

## DCEC – Are We Ready to Engage with our Voices of Lived Experience?

To help us understand our group's readiness to meaningfully engage with our VOICES of Living Experience Dufferin group, we want everyone to complete this very short assessment tool to reflect on the objective we set to include VOICES. Are we ready? This work requires not only for the VOICES group to share with us, it also requires that we truly listen. We want to set this work up for success.

Please select the rank that you believe best reflects the DCEC group as a whole.

*Use the following scale to score your answers to the questions below:*

**1** = Not yet **2** = We are just starting **3** = We are part way there **4** = We are doing this **5** = We are there!

Assess	Rank
1. Is your group prepared to learn about leading practices in equity and inclusion?	1 2 3 4 5
2. Does your group promote diversity across your structures, processes, and activities?	1 2 3 4 5
3. Does your group know how to create safer spaces that support all members to feel comfortable and included?	1 2 3 4 5
4. Does your group recognize that it requires sufficient financial resources to support people with lived/living experience to participate (e.g. to provide food and to reimburse transportation costs)?	1 2 3 4 5
5. Does your group have representation of people with lived/living experience of poverty (e.g. as part of your tables, committees and teams)?	1 2 3 4 5
6. Does your group offer opportunities for people with lived/living experience to inform poverty reduction work?	1 2 3 4 5
7. Is your group willing to invest in training opportunities for all members on how to respectfully collaborate with people with lived/living experience?	1 2 3 4 5
8. Is your group willing to invest in skill- and capacity-building opportunities for people with lived/living experience of poverty that support meaningful engagement?	1 2 3 4 5
9. Is your group prepared to open up decision-making processes to people with lived/living experience?	1 2 3 4 5
10. Has your group talked about how you will ensure that feedback from people with lived/living experience leads to action?	1 2 3 4 5

*Add up your score to assess how well you think we are doing:* \_\_\_\_\_

*10-25 points – Do you see some ways that you could increase your score?*

*25-40 points – You have laid a solid foundation.*

*40-50 points – We are on the road to succeed.*

This tool was taken from the ENGAGING PEOPLE WITH LIVED/LIVING EXPERIENCE A Guide for Including People in Poverty Reduction created by the Tamarack Institute