



**DUFFERIN
COUNTY
EQUITY
COLLABORATIVE**

DCEC

**Sept 12, 2023
meeting #14**



**In person
Edelbrock, Orangeville**

Land Acknowledgment

We would like to begin by respectfully acknowledging that Dufferin County resides within the traditional territory and ancestral lands of the Tionontati (Petun), Attawandaron (Neutral), Haudenosaunee (Six Nations), and Anishinaabe peoples.

We also acknowledge that various municipalities within the County of Dufferin reside within the treaty lands named under the Haldimand Deed of 1784 and two of the Williams Treaties of 1818: Treaty 18: the Nottawasaga Purchase, and Treaty 19: The Ajetance Treaty.

These traditional territories upon which we live and learn, are steeped in rich Indigenous history and traditions. It is with this statement that we declare to honour and respect the past and present connection of Indigenous peoples with this land, its waterways and resources.



Pronunciation Guide:

Tionontati – “Tee-oh-nahn-TAH-tee”

Attawandaron – “At-tah-wahn-da-ron”

Haudenosaunee – “ho-DEE-no-Sho-nee”

Anishinaabe – “ah-NISH-IH-nah-bay”



Government of Canada September important and commemorative recognition dates:

- second week of September, Mennonite Heritage Week,
- fourth week in September, Gender Equality Week,
- September 28 British Home Child Day (1869 – 1940),
- September 30 marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



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Every resident of Dufferin County will have the opportunity to realize their potential.

AGENDA

Connecting

- Attendees individual introductions
- Guests – County Council Warden Wade Mills and Councillor Darren White brought messages of recognition and thanks for the work being done as DCEC celebrated 5 year anniversary
- Social Exclusion and Same size circles – YouTube videos

Communicating

- Co-Chair Landscape update
- Update on PWLE project and VOICES

Collaborating

- Refreshing our Action plans



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Connecting thru examining ideas

Social Exclusion: 6 mins

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eejmYz0O3YE>

Same size circles: 2 mins

<https://youtu.be/4kD9nM0v0cU> [1]

Followed by a lively debrief



Co-Chair Landscape Update - Anna

- County of Dufferin has a new **Strategic Plan**. Within that plan see the work of DCEC in the “Community” Priority Area. [Strategic Plan 2023-2026.pdf \(dufferincounty.ca\)](#) The Goals include: Increase affordable and attainable housing options; Support community well-being and safety through collaboration and partnerships; and Explore opportunities to improve access to healthcare services.
- The County continues to work with partners to bring forward work on the **Community Safety and Well Being Plan** [Dufferin County Community Safety and Well-Being Plan \(2021-2024\) 05-13-2021](#) Those priority areas are: Mental Health and Well-Being; Housing and Homelessness; Substance Use and Addiction; Discrimination, Marginalization and Racism; and Community Safety and Violence Prevention (Gender based violence and family and domestic violence prevention).



Co-Chair Landscape Update - Anna

- Dufferin County is currently home to 67,000 people and is planning to exceed 100,000 people and 40,000 jobs by 2051. To address this planned increase in population, the County is working on its **Municipal Comprehensive Review** (MCR), a series of studies that will influence Dufferin's Official Plan and shape the growth of Dufferin County for the next 30 years. For context – Overarching guide is the Provincial Policy Statement. The County's Official Plan should fall in line with the Provincial Policy Statement. The lower tiers fall in line with the County's Official Plan when they do their plans. There are lots of areas where this work overlaps with the work of DCEC and CSWB. Visit the County's YouTube channel for more details: [Dufferin County - YouTube](#)



Co-Chair Landscape Update – Anna Con't

- The **Western Ontario Wardens Caucus (WOWC)** is a not-for-profit organization representing 15 upper and single tier municipalities in Southwestern Ontario with more than three million residents. Dufferin County is heavily involved in their work, Dufferin's Warden Wade Mills is currently Vice-Chair and Dufferin's CAO Sonya Pritchard is their Treasurer. Various staff from the County support their working groups who work with and advocate for priorities that are important to the region. That advocacy work was very evident at the recent AMO Conference, details can be found here: [wowc_amo2023_final.pdf](#) Their current priorities include Affordable and Attainable Housing and Mental Health and Addictions. In fact, Dufferin staff have been supporting WOWC staff in conversations with the Ministry of Health.



Co-Chair Landscape Update – Anna Con't

- The **Hills of Headwaters Collaborative** (HHC) Ontario Health Team are wrapping up their process to create their next Strategic Plan. Many of the goals on connecting services and better health outcomes are very, very interconnected to the very real needs our vulnerable populations and indeed all our population have where the social determinants of health need to be better aligned as priority areas for all sectors of human services. How do we get the Health sector to see that if all sectors could better align and coordinated services then visits to the doctor's office and hospital would be less. [Hills of Headwaters Collaborative](#)



Co-Chair Landscape Update – Anna Con't

- **Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health** are also wrapping up their consultation work for their new Strategic Plan. They too are very aware of the social determinants of health and how that work is very interrelated to social services. [Health Equity | WDG Public Health](#)

Overall, it is becoming more and more apparent to everyone in human services that we must continue to break down silos, work collaboratively and really try to look more at prevention rather than cure and sustainability rather than band aids. The work of most of our human service agencies is very much moving in the same direction.



Co-Chair Landscape Update – Heather

- 1213 individuals – 40% increase over last year
- 388 of them were children
- 13% are working up from 6% the previous year
- We have seen an increase in international students who now make up 5% of those we support.
- We will continue to support students and provide them with the contact for the college that connects them with their gift card program.
- We will be advocating for additional support for food banks at a meeting at Queen's Park in November.



Co-Chair Landscape Update – Heather con't

- We presented to the County and asked for 50,000 which will make up approximately 5% of our budget this year.
- We are having our annual meeting on Monday, November 13th at 6:00 pm- Business meeting is to start at 6:30



WORK GROUP BREAKOUT

Collaborating

Employment **Health** **Equity** **Housing and Homelessness**
Partners with Lived Experience (VOICES)

Work group review

Consider Social Exclusion and Same size Circles videos and the changes we are seeing in Dufferin County in reviewing our Action plans to refresh the 2023-2025 Roadmap



Next meeting to be announced