

# Friends of Crime Prevention Meeting Notes

March 13, 2015

Victoria Park Pavilion Kitchener

## Economic Conditions

### Poverty/ Income Inequality

#### Being Addressed Well in Waterloo Region

- more affordable and accessible recreation programs for low income families and neighbourhoods
- more funding to organizations that create basic opportunities for poor areas such as ESL, school help, use of computers, making resumes
- more research on poverty and income inequality

#### Being Addressed Well in Waterloo Region / Needs More Attention

- more affordable and more subsidized housing available

#### I Don't Know

- more community outreach so social services are accessible and sustained
- increase social assistance rates (OW / ODSP)

#### Needs More Attention

- more low cost or subsidized or affordable child care
- need more social services
- a working plan from all levels of government to reduce poverty
- provide more resources and support to parents and increase awareness of services
- more opportunities for less advantaged young people to network, be creative, start businesses [inREACH]
- seek to learn from people with low incomes about what would support their well-being and sense of belonging
- need more jobs, better wages and more assistance to find jobs
- "a living wage for all"
- increase access to food banks

New Card: More focus needed on skilled trades as an alternative for students

New Card: Invest in schools, services & agencies becoming trauma informed

New Card: Lobbying federal government to address poverty & income inequality

#### Needs More Attention Table Priorities

New Card: Bring 'The Roots of Youth Violence' off the shelf and implemented! (4.8571)

- reduce income inequality (examples: tie minimum wage raises to inflation, higher corporate taxes)[by lobbying for a working plan from all levels of government to reduce poverty] (4.714)
  - reduce the impacts of poverty on everyone, particularly [e.g.] on early childhood development through daycare, literacy, parenting groups, etc. [more opportunities for less advantaged young people to network, be creative, start businesses; and provide more resources and support to parents and increase awareness of services and restore inREACH!] (4.6666)
  - more programs for young people providing education and employment supports [for example more focus on skilled trades and other secure opportunities] (4.2857)
- New Card: Breaking the cycles of poverty, violence and trauma – seek to learn from people with low incomes about what would support their well-being and sense of belonging (4.5)

## Employment

### Being Addressed Well in Waterloo Region

- more job creation and labour market development
- provide programs and opportunities for youth to expand and open up businesses with funding
- more job creation initiatives and more support for business start-ups & entrepreneurs

### This Solution Will Not Help Solve the Problem

- need more jobs for people with barriers due to being new in Canada, or limited experience, education or criminal background
- we need more jobs and we need better jobs
- increase the minimum wage
- youth need more help in school to plan and prepare for career and employment options

### Needs More Attention Table Priorities

- address the changes in the nature of employment (more precarious, low wage, part-time, contract etc.) (4.3333)
- address the systemic barriers to employment experienced by youth, immigrants, those with criminal record and others (4.1)
- more employment initiatives for all youth & for at risk youth (job creation, training, apprenticeships, paid internships) [those new to Canada, those with limited experience/education, or those with a criminal background](3.8333)
- educate the business world of the community value of hiring those who have been incarcerated (3.1)
- address racism & discrimination within the work force (2.8111)

## Housing

### Being Addressed Well in Waterloo Region

- need wet shelters
- provide outreach to meet individual needs for those unwilling/unable to stay in shelters
- offer more affordable & subsidized housing that is integrated in communities, not segregated

### This Solution Will Not Help Solve the Problem

- a centralized streamlined system for supporting people who are homeless
- more transitional housing

### I don't know

- few places rent individual rooms – we need more

- address where housing is of poor quality and in unsafe locations/environments

### **Needs More Attention Table Priorities**

- more supportive housing with case management built in [Combined with Card] group home style housing with supports for education, employment {Combined with Card} New Card: Accessible housing options (barrier free & supports) [Combined with Card] New Card: More supportive housing options for victims of domestic violence (4.8333)
- New Card: Supportive housing for people being released from incarceration (4.8)
- need more affordable housing available [Combined with Card] need more subsidized housing (4.7692)
- more community awareness to debunk myths and remove stigma of homelessness [Combined with Card] New Card: Education public on importance (cost benefit) of housing (3.5)
- make landlords follow the rules better [Combined with Card] ensure that existing housing meets acceptable standards (3.25)
- New Card: (more integration) Less concentration of certain population groups (seniors/students) (3.2)
- more funding for [caring families providing] supportive housing for youth (2.625)
- New Card: Ask people what they want (person directed services)(2.6154)

## **Social and Community Conditions**

### **Family Environments & Peer Influences**

#### **Being Addressed Well in Waterloo Region**

- education in the schools about the risks and consequences of involvement in street gangs, illegal activities and the drug subculture and where to get help and support
- need a more organized comprehensive evidence based approach to children's services
- solicit funds from the provincial or federal government for programs like inREACH (gang prevention program) and other violence prevention programs
- explore ways to increase funding and collaboration to better support families and youth who are struggling
- open more referrals spots for children who have developmental or mental health concerns (so there is not such a long wait list)

#### **This Solution Will Not Help Solve the Problem**

- curfews for teenagers at 11:00 p.m.
- more programs to help parents improve their parenting skills
- more programs, supports and services for youth and families at risk
- more social support for all families through programs and opportunities to increase community connections and involvement

#### **I don't know**

- more accessible and affordable child care is needed
- need more supports and services for elders with dementia who become aggressive
- Work on ending the cycle of violence. Develop regional strategies.

### **Needs More Attention Table Priorities**

- more mentoring & positive youth models for youth (4.8)
- more opportunities and supports for at risk youth in recreation, education, employment and volunteering (4.7777)

- establish more programs that work on family intervention and conflict resolution within the home.(4.5555)
- improve early identification and early intervention for children and families who are struggling (4.5)
- more community services, support and access to education for new Canadians (3.2857)

## Neighbourhood Environments

### Being Addressed Well in Waterloo Region

- more community spaces (e.g. parks) in neighbourhoods
  - more informal and safe recreation spaces are needed in geographical islands where access to recreation and spaces is limited
  - better integrate social housing within mixed income areas (less segregation)
- New Card: Street scaping downtown Kitchener in response to community feelings of safety

### This Solution Will Not Help Solve the Problem

- look at the impacts of gentrification that push people out of our core areas so they can't be seen
- improve the downtown(s) - make it a fun strip where people can occupy their time

### Needs More Attention

- develop a plan for expansion of the Better Beginnings model in other neighbourhoods
  - strengthen and expand neighbourhood associations
  - provide supports and resources in all neighbourhoods; develop family-friendly events and activities, or actively promote those that already exist
  - establish Community Centers in all neighbourhoods or in all low income neighbourhoods ensuring quality of space, programming and community outreach for each demographic
- New Card: Utilize community space – schools vacant space

### Needs More Attention Table Priorities

- create gathering places and positive welcoming environments for youth to increase their social connections & opportunities (4.2)
  - work on developing healthy interactive affordable neighbourhoods – that facilitates walking, supports transit, has opportunities for social interaction and support [& resources] (3.875)
  - planning policies [by-laws] that provide for diversity of [business activity &] housing types, and increases pedestrian movements and interaction of neighbours (2.875)
- New Card: Engage community residents & recognize their strengths and resources (2.875)
- New Card: Gathering spaces for residence to come together to socialize and recreation (2.7142)

## Social Exclusion & Lack of Opportunities

### Being Addressed Well in Waterloo Region

New Card: Co-ordination & interconnection of community agencies in addressing neighbourhood issues is a strength of this region

### Needs More Attention

- train and support allies of the rainbow community (LGBTQ) to support social inclusion
- better security of funding of programs for people who are marginalized
- more recreational opportunities for newcomers
- provide supports and resources in all neighbourhoods; more family-friendly events and activities, or actively promote those that already exist

- research the areas where social development and inclusion are lacking and discover needs and interests of this population and then build programs/initiatives to address these
  - open school gymnasiums for sports at night in rural areas where kids have nothing to do
  - examine if there is equity in services and opportunities provided for youth in rural areas
  - create intergenerational activities for the elderly and youth
  - more preventive programs like peaceful conflict resolution
  - better access and navigation to supports and services for newcomers and immigrants
  - mentoring programs in at-risk neighbourhoods
  - have a database or website that lists all of the programs, activities, events, etc. that are available to youth in the Waterloo Region.
  - more focus on engaging at risk youth and providing programs, activities and assistance with challenges
- New Card: Support for academic work, tutoring (especially for ESL families). Problem cases are caught way too late. Very laid back attitude for academic achievement
- New Card: More support, resources & treatment for individuals experiencing mental health challenges
- New Card: Limit freedom for young kids
- New Card: Access what the marginalized individuals would need in terms of helping to ensure everyone is included. Answer the question: What superficially can Waterloo Region do to address the root cause of marginalized groups feeling excluded?
- New Card: School drop out rates are clearly tied to socio-economic class. Educationally disadvantaged groups are predominately engaged in crime in becoming victims of crime. Aspects of youth crime are clearly connected to school success customs. Like students are excluded from employment.

### **Needs More Attention Table Priorities**

New Card: Our two regional schoolboards provide additional mental health resources to address at risk youth. At risk youth are often identified, however, resources may not be available to provide early and consistent treatment options (4.4)

New Card: A bigger focus on belonging. It's not only about creating programs and services since people may not get involved in anything if they don't believe they belong (4.25)

- get feedback from youth on what they believe would work the best to increase their sense of community belonging (4)
- community engagement and development of community leadership in neighbourhoods to build assets & partnerships in order to create local opportunities and find solutions [plus introducing mentoring programs in at-risk neighbourhoods](4)
- provide more recreation, art, music and skill building programs for young people that are affordable, accessible or free (in and out of school)[need to consider needs of 'at risk' youth/youth experiencing challenges](3.9)
- continued work in low-income[especially new comers] neighbourhoods to assist families to build capacity and to provide enriched experiences for children and youth. (3.8571)
- work on creating connection and belonging for all vulnerable populations (3.8181)

New Card: Provide more jobs (3.7)

## **Stigma/Discrimination**

### **Being Addressed Well in Waterloo Region**

- create a strong ally network
- training on social diversity issues for teachers, government, service providers, police, private sector
- need allies like WRCP to support and provide leadership in supporting and addressing concerns of marginalized groups
- education / awareness raising among authorities, public, businesses about mental health

- include people from the LGBTQ community in the design and delivery of programs and policies
- New Card: Need to address stigma & discrimination within schools

### **This Solution Will Not Help Solve the Problem**

- train police officers, students, teachers etc. in mental health literacy
- increase awareness around discriminatory and racist behaviour
- work with police and service providers to build trust and address barriers experienced by the LGBTQ community
- Crime Prevention Council and other agencies develop position papers on stigma and discrimination
- institute a hate crime reporting hotline through the police or a social service agency
- address the lack of adequate services for the transgender population

### **Needs More Attention Table Priorities**

New Card: Find ways to develop empathy & walk in another's reality → schools, workplaces, government (if we were all blind...) Important to have experiential learning to experience others reality, personal accountability (4)

- need public awareness campaigns to address stigma and discrimination faced by groups in the community i.e. LGBTQ populations, homeless individuals and those facing mental health issues [& disabilities] (3.4)
- more spaces in the community where people facing stigmatization or who are excluded can go and be accepted and welcomed (3.4)
- ~~need to address stigma & discrimination within schools and~~ provide more support for aboriginal, newcomer/immigrant, LGBTQ populations (3.4)
- awareness and education needed within culturally diverse communities to promote acceptance of LGBTQ identities (3)
- more educational efforts emphasizing Canada's historical and ongoing colonial practices toward Indigenous Peoples (2.6)
- make social inclusion and a diverse community fabric a priority (2.6)
- assessment or evaluation of ~~policy and~~ practices of workplaces re inclusivity, including police and agencies (2.2)

## **Interpersonal Violence**

### **Being Addressed Well in Waterloo Region**

- increased lighting & security to prevent interpersonal violence
- municipal governments should demonstrate their commitment to issues of gendered violence with funding and with visible demonstrations of support [housing social services]
- seek to better understand the psychological or other conditions that lead to violent crimes and then looking at addressing these at the grass roots level
- survivors of sexual violence need more counselling than what is typically available
- ensure victims of sexual violence have safe places to go

### **This Solution Will Not Help Solve the Problem**

- empowering women and teaching women how to react in potentially dangerous situations

### **Needs More Attention**

Group 1:

- do research on the legal system's response to sexual violence and advocate for changes that would encourage women to come forward and ensure it is safe to do so

## Group 2:

- increased public awareness of the issue of abuse in relationships
- focus on prevention through engaging men in the work of ending male violence against women
- more attention to the way we socialize boys and how masculinity is defined in society
- increased education for children regarding domestic violence
- abuse against men is especially ignored and needs to be addressed
- need education in schools about consent and appropriate sexual behaviour in relationships
- increase education in schools and the community about dating violence and early signs of bad relationships
- more educational efforts geared toward men and boys regarding healthy relationships
- more education for men to address patriarchy as a root cause

### **Needs More Attention Table Priorities**

New Card: [Group 1] Specific populations not coming forward on sexual & interpersonal violence, more research on why not, , need to know barriers in order to find solutions focus on: gender, cultural issues (2.5)

New Card: [Group 2] Educational/Awareness Campaigns, healthy relationships, power dynamics, why patriarchy is bad for men too, acknowledge and bringing attention to all interpersonal violence (children, men, women, trans) (4)

## **Resources and Services**

### **Mental Health**

#### **Being Addressed Well in Waterloo Region**

- education / awareness raising among authorities, public, businesses about mental health
- facilitating dialogue and create programs and social services that can attack the root causes of poverty and mental illness
- Continue work on pairing psychiatric nurses with police in mental health related police calls.
- efforts to reduce stigma associated with mental illness
- train police officers, students, teachers and others in mental health literacy
- more supportive housing for individuals with mental health issues [Waterloo Region homes for mental health(adult)]
- provide mental health support for those with mental illness rather than imprison them

#### **Needs More Attention**

- increased access to services and professionals (eg. reduced waitlist times) [info process trust/relationships, reimagine access]
- extra supports in the schools for youth mental health
- eliminate costs of testing (in and out of schools)
- work with youth in shelters to assist them to find housing, medical care and help them to feel involved in the community
- we should offer trauma and attachment services for parents and their children
- More outreach workers, or more effective focusing of the outreach resources available. [timing of availability, delivery model of outreach]
- address unresolved trauma: educational forums, peer led groups, community events, support services

New Card: Access to psychiatry services for newcomers

### **Needs More Attention Table Priorities**

- increase awareness of mental health programs and resources available (4.3)
- more programs, services and funding for mental health(4.3)
- better collaboration and integration across services and systems working with this population (4.1)
- more affordable and more subsidized housing options available (3.5)

## **Education & Training**

### **Being Addressed Well in Waterloo Region**

- return School Resource Officer levels to earlier point by increasing elementary SRO's
- support schools in helping kids be successful and connected at schools - mentors, activity-based, community-linked groups, etc.
- need more presentations/campaigns/sharing personal stories in schools to address bullying
- more alternative programs to finish high school in order to increase high school completion
- guidance departments in high schools need to do more outreach to students so they learn about careers and post-secondary education and assistance available

### **This Solution Will Not Help Solve the Problem**

- more educational opportunities available and accessible for youth and adults

### **Needs More Attention**

- increase high school graduation rates
- more job training and job assistance for young adults / youth in particular
- invest in prevention and support early-years education to ensure a good start (child-care, pre-school programming, not hungry at school)

New Card: transition from high school to post secondary (preparation)

New Card: Find a balance between secure schools and open access

### **Needs More Attention Table Priorities**

- need education in schools around conflict resolution, parenting skills, and coping skills (4.5454)
- more outreach to disengaged students to finish school and with young adults to connect to training opportunities (4.1111)
- provide broad supports through schools; (School Resource Officers, early identification, programs during and after school) (4.0833)
- early identification and intervention with struggling children and families identified through the school (4)
- provide better supports to children of different cultural backgrounds (3.7777)
- more job training opportunities; more apprenticeships and more awareness of these (3.1)
- more affordable post-secondary education (lower fees, more financial support) (3)
- literacy programs like Strong Start in all schools, and all places that serve at risk youth (2.6666)

## **Substance Use & Addictions**

### **Being Addressed Well in Waterloo Region**

- police focus on hard drugs not marijuana
- shift police focus away from arrests and towards referral to community programs
- alternatives to prescription pain relief

### **This Solution Will Not Help Solve the Problem**

- more funding for innovative methods of drug rehabilitation such as safe injection sites [makes no sense not same thing]

### **Needs More Attention**

- more employment and educational opportunities for youth at risk; use of community workers who will both connect and carry through with at-risk persons
- promote non-alcoholic forms of entertainment for all ages
- more outreach and social workers in high schools to address more issues than attendance
- more programs & support services for substance misuse
- more resources & focus on harm reduction methods (e.g. needle exchanges)
- more addiction specialized family doctors
- need more rehab and withdrawal programs
- more substance misuse supports in shelters and supportive housing
- legalize / decriminalize some drugs

### **Needs More Attention Table Priorities**

- public education and awareness, especially for students, about substance misuse (4.3333)
- New Card: Changes to criteria for program admission for: (lower threshold access) treatment programs, withdrawal management, community based treatment, detox, creative approaches, (3.5714)
- prevention of substance misuse through neighbourhood initiatives and involvement in community activities and programs (3.5555)
  - Integrated Drug Strategy [Combined with Card] more coordinated services, strategies and partnerships to reduce substance misuse (eg schools and police) (3.5555)
  - better funding, access and awareness of services for substance misuse (3.5)
  - more inclusive, respectful, trauma-specific supports and services (3.2222)
- New Card: Multi-year senior level funding for services to prevent, reduce, eliminate problematic substance use, (3)

## **Criminal Justice System**

### **Being Addressed Well in Waterloo Region**

- more rehabilitation and retraining for individuals leaving custody (retraining, employment placements) to prevent recidivism
- more officers based in high risk communities. Prioritize which crimes cause a greater threat to society and dedicate more or less officers based on the priority of each crime
- shift Police focus away from arrests and towards referral to community programs (for addictions and mental health)
- more ongoing training of Police officers to deal with mental health issues and addictions (sensitivity, strategies for de-escalation, etc.)
- more police involvement in schools and more Police School Resource Officers in schools (including elementary schools)
- more focus on the gang prevention squad and undercover investigations
- more interaction between law enforcement and youth all through school so youth see officers as someone they can talk to rather than an authority to watch out for

### **This Solution Will Not Help Solve the Problem**

- focus on catching the worst of the drug dealers and get them off the streets
- stiffer penalties and sentences for everyone who breaks the law, especially for drug dealers
- we need more Police and for Police to make more arrests

### **Needs More Attention**

- address the barriers due to stigma that prevent marginalized populations from reporting crime
- more Police training in dealing with diverse populations and work on developing trust with those communities
- more counselling for offenders needed and more intensive services and greater access to services
- more late night patrols and more foot/bike patrols of the cities, not just the downtown areas
- education campaigns on how criminals are targeting seniors and raise awareness of how to avoid being scammed or victimized

New Card: Educational awareness of CJ partners in community

New Card: Team response to calls

### **Needs More Attention Table Priorities**

- Police-community partnerships that include collaborative planning (4)
- reduce the criminalization of mental health and more referral to programs (3.8888)
- increase public awareness and involvement in preventing and reporting crime (eg. crime stoppers) (3.75)

New Card: In-reach to engage marginalized people (youth, mental health, aboriginal, LGBTQ, immigrants) (3.5)

New Card: Community discussion./decision on social & criminal justice definition (safety & well being for all) (2.8)

Rank	Solution	Theme	Score
1	Bring 'The Roots of Youth Violence' off the shelf and implemented!	Poverty/ Income Inequality	4.9
2	More supportive housing with case management built in [Combined with Card] group home style housing with supports for education, employment {Combined with Card} Accessible housing options (barrier free & supports) [Combined with Card] More supportive housing options for victims of domestic violence	Housing	4.8
3	Supportive housing for people being released from incarceration	Housing	4.8
3	More mentoring & positive youth models for youth	Family Environments & Peer Influences	4.8
5	More opportunities and supports for at risk youth in recreation, education, employment and volunteering	Family Environments & Peer Influences	4.8
6	Need more affordable housing available [Combined with Card] need more subsidized housing	Housing	4.8
7	Reduce income inequality (examples: tie minimum wage raises to inflation, higher corporate taxes)[by lobbying for a working plan from all levels of government to reduce poverty]	Poverty/ Income Inequality	4.7
8	Reduce the impacts of poverty on everyone, particularly [e.g] on early childhood development through daycare, literacy, parenting groups, etc. [more opportunities for less advantaged young people to network, be creative, start businesses; and provide more resources and support to parents and increase awareness of services and restore inREACH!]	Poverty/ Income Inequality	4.7
9	Establish more programs that work on family intervention and conflict resolution within the home.	Family Environments & Peer Influences	4.6
10	Need education in schools around conflict resolution, parenting skills, and coping skills	Education & Training	4.5
11	Breaking the cycles of poverty, violence and trauma – seek to learn from people with low incomes about what would support their well-being and sense of belonging	Poverty/ Income Inequality	4.5

Rank	Solution	Theme	Score
12	Improve early identification and early intervention for children and families who are struggling	Family Environments & Peer Influences	4.5
13	Our two regional schoolboards provide additional mental health resources to address at risk youth. At risk youth are often identified, however, resources may not be available to provide early and consistent treatment options	Social Exclusion & Lack of Opportunities	4.4
14	Address the changes in the nature of employment (more precarious, low wage, part-time, contract etc.)	Employment	4.3
15	Public education and awareness, especially for students, about substance misuse	Substance Use & Addictions	4.3
16	Increase awareness of mental health programs and resources available	Mental Health	4.3
17	More programs, services and funding for mental health	Mental Health	4.3
18	More programs for young people providing education and employment supports [for example more focus on skilled trades and other secure opportunities]	Poverty/ Income Inequality	4.3
19	A bigger focus on belonging. It's not only about creating programs and services since people may not get involved in anything if they don't believe they belong	Social Exclusion & Lack of Opportunities	4.3
20	Create gathering places and positive welcoming environments for youth to increase their social connections & opportunities	Neighbourhood Environments	4.2
21	More outreach to disengaged students to finish school and with young adults to connect to training opportunities	Education & Training	4.1
22	Address the systemic barriers to employment experienced by youth, immigrants, those with criminal record and others	Employment	4.1
23	Better collaboration and integration across services and systems working with this population	Mental Health	4.1
24	Provide broad supports through schools; (School Resource Officers, early identification, programs during and after school)	Education & Training	4.1
25	Police community partnerships that include collaborative planning	Criminal Justice System	4.0

Rank	Solution	Theme	Score
25	Educational/Awareness Campaigns, healthy relationships, power dynamics, why patriarchy is bad for men too, acknowledge and bringing attention to all interpersonal violence (children, men, women, trans)	Interpersonal Violence	4.0
25	Get feedback from youth on what they believe would work the best to increase their sense of community belonging	Social Exclusion & Lack of Opportunities	4.0
25	Community engagement and development of community leadership in neighbourhoods to build assets & partnerships in order to create local opportunities and find solutions [plus introducing mentoring programs in at-risk neighbourhoods]	Social Exclusion & Lack of Opportunities	4.0
25	Early identification and intervention with struggling children and families identified through the school	Education & Training	4.0
25	Find ways to develop empathy & walk in another's reality → schools, workplaces, government (if we were all blind...) Important to have experiential learning to experience others reality, personal accountability	Stigma/Discrimination	4.0
31	Provide more recreation, art, music and skill building programs for young people that are affordable, accessible or free (in and out of school)[need to consider needs of 'at risk' youth/youth experiencing challenges]	Social Exclusion & Lack of Opportunities	3.9
32	Reduce the criminalization of mental health and more referral to programs	Criminal Justice System	3.9
33	Work on developing healthy interactive affordable neighbourhoods – that facilitates walking, supports transit, has opportunities for social interaction and support [& resources]	Neighbourhood Environments	3.9
34	Continued work in low-income[especially new comers] neighbourhoods to assist families to build capacity and to provide enriched experiences for children and youth.	Social Exclusion & Lack of Opportunities	3.9
35	More employment initiatives for all youth & for at risk youth (job creation, training, apprenticeships, paid internships) [those new to Canada, those with limited experience/education, or those with a criminal background]	Employment	3.8
36	Work on creating connection and belonging for all vulnerable populations	Social Exclusion & Lack of Opportunities	3.8

Rank	Solution	Theme	Score
37	Provide better supports to children of different cultural backgrounds	Education & Training	3.8
38	Increase public awareness and involvement in preventing and reporting crime (eg. crime stoppers)	Criminal Justice System	3.8
39	Provide more jobs	Social Exclusion & Lack of Opportunities	3.7
40	Changes to criteria for program admission for: (lower threshold access) treatment programs, withdrawal management, community based treatment, detox, creative approaches,	Substance Use & Addictions	3.6
41	Prevention of substance misuse through neighbourhood initiatives and involvement in community activities and programs	Substance Use & Addictions	3.6
42	Integrated Drug Strategy [Combined with Card] more coordinated services, strategies and partnerships to reduce substance misuse (eg schools and police)	Substance Use & Addictions	3.6
43	More community awareness to debunk myths and remove stigma of homelessness [Combined with Card] Education public on importance (cost benefit) of housing	Housing	3.5
43	More affordable and more subsidized housing options available	Mental Health	3.5
43	In-reach to engage marginalized people (youth, mental health, aboriginal, LGBTQ, immigrants)	Criminal Justice System	3.5
43	Better funding, access and awareness of services for substance misuse	Substance Use & Addictions	3.5
47	Need public awareness campaigns to address stigma and discrimination faced by groups in the community i.e. LGBTQ populations, homeless individuals and those facing mental health issues [& disabilities]	Stigma/Discrimination	3.4
47	More spaces in the community where people facing stigmatization or who are excluded can go and be accepted and welcomed	Stigma/Discrimination	3.4
47	Provide more support for aboriginal, newcomer/immigrant, LGBTQ populations	Stigma/Discrimination	3.4
50	More community services, support and access to education for new Canadians	Family Environments & Peer Influences	3.3
51	Make landlords follow the rules better [Combined with Card] ensure that existing housing meets acceptable standards	Housing	3.3
52	More inclusive, respectful, trauma-specific supports and services	Substance Use & Addictions	3.2

Rank	Solution	Theme	Score
53	(more integration) Less concentration of certain population groups (seniors/students)	Housing	3.2
54	Educate the business world of the community value of hiring those who have been incarcerated	Employment	3.1
54	More job training opportunities; more apprenticeships and more awareness of these	Education & Training	3.1
56	Multi-year senior level funding for services to prevent, reduce, eliminate problematic substance use	Substance Use & Addictions	3.0
56	More affordable post-secondary education (lower fees, more financial support)	Education & Training	3.0
56	Awareness and education needed within culturally diverse communities to promote acceptance of LGBTQ identities	Stigma/Discrimination	3.0
59	Planning policies [by-laws] that provide for diversity of [business activity &] housing types, and increases pedestrian movements and interaction of neighbours	Neighbourhood Environments	2.9
59	Engage community residents & recognize their strengths and resources	Neighbourhood Environments	2.9
61	Address racism & discrimination within the work force	Employment	2.8
62	Community discussion./decision on social & criminal justice definition (safety & well being for all)	Criminal Justice System	2.8
63	Gathering spaces for residence to come together to socialize and recreation	Neighbourhood Environments	2.7
64	literacy programs like Strong Start in all schools, and all places that serve at risk youth	Education & Training	2.7
65	More [caring families providing) supportive housing for youth	Housing	2.6
66	Ask people what they want (person directed services)	Housing	2.6
67	More educational efforts emphasizing Canada's historical and ongoing colonial practices toward Indigenous Peoples	Stigma/Discrimination	2.6
67	Make social inclusion and a diverse community fabric a priority	Stigma/Discrimination	2.6
69	Specific populations not coming forward on sexual & interpersonal violence, more research on why not, , need to know barriers in order to find solutions focus on: gender, cultural issues	Interpersonal Violence	2.5
70	Assessment or evaluation of practices of workplaces re inclusivity, including police and agencies	Stigma/Discrimination	2.2

# Table Notes

## Table 1: Neighbourhood Environments

**Table facilitator:** Mark Pancer

**Note taker:** Debbie Engel

### Question 1:

- Are those true causes of root crime
- Striking that 80% of crime is related to substance
- Important interconnection of the root causes
- Commitment to collaboration
- Sure numbers of causes related to crime means no one strategy will work

**Question 3:** [no notes]

**Other Comments:** [no notes]

## Table 2: Family Environments & Peer Influences

**Table facilitator:** Chris Cowie

**Note taker:** [not included]

### Question 1:

- Work on ending the cycle of violence. Develop regional strategies – we need a shift in paradigm, more wholistic solution addressing roots of cycle
- More accessible / affordable child care – is it accessibility to service that is the issue? Cost makes it difficult to work, difficult to leave an abusive relationship
- More programs for youth/familist – need quality/shift
  - o How are the agencies we have addressing root causes?
  - o Need intercollaboration
  - o Quantity not helpful
- Zero in an children/youth/families
- Youth
  - o Mentoring & positive youth models for youth \*missing piece
  - o Recreation, education, employment, volunteering
- Families
  - o Family intervention & conflict resolution within home
  - o Several programs won't work. Need better collaboration on what we already have.

**Question 3:** [no notes]

**Other Comments:** [no notes]

## Table 3: Employment

**Table facilitator:** Andrew Jackson

**Note taker:** Brooklyn Westlake 519-501-1607

### Question 1:

- Harsher penalties but also better reintegration? (contradictory)
- Surprised people in the area didn't put poverty first, but others did (might not face it every day)
- A lot of root causes that cause poverty
- Poverty would involve massive changes
- Unemployment is a big thing
  - o Expectations are so different (people don't want to work as hard)
- "Idle hands get in trouble"
- Getting more educated with less experience

- Hard work is sometimes underappreciated
- Highschool and hard work don't get you as far anymore
  - o Sometimes people are stuck if they don't have access to post-secondary (creates a gap)

**Question 3:**

- Youth focused on heavily (yet we have an aging population)
- Anyone disadvantaged needs more help (not just youth)
- Need more focus on women
- Links to children committing crime because of parents working harder
- A lot of talk about barriers
- Need to help youth more with career planning
- Increasing minimum wage will not solve problems on its own

**Other Comments:**

- Transportation is something that needs to be looked at as a barrier to employment

**Table 4: ?**

**Table facilitator: ?**

**Note taker: ?**

**Question 1:**

- Missing info: issue of people with disabilities and victimization
  - o Developmental disabilities and victimization of people
  - o Perspective of E-A-F
- Nothing new in the data issues
- What's not working
- How do we sell this as (---?) [illegible]

**Question 3:**

- Supportive housing
  - o As participant, unsure about factual data on supportive housing, need, inventory
- Eliminate costs of testing
  - o Do need the assessment confirmation to provide service
  - o Cost ranges 2000-2500 per assessment
  - o Decisions about who gets a funded schools assessment and who does not
- Access to services
  - o (eg, reduced wait times)
  - o A lot of population at YMCA cross-cultural immigrants don't have access – PTSD – language barriers
  - o If professionals don't know, then how do
- Increased access – issue of trust
  - o Requires a lot of effort to get people to services, to access and use
  - o At times, family may fear entering the system and use resources (ie, concern re: child)
  - o Are we building a system that is trusted & engaging; how best to build trust in different contexts
- Access to psychiatry
  - o Need to get on the access to psychiatry for new [illegible] & people in community
- Additional supports & services (themes)
  - o Grouping a theme
    - Need more – more outreach on evenings & weekend for access when people need
    - How to increase accessibility of service in natural community settings
      - Tension to address how to ensure confidentiality / privacy to access

- [illegible] in support current helping professionals know about services and how to help people access

**Other Comments:** [no notes]

## **Table 5: Criminal Justice System**

**Table facilitator:** Nancy Kinsman

**Note taker:** Jonathan English

### **Question 1:**

- 80% of crime related to drugs
- Interrelationship (drugs & m/h)
- Consistency between three surveys (same across board)
- Tough on crime paradigm (surprising)
- Community partnerships well established (do more)
- Collaboration is key
- m/h awareness in community
- tough on crime does not eliminate poverty
- progress: community is still divided; dynamics of community
- desire and employment towards social perspective
- education (lack of)

### **Question 3:**

- social work & police work moving towards effective services provided
- social services work alongside of police, ie, who deals with crisis in the moment
- police spending much time on social services (polarized issue)
- real issue – perfect world – budgets, substances
- systemic response based on social determinants of health
- perception of police being CJS but it's more broad
- more focus on "Hollywood policing"
- WRPCPC – play role to identify agencies as more than partners, ie, CJS as a whole
- Exercise involved is flawed/incomplete or disconnect from general population, done bad job (not marketed well) with community seeing were already there

**Other Comments:** [no notes]

## **Table 6: Housing**

**Table facilitator:** Shayne Turner

**Note taker:** Melissa Bowman 519-584-7742

### **Question 1:**

- General population seems to equate crime with poverty
  - o But maybe unemployment is the more important issue
- How was the "general population" "created"; didn't seem very "grassroots"
- What about collecting info from those convicted of crimes? Some of that did happen in the consult groups though. Consult with those with lived experience
- But do different crimes have different root causes (ie drug crime versus theft versus domestic abuse)
- The interaction between root causes does seem especially important
- Seemed like the idea of restorative justice initiatives (and rehabilitation) were not highlighted
- Also lack of focus on mental health issues in the general population

**Question 3:** [no notes]

**Other Comments:** [no notes]

## Table 7: Poverty / income inequality

Table facilitator: Tracy Jasmins

Note taker: ?

### Question 1:

- Definition of crime is very wide
- Survey solicits anecdotal response to identify public perception of crime and prevention
- Root causes must be identified in order to effectively prevent crime. Punishment appears counter-productive
- Roots of youth violence (Alvin Curley & Roy McMurty) contained concrete proposals that have not been implemented

Question 3: [no notes]

Other Comments: [no notes]

## Table 8: Interpersonal Violence?

Table facilitator: ?

Note taker: ?

### Question 1:

- Surprised by how similar phone and consult survey were
- Paying attention to root causes can really change the system
- All 3 groups said substance abuse
- Discussion re: importance of good mental health, housing, and employment
- Need to look to the lead agencies and see what their priorities are

### Question 3:

- All went in the needs more attention except 2 in addressed well and one in don't know
- Well:
  - o Victims have safe places to go
  - o Lighting and security
  - o Victims need more counselling
  - o These areas though need more funding
  - o Psychological conditions
- Where can men go if they are victims?
- Social determinants are under funded
- Lights are not a solution to the problem – discussion re: vibrant communities
- Needs more attention:
  - o Education (general, children, adults, masculinity, socialization of men) and public awareness
- These things are acknowledged and starting to bring it in earlier and earlier; so starting to be done well but not quite there yet
- Priority:
  - o General public awareness campaign that education about interpersonal relations is a root causes
    - Support it, advocate for it
    - Include male abuse ignored
  - o The way the system is set up (legal system) = unreporting
    - Det. Areas for improvement
    - Education and judiciary
    - Not just legal system but how to get women to report, what are the barriers?
    - Honor killings, etc., not getting enough attention
    - Funding support and demonstrators at what?

- Research on barriers to reporting abuse / violence with focus on general and cultural barriers

**Other Comments:** [no notes]

## **Table 9: Stigma/Discrimination**

**Table facilitator:** Juanita Metzger

**Note taker:** Derek Haime 519-575-5659

**Question 1:**

- Reaction: 80% of crime are addictions related
- Root cause comes before addictions
- Beyond root causes – what are the causes of the root causes – ask 5 Whys
- To say poverty is a root cause is stigmatizing
- Literature points to predictive factors rather than root causes
- Interrelation – complex issues
- Root causes of poverty – 5 whys

**Question 3:**

- Practices and behaviour comes before knowledge, then attitudes fall into line
- Include and name all marginalized groups
- Combat relativism – what are our absolute, bedrock truths that transcend context

**Other Comments:** [no notes]

## **Table 10: Substance Use and Addictions**

**Table facilitator:** Michael Parkinson

**Note taker:** Denise Squire 519-664-3534 x225

**Question 1:**

- It gets me when the general public response suggest harsher penalties; there is a lack of knowledge (this fueling Harper’s campaign)
- See with youth that they get charged several times and then end up in jail (illegible)
- We should work with youth, help them in proactive way; prevent the feeling that they have no other option than to engage in crime because they can’t have access to supports, resource
- Interesting that no emphasis on rehab – skill-building – etc; there was no “other side” to comments about harsher sentences
- Poverty not in top 3 in all group responses; what is the role of choice re: crime (ie, not all people living in poverty are involved in crime); were presentations/focus groups just done with professionals? (no – to mixed groups)
- People who are low income are “easier to catch” by criminal justice system
- Good response rates to the different survey methods
- Not surprised by any of the results
- I think general public believes that rehab is provided in jails and will help people – but that’s not the case
- Public believes that punishment / corrections is supposed to be harsh

**Question 3:** [no notes]

**Other Comments:** [no notes]

## **Table 11: Social Exclusion & Lack of Opportunities**

**Table facilitator:** Joe-Ann McComb

**Note taker:** [no name] 519-505-3257

**Question 1:**

- Concern: what was the data analysis process?

- Wasn't clear how results we saw came about
- Email should be analyzed differently from survey
- Survey looks reliable but unsure if so
- What are we not seeing?
- Surprised mental health wasn't mentioned more
- Our experience is that MH in youth not well serviced
- Influence of media not mentioned, video games, hate groups on the internet, violence in media
- Does this research need to be updated to reflect current media consumption?
- What about islamaphobia? Homophobia? Etc. are there influences here?
- Lack of education – teachers not able to address some key problems like poor parenting, ADHD, FASD & parents expect teachers to fix problems they can't.

**Question 3:**

- Many cards are saying the same or similar things
  - Accessibility & opportunity
- Some ideas talk about services that may be available to some but not others
- Need to define which excluded group we are talking about before advancing activity
- Poverty is an underlying factor
- Focus on rural youth
- Some freedom impacts parents' authority
  - Government policy may impact

**Other Comments:**

- Struggling with the link to crime in that some groups are excluded but not necessarily at risk of involvement in crime
- Perpetrators of crime & victims are sometimes distinct groups (eg, seniors are more likely to be victims than perpetrators)

## **Table 12: Education & Training**

**Table facilitator: Eleanor McGrath**

**Note taker: Yvonne Fernandes 226-750-3047**

**Question 1:**

- Not surprised that substance use was a cause for criminal activity
- Demographics – was this captured – who was included – some cases didn't capture demographics, ie, consult groups and email (online), phone survey was completely random
- Design of data gathering – need to define the groups that are asked and the way we captured the data
- Conversations may start on one issue and find we are soon speaking about 3 connected then 5 topics
- Young people connected power & control as causes of violence

**Question 3:**

- We are doing a lot within the region – but sometimes we don't get the input if this what is needed
- School resource officer – partner with WRP – officers have been building relationships – still exists at highschool but lost at elementary schools
- Complexity around programs – uncertainty about what needs to be addressed and what's happening
- Education that is affordable is very critical to success – huge issue needs to be addressed – OSAP assumes that your parents are willing to pay for your education
- Destigmatize the trades versus university – educators need to not message incorrectly about choices

- Pathways to Education is helping with mentorships – STEPS program pulling students back into the systems
- Sometimes what schools do well are undone once students leave school site ie, cyberbullying / discrimination in community
- Students going to university / college at 17 too young
- Big gap between caring teachers & transitioning to university/college where you are just a number
- We may not have made the public aware about what school system is really doing
- Safe care inclusive schools – both boards working on making schools identifying concerns – develop focus on whole school community, approach – all stakeholders
- We don't all start off at the same starting line
- Need to be open to change how we educate

**Other Comments:** [no notes]

### **Overall Comments (large group)**

- Increase in victimization for people with disabilities (especially sexual assault, etc)
  - o Was this captured in the data?
- Region is doing a lot but more can be done – always
- Complex issues, multiple concurrent issues

# Icebreaker FlipChart Comments: When I say “Crime Prevention,” you say...

## Table 1

1. Neighbourhood resources
2. Intervention
3. Education
4. Prenatal
5. Awareness
6. Mobilization
7. Activities for youth
8. Integration programs
9. Community support
10. Physical environments
11. Role models
12. Drug rehabilitation
13. Employment assistance
14. Proactive approach
15. Drug & rehab programs

## Table 2

1. Poverty reduction
2. Better
3. Well-being
4. Collaboration
5. Unique
6. Equity
7. Christiane
8. Community
9. Justice
10. Education
11. Child welfare
12. Research
13. Potlucks
14. Safety
15. Health

## Table 3

1. Education
2. Police
3. Community
4. Family
5. Leadership
6. Involvement
7. Opportunity
8. Support systems
9. \$

10. Needs
11. Affordable housing
12. Poverty help
13. Neighbourhoods
14. Networking
15. Environmental design
16. Mental health

#### **Table 4**

1. Safety
2. Healthy
3. Income =
4. Belonging
5. Community development
6. Justice (social)
7. Early intervention
8. Urban planning
9. Smart on crime
10. CPTED
11. Inclusion
12. Equity
13. Housing stability
14. Access to rec.
15. Food stability
16. Comm. Policing
17. Mobilization
18. Social capital
19. Volunteers
20. Harm red.
21. Int. drug strat.

#### **Table 5**

1. Proactive
2. Quality of life
3. Social determinants of health
4. Transformation
5. Community
6. Root causes
7. Social development
8. Housing
9. Poverty
10. Resources
11. Collaboration
12. Partnerships
13. Inclusion
14. Safety
15. Well-being
16. Shared responsibility
17. Grassroots

18. Impact awareness
19. Justice
20. Healing circles
21. Restorative justice
22. Engaging
23. Tolerance

## **Table 6**

1. Safety
2. Community
3. Options
4. Intervention
5. Well-being
6. Collaboration
7. Responsibility
8. Connections
9. Government
10. Health
11. Housing
12. Partnerships
13. Social policy
14. Funding
15. Public awareness
16. Education
17. Vision
18. Opportunity
19. Jobs

## **Table 7**

1. WRCPC
2. Say Hi
3. Safety
4. Policing
5. Smart On Crime
6. Root causes
7. Education
8. Neighbourhoods
9. Support groups
10. Community watch
11. Social services
12. Diversity
13. Recreation and cultural activities
14. Communication
15. Newspapers
16. Collaboration
17. Restorative justice
18. Trauma healing

## Table 8

1. Early intervention
2. Prevention
3. Root cause
4. Belonging
5. Connections
6. Family strength
7. Education
8. Community
9. Neighbourhoods
10. Inclusion
11. Collaboration
12. Support groups
13. Relationships
14. Det. Of health
15. Engagement
16. Investment
17. Mental health
18. Substance abuse
19. Housing
20. Safety
21. Harm reduction
22. [illegible] IDS?
23. Security
24. Poverty reduction
25. Equity
26. Diversity
27. Purpose

## Table 9

1. Safety
2. Community
3. Diversion
4. Alternatives
5. Specific
6. Freedom from fear
7. Engagement
8. Enforcement
9. Inclusion
10. Asset-based
11. Collaborative
12. Education
13. Youth
14. Early intervention
15. Root causes
16. Evidence-based
17. Public awareness
18. Breaking stereotypes
19. Open-minded

20. Rehabilitative
21. Restorative justice

## **Table 10**

1. Batman
2. Safety
3. Comfort
4. SDOH
5. Jane Jacobs
6. Understanding
7. Empathy
8. Inclusion
9. Helping
10. Health
11. Collaboration
12. Research
13. Root causes
14. Community
15. Relationships
16. Addressing the little things
17. Acceptance
18. Poverty
19. Knowledge
20. Security
21. Coming out of the cold
22. Outreach
23. Strategic
24. Evidence/science
25. WRCPC

## **Table 11**

1. Community
2. Crime stoppers
3. Jobs
4. Future
5. Safety
6. Risks
7. Social justice
8. Change
9. Social development
10. Community engagement
11. Belonging
12. Inclusion
13. Well-being
14. Respect for diversity
15. Root causes
16. Collaboration
17. Stakeholders
18. Education

19. Youth
20. Prevention
21. Nurture vs nature

## **Table 12**

1. Proactive
2. Addressing root causes
3. Education
4. Stopping recidivism
5. Community approach
6. Collective responsibility
7. Acceptance
8. Inclusion
9. Neighbourhoods