Waterloo Wellington **LHIN**

BRIEFING NOTE

November 14, 2018

For Information

Board of Directors Item 9.0 – Wellbeing Waterloo

PURPOSE

To provide the WWLHIN Board of Directors with an overview of Wellbeing Waterloo and the community-led initiatives currently underway and in development.

CORE CONTEXT

- Wellbeing Waterloo Region is a community-led initiative working together across sectors to improve wellbeing of residents. Community wellbeing is shaped by a wide variety of conditions and systems, in which individuals and communities are born, grow, work, live and play.
- Waterloo Region is a community that has a number of partnerships which have made significant progress towards dealing with complex issues of community wellbeing. Over the past several years there have been many conversations that have identified some urgency to collaborate across these partnerships to further advance a more integrated, holistic approach to community wellbeing to create significant and impactful solutions. Through Wellbeing Waterloo Region, the community is working together to identify and address collective priorities that will improve community wellness so that everyone in our community is able to thrive.
- The Waterloo Wellington LHIN has been one of the key drivers of this initiative. We are proud to work alongside so many like-minded community partners to accomplish outcomes that no one organization or sector can accomplish alone.
- Mike Murray, CEO of the Region of Waterloo will be providing the Board with an update on the initiative. We would like to recognize Mike's tremendous leadership and support for this initiative.
- A summary of Wellbeing Waterloo Region is attached in Appendix A. Additional information can be found at http://www.wellbeingwaterloo.ca/blog/

RECOMMENDATION

No recommendation required at this time.

APPENDIX A

Wellbeing Waterloo Region

Overview - July 2018

<u>Our vision</u> - what we aspire to:
A community where everyone thrives and no one is left behind.

<u>Our mission</u> - why we exist:
Working together differently to make transformational change in community wellbeing.

<u>Who we are:</u>

Wellbeing Waterloo Region brings together people and groups representing the diversity of our community.

- Local residents
- People with lived experience – we will make sure people with lived experience have opportunities to have their voices heard to contribute in meaningful ways.
- Business community
- Governments
- Health and social services
- Crime prevention and safety
- Education
- Local collaboratives/networks
- Non profit organizations
- Philanthropic organizations
- Sectors beyond social and health - such as arts and culture, environment, technology etc.
- Etc.

Our Principles - How we will work together:

As partners we are committed to a shared vision and a focus on collective achievements. To do that we will be:

Courageous: Having ongoing critical reflections to help us look at issues in new and different ways rather than accept the status quo, harnessing new knowledge and opportunities.	**Transformative:** Move beyond existing organizational and collaborative boundaries by fostering trusting relationships and a culture of mutual respect.
Adaptive: Continuously learning, adapting and improving our mutually reinforcing actions though the use of data, shared measurement and community input.	**Inclusive:** We will be intentional about inclusion by acknowledging that biases exist and using an equity lens to identify and address these biases.
Equitable: All voices matter and we will provide supports and opportunities so everyone has the chance to become authentically and meaningfully involved. We will pay particular attention to and support people who have experienced oppression and people with lived experience.	

Our Connected Communities

A connected community is a necessary foundation for addressing the work of Wellbeing Waterloo Region. To support and influence the change we wish to see and to focus on strengthening individual and network connections, intentional actions and communication channels will be created to foster and support our connected community. These methods and channels will be developed by the Communications and Engagement working group to ensure that participation is diverse, relevant and engaging for multiple audiences. Involvement in the Connected Community is fluid and open. People can choose their level of commitment and participate when there is interest and relevance.

Ensuring that existing organizations/collaboratives are a part of the Wellbeing connected community will be important as it is the everyday actions of these groups that keeps our community healthy and thriving. And equally important through the Wellbeing work we will support groups to mobilize action, build leadership and support participation in the Wellbeing connected community.

Big Ideas – Areas of Collective Focus

Based on both the collective measurement information and the public and stakeholder input, the following three focus areas or "Big Ideas" and initial challenge statements have evolved from the collective work:

1. **Affordable Housing**: Everyone has a place to call home.

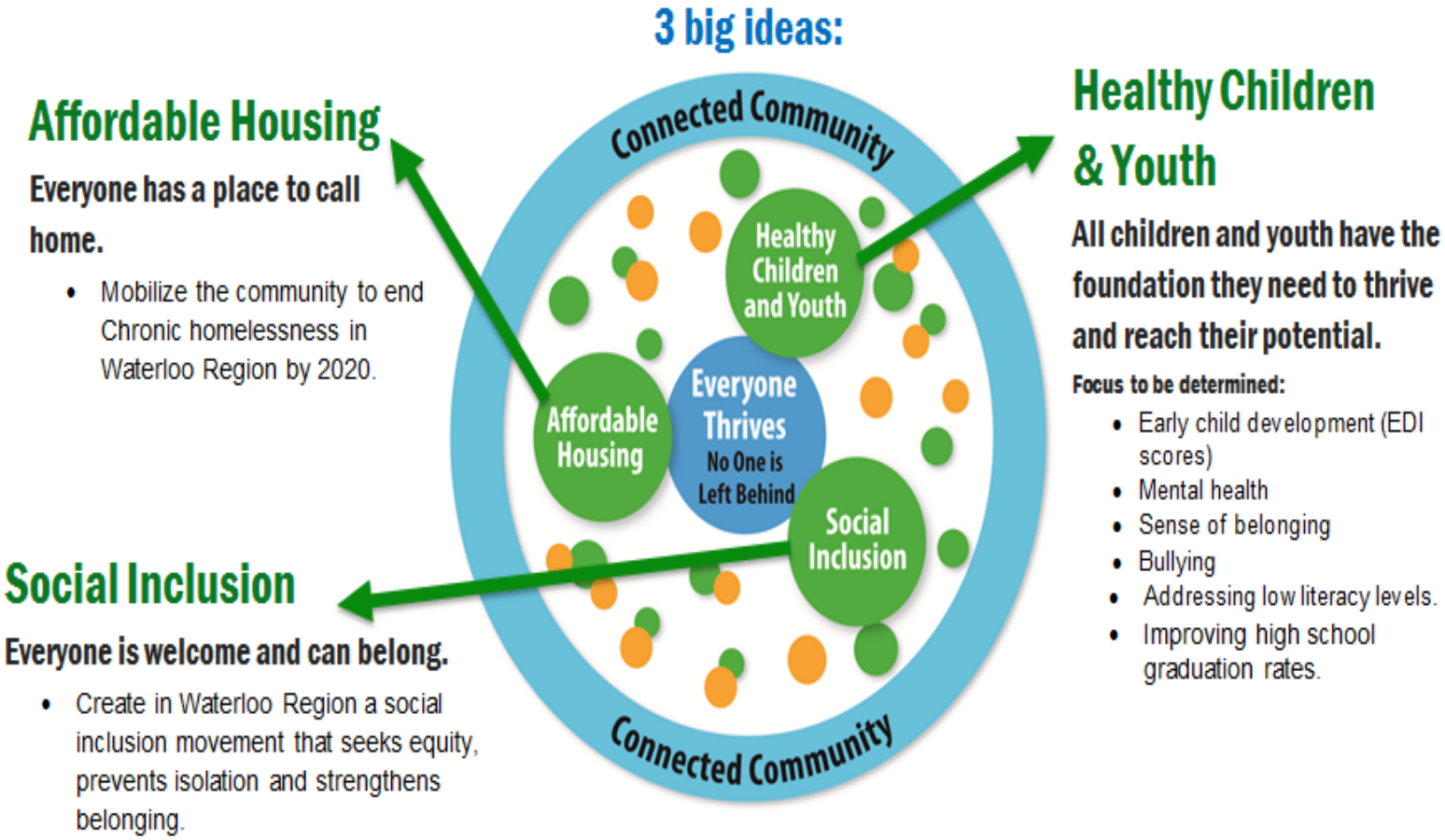
Challenge statement: Mobilize the community to end chronic homelessness in Waterloo Region by 2020.

2. **Healthy Children and Youth**: All children and youth have the foundation they need to thrive and reach their potential.

Challenge statement: Focus to be determined. The Children's Planning Table and WWR working groups are working with Smart Cities Initiative to develop a phase 2 proposal to the Federal government. Therefore direction for this area will be identified in January, 2019 once we know the outcome of the Smart Cities application.

3. **Social Inclusion**: Everyone is welcome and can belong.

Challenge Statement: Create in Waterloo Region a social inclusion movement that seeks equity, prevents isolation, and strengthens belonging.



Draft Wellbeing Waterloo Region Actions

Based on community consultation and data, draft actions have been developed in order to move the wellbeing vision forward under each of the 3 big ideas as well as with the foundational work that is needed to support the 3 big idea areas. Over the summer 2018, we will be developing work plans for each of the actions including the identification of resources, timelines, deliverables, measurement etc… This information will come back to the Reference Group in September for the group to prioritize and approve which of the actions are to go forward.

Enabling structure

We have a working group that has been working hard to develop terms of reference and a recruitment process for the new Wellbeing Waterloo Region Structure. The expression of interest process will be brought to the Reference group in August and we anticipate that we will request expressions of interest for each of the below groups at the beginning of September. Brief descriptions of each of the groups are found below:

Wellbeing Waterloo Region Connectors Hub: The WWR Connector Hub is the steering group who will provide oversight and decision making for the overall directions of the collective work of Wellbeing Waterloo Region. The WWR Connectors hub will adhere to the WWR principles and identify and harness opportunities for synergy across the three big idea areas as well as other wellbeing issues as they arise. It is the hub of all the components of the enabling structure.

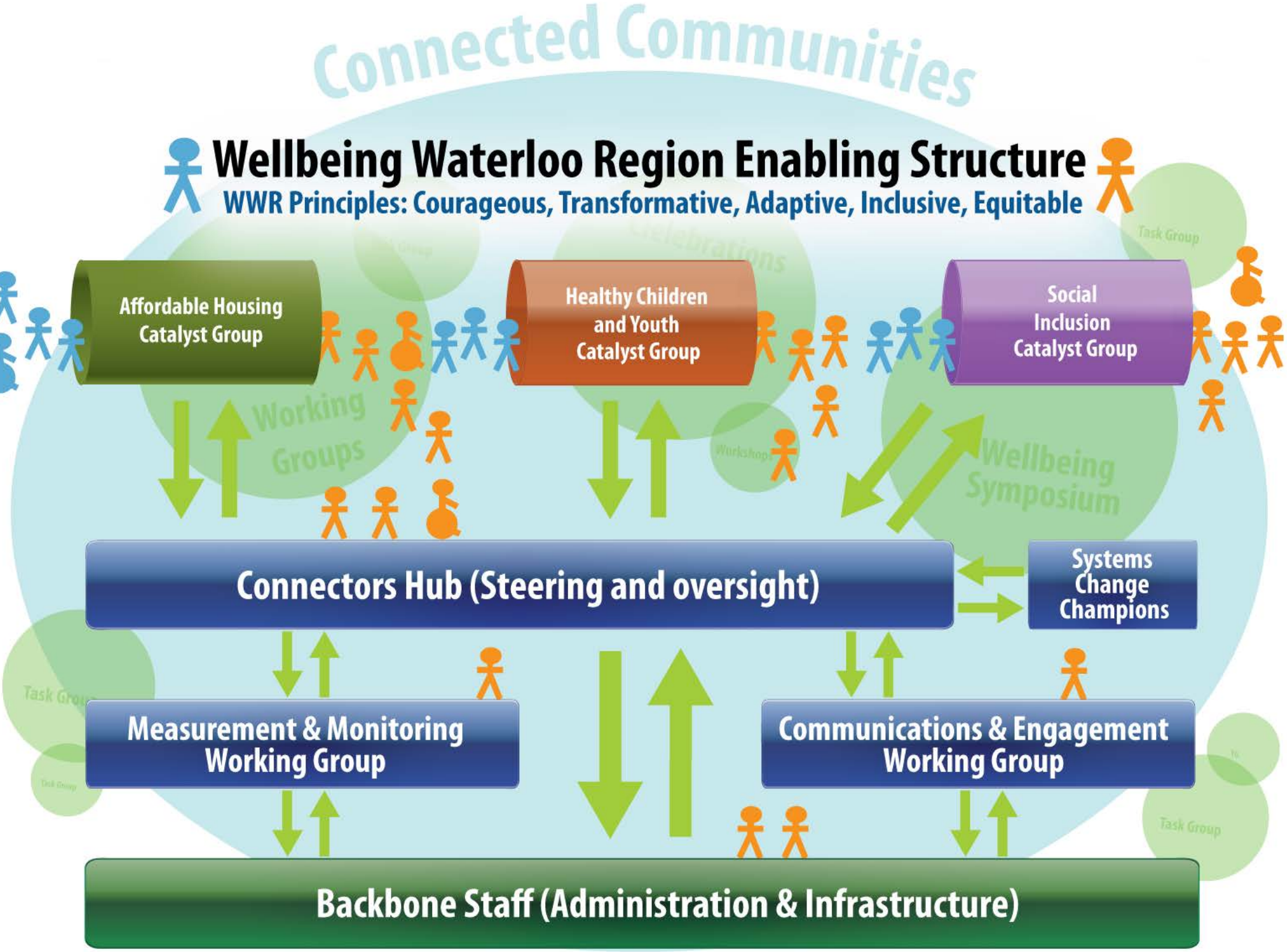
The 3 big idea Catalyst Groups: The Catalyst Groups will take action and move the three big idea actions forward based on the challenge statements and will adhere to our principles of how we will work together. There are three Catalyst Groups: Affordable Housing, Healthy Children and Youth and Social Inclusion that will work differently and better together to identify and harness opportunities for synergy across the three big idea areas.

Systems Change Champions: Systems Change Champions will adhere to the WWR principles and influence decisions with key organizations/groups that could help to make system level changes and decisions that support transformational change to improve community wellbeing.

Measurement and Monitoring Working Group: Provides guidance and direction on the overall measurement system as well as the tracking of individual actions for Wellbeing Waterloo Region in order to ensure the integration with the Wellbeing measurement framework. This group will also provide guidance on the overall progress reporting process and tools to ensure accountability, transparency and engagement of our community with the data collected for WWR.

Communications and Engagement Working Group: Creates the opportunities and actions to intentionally engage diverse community members and the wellbeing eco-system partners to focus on strengthening individual, organization and network connections. Provides guidance and advice to ensure that people with a lived voice participate in WWR. Develops strategies and implements actions to ensure that the diversity of our community is reflected in the involvement of WWR. Also helps to engage and rally the general public in the wellbeing work.

Ad hoc action groups: There will be the need for time limited ad hoc action groups to ensure that the specific actions are planned and developed for each Big Idea area. Ad Hoc Action Group members will include individuals from different backgrounds specific to the task at hand.


Connected Communities
Wellbeing Waterloo Region Enabling Structure
WWR Principles: Courageous, Transformative, Adaptive, Inclusive, Equitable
Affordable Housing Catalyst Group
Healthy Children and Youth Catalyst Group
Social Inclusion Catalyst Group
Working Groups
Wellbeing Symposium
Connectors Hub (Steering and oversight)
Systems Change Champions
Measurement & Monitoring Working Group
Communications & Engagement Working Group
Backbone Staff (Administration & Infrastructure)