



Evidence-Based Priorities for Housing and Homelessness in Peel

Presentation to
Peel Regional Council
October 28, 2021

Objectives

Create a more equitable system by allocating a percentage of housing subsidies, as well as units from new affordable housing developments to people experiencing homelessness.

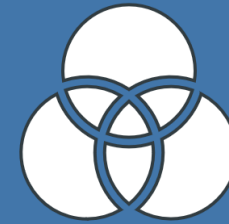
- ✓ Increase budget for housing subsidies that meet an affordable threshold for market housing.
- ✓ Allot additional funding subsidies requested by Housing Services towards people experiencing homelessness on the Region's By Name List.
- ✓ Allocate a percentage of newly developed affordable housing units towards people experiencing homelessness on the Region's By Name list.



The Approach



- Service Provider Survey
- PWLE survey
- Key Informant Interviews



- Intersectional Analysis
- Person-Centred
- Evidence Informed

- ✓ System priorities
- ✓ Gaps and Opportunities
- ✓ Sustainability

- Literature Review
- Community Benchmarking
- Local data
- Service Mapping



Peel's Priorities At A Glance



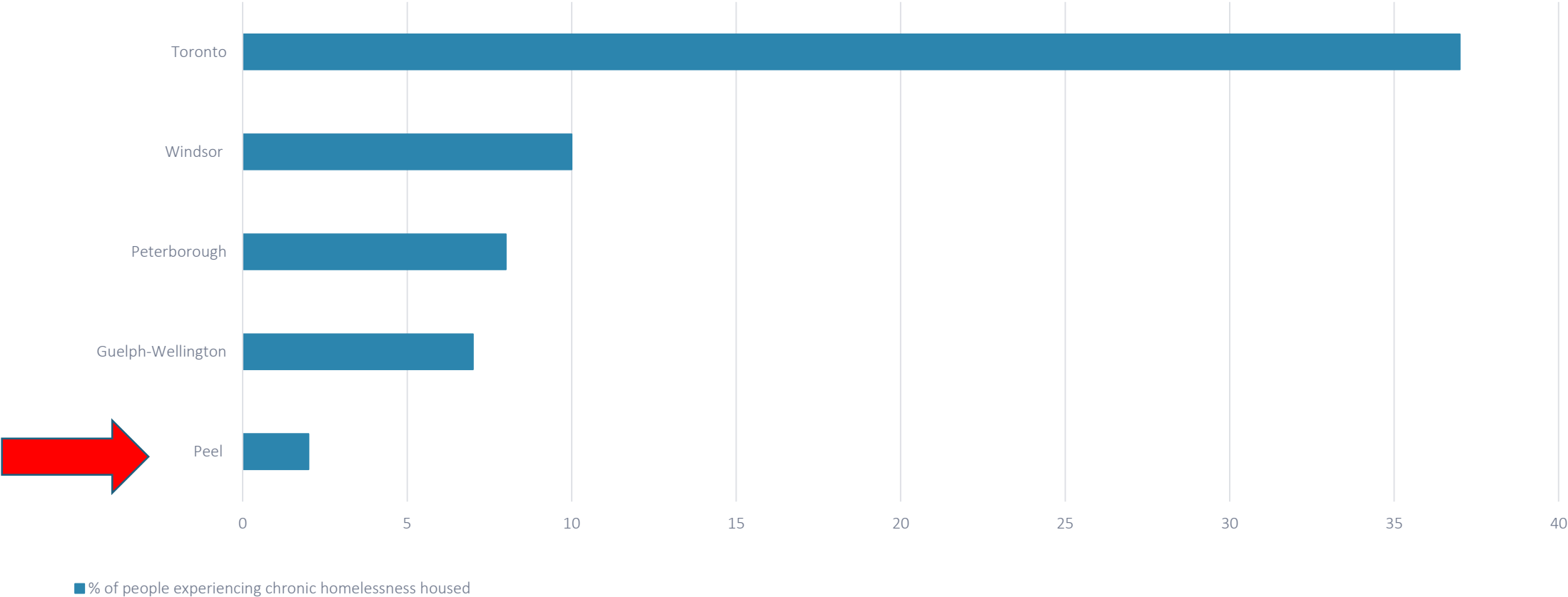
Priority Area 1:

ADOPT AN INTEGRATED SYSTEMS APPROACH TO PREVENT,
REDUCE, AND END HOMELESSNESS

- Establish a governance model between Peel Region and Service Providers
- Outline the local homeless serving system through a simple visual representation
- Increase the production AND access to permanent housing solutions

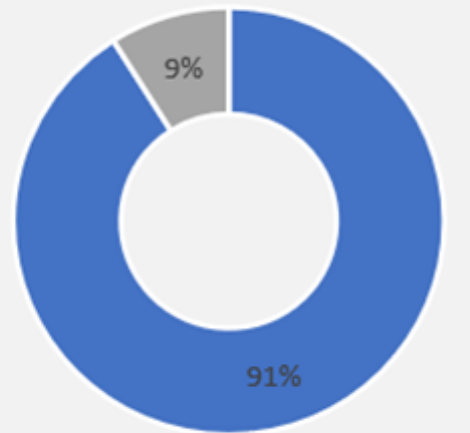
Ontario comparison

Figure 8: Number of People Experiencing Chronic Homelessness Housed (September 2020- March 2021)



What We Heard

Figure 7: What's the ONE thing you think is most important to help reduce homelessness in Peel?



■ Permanent Housing ■ Supports

“The process for people (experiencing homelessness) to access housing is convoluted. There’s not a clear understanding of where to go to get what you need. – Person with lived experience in Peel

What We Heard

HOW WOULD RESPONSES TO HOMELESSNESS SHIFT IF WE ACCEPTED PEOPLE'S 'COMPLEXITY' AS PART OF A HUMAN EXPERIENCE AND FOCUSED ON DESIGNING RESPONSES TAILORED TO PEOPLE'S NEEDS AND PREFERENCES?

- Most homeless investments in Peel are being allocated toward temporary responses instead of permanent solutions to homelessness.
- All housing resources for people experiencing homelessness should be allocated through a centralized and coordinated process instead of first come, first serve.
- A commitment to ending homelessness is a commitment to reconciliation.

“For years we have been investing in a response to homelessness that, while meeting the immediate needs of people in crisis, has arguably had no impact on reducing the scale and scope of the problem.” – Gaetz, 2014

Priority 3:

RE-TOOL HOMELESS INTERVENTIONS TO REDUCE PEOPLE FROM BECOMING HOMELESS AND INCREASE WAYS FOR PEOPLE TO BECOME HOUSED

- Be a housing focussed response system
- Make evidence informed decisions using your homelessness data to invest strategically
- Match the level of permanent housing solutions (capital + supports) to start decreasing homelessness.
- Increase appropriate diversions from emergency shelter.
- Advocate for Provincial changes in practices so public institutions do not discharge people into homelessness.

Thank you!

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