

May 3, 2023

Host: Karen Redman, Chair of Waterloo Region

8:45 - 9:00am Welcome and Opening Remarks by AMO President, Colin Best

9:00 – 10:00am The Importance of Ending Homelessness

A conversation that highlights the importance of acting now to end homelessness in Ontario. Opportunities and new ideas about new approaches to address the root causes of homelessness will be explored.

Host: Brian Rosborough, Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario

- Terrilee Kelford, Co-Chair, National Alliance to End Rural and Remote Homelessness
- Carolyn Stewart, Executive Director, Feed Ontario

10:00 - 10:30am The State of Homelessness in Ontario

An overview of the current state of homelessness in Ontario and the possibilities and actions that arise through working with community.

- Angela Cooke, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Cathy Cousins, President, Ontario Municipal Social Services Association
- Daphna Nussbaum, Co-Chair, Ontario Alliance to End Homelessness

10:30 – 11:00am Networking Break

11:00am – 12:00pm What it Means to End Homelessness

A showcase of Ontario communities that have made progress on their journey to prevent and reduce homelessness on the path to achieving functional zero homelessness. Hear their advice about the foundational steps to start or accelerate the process.

Moderator: Marie Morrison, Director, Built for Zero

- Mike Nadeau, CEO, District of Sault Ste Marie Social Service Administration Board
- Anna McGregor, Director of Community Services, Dufferin County
- Luisa Artuso, Social Services Administrator, Wellington County

12:00 – 12:30pm Understanding the Lived Experience of Homelessness

Members of the Canadian Lived Experience Leadership Network's Principles Task Force will share their work in supporting meaningful engagement with people with lived experience of homelessness.

Moderator: Alex Nelson, Co-Chair, Canadian Lived Experience Leadership Network

- Daniela Mergarten
- Sam Blondeau
- Veronica Snooks

12:30 – 1:30pm Lunch

1:30 – 2:15pm Exploring Housing Solutions for Ending Homelessness

Provide input on how housing affordability solutions can be incorporated into AMO's advocacy along with the presentation of a case study of an integrated housing and health service model that provides a path to housing.

- Bahar Shadpour, Director of Policy and Communications, Canadian Centre for Housing Rights
- Kevin Dickins, Deputy City Manager, Social Health and Development, London

2:15 – 3:00pm Exploring Health Solutions for Ending Homelessness

Recognizing homelessness as a health crisis is critical. Hear of successful approaches and factors that governments should consider when addressing the health of people experiencing homelessness.

- Camille Quenneville, CEO, Canadian Mental Health Association – Ontario Division
- Jim Dunn, Associate Dean, Research, Faculty of Social Sciences, McMaster University
- Dr. Stephen Hwang, Chair in Homelessness, Housing and Health, St. Michael's Hospital

3:00 – 3:30pm Networking Break

3:30 – 4:15pm Exploring Social Services and Income Security Solutions for Ending Homelessness

Income security and social services are key to address the root causes of homelessness and support individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

- Garima Talwar Kapoor, Director, Policy and Research, Maytree Foundation
- Brian Marks, CAO, Cochrane District Social Services Administration Board

4:15 – 4:30 Closing remarks

May 4, 2023

Host: Jamie McGarvey, Mayor, Parry Sound

8:30 – 9:00am Partnering with Local First Nations Communities on Homelessness

A conversation that highlights the importance of collaboration and partnership between municipal governments and First Nations communities, as well as lessons learned from their experience.

- Henry Wall, CAO, Kenora District Services Board
- Jennifer Dreaver, Executive Director, Kenora Chiefs Advisory

9:00 – 9:30am Addressing Urban and Rural Indigenous Homelessness

Municipal governments can partner and support the Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services to provide housing opportunities for urban and rural Indigenous residents.

- Jaimee Gaunce, Director of Policy, Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services

9:30 – 10:00am Strategies and Considerations in Responding to Encampments in Ontario

The recent Ontario Superior Court of Justice decision regarding encampments provides considerations about the appropriate municipal response to encampments in their communities. This session explores practices for a human-rights based response approach.

- Peter Sweeney, Commissioner of Community Services, Region of Waterloo
- Emily Paradis, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Federal Housing Advocate, Canadian Human Rights Commission

10:00 – 10:30am Networking Break

10:30 – 11:00am Municipal Policy Tools for Ending Homelessness

This session will showcase the work of the Housing Assessment Resource Tools (HART), and different municipal tools for ending homelessness.

- Dr. Carolyn Whitzman, Expert Advisor, Housing Assessment Resource Tools Project

11:00 – 11:30am Health, Homelessness, and Multisectoral Partnerships

Andrew Boozary will showcase innovative models of working with municipalities, hospitals, and community partners to improve health outcomes for marginalized populations and support people experiencing homelessness.

- Dr. Andrew Boozary, Executive Director - Social Medicine and Population Health, University Health Network

11:30am – 12:25pm Popcorn Session

Audience members will have the opportunity to respond to prompts and share ideas, best practices, promising solutions, and other thoughts.

Moderated by: Jamie McGarvey

12:25 – 12:30pm Closing Remarks