



Hanover and Owen Sound Task Force Report and Workplan Summary

Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force
March 23rd, 2022

Hanover Owen Sound Task Force Objectives

- ▶ Hanover and Owen Sound Task Force was established by Council to examine the challenges that Hanover and Owen Sound experience and to identify opportunities to address the challenges.
- ▶ Owen Sound and Hanover represent the two largest settlement areas in the County both in terms of size and population.
- ▶ The guiding terms of reference for the Task Force were to:
 1. Assess available social & economic data for Hanover & Owen Sound including trend analysis & forecasting
 2. Develop a report including recommendations and a workplan for Council's consideration to address opportunities and areas of concern, for the benefit of both the two municipalities and the County as a whole

Themes/Topics Covered

- ▶ The Hanover and Owen Sound Task Force heard presentations from a variety of community partner organizations, as well as County and municipal staff on the following themes/topics:

- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Poverty and Community Safety and Wellbeing
- ▶ Mental Health and Addictions
- ▶ Social Services
- ▶ Labour and Employment
- ▶ Youth and Senior Supports
- ▶ Policing
- ▶ Planning and Development
- ▶ Community Transportation



- ▶ Data and information regarding each of the themes was provided to the Task Force to understand the current situation

Social Determinants of Health

- ▶ Many of the challenges within each of the themes are interconnected
- ▶ A multi-pronged approach will be required to address them.
- ▶ Strong correlation with many of the themes related to the social determinants of health which are non-medical factors that influence health outcomes.



Image Source from Data Report: Exploring Patterns of Substance Use and Related Harms in Bruce and Grey Counties, Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy

Alignment with Recolour Grey

- ▶ A number of challenges and opportunities identified align with what we heard through the community consultations as part of Recolour Grey – County’s Official Plan.
- ▶ The Official Plan was broken out into five main themes including Cultivate Grey, Develop Grey, Natural Grey, Live Grey, and Move Grey.
- ▶ Policies and objectives have been identified under each of these themes to address the opportunities we heard from the community.
- ▶ Continued implementation of the policies within Recolour Grey will go a long way to addressing some of the challenges discussed with the Task Force.
- ▶ Implementation of Recolour Grey is underway, and we have highlighted relevant sections of this policy document in the report and the workplan.



New Initiatives and Updates

- ▶ There have been several changes and new initiatives that have started since the initial discussions with the Task Force
- ▶ These have been highlighted in the report and have been reflected in the proposed workplan/action items.
- ▶ Some of the opportunities identified through the discussions have already commenced and some of the challenges have changed or have been exacerbated by:
 - impacts resulting from the pandemic
 - continuing rise of housing prices
 - rise of inflation, and
 - increased labour shortage.

Final Report Framework



Background (i.e., how Hanover & OS compare with other municipalities in Grey - service delivery, policing, housing tenure, employment, etc.)



High-level review of each meeting and highlights of main discussion points



Includes data summary and key findings (i.e., graphs and data)



Identifies next steps (action items) and key stakeholders



Defines a proposed workplan (role of the County, local municipalities and community partners)

Workplan



Identifies opportunities/actions for each theme to address the challenges discussed with the Task Force



Lead agency/department identified for each action/opportunity



Key partners/stakeholders associated with each action



Identifies suggested next steps



Identifies the proposed method/timeframe for completing each action/opportunity



Identifies performance measurements to track progress

Key Actions

▶ Housing

- Continuing to move forward with the Housing Action Plan
- Homelessness Response Table
- Rent Safe Initiative
- Identify grant opportunities and other financial incentive resources for retrofit programs
- Further engage and connect with local Indigenous populations
- Short-term and Transitional Housing Opportunities

▶ Poverty and Community Safety and Wellbeing

- Increase Affordable Housing Supply
- Support community service providers through BGDISC
- Support the Bruce Grey PTF through further resources and Council awareness/support
- Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan Implementation

Key Actions

▶ Social Services

- Support food literacy programming and food programs
- Explore the viability/sustainability of a living wage/guaranteed income
- Continue donation programs for old phones, computers and tablets
- Create community hubs – ‘one-stop-shops’ to access community services

▶ Transportation

- Connect all transit providers and explore opportunities for resource sharing and to address gaps
- Identify opportunities for not-for-profit programs to connect with existing public transit services for service delivery

Next Steps



1. Develop a Prioritization Workplan based on common alignment with the various plans/strategies
 - Recolour Grey
 - Hanover Owen Sound Task Force Workplan
 - Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan
 - Age Friendly Action Plan
 - Climate Change Action Plan
 - Housing Action Plan
 - etc.
2. Implement Prioritization Workplan with local municipalities and Community Partners to move forward with the actions and track progress through performance measures