



Community Safety and Well-Being Plan 2022-2025



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Kawartha Lakes is committed to complying with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) in order to create a barrier-free Ontario. We are committed to the four core principles of dignity, independence, integration and equal opportunity. We support the full inclusion of persons as set out in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the AODA. If this document is required in an alternate format, please contact accessibility@kawarthalakes.ca.



Message from the Chair and Vice-Chair

The Ontario Police Services Act requires every municipality in the Province to establish a **Community Safety and Well-Being Plan**. Policing, however, is only one small piece of the multi-sectoral approach that is needed for a community to thrive. The residents of Kawartha Lakes already benefit from tremendous collaboration between service providers and this planning process is an opportunity to build on that strong foundation.

On March 1, 2021 an Advisory Committee was established with community leaders who brought a diversity of experience and knowledge to the planning sessions. Over a period of several months the committee examined information from multiple sources including local risk data, stakeholder consultations and public feedback.

The primary focus of a Community Safety and Well-Being Plan is to address the social issues that can impact the overall health of our community. After considering all of the information collected, the advisory committee chose **Mental Health & Addictions, Housing, Poverty and Youth** as four priority areas for Kawartha Lakes. In the pages that follow, you will see how we arrived at those priority areas and the strategies planned to address them. These are very complex issues and positive changes will require a concerted effort over a long period of time.

As local leaders of the two agencies responsible for providing policing services in Kawartha Lakes, it was our pleasure to act as Chair and Vice Chair of the Kawartha Lakes Community Safety and Well-Being planning process. We would like to acknowledge the efforts of the entire Advisory Committee, our supporting staff and everyone who contributed to this project. This plan is not the final destination on the journey towards a vibrant community. Our hope is that the Kawartha Lakes Community Safety and Well-Being Plan will become a living document that guides decision making and evolves to meet future needs.



Mark Mitchell

Chief, Kawartha Lakes Police Service
Advisory Committee Chair



Inspector Tim Tatchell

Detachment Commander, Kawartha Lakes OPP
Advisory Committee Vice-Chair



Advisory Committee Members

Chair: Mark Mitchell, Chief, Kawartha Lakes Police Service

Vice-Chair: Tim Tatchell, Detachment Commander, Kawartha Lakes OPP

Mayor Andy Letham, City of Kawartha Lakes

Councillor Pat Dunn, City of Kawartha Lakes

Sheila Carron, Registered Nurse, Ross Memorial Hospital

Mandy Hamu, Mental Health Lead, Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board

Marina Hodson, Executive Director, Kawartha North Family Health Team

Jennifer Johnston, Superintendent of Learning, Special Education, Equity and Indigenous Education, Trillium Lakelands District School Board

Jennifer McLauchlan, Executive Director, Kawartha Haliburton Children's Aid Society Lynda Nydam, Intensive Service Coordinator, Children's Services Council

Pam Stuckless, Director of Health Promotion, Haliburton, Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit

Rod Sutherland, Director of Human Services, City of Kawartha Lakes

Supported by:

Barb Condie, Accessibility Coordinator, City of Kawartha Lakes

Aaron Mulcaster, Data Analysis Co-ordinator, City of Kawartha Lakes

Mark Pankhurst, Chief, Kawartha Lakes Fire and Rescue Service

Holly Russett, Executive Assistant, City of Kawartha Lakes

Brenda Stonehouse, Strategy and Innovation Specialist, City of Kawartha Lakes

Introduction

The Kawartha Lakes Community Safety and Well-Being Plan is our commitment to ensuring our community continues to be a great place to live, work and play.

This plan will serve as a guide for the municipality and our partners as we work towards Council's vision of 'thriving and growing communities within a healthy and natural environment.'

Why develop a Community Safety and Well-Being Plan?

The Province of Ontario has legislated municipalities to have a Community Safety and Well-Being Plan under the Safer Ontario Act, 2018. We created this plan using the framework provided by the Ministry of the Solicitor General that outlined four areas of focus: social development, prevention, risk intervention, and incident response.



Alignment with Kawartha Lakes Municipal Strategic Plan

The Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan 2020-2023 outlines Strategic Priority Areas for the municipality. The Community Safety and Well-Being Plan is a key component in the priority area of "An Exceptional Quality of Life". The Plan supports the following goal areas:

- Improve the health and well-being of residents
- Build social infrastructure
- Ensure recreation and leisure programs are available to all residents
- Community Building

This plan is also in alignment with our core value of Teamwork which focuses on community building, trust and cooperation.

In the Community

Community Data

Data and information from various sources were used to inform the development of our priorities including:

- Statistics Canada
- Ross Memorial Hospital
- Ministry of Children, Community & Social Services
- Ministry of Education and Offord Centre for Child Studies at McMaster University
- City of Kawartha Lakes Human Services Department
- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
- Ontario Living Wage Network
- Kawartha Lakes Paramedic Service
- Central East Local Health Integration Network
- Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit
- Kawartha Lakes Police Service
- Kawartha Lakes OPP

Community Consultations

Through the municipality's online engagement platform, Jump In Kawartha Lakes, we conducted a survey asking residents how they felt about safety and well-being in our community. Copies of the survey were also available at local library branches for those who required a paper copy. We had 232 people engage with us through the survey.

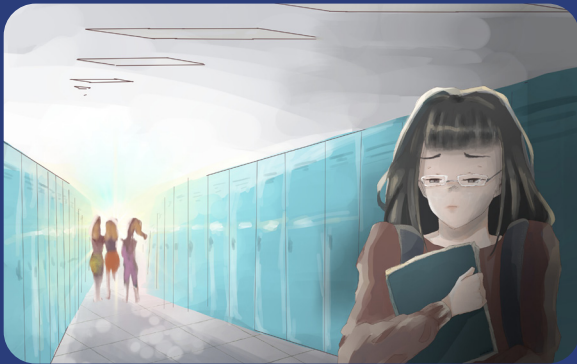
We also conducted consultations with local organizations and agencies through Focused Sessions. Through these sessions we captured various perspectives and ideas along with identifying current and potential service gaps.

Youth Exhibit with Kawartha Art Gallery

The Kawartha Art Gallery partnered with the Advisory Committee to establish an art exhibit for youth called "Jump In and Express Yourself". Youth between the ages of 12 and 24 years old were invited to submit original art work or video in alignment with the Community Safety and Well-Being priorities.

There were 22 entries submitted for the exhibition which was an innovative way to engage with youth in our community. Displayed on the following page are some of those entries.

“Jump in and Express Yourself” exhibition entries:



Lonesome
by Katherine Guan



Unfocused Thoughts
by Phoebe Storey



Through Different Lenses
by Julia Cossarin



Housing
by Cole George



The Bench
by Mikeala Rancier

To see more entries, please visit: www.kawarthagallery.com/exhibits/jump-in-and-express-yourself

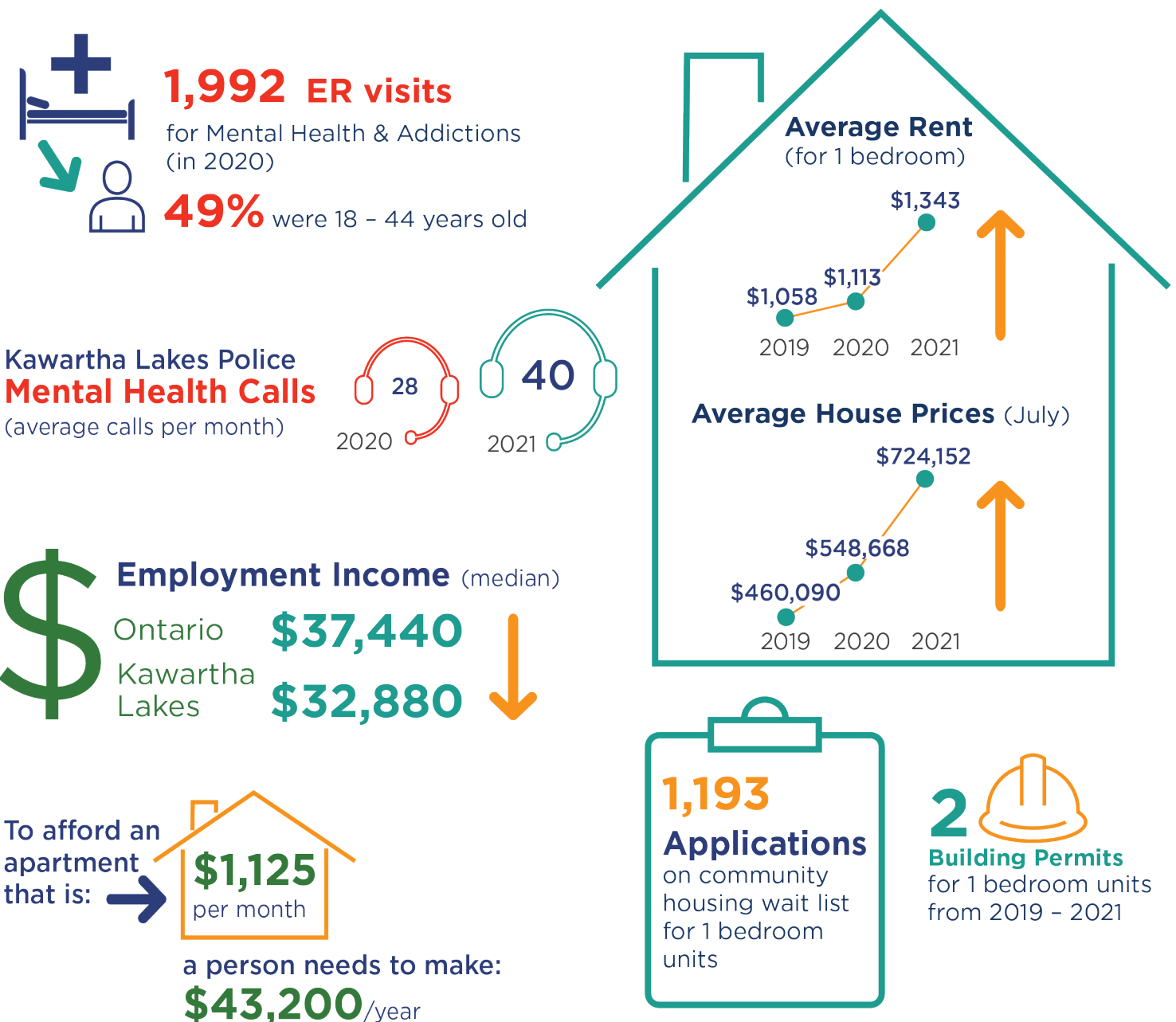
Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Priorities

The Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Advisory Committee has identified four priority areas:

- Mental Health and Addictions
- Housing
- Poverty
- Youth

These priorities were established after reviewing local data along with analyzing the results of the community survey and focused sessions held with organizations and agencies.

Why are these areas a concern for Kawartha Lakes?





Action Plan



**Mental Health
and Addictions**



Housing



Poverty



Youth

Improve Service Navigation

-  Increase access to service navigation support for individuals and families including increased peer support, professional navigation services, and service mapping
-  Strengthen 211 service for Kawartha Lakes to help people connect to community and social services in our community
-  Establish a community awareness campaign on programs and services available

Expand Services and Supports

-  Support and promote youth mental health initiatives
-  Empower direct youth engagement and participation in community-wide decisions impacting youth
-  Examine the options and opportunities for transitional and supportive housing
-  Pursue funding opportunities to increase and expand mental health and addiction services and supports
-  Pursue targets outlined in the City’s Housing and Homelessness Plan to increase accessible and affordable housing units

Break Down Barriers

-  Identify and work to reduce barriers to obtaining and maintaining housing and employment including child care and transportation
-  Continue to support safe and equitable housing including programs to provide assistance with rental arrears, emergency home repair, renovation, and home ownership

Collaboration and Communication



Encourage continued collaboration between sectors and services to promote case management and improved system coordination

Help our Community Understand



Increase awareness of the importance of youth in our community



Increase public awareness and education on mental health and well-being



Enhance awareness of the housing situation in our community

Advocacy



Advocate for stable, predictable funding for housing and homelessness prevention



Engage upper levels of government for a broader discussion on Universal Basic Income



Develop a campaign to demonstrate the benefits of a living wage or implementing alternate workplace benefits



Advocate for changes to the system that will help to break the cycle of poverty

Monitoring and Reporting

We have identified a number of indicators that will be monitored regularly to assess the state of the priority areas. Additional areas may be added during the implementation of the Plan.

- Analysis of mental health calls handled by police and other agencies
- Number of applications on the Community Housing Wait List
- Number of people on the Homelessness By-Name List (BNL)
- Review of opioid overdose data from Haliburton, Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit
- Waitlists for services including mental health
- Progress on affordable housing targets

An annual update will be provided to Kawartha Lakes Council on the progress of the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.

For more information about our
Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, please visit:

jumpinkawarthalakes.ca



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