



# Town of Arnprior Community Safety & Well Being Plan

## Action Plan

### Introduction

The Town of Arnprior Community Safety and Well-Being Plan is our commitment to ensuring our community continues to be a great place to live, work and play. This plan will serve as a guide for the municipality and our partners as we work towards Council's vision 'to become a sustainable and welcoming community that respects its rich history while actively building a brighter future together.'

### Why develop a Community Safety and Well-Being Plan?

The Province of Ontario has legislated municipalities to have a Community Safety and Well-Being Plan under the Safer Ontario Act, 2018. We created this plan using the framework provided by the Ministry of the Solicitor General that outlined four areas of focus: social development, prevention, risk intervention, and incident response.



## **Alignment with The Town of Arnprior 2024-2027 Municipal Strategic Plan**

The Town of Arnprior 2024-2027 Strategic Plan outlines Strategic Priority Areas for the municipality, with Community Well-being & Culture being one of the 5 Key Priorities. The Plan supports the goal 'to create a supportive environment that encourages healthy lifestyles, stimulates cultural growth, and strengthens the social fabric of our town'. This plan is also aligned with our core values of *Inclusive* and *Respectful* which focus on community building, trust and collaboration.

## **Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Priorities**

The Joint Renfrew Area Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Advisory Committee has identified four priority, very high-risk, areas:

- Poverty
- Drug Addiction
- Access to Appropriate Housing
- Mental Health Challenges

These priorities were established after reviewing local data along with analyzing the results of the community survey and focused sessions held with organizations and agencies.

## **Action Plan**

### **A. Improve Service Navigation:**

- Support increase access to service navigation support for individuals and families including increased peer support, professional navigation services, and service mapping
- Support strengthening 211 service for Renfrew County to help people connect to community and social services in our community
- Establish a community awareness campaign on programs and services available

### **B. Expand Services and Supports:**

- Support and promote mental health initiatives
- Increase access to recreational and physical activity, both indoors and outdoors
- Encourage and support options and opportunities for transitional and supportive housing
- Support funding opportunities to increase and expand mental health and addiction services and supports

- Encourage the pursuit of the targets outlined in the County's 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan to increase accessible and affordable housing units

C. Break Down Barriers:

- Identify and work to reduce barriers to obtaining and maintaining housing and employment
- Update Housing Needs Assessment as required
- Continue to support safe and equitable housing, including programs to help with rental arrears, emergency home repair, renovation, and home ownership

D. Collaboration and Communication:

- Encourage continued collaboration between sectors and services to promote case management and improved system coordination
- Increase public awareness and education on mental health and well-being
- Enhance awareness of the housing situation in our community
- Continue to work with the Renfrew Detachment Police Services Board, Renfrew County Community Risk Watch (RCCRW) and the County of Renfrew Mesa Initiative on moving forward the initiatives of the Joint CSWB Plan Renfrew & Area

E. Advocacy:

- Advocate for stable, predictable funding for housing and homelessness prevention
- Engage upper levels of government for a broader discussion on Universal Basic Income
- Advocate for changes to the system that will help to break the cycle of poverty

### **Monitoring and Reporting**

We have identified a number of indicators that will be monitored regularly to assess the state of the priority areas. Additional areas may be added during the implementation of the Plan.

- Analysis of mental health calls handled by police and other agencies
- Number of applications on the Community Housing Wait List
- Review of opioid overdose data from Renfrew County District Health Unit

- Waitlists for services including mental health
- Progress on affordable housing targets in conjunction with the objectives of the County of Renfrew 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan

An annual update will be provided to Council on the progress of the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.

Attachments:

- **Attachment A** – Joint Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Renfrew & Area (available upon request)