Ryegate Co-op Homes		ryegate@bellnet.ca
T.W.C. Development Corporation		mderikx@sympatico.ca
WeFIGHT		gilberts@lao.on.ca
PCCWA		Margaret.pccaow@cogeco.net
Family Services Windsor Essex		izuk@fswe.ca
Community Living Essex		karen@communitylivingessex.org
Windsor Essex Brokerage for Personal Supports		colleen@webps.ca
House of Sophrosyne		Karen.waddell@sophrosyne.ca
County of Essex; CAO County of Essex		mgalloway@countyofessex.ca

Appendices:

N/A



Subject: 2024 Ministry of Education (MEDU)- Child Care, EarlyON Child and Family Centres and Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Funding Update

Reference:

Date to Council: March 6, 2024
 Author: Dawn Bosco
 Manager of Children's Services
 519-255-5200 ext. 5290
 dbosco@citywindsor.ca
 Housing and Children's Services
 Report Date: 2/16/2024
 Clerk's File #: SS/13629

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

Recommendation:

THAT the report from the Manager of Children's Services regarding 2024 Ministry of Education (MEDU)- Child Care, EarlyON Child and Family Centres and Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Funding Update **BE RECEIVED**; and further,

THAT the City Clerk and the Chief Administrative Officer **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute Ministry of Education (MEDU) Service Agreements and any amendments for 2024 and subsequent years on behalf of the City for the delivery of Child Care and Child and Family Support Programs including EarlyON Child and Family Centres (EarlyON CFC) in accordance with the City's legislated obligations as determined by the Ministry of Education. Authorization would be subject to **APPROVAL** as to the technical content by the Human and Health Services Commissioner, as to the legal form by the City Solicitor and as to financial content by the City Treasurer, at a cost not to exceed the funding allocation provided by Ministry of Education or as allocated in the approved City budget in each respective year; and further,

THAT the Human and Health Services Commissioner **BE AUTHORIZED** to sign Grant Letters for 2024 and subsequent years, on behalf of the City for the delivery of child care and family support programs in accordance with the City's legislated obligations as determined by the Ministry of Education. Authorization would be subject to **APPROVAL** as to the technical content by the Executive Director of Housing & Children's Services, as to the legal form by the City Solicitor and as to financial content by the City Treasurer, and subject to no municipal contribution being required; and further,

THAT City Council **AUTHORIZE** the Executive Director of Housing & Children's Services to approve administrative reports as required by the Ministry, and where

reports contain financial matters or where the Ministry requires the City Treasurer to attest to financial reports (examples listed below), that the City Treasurer, or designate, also **BE AUTHORIZED** to sign:

- Annual Transfer Payment Budget Submission
- Memorandums of Understanding
- Financial Reports (Interim, Financial Statement, Amendments, and other financial reports specified from time to time by the Ministry)
- Attestations & Declarations
- Year End Financial Reports/ (Transfer Payment Annual Reconciliation)
- Administrative Reports as specified from time to time by the Ministry; and further,

THAT the City **ENTER INTO** Purchase of Service Agreements with licensees, agencies and/or school boards as determined by the Human and Health Services Commissioner; and further,

THAT the Human and Health Services Commissioner **BE AUTHORIZED** to sign, amend, or terminate Purchase of Service agreements with licensees, agencies and/or school boards on behalf of the City in accordance with the criteria established by the MEDU Service Agreement and mitigation funding where the net city contribution does not exceed \$150,000 or \$1,000,000 gross. For Purchase of Service agreements that exceed a \$150,000 net city contribution or a \$1,000,000 gross contribution, in addition to the Human and Health Services Commissioner, the Chief Administrative Officer will be required to sign as a secondary authority; and further,

THAT Purchase of Service Agreements **BE APPROVED** as to technical content by the Executive Director of Housing & Children's Services, as to legal form by the City Solicitor and as to financial content by the City Treasurer, or designate. As long as the agreements conform to the standard format reviewed and pre-approved by the City Solicitor, the City Solicitor is not required to approve each individual as to form; and further,

THAT the Human & Health Commissioner has the discretion **TO TERMINATE** any Purchase of Service agreements upon the grounds as set out in the agreement and without the need to obtain Council approval, except as provided herein.

Executive Summary:

N/A

Background:

The City of Windsor is the Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) for Children's Services in Windsor and Essex County. CMSMs are the designated child care and early years service system managers responsible for planning and managing licensed child care services and EarlyON Child and Family Centres in their communities, ensuring an increasingly integrated, high quality child care and early years system that is governed and funded by the Ministry of Education. These programs and

services are managed through a local service planning and managing process that reflects current legislation (Child Care and Early Years Act (CCEYA) 2014), regulations, and policies/directives.

Provincial funding is provided to CMSMs to allow the flexibility to determine how to allocate child care and early years funding to best meet the needs of children, families and services providers within their community. Service system managers possess critical knowledge about community needs, maintain close connections with community partners, are well-positioned to establish strong links between child care and early years program and relevant community and municipal services.

Planning is done in conjunction with the Windsor-Essex Children and Youth Planning Committee and five supporting Networks that focus on program specific issues and objectives. This includes contractual funding agreements with the child care and early years community; the administration of child care fee subsidy, special needs resourcing funding; capacity building and professional development of all early learning professionals across Windsor Essex County.

Discussion:

Since 2017, the Ministry of Education continued with its commitment to increase accessibility, affordability, high quality and responsiveness to the early years and child care programs across the Province. As well, the Federal government made a historic commitment to the province, funding early years and child care programs with the signing of the Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Agreement in 2018. This continued provincial and federal support has created a number of new initiatives along with increased responsibilities for CMSMs.

In 2018, all MEDU funded child and family programs (Ontario Early Years Centres, Parenting and Family Literacy Centres, Better Beginnings, Better Futures, and Child Care Resource Centres) were integrated into a cohesive system of services and supports for children ages 0-6 and their families to become *EarlyON Child and Family Centers (EarlyON CFCs)*. As a result, funding previously allocated to agencies, and school boards was redistributed to municipalities. Along with the funding redistribution, the CMSMs were given an increased responsibility to manage the delivery of a suite of core EarlyON Child and Family Centre services related to engaging parents and caregivers, supporting early learning and development, and making connections to other family services.

Changes continued with the Ministry embarking on a three-year Expansion Plan of child care spaces in 2018. Our community increased child care by 510 spaces across Windsor-Essex during this time. In March 2020, child care and early years programs were mandated closed, and the department shifted focus to providing Emergency Child Care initially to the first responders during the pandemic, and then expanding to essential workers.

Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Agreement

On March 28, 2022, the Government of Canada and Province of Ontario signed the Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Agreement. The CWELCC System will build on the current Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) system by increasing quality, accessibility, affordability and inclusivity. The Government of Canada had identified child care as a national priority to enhance early learning and childhood development, support workforce participation and contribute to economic recovery. Under this agreement, Ontario will receive 13.2 billion dollars over six years. The CWELCC System has two components; Fee Reduction for parental child care fees, with the goal to reach an average parental child care fee of \$10/day by 2025-2026 and Workforce Compensation for those working in child care and early years programs.

Fee Reduction Strategy

The City of Windsor, as the CMSM has been given the additional responsibility to lead the local implementation of the CWELCC System, in addition to its ongoing responsibility for planning and managing the child care and early years system. Embarking on a Provincial and Federal led initiative to reduce child care fees to an average of \$10.00 per day by 2026. All licensed child care centres across Windsor-Essex, with a purchase of service agreement were offered the opportunity to enroll in the CWELCC system. This resulted in 99% of the child care centres opting-in to enter into a CWELCC agreement with the City of Windsor.

In 2022, daily child care fees for infant, toddler and preschool aged children were reduced by 25%, whereby eligible families received a retroactive fee rebate to April 1, 2022. Beginning January 1, 2023, daily child care fees were reduced by an additional 37.5%. To date, families in Windsor-Essex have received a 52.75% reduction in daily child care fees for infant, toddler and preschool aged children attending licensed child care. Funding is being provided to support the continuation of the revenue replacement approach to support the implementation of the CWELCC fee reduction and to provide a consistent revenue stream to licensees.

Workforce Compensation

Extensive consultations with the sector emphasized the need for improved wages to support recruitment and retention of Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECEs). Building on the Wage Enhancement Grant and the current workforce compensation under CWELCC, the Ontario Child Care Workforce Strategy will continue to improve wages for RECEs employed by licensees participating in CWELCC.

On October 18, 2022, the ministry communicated that the annual increase would be up to \$1 per hour, net of employer increases. To address concerns related to the barrier of low wages to RECE recruitment and retention, the ministry has revised this approach to provide a full \$1 per hour increase for eligible RECE staff up to the \$25 cap. The ministry is also providing funding for an overall cost escalation amount of 2.75% to support general wage increases, including wages of \$25 per hour or higher and other non-staff cost increases.

In 2024, the wage floor will increase from \$20 per hour to \$23.86 per hour for eligible RECE program staff and from \$22 per hour to \$24.86 per hour for Supervisors and

RECE Home Child Care Visitors. The wage floor will then increase by \$1 per hour each year up to 2026.

Directed Growth Strategy (2022-2026)

As part of the CWELCC Agreement, a Directed Growth Strategy (2022-2026) was announced and includes the creation of 86,000 new high-quality, affordable licensed child care spaces (relative to 2019 levels), predominantly through not-for-profit licensed child care. Dedicated age requirement for CWELCC funding and expansion, is set at 0-6 years. More specifically for Windsor-Essex, the Ministry has allocated 1,587 new licensed child care spaces to be created in both community (909) and school based (678) settings.

Table 2: Windsor-Essex Directed Growth Allocation (2022-2026)

Directed Growth CWELCC Child Care Expansion Allocation (Total 1,587)					
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
School Based Spaces	146	288	--	73	171
Community Based Spaces	134	*--	266	365	144
Total Spaces	280	288	266	438	315

*50 community spaces were moved from 2023 to 2024

The new system will lower child care costs and improve access, quality and inclusion across Ontario's child care and early years sector. The Ministry created an Access and Inclusion Framework, which is designed to support CMSMs with developing and implementing local service plans with an increased focus on access as it relates to inclusion. This new Framework was informed by the feedback and consultations conducted in early 2023 with CMSMs, Indigenous partners, Francophone stakeholders, other provincial government ministries and a range of external partners. It is also now more closely linked with the Directed Growth Strategy.

As part of the CWELCC Directed Growth Strategy, the Ministry of Education (MEDU) identifies the criteria for priority neighbourhoods as follows, Low-income families, Children with disabilities and children needing enhances or individual supports, Francophone children, Indigenous children, Black children, Other racialized children, and New Immigrants. An amendment to the 2020-2025 Windsor-Essex Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan has been created and sent to the Ministry, to include an implementation strategy of CWELCC Directed Growth for our community.

Increased CMSM Responsibilities

As a result of these transformative program changes, the CMSM has seen a significant increase in responsibilities and duties, including but limited to:

- Semi-annually, CMSMs will be required to report to the ministry on the total number of spaces created in priority neighbourhoods and/or for priority populations as identified by CMSMs in their Directed Growth Plans, broken down by age groups of children, auspice (not-for-profit or for-profit) and type of setting (community based or school based).

- As of January 1, 2023, under O. Reg.137/15 (s.77.3(2)), CMSMs/DSSABs have the discretion to deny enrolment to licensees where the program is not consistent with the CMSM/DSSAB's Directed Growth Plan.
- All licensees opting into CWELCC will need to demonstrate financial viability. For example, CMSMs may look for where a licensee has accumulated arrears, has not serviced their debt, or are approaching bankruptcy.
- CMSMs can provide Special Needs Resourcing (SNR) funding to support children and families in the CWELCC program through their regular purchase of service process.
- CMSMs must ensure that for the duration of the CWELCC agreement that:
 - Licensees maintain their license to operate in good standing in accordance with the CCEYA and are not in contravention of the CCEYA. CMSMs are required to stop funding a child care program that has its license revoked or suspended by the ministry or director, if applicable and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the service agreement.
 - Licensees maintain the aged 0-5 spaces for which they are receiving fee reduction funding (e.g., a licensed infant space must remain an infant space). Any revisions or use of alternate capacity must be reported to the CMSM and they should determine whether this may require adjusting or recovering funding from the licensee.
 - Licensees complete the annual data collection exercise, currently referred to as the Licensed Child Care Operations Survey, which may be amended from time to time, as required by the ministry, under O. Reg.137/15 (s.77)
 - CMSMs must withhold funding to licensees until the CMSM confirms that the information has been submitted.
- CMSM must have a local dispute resolution process in place to allow licensees to bring forward issues regarding CWELCC eligibility and funding decisions.
- CMSMs should monitor waiting lists and long term vacancies.
- As part of the year-end financial review and reconciliation process with licensees, CMSMs must have policies and procedures in place to ensure that CWELCC funding was used to support the actual cost incurred by a licensee associated with a mandated reduction in a licensee's base fee as defined under O. Reg. 137/15, and support for wage increases for eligible staff and cost escalation.
- CMSMs must have policies and procedures in place with licensees to fulfill all reporting requirements. CMSMs should take reasonable & progressive corrective actions where a licensee does not comply with reporting requirements.
- CMSMs are required to undertake audits on a random sample of licensees receiving CWELCC funding annually to confirm funding has been used for its intended purpose.

Risk Analysis:

As the CMSM, the City of Windsor is responsible for making decisions that impact the city and County municipalities. CMSMs were required to participate in the CWELCC System in accordance with the MEDU guidelines. Failure to do so could result in parents in Windsor-Essex not receiving reduced child care fees and lower wages for eligible staff working in child care and early years programs in Windsor-Essex.

As communicated to Council (Budget Issue 2021-0026), the MEDU announced changes to the administration cost sharing ratio, which reduced the allowable threshold municipalities can spend on child care administration from 10% to 5% of the Child Care General and Expansion allocations, along with a 50/50 provincial/municipal cost share requirement. The administration threshold for the ELCC and EarlyON CFC allocations continues to allow up to 10% of the allocation to be used for administrative purposes. To offset the impact of the administrative revenue loss, one-time transitional funding was allocated to municipalities to be used from 2021 to March 31, 2024. At this time, the new Ministry funding formula is expected to be introduced in the mid-late 2024. If it does not include sufficient administration funding, a request for annualized municipal funding for Child Care Administration may be brought forward in 2025.

Given the significant changes that have been announced to the Child Care and EarlyON programs, guidelines and funding allocations, the Children's Services department has faced some staffing capacity challenges. The department is continuing to monitor and will have a much better idea as to resource needs once funding is confirmed.

Climate Change Risks

Climate Change Mitigation:

N/A

Climate Change Adaptation:

N/A

Financial Matters:

The City of Windsor is the CMSM for Windsor and Essex County. The County shares in the required municipal contribution based on the Arbitrated Weighted Assessment formula. City Council authorization is being requested to sign the Transfer Payment Agreements with the Ministry of Education in addition to Purchase of Service agreements

The Province has taken steps to prioritize its funding towards the not-for-profit child care sector and has introduced a "for-profit auspice threshold" as part of CWELCC Direct Growth. CMSMs are mandated to be at or below the current for-profit auspice threshold of 70%, as outlined by the Ministry of Education by the end of the CWELCC Agreement in 2026.

As evident in the 8-year chart below, the total Child Care and EarlyON funding allocations for the Windsor CMSM have surged over the years while the municipal contribution has remained relatively constant. Annual Ministry funding has increased by \$49.3M or 116% since 2017 (\$91.7M in 2024 vs \$42.4M in 2017). There were also one-time funding adjustments that occurred during the years 2020-2022 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, which have been included in the chart.

As noted in the Risk section, changes to the Admin. allocations were made in January 2021 and since that time one one-time transitional funding (included in the figures

above) has been allocated to municipalities to offset the impact of the administrative revenue loss. The ability to utilize transition funding expires on March 31, 2024.

MEDU has advised that a new funding formula that determines funding levels to CMSMs, and in turn to the child care and early years system, will be released prior to the third quarter in 2024. Details and local implications on this updated funding formula will be provided once released. Should the new funding formula not include sufficient administration funding, a request for annualized municipal funding for Child Care Administration may be brought forward in 2025.

Consultations:

Linda Higgins, Manager of Intergovernmental Funding

Conclusion:

The City of Windsor, Children’s Services as the CMSM, will continue in its leadership role working to build an effective, integrated system of early years programs and child care services for children prenatal to 12 years of age. Focusing on system management, as well as equitable access to licensed child care for all children, to support and strengthen the child care and early years programs. Ensuring an increasingly high quality, inclusive early years and child care system, which will ultimately benefit the children and families in our community.

Planning Act Matters:

N/A

Approvals:

Name	Title
Dawn Bosco	Manager of Children’s Services
Kirk Whittal	Executive Director, Housing and Children’s Services
Dana Paladino	Commissioner, Corporate Services (A)
Tony Ardovini	On behalf of Commissioner, Finance & City Treasurer
Wira Vendrasco	City Solicitor (A)
Andrew Daher	Commissioner, Human & Health Services
Ray Mensour for Joe Mancina	Chief Administrative Officer

Notifications:

Name	Address	Email
County of Essex; CAO		szwiers@countyofessex.ca

Appendices:

N/A



Subject: Legislated Five Year Review of the 10-year Housing and Homelessness Master Plan, 2024

Reference:

Date to Council: March 6, 2024
Author: Kelly Goz
Manager (A), Homelessness & Housing Support
519-255-5200 x 5362
kgoz@citywindsor.ca
Housing and Children's Services
Report Date: 2/16/2024
Clerk's File #: GH/11710

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

Recommendation:

THAT this report from the Manager (A), Homelessness & Housing Support regarding the request to secure consulting services to complete the five-year review of the Windsor Essex 10-year Housing and Homelessness Master Plan **BE ACCEPTED**; and further,

THAT the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services, or their designate **BE AUTHORIZED** to access funding through the Social Housing Reserve Fund (Fund 141) for an amount up to \$200,000 plus any applicable taxes, to hire a consultant to complete the legislated five-year review of the Windsor Essex 10-year Housing and Homelessness Master Plan; and further,

THAT Council **PRE-APPROVE** and **AWARD** any procurement(s) necessary that are related to the five-year review of the Windsor Essex 10 year Housing and Homelessness Master Plan project, provided that the procurement(s) are within approved budget amounts, pursuant to the Purchasing By-Law 93-2012 and amendments thereto; satisfactory in financial content to the Chief Financial Officer, in legal form to the City Solicitor; and in technical content to the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services and Commissioner of Human and Health Services; and further,

THAT the Chief Administrative Officer and the City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to take any such action required to effect the recommendation noted above and sign any required documentation for the five-year review of the Windsor Essex 10-year Housing and Homelessness Master Plan project, satisfactory in financial content to the Chief Financial Officer, in legal form to the City Solicitor; and in technical content to the

Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services and Commissioner of Human and Health Services; and further,

THAT the Chief Administrative Officer and City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute any amendment(s) as may be required, provided that the amendment(s) are within approved budget amounts, satisfactory in financial content to Chief Financial Officer, in legal form to the City Solicitor; and in technical content to the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services and Commissioner of Human and Health Services; and further,

THAT Administration **BE AUTHORIZED** to issue any change order(s) for any amendment(s) as may be required, provided that the amendment(s) are within approved budget amounts, satisfactory in financial content to Chief Financial Officer, and in technical content to the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services and Commissioner of Human and Health Services; and further,

THAT the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services or their designate **ENSURES** the updated Windsor Essex 10-year Housing and Homelessness Master Plan aligns with the direction set by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, addresses local needs and, **REPORT BACK** to Council to present the updated plan; and further,

THAT the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services, or their designate **BE AUTHORIZED** to make the necessary submissions in a form and format required under the *Housing Services Act, 2011* related to the Windsor Essex 10-year Housing and Homelessness Master Plan for the duration of the plan.

Executive Summary:

N/A

Background:

In 2010, the province of Ontario in collaboration with Service Managers and relevant stakeholders, launched the Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy to help make progress towards a housing and homelessness prevention system focused on putting the housing needs of people first. In 2016, the province updated the strategy to continue this transformation, with a focus on strengthening people-centred housing programs and improving service coordination.

The Housing Services Act, 2011 (Act) legislates that Service Managers set the vision for housing by having a local housing and homelessness plan that reflects provincial interest. Furthermore, the Act requires Service Managers to review their Plans at least once every five (5) years and amend the plan more frequently as necessary. The next five-year update is due in 2024.

The initial 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan was approved by City Council in 2013 (CR128/2014) and the five-year update titled Home Together: Windsor Essex

Housing and Homelessness Master Plan (2019-2028) was approved by City Council in 2019 (CR612/2019).

Discussion:

An email was received by Administration from representation at the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) in January 2024 indicating that the next update to the 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plans will be due in December 2024. To date, Administration has not received the formal ministerial directive dictating this nor received any update to the mandatory requirements that are to be included in this five-year update.

Recognizing that in order to meet the December 2024 timelines and not create additional delays, Administration is seeking Council approval to access funds to hire a consultant to assist in the planning, consultation and finalization of the five-year review of the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Master Plan. It is Administration's intention to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) once further information and direction is provided by MMAH.

Supports from the consultant will supplement Administration's capacity and expertise, which has been a long-standing practice for these types of comprehensive Master Plans. In addition, a third-party perspective ensures objectivity and provides access to best and promising practices across the housing and homelessness sector for comparison.

If approved, the consultant will lead the consultation process with key stakeholders, across Windsor and Essex County, the Community Advisory Board (CAB), community partners, as well as persons with lived experience, underrepresented and marginalized in the community. The consultant will take a strengths-based approach and will reflect on the progress attained under the current approved Plan and will recommend strategies to lay the foundation for systems and continuous improvement in Windsor Essex to move forward over the next 5 to 10 years.

Risk Analysis:

Should Council not approve the recommendations in the report, Administration will not be able to issue a Request for Proposal for a consultant once MMAH sets the direction for the five-year review which will cause additional delays and risk the City not being able to meet its the legislated obligations under the *Housing Services Act, 2011*.

Climate Change Risks

Climate Change Mitigation:

N/A

Climate Change Adaptation:

N/A

Financial Matters:

It is recommended that the funding of up to \$200,000, plus any applicable taxes for the hiring of a qualified consultant be drawn from the Social Housing Reserve Fund (Fund 141). As of December 31, 2023, net of encumbrance, the balance in the Social Housing Reserve is \$2,279,848. Use of funds from the Social Housing Reserve Funds as requested, align with the Council approved objectives of this fund which were to offset the cost of building reviews, capital repairs and other housing purposes at the discretion of City Council and the Mayor.

Approval of this request will not impact the approved 2024 Operating or Capital Budgets.

Consultations:

- Mike Deimling, Social Housing Analyst
- Nancy Jaekel, Financial Planning Administrator
- Jennifer Tanner, Manager, Homelessness & Housing Support
- Diane Wilson, Manager, Social & Affordable Housing
- Kate Tracey, Senior Legal Counsel

Conclusion:

The 10-year Housing and Homelessness Master Plan has assisted in setting the direction, accountability framework and responses needed to respond to homelessness, affordable and supportive housing needs throughout Windsor Essex. The 2024 update to the Plan will reflect on the success made to date as well as identify continued gaps and improvements needed in order to meet the direction and priorities set through provincial policy and local needs.

Planning Act Matters:

N/A

Approvals:

Name	Title
Kelly Goz	Manager (A), Homelessness & Housing Support
Kirk Whittal	Executive Director, Housing & Children’s Services
Dana Paladino	Commissioner, Corporate Services (A)
Tony Ardovini	On behalf of Commissioner, Finance and City Treasurer
Andrew Daher	Commissioner, Human & Health Services
Ray Mensour for Joe	Chief Administrative Officer

Mancina	
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Notifications:

Name	Address	Email
Barb Iacono		
Anna Angelidis		
Sandra Zwiers		
Jeanie Diamond Francis		
Lynn Calder		
Murphy, Wendy		
Naomi Levitz		
Shelley Gilbert		
Karen Bolger		
Luciano Carlone		
Krista Rempel		
Stacey Yannacopoulos		
Stephanie Premrl		

Appendices: