



Wellington-Guelph Health and Housing Community Planning Table Key Messages

The following are the Key Messages from the Wellington-Guelph Health and Housing Community (HHC) Planning Table meetings that were held on November 26. Please share these key messages broadly with interested partners and stakeholders.

1. A Community Planning Project Manager has been recruited and will be supporting the work of the HHC Planning Table. Members of the Planning Table agreed that a first task for the Manager will be to develop a broad communication strategy.
2. The 'People With Lived Experience (PWLE) Advisory Group' will be meeting for the third time on November 28th. In October, the group focused on check-ins for encampments. The group's November meeting will focus on long-term strategy for daytime hubs/daytime services.
3. A proposal describing how the PWLE Advisory Group want to engage with the Planning Table was presented and accepted by members of the Table. The PWLE Advisory Group will finalize the engagement process at their November meeting.
4. Andrea DeJong presented data describing emergency department utilization by persons experiencing homelessness. Based on this data, members of the Planning Table agreed to take action to better support improved communication and discharge processes between the hospital and community services/providers.
5. A proposal for the federal "Emergency Treatment Fund" for Wellington and Guelph was submitted on November 8th. Members of the Table received the proposal for review and comment prior to submission. Two mobile health pods, leveraging existing health resources, were proposed. Members of the Table will support the proposed services once approved.
6. The 'Guelph Wellington HART Hub' proposal was submitted on October 25th. Members of the Table received the proposal for review and comment prior to submission. Congratulations to all who contributed to the application directly and to partners who have supported the collaborative efforts over the past years to position our community to be ready to integrate the Hart Hub into the continuum of services for individual with complex health and housing needs.
7. In response to funding from the City of Guelph, members of the Planning Table received and unanimously supported a proposal from the Basic Needs Sub-Working Group to address the basic needs of people experiencing homelessness. The proposal includes Royal City Mission to receive funding to augment the services they currently provide to provide 2 meals per day, 7

days per week. The Basic Needs Sub-Working Group will be asked to describe a process that should be followed to develop a long-term/sustainable plan to address daytime basic needs across Wellington and Guelph.

8. A small group prepared a draft plan to respond to the City of Guelph Motion regarding sharps, portable washrooms and waste bins. Members of the Planning Table endorsed the draft plan in principle and are in support of the final plan being presented to City Council in February. The PWLE Advisory Group will be asked to provide input on the plan at their next meeting. The Basic Needs Sub-Working group will develop a similar model for sharps containers and washrooms for encampments in the County.
9. The Table received an update regarding the Winter Response Plan. Through this plan, shelter units are available (including at the 128 Norfolk shelter in Guelph and some hotel rooms in the County) for individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness until April 2025. Planning Table Members are asked to share this information broadly.
10. The second quarterly Community Partner webinar will be held in early 2025. The webinar will include an update on the work and achievements of the Wellington-Guelph Health & Housing Community Planning Table.