

## February 2019 Edition

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In December 2018, a forum with community and agency leaders was held to explore and discuss social procurement as a viable social investment strategy in Windsor and Essex County.

Guest presenters Jen Miller from the Atkinson Foundation and Wayne Chu from the City of Toronto's Poverty Reduction Strategy Office, facilitated a discussion on the history and future of social procurement by highlighting case studies, Anchor TO, Metrolinx, and governmental-community collaborations. Throughout the forum, participants learned about the definitions, insights, and current approaches undertaken by cities and businesses across the country. Great conversations on how Windsor-Essex might benefit and implement social procurement practices followed.

We are excited to hear how others want to continue on a path toward implementation. If you would like to learn more about social procurement or join the conversation about opportunities in Windsor-Essex, we would like to hear from you!

# P2P Affordable Pass Program Now Available in LaSalle

The Affordable Pass Program (APP) is a program that allows eligible riders the ability to purchase a discounted adult or student bus pass, provided they meet the eligibility requirements. To find out if you or someone you know is eligible for this program, please click the following link: <u>Eligibility</u> <u>Requirements</u>

With the extension of Transit Windsor into LaSalle the APP is now available for LaSalle residents living in low-income.

Applications are available at the following locations:

- LaSalle Civic Centre (5990 Malden Rd.)
- Transit Centre, (3700 North Service Road East; at Central).
- Windsor International Transit Terminal (300 Chatham Street West; at Church)

The application can also be downloaded at the following link: APP Application Form

Along with the APP application form, applicants will need to submit proof of their eligibility. All applications must be signed and dated by the primary applicant and spouse, if applicable.

If your agency or organization would like to schedule a presentation for your staff members or clients to learn more about the Affordable Pass Program (APP), please make your request to the telephone number or email address listed below.

For more information, LaSalle Residents can contact:

LaSalle Civic Centre Phone: 519-969-7770 Email: <u>communications@lasalle.ca</u>

www.lasalle.ca/transit



# **P2P Presentations**



and much more!

Want to know more about Windsor-Essex's social investment strategy, Pathway to Potential? Request a presentation!

We present to community groups, businesses, and classrooms of all kinds. Our presentations discuss the Windsor-Essex context, available programming, discounts for persons living in lowincome,

## **Become a P2P Broker!**



## Safe Sharps Disposal



For more information including bin locations, please call 311 or go to the

Windsor Essex County Health Unit's website.

### Housing and Homelessness Master Plan Review and Survey

#### Windsor Essex HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS MASTER PLAN



The City of Windsor is looking for your input as we review our Housing and Homelessness Plan. For the past five years, Windsor-Essex has been at the forefront of implementing approaches and policies that will help establish a housing system that gives everyone the opportunity to have a quality, safe, affordable and accessible home.

Through the current Housing and Homelessness Plan, Windsor-Essex has improved access to emergency housing and housing support services; increased housing options to meet the needs of vulnerable individuals and families; and, through partnerships with community groups and organizations, assisted people in obtaining the supports needed to obtain and maintain housing.

However, there is still work to do ...

This spring, an updated plan, The Windsor Essex Housing and Homelessness Master Plan will be developed. An integral part of this process is reviewing the work completed so far. We are asking for the community's help to identify current housing and homelessness needs within Windsor-Essex and ideas to address those needs in our region.

Add your voice by completing the <u>Housing and Homelessness Master Plan Survey</u>. The survey will be open until February 10,2019 and should take less than 10 minutes to complete. Your participation would be greatly appreciated.

# New Toolkit: Help is Around the Corner

In collaboration with community partners, and in response to community requests, a tool kit has been developed that can be used by business owners and residents to assist in determining when and who to contact if they encounter someone who may be experiencing homelessness.



For more details about what is being done in Windsor and Essex County to support those experiencing homelessness, please visit the

City of Windsor's Housing website.

## Gordie Howe Bridge: Community Benefits Survey



#### Have Your Say!

The Neighborhood Infrastructure Strategy is a \$20 million community infrastructure investment focused on priorities identified through community benefit consultation undertaken from 2015-2017. \$10 million will be allocated to complete initiatives on each side of the border.

**Bridging North America**, the proponent selected to build and maintain the Gordie Howe International Bridge, has prepared a list of potential community benefits for consultation. The consultation will occur prior to the finalization of the Community Benefits Plan to ensure the Neighborhood Infrastructure Strategy reflects the uniqueness of the host communities and meets the request for community feedback on the final selection of initiatives. Rank and prioritize the community benefits initiatives you support through by selecting the <u>following survey</u>.

# **Second Harvest Request for Proposals**



As part of Second Harvest's mission to recover food and prevent it from going to waste, they have received funding to expand their innovative new web-based application <u>FoodRescue.ca</u> in markets across Ontario. The funding includes grants to four organizations that can leverage the work they do to deliver outreach and training services to help engage donors and agencies in recovering food using FoodRescue.ca.

FoodRescue.ca was launched in 2018 to respond to the demand from food businesses to connect their surplus food to community based not-for-profit agencies that use food as part of their programing. FoodRecue.ca empowers agencies to choose what food is available and what would be suitable to enhance the programs they deliver. During the pilot phase, FoodRescue.ca supported regional partner agencies in Kingston, Niagara and Sudbury, in addition to Toronto.

For information outlining project requirements, key dates and steps for submitting a proposal, please review the <u>Request for Proposal</u>. For more information please contact <u>Veronica Summerhill</u> or <u>Christine Bomé</u>.

Veronica Summerhill Provincial Community Relations Coordinator veronica.summerhill@foodrescue.ca 416-570-6983 Christine Bomé VP Programs and Partnerships Second Harvest <u>christineb@secondharvest.ca</u> 416-408-2594 x 237



# Free prescriptions for many children and young adults in Ontario set to end in March



First announced in <u>late June</u>, changes to the province's OHIP+ pharmacare program are set to occur in **March**, **2019**. The prospective changes will mean that children and young adults under the age of 25 who have private insurance coverage will no longer receive free tax-payer funded prescriptions.

According to the <u>Ontario Regulatory Registry</u> "under a redesigned OHIP+, OHIP-insured children and youth 24 years of age and under who do not have private insurance would remain enrolled in the Ontario Drug Benefit program through the OHIP+ eligibility stream, and continue to receive benefits from the Ontario Drug Benefit program without co-payments or deductibles...For those children and youth who are covered by private insurance, they will bill those plans."

It should be noted that **Private Insurance** is defined as any type of private plan, program, or account which could contribute to the cost of any drug product *regardless of whether*:

- The plan covers the particular drug for which coverage is sought,
- The child or youth is required to pay a co-payment, deductible or premium,
- The child or youth, has reached their annual maximum under the private insurance and no further coverage is available.

For more information about the changes to OHIP+ please review the "Learn About OHIP+" webpage.

# **Canada's Food Guide**



#### Canada Food Guide

Canada's new food guide was released on January 22nd and uses a different layout than previous guides. The new approach moves away from specific serving recommendations and emphasizes general healthy eating guidelines.

The guide also promotes:

- Choosing water as the primary source of hydration
- Cooking and food preparation
- Consuming veggies, fruit, whole grains and protein often,
- Choosing unsaturated fats over saturated fats
- Reducing processed or prepared foods.
- And much more!

Please visit the Food Guide website for more information including recipes, tips and resources for the whole family.

# Find us on

# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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