

Re: Community Advisory Board on Homelessness – Posting for New Members

The Brantford Community Advisory Board on Homelessness (CAB) is accepting applications for new members. The CAB is a catalyst for developing and supporting collaborative efforts to prevent and end homelessness across Brantford-Brant. The CAB supports Brantford-Brant's contribution to *Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy*.¹ *Reaching Home* is a community-based program aimed at preventing and reducing homelessness across Canada, aiming to reduce chronic homelessness by 50% by 2027-28. The CAB will support the development and implementation of a Coordinated Access System, HIFIS4, and community and outcomes-based approaches to address Indigenous homelessness.

The CAB plays a pivotal and distinct role in developing and implementing a local Housing First (HF) approach. The Key Functions of the CAB include:

- Work collaboratively with partners to develop, support the implementation, evaluate, and update the community plan to end homelessness in Brantford-Brant;
- Learn from national and provincial networks to strengthen the capacity of service providers to implement the local response to homelessness;
- Monitor and analyze the status of homelessness across Brantford-Brant and report back to the community;
- Galvanize government, business, and public support for ending homelessness in Brantford-Brant through public education and advocacy;
- Provide advice to the City of Brantford and County of Brant in the coordination and allocation of homelessness funding;
- Provide a forum for networking among and between government and community representatives engaged in issues of homelessness;
- Ensure an inclusive community planning process in which the diverse voices and experience of people with lived experience of homelessness are embedded;

- Evaluate the function and activities of the CAB on an annual basis to ensure the mandate is being achieved.

The Roles and Responsibilities of CAB Members include:

- Work actively with other CAB Members to develop a community plan;
- Advance the goals of the community plan within the individual Member's capacity and resources;
- Sustain a collaborative and consultative relationship with other Members of the CAB to advance solutions to homelessness and specific projects that address homelessness;
- Maintain an awareness of current issues and government policies impacting persons in various stages of homelessness;
- Regularly attend CAB meetings, actively participate in discussions, and contribute to the consensus process;
- Represent the views of their constituents and have authority to speak on their behalf, clearly distinguishing when they are speaking on behalf of their constituents, the public, or presenting their own point of view;
- Participate in working groups when required and possible;
- Actively share leadership, expertise, information, and experience;
- Where applicable and appropriate, obtain formal endorsement from their organization/agency/network for a specific initiative/action of the CAB;
- Where required; assist with communications;
- Adhere to the Confidentiality Agreement;
- Adhere to the Conflict of Interest Guidelines.

The CAB meets the fourth Thursday of every month. CAB Members are accountable to the community they serve. By seeking participation on CAB, members are making a commitment to:

- Work together in an effective and professional manner;
- Adhere to a high standard of diligence and care in carrying out duties
- Avoid conflicts of interest;
- Consider the views of others equally;
- Maintain confidentiality;

Those who are interested in applying for CAB membership are asked to contact CABapplications@brantford.ca and provide the following information:

- Your name,
- If you are looking to represent an organization (as a service/program provider) or yourself (as a person with lived experience/advocate),
- A brief description of why you are interested in participating on the CAB (including your knowledge, experience, and expertise).

ⁱ For more information about Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy, please visit: <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/homelessness.html>