



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 meeting that was held on April 22, 2025. Please share these key messages broadly with interested partners and stakeholders.

1. Members of the Lived Experience Advisory Group and Planning Table worked collaboratively to finalize a vision statement to guide the Health and Housing Community Plan. The final Vision Statement is ***“Everyone in Wellington County and Guelph has a safe place to call home in a loving and healthy community.”*** The statement draws upon the idea that everyone deserves a safe home that is more than just shelter—a home is a place of safety, comfort and stability and goes beyond just meeting a basic need. The vision also paints a picture of a future where the entire community is healthy - that health is reciprocal, continuous and that every person in that community is a part of the whole. Members of the Lived Experience Advisory Group noted that a community cannot be healthy unless every individual living in that community is healthy and has what they need.
2. The Lived Experience Advisory Group’s input was also used to develop a mission statement and set of values for the Planning Table. The Planning Table will finalize the mission statement and values at the May meeting to guide their work.
3. The Planning Table has revised and updated their Terms of Reference to better define governance and accountability structures. It was decided that the Planning Table is self-governed and will be accountable to the community. The Terms of Reference was updated and confirmed for 2025, consistent with the Planning Table’s previous decision to update it annually as the work of the Table progresses. The Terms of Reference can be accessed [here](#).
4. In recognition that the vision and mission of the Planning Table are extremely relevant to local governments and to optimize alignment with / support of municipal governments to the work of the Planning Table, members of the Planning Table agreed to extend an invitation to the City of Guelph and all 7 of the municipalities in Wellington County to join the Planning Table.
5. The Table focused on long-term planning discussions. It was reiterated that the mandate of this Community Planning Table is to develop and implement a community plan, as informed by the Health and Housing Symposiums. The Community Plan will be designed to be responsive to the needs in our community, particular to support equitable access to health and housing services and realize improved health and social outcomes for people experiencing homelessness and precarious health and housing in Wellington-Guelph, following a community planning process. While the Community Plan will align with other strategic plans and directives, it will notably be different than a strategic plan. As a result, the Table discussed definitions to promote a shared understanding of key terms between health and housing sectors at the next meeting. Next steps include finalizing definitions and defining goal statements for each of the action areas, establishing a data sub-working group, and completing the mapping of health and housing services currently available using the Homelessness Prevention Framework.

Other Messages/Reminders

6. The second Community Partner Webinar was held on February 4, 2025. The webinar included an update on the work and achievements of the Wellington-Guelph Health & Housing Community Planning Table, and the recording can be viewed [here](#). The next Health and Housing Community Partner Webinar has been moved to June 4th 10:30am – 12pm, to align with the release of the Planning Table's one-year report. [Registration](#) will be required.