

MEMORANDUM TO: All Chiefs of Police and
Commissioner Thomas Carrique
Chairs, Police Services Boards

FROM: Richard Stubbings
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division and Public Safety Training Division

SUBJECT: **Provincial Strategies/Frameworks that align with
Community Safety and Well-Being Planning**

DATE OF ISSUE:	June 18, 2021
CLASSIFICATION:	General Information
RETENTION:	Indefinite
INDEX NO.:	21-0073
PRIORITY:	Normal

As you know, on January 1, 2019, new legislative amendments to the *Police Services Act, 1990*, came into force which mandate municipalities to prepare and adopt a community safety and well-being (CSWB) plan, in collaboration with their multi-sectoral partners, including police services and boards. As part of the planning process, municipalities and their local partners must utilize data from multiple sources and conduct consultations with their community to identify and address local priority risks to safety and well-being.

As a reminder, the deadline to prepare and adopt a CSWB plan is July 1, 2021. This new deadline provides a six month extension from the original deadline to help ensure that municipalities and their community partners can continue to dedicate the necessary capacity and resources to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, while also providing adequate time to meet the legislative requirements to develop meaningful and effective CSWB plans.

The Ministry of the Solicitor General (ministry) has received feedback from local communities that there is a need to better understand the various provincial strategies/frameworks across ministries that align with CSWB planning. In response to this feedback, the ministry has developed a resource document which outlines broad, overarching provincial strategies/frameworks that align with CSWB planning and can support local CSWB efforts.

This resource document was developed in collaboration with the ministry's Inter-Ministerial Community Safety and Well-Being Working Group, which consists of representatives from nine Ontario ministries and the Federal government. Specifically, the document highlights collaborative, preventative and/or holistic approaches that aim to address local risks that lead to crime, victimization, addiction, drug overdose and/or suicide; that create protective factors in the community; and/or support vulnerable populations.

We know that communities are already doing a lot of great work to enhance the safety and well-being of Ontarians, and this resource document is meant to further support our local partners as they continue to develop and implement local CSWB plans.

I encourage you to share this resource document with your staff as well as with your municipal and community partners. As we move forward with CSWB planning in Ontario, the ministry is continuing to explore ways to support communities as they undertake the planning process and implement programs and strategies identified in their local plans.

If you have any questions regarding CSWB planning, please contact Tiana Biordi, Community Safety Analyst at Tiana.Biordi@ontario.ca or Shamitha Devakandan, Community Safety Analyst at Shamitha.Devakandan@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Stubbings'.

Richard Stubbings
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division and Public Safety Training Division

Attachment

Provincial Strategies/Frameworks that align with CSWB Planning

Note: The following list represents broad, overarching provincial strategies/frameworks that align with community safety and well-being (CSWB) planning and can support local CSWB efforts. Specifically, they represent collaborative, preventative and/or holistic approaches that aim to address local risks that lead to crime, victimization, addiction, drug overdose and/or suicide; that create protective factors in the community; and/or support vulnerable populations.

Ontario's Anti-Human Trafficking Strategy – An investment of \$307 million over five years (2020 – 2025) on a comprehensive action plan to combat human trafficking and child sexual exploitation. The strategy takes a proactive approach with initiatives across government focused on four key areas – raising awareness of the issue, protecting victims and intervening early, supporting survivors, and holding offenders accountable.

Website: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontarios-anti-human-trafficking-strategy-2020-2025#:~:text=Ontario's%20anti%2Dhuman%20trafficking%20strategy%20will%20raise%20awareness%20of%20the,qiv e%20law%20enforcement%20the%20tools>

Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy / Education Equity Action Plan – The Strategy helps the education community identify and address discriminatory biases and systemic barriers in order to support the achievement and well-being of all students. The Education Equity Action Plan is a three-year strategy that involves working collaboratively with the community, to identify and eliminate discriminatory practices, systemic barriers and bias from schools and classrooms. As a result, every school board has an equity and inclusive education policy and a religious accommodation guideline in place to support student achievement and well-being.

Website: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/equity.html>

School Mental Health Ontario (SMH-ON) supports District School Boards' Three-Year Mental Health Strategy and Action Plan – SMH-ON provides implementation support to all district school boards through clinical expertise, evidence-based resources/practical tools for educators, and the delivery of consistent professional learning to school-based mental health clinicians. SMH-ON works together with all 72 district school board's Mental Health Leadership teams to develop a three-year mental health and addictions strategy and one-year action plans that identify mental health priorities for the school year.

Website: <https://smho-smso.ca/about-us/contact-us/>

Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework – The Framework represents a collaborative approach which aims to increase the capacity of the education system to respond to the learning and cultural needs of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students; provide quality programs, services, and resources to help create learning opportunities/support improved academic achievement and identity building; provide a curriculum that facilitates contemporary and traditional learnings among all students; and develop and implement strategies that facilitate increased participation. Through the Framework, all 72 district school boards have an Indigenous Education Lead and Board Action Plans for Indigenous education, which are specific to local needs and circumstances.

Website: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/aboriginal/fnmiFramework.pdf>

Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS): Launched in mid-December 2020, Ontario's new PRS 2020-2025 titled, "Building a Strong Foundation for Success: Reducing Poverty in Ontario", was developed using a whole-of-government approach, identifies and highlights new and emerging multi-ministry initiatives aligned with the PRS pillars and goals, and the government COVID-19 response. Pillars under the strategy are – encourage job creation and connect people to employment, connect people with the right supports and services, make life more affordable and build financial resiliency, and accelerate action and drive progress.

Website: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/building-strong-foundation-success-reducing-poverty-ontario-2020-2025>

Child Welfare Redesign (CWR) – Launched in 2020, the CWR focuses on strengthening families and communities through prevention and early intervention services that are culturally-appropriate, community and family-based, and responsive to the needs of children, youth and families. It encompasses five pillars – strengthening family well-being through higher quality, culturally appropriate and responsive community-based services, with a focus on prevention and early intervention; improving the quality of residential care provided to children/youth; promoting the development of stable and lifelong connections and supports for youth, with a focus on education/employment opportunities; improving the adoption experience and focusing on family-based options; and creating a more efficient, effective and financially

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sustainable child welfare system. CWR is taking a distinct Indigenous approach as part of the **Ontario Indigenous Children and Youth Strategy (OICYS)**, the strategic framework co-developed with First Nation, Inuit, Métis, and urban Indigenous partners across Ontario to improve outcomes for Indigenous children and youth.

Website: <http://www.children.gov.on.ca/htdocs/English/professionals/childwelfare/redesign-strategy.aspx>

Indigenous Healing and Wellness Strategy (IHWS) – IHWS is a comprehensive Indigenous-led strategy to reduce family violence, violence against Indigenous women and children, and improve Indigenous health, healing and wellness through culturally appropriate programs, and ongoing collaboration between Ontario ministries and Indigenous partners. IHWS supports a continuum of health, healing and wellness programs that are designed, managed and delivered by and for Indigenous peoples. IHWS' culturally-appropriate programs support the healing and resiliency of Indigenous peoples and address the impacts of intergenerational trauma.

Website: <https://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/en/mcass/programs/community/ihws/index.aspx>

Community Housing Renewal Strategy – Launched in April 2019, the Strategy commits to stabilizing and growing the community housing sector including through the introduction of new legislative and regulatory framework for community housing providers. Under the Strategy, the government launched the Canada Ontario Community Housing Initiative, the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative, and the Canada Ontario Housing Benefit. These programs leverage investments from the National Housing Strategy to support Ontario's housing priorities to sustain, repair and grow the community housing system.

Website: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/community-housing-renewal-strategy>

10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plans – As indicated under the *Housing Services Act*, 2011, Ontario's 47 Service Managers are required to have a 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan. These Plans use an integrated, collaborative and needs-based approach to address local needs to achieve positive outcomes for individuals and families, particularly in relation to access to safe, affordable and stable housing and related support services.

Website: <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/11h06#BK9>

Multi-Ministry Supportive Housing Initiative (MMSHI) – Ontario's supportive housing programs are being reviewed to identify opportunities to streamline and improve coordination so that people get the help they need. The review is focused on addressing key challenges in Ontario's supportive housing system, including lack of supply to meet demand, multiple system access points that are difficult to navigate, lack of efficiency of the complex system that includes 20 individual programs, and people with complex, cross-cutting needs not well-served by individual programs/systems.

Contact: housingpolicy@ontario.ca

Roadmap to Wellness: A plan to build Ontario's Mental Health and Addictions system – With the launch of Roadmap to Wellness, Ontario will develop a mental health and addictions system that makes high-quality services available for people throughout their lifetime, where and when they need them. The Plan includes four pillars/areas of focus – improving quality; expanding existing services; implementing innovative solutions; and improving access.

Website: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/roadmap-wellness-plan-build-ontarios-mental-health-and-addictions-system>

Ontario's Response to the Opioid Crisis – Ontario is committed to addressing the opioid crisis and to supporting people who use opioids to access the services and supports that they need. Ontario's response is focused on four key priority areas – appropriate prescribing and pain management, treatment for opioid use disorder, harm reduction services and supports, and surveillance and reporting.

Website: <http://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/opioids/> or PublicDrugPrgrms.moh@ontario.ca

Ontario Provincial Police's (OPP) Opioids and Overdoses: Impacts and Strategies Report – The Report provides an overview of the robust and balanced strategy the OPP has employed to respond to this crisis and save lives. The Report shares information and work with stakeholders in order to develop responsive, collaborative programs that meet the needs of those suffering from substance use disorders.

Website: www.opp.ca/opioids

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OPP's Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Strategy – The CVE Strategy, which targets risks to radicalization to violence, uses a multi-faceted approach to inform frontline members and partners of the behavioural indicators of radicalization to violence and provides risk mitigation approaches. The goal is to provide a collaborative wrap-around approach to CVE in the pre-criminal space, safeguarding those that are vulnerable to recruitment, their families and communities and those that may be victims. As part of the Strategy, the OPP launch a CVE online eLearning module, which is available publicly for community partners free of charge.

Website/Contact: opp.ca/cvelearn or community.safety.services@opp.ca