

Queenston St., Compassionate Communities- Visioning Session

Friday April 7, 2017



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Focus Forward Question

How might we leverage Niagara's existing resources to create a healthier and safer neighbourhood for every community member?

Goal

Develop and implement a living in community model

Anticipated Outcomes

- Safer and inclusive community
- Sense of belonging and ownership
- Community engagement
- Economic prosperity
- Pride of place and property

Suggested Actions

- Identify a lead agency (use collective impact approach)
- Develop an implementation plan with short term and long term objectives/targets
- Draft a terms of reference for an initial planning group to initiate framework
- Host a model training session for interested stakeholders
- Contact Living in Community BC to guide us through the process (train the trainer)
- Identify champions from hard to reach communities (e.g. business, sex trade)
- Lead agency to review model and identify resources needed
- Community discussions with various stakeholders (separately to start until trust is earned)

Meeting Participants



Mayor Sendzik

Adrienne Jugley,
Niagara Region
Community Services

Coletta McGrath, Quest
Community Health
Centre

Elisabeth Zimmermann,
Krystal Snider, YWCA
Niagara Region

Erika Klassen, Stacey
Allegro, Westview
Centre for Women

Irene Loewen, Niagara
Region Public Health

Julie Rorison, Mayor's
Office

Kelly Falconer,
Canadian Mental
Health Association

Glen Walker, Sarah
Burtch, Positive Living
Niagara

Susan Venditti, Start Me
Up Niagara

Jason Lee, Vidal's Hair
Salon

Sandy Staniforth, NRPS



Sub goal #1

Build a development plan

Suggested Actions

- Set and adhere to timelines
- Do not delay improvements while waiting for plan (by-law infractions, etc.)
- Identify costs and funding opportunities
- Identify and engage stakeholders- outline vision
- Review best practices models for building inclusive neighbourhood's (e.g. Brooklyn Regent Park)
- Facilitate focus groups- identify community interests and identified models

Sub goal #2

Create and implement a stakeholder engagement plan

Suggested Actions

- Engage hi impact/hi control stakeholders
 - Developers, real estate sector
 - All levels of government
 - Politicians- key ministries, party leaders
 - Chambers of commerce, businesses (internal/external)
- Determine meeting structure and liaison
- Determine what is in it for participants, encourage engagement
- Develop engagement plan
- Create service map (business, recipients, visitors/customers, service users)
- Identify individuals and contact information
- Plan on how to meaningful engage
- Develop key messages
- Develop market plan
- Determine strengths and future direction



Work Teams

	Living in Niagara	Development Plan	Stakeholder Engagement
Initial meeting lead(s)	<i>Note: Adrienne Jugley, Niagara Region Community Services, Elizabeth Zimmerman, YWCA, and Julie Rorison, Mayor's Office to meet prior to first working group meeting</i>	Krystal (YWCA)	TBD
Team Members	Sarah- Positive Living Niagara	Positive Living Niagara	Quest
	Westview Centre for Women	Quest	CMHA
	Jason – business owner	CMHA	NRPS
	Quest	NRPS	
	CMHA		
	NRPS		

What problems will these actions solve?

- Safety for everyone (employees, customers, etc.)
- Damage to private property
- Needle use and disposal
- Drug trafficking
- Lack of economic activity (empty storefronts)
- Lack of services (e.g. banks, groceries, stores)

Record of all ideas brainstormed

- City:
 - Public realm
 - By-laws, property standards
 - Community development plan
 - Business incentives
- Enforce property standards
- The development of a concrete neighbourhood development plan that has included input from members of the committee- mapping it out
- Build a community centre (purpose build)
- Opportunities for community to meet and get to know each other
- Mixed use- focus not just on new buildings/hospital but on upgrades



- o Develop neighbourhood group
- o Funding
- o Identify who is missing, who needs to be here
- o Identify all resources available for community projects
- o Dedicated secure funding to facilitate development of plan \
- o Competing interests- identify interests
- o Definition of gentrification (Brooklyn Regent Park)
- o Explore models where gent. did not create exclusion
- o Engage all community members
- o Grocery store in the area
- o Using existing programs to reach out to community (e.g. drop-in women for women)
- o Create positive spaces for variety of needs and people
- o Identify strategies that increase safety for residents and business
- o Create a safe forum for businesses and sex trade workers to share concerns
- o Identify a strategy that balances accountability with support
- o Existing models-identify and explore
- o Key stakeholders and what they want
- o Build relationship with all community to move forward
- o Training on what inclusive means
- o Bring in developer
- o Upgrading housing inventory (a space for group)- upgrade commercial existing space
- o Develop a hub model of services in new development
- o Engage Brock School of Business Services
- o Mutual support Agent
- o Why engaging of investors
- o Assumptions/Givens
- o Relationship to larger economic plan (St. Catharines/Niagara)
- o Secure housing
- o Don't just push marginalized to another community/neighbourhood
- o Community Events, Quest BBQ
- o Social Determinants of Health- awareness
- o Meet the community- street party
- o 24/7 house for sex trade
- o Community Association
- o Innovative and unique neighbourhood