

North Simcoe Community Safety and Well-Being Plan 2025-2029





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Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge and support the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and Urban Indigenous communities, along with the organizations that work every day to enhance safety and well-being.

In recognition of the longstanding history of the land on which we live and where this Plan will be carried out, we offer this land acknowledgment

We acknowledge that the land on which our community safety and well-being planning will take place is the traditional land of the Anishinaabe People.

The Anishinaabe include the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi Nations, collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy. It should be noted that the Wendat and the Haudenosaunee Nations have also walked on this territory over time.

In times of great change, we recognize more than ever the importance of honouring Indigenous history and culture and are committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation, respect and good health with all First Nation, Métis and Inuit people and our community as a whole.

As part of our commitment to reconciliation, this Plan respects the right of Indigenous Peoples to self-determination and Indigenous-led planning.

We acknowledge the ongoing impacts of colonialism and the need to repair fractured relationships.

We are committed to working in partnership with Indigenous communities and to learning from the knowledge and skills they bring, as we work together to enhance safety and well-being for all.



A Shared Commitment

On behalf of the Councils of Midland, Penetanguishene, Tay, and Tiny, we, the Geographical Municipal Coordinating Committee (GMCC), are pleased to present the 2025–2028 North Simcoe Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Plan.

This Plan reflects the shared commitment of residents, service providers, community organizations, municipal partners, and the Southern Georgian Bay Ontario Provincial Police to building a safer, healthier, and more connected community.

North Simcoe has a long-standing tradition of collaboration, which was once again evident throughout the Plan refresh process. We sincerely thank all who contributed their time, insight, and expertise.

We also acknowledge the County of Simcoe for its leadership and coordination, the Southern Georgian Bay OPP for its ongoing support, and the CSWB Advisory Body for its valuable guidance.

With increasing pressures related to housing, mental health, and access to services, this Plan focuses on three key priorities where coordinated action can have the greatest impact. It strengthens our existing foundation while sharpening our focus on long-term, proactive solutions. We look forward to working with our partners and residents to bring this Plan to life.

The North Simcoe Geographical Municipal Coordinating Committee



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Introduction

Safety and well-being are built over time through strong relationships, access to services, and a shared commitment to community.

In Ontario, every municipality is required to develop, adopt, and implement a Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Plan under the [Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 \(Part XVI\)](#). These plans follow the [provincial CSWB framework](#) that focuses on four key areas: social development, prevention, risk intervention, and emergency response. The goal is to work together, across sectors, to address issues early and create stronger outcomes for everyone.

There are six Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Plans across Simcoe County, each tailored to local needs, yet they share common strategies and partners, reflecting the interconnected nature of our communities and the value of coordinated action.

This 2025-2029 CSWB Plan for North Simcoe reflects what we have learned since the release of our first Plan (2021-2025), through local data, community input, and close collaboration with our partners. While two key priorities remain consistent, this refreshed Plan introduces a new area of focus and sharpens our approach to the strategies that can create meaningful impact

We are taking a more connected approach, one that looks at how services and systems can work better together. By coordinating efforts across health, housing, policing, and social supports, we aim to make a meaningful difference in people's lives and strengthen our community.

Plan At a Glance

The 2025-2029 North Simcoe Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Plan outlines Midland, Penetanguishene, Tay and Tiny's shared priorities to support a safer, healthier community. Built on [what we have learned since 2021](#), this Plan reflects the [insights](#) from data and the voices of local residents, service providers, and community partners. It highlights where we can have the most impact by working together on the issues that matter most, based on our [understanding of our community](#).

Priorities:

**Housing and
Homelessness**

**Mental Health and
Addiction (MHA)**

**Access to Services
and Supports**

Strategies:

While there were various ideas on how to address different aspects of safety and well-being and [other important priorities](#), the Plan includes the following [five aligned strategies](#), informed by community insight, that will guide our next steps and collective efforts :



Safe and Supported: Strengthening Pathways Out of Homelessness

Improves safety and stability through better housing access, outreach, and referral supports.



Transitional-Aged Youth Services Network

Supports the coordination of youth mental health and addiction services across agencies as an initial area of focus.

Community Mobilization Pillar of the Local Drug Strategy

Brings partners together to strengthen a connected, compassionate, and coordinated response to substance use—one that reduces stigma, supports upstream solutions, and helps people access the right services at the right time.



County-Wide Phased Data Approach

Builds a practical, collaborative foundation for sharing data to guide decisions and measure the progress of CSWB activities.



OPP and /211 e-Referral Pathway

Connects individuals with non-emergency needs to community services through a direct referral from officers to 211.

This Plan Was Informed By

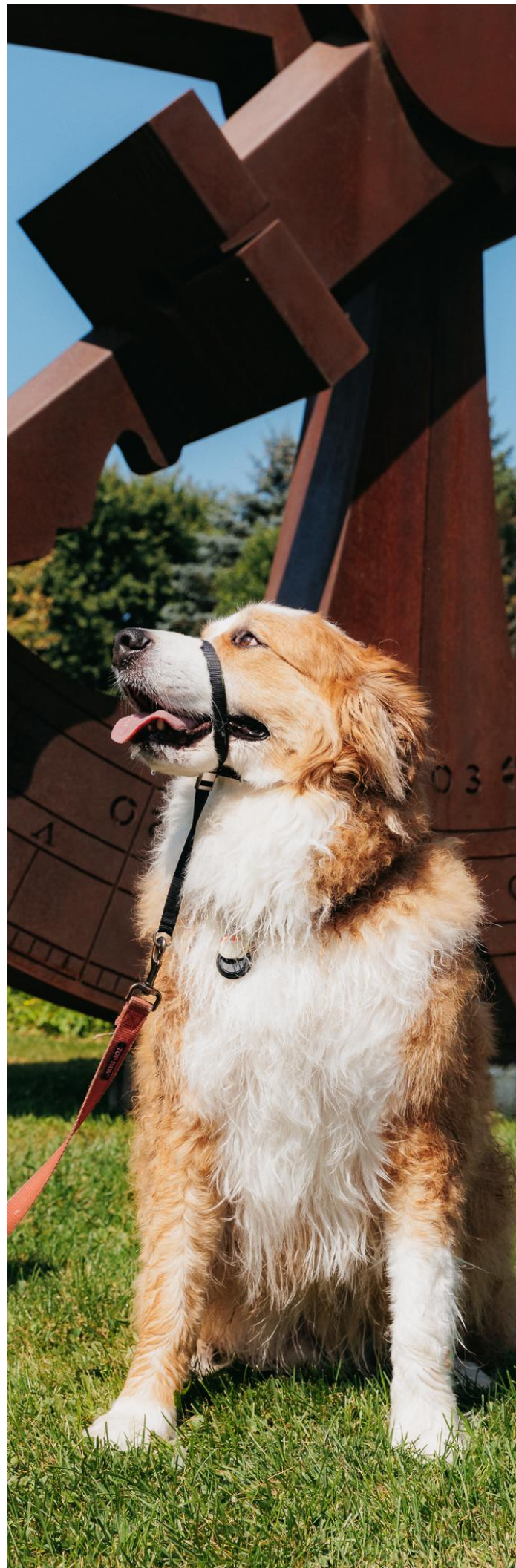
- An initial review of the original CSWB Plan
- An online Resident CSWB Survey (April – May 2025) – 148 responses
- A Local North Simcoe Provider Session (March 2025) – 19 providers participated
- A County-Wide Provider Session (March 2025) – 27 providers participated
- An online Provider Survey (March-April 2025) – 35 provider responses
- Data Analysis (available local data)

Actioning and Overseeing the Plan

Each strategy in this Plan has a lead agency and partners responsible for [moving the work forward and oversight](#). These groups will coordinate activities, track progress, and report regularly to the local Geographical Municipal Coordinating Committee (GMCC), which is a committee that serves as a collaborative forum for guiding, monitoring, and supporting the implementation of the Plan. Additionally, updates will be shared with the Advisory Body.

This Plan is designed to be useful and adaptable. As our communities grow and we learn what makes the biggest difference, we'll keep adjusting, always aiming to make North Simcoe safer, more supportive, and more connected for everyone.

A list of [helpful terms and acronyms](#) may be useful when reading this Plan.



Plan Update Approach



Momentum and Lessons Learned from the 2021-2025 North Simcoe CSWB Plan

Since launching our first CSWB Plan in 2021, we have made progress in several important areas.

Housing

Hope, Housing, and Health Symposium (2023 and 2024) is a community-focused event that is organized in collaboration with the Midland Public Library. It serves as a platform for residents and stakeholders to share ideas and information about housing and health.

32 Unit Transitional Housing (2023) located in Midland, operated by Shelter Now, was built to provide wraparound supports for families and individuals in Midland and area who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness.

Community Safety Teams (2023), originally piloted by the County of Simcoe and operated by One Community Solutions, provide outreach to individuals experiencing homelessness, facilitating access to shelters and support services.

Coordinated Access: Homelessness System (2022) was successfully implemented across Simcoe County, aligning with the federal mandate under Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy¹ to streamline and enhance access to housing and support services across the county.

10-Point Homelessness Prevention Strategy² (2022) was introduced by the County of Simcoe and includes considerable added investment, enhancements, and support for the unhoused population in our communities.

Mental Health and Addiction

North Simcoe Local Drug Strategy Table (2024)

The newly formed Local Drug Strategy Table brings together community partners to share information, build relationships, and coordinate evidence-based strategies across prevention, harm reduction, and treatment to address the impacts of drug use in North Simcoe.

Mobile Crisis Response Team (ongoing) –contributes to early intervention and crisis diversion by embedding a mental health professional with a sworn OPP officer, reducing emergency department visits and minimizing strain on frontline police resources.

¹ [Overview: Reaching Home](#)

² [10-Point Homelessness Prevention Strategy](#)



Building on Experience

As we refresh the CSWB Plan, we recognize the value of reflecting on what we have learned from the 2021-2025 CSWB Plan. Through collaboration, experience, and community engagement, we have gained important insights alongside a clearer understanding of the implementation challenges and limitations that can impact progress.

As we move forward with our refreshed Plan, we recognize:

- CSWB initiatives are most successful when a lead agency is identified, and roles are clearly defined
- Data sharing remains an ongoing challenge that needs to be addressed
- Lived and direct service provider experience brings valuable insight
- Inter-sectoral collaboration needs dedicated support and infrastructure
- Starting with clear, doable steps creates progress
- CSWB makes us rethink how we define success when it may not always be visible in the short term (e.g., prevented crises)
- Flexibility is essential for real-time learning and adjusting to emerging needs and opportunities
- The need for ongoing communication and consultation cannot be overstated



Understanding Our Community

The North Simcoe area, made up of the Towns of Midland and Penetanguishene and the Townships of Tay, and Tiny, is located along the southern shores of Georgian Bay. Together, they form a region of small towns and rural areas. Local characteristics influence how residents experience safety, health, and well-being.

The region is home to over 52,000 residents³, with notable populations of both Francophone and Indigenous Peoples. The area is also part of the traditional territory of the Anishinaabek People and is located near Beausoleil First Nation on Christian Island. The community also has a higher median age of 51.6 compared to the provincial average of 41.6 years old.

While the natural environment and tight-knit communities are assets, rural geography can make it harder for residents to access services, especially in Tay and Tiny, where public transportation is limited. Many services are centralized in Midland, requiring residents from surrounding communities to travel for healthcare, mental health supports, housing services, and more.

Additionally, housing affordability and homelessness are growing challenges. Seasonal pressures, rising rents, and limited emergency shelter options have contributed to more residents living in precarious housing or experiencing homelessness. The 2024 Simcoe County Homelessness Enumeration⁴ confirmed that Midland and Penetanguishene have some of the highest rates of homelessness in the county, with many people reporting barriers to finding and maintaining stable housing.

What sets North Simcoe apart is its strong network of partnerships, resilient community connections, and commitment to working together to meet local needs. Improving safety and well-being in the region means continuing to build strong partnerships across sectors, expanding outreach and mobile services, and ensuring that approaches are responsive to the diverse needs of residents, especially those facing systemic barriers.

³ [Simcoe County Census, 2021. County of Simcoe Data Portal](#)

⁴ A Point-in-Time (PiT) Count is a coordinated community effort to estimate the number of people experiencing homelessness in a community on a single night (the “enumeration”) and includes a survey that is administered directly to individuals experiencing homelessness.

Insights

This Plan is shaped by what we heard from the community and what the data tells us. Together, these insights help us understand local needs and focus our efforts where they are needed most.

Insights From Resident Survey Respondents

Most respondents rely on municipal websites, social media, and search engines to find local services, while fewer than 10% use 211, possibly due to lack of awareness of the service. Yet, 45% said they would not know where to go for help with housing or mental health and addiction (MHA) needs, pointing to a gap in accessible information.

While 60% feel somewhat to very safe in their community, visible homelessness impacts perceptions of safety. Residents identified more MHA services, access to shelter, and outreach teams in public spaces as key ways to improve this.

There were mixed views on whether youth have the MHA supports they need. Long wait times, stigma, and lack of awareness were seen as major barriers. A single point of access and more school-based programs were top suggestions to improve access for youth and families.

Respondents also emphasized the need for coordinated, person-centred services that address interconnected needs, including gender-based violence. The value of individualized outreach and support was also highlighted. Finally, 76% supported the idea of a hyperlocal, centralized service directory to make it easier to find and access supports.





Insights From Providers (one-to-one consultations, targeted engagement, survey, and live sessions)

Service providers emphasized the importance of creating a safer and more supportive downtown environment, where individuals feel welcomed and protected. They highlighted the need for lower-barrier access to services, more proactive and early interventions, and improved discharge pathways that help people transition smoothly from crisis to care. Providers expressed a shared goal of fostering an empathetic and unified community response, reducing stigma, and preventing drug-related deaths through timely, coordinated supports.

Trust in services was seen as essential, both in building relationships and in helping people accept support. Providers also pointed to the importance of identifying poverty-related risks earlier, ensuring that basic needs are met, and reducing vulnerabilities so individuals can focus on long-term well-being. A more integrated and collaborative approach among providers was seen as key to making progress on these outcomes.

To better support equity-deserving groups, providers said they need more access to training, culturally relevant resources, and better data on populations facing systemic barriers. Stronger collaboration across organizations could be supported by setting shared goals, improving communication, and finding better ways to connect and share data.



Key Data

Housing and Homelessness:

10% of the 607 people surveyed in the 2024 Point-in-Time (PiT) Count⁴ were from North Simcoe

As of May 15, 2025, 171 people are identified in the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS)⁵ as experiencing homelessness in the North Simcoe area. This number is subject to change as the HIFIS database is continuously updated with new and ongoing entries.

Mental Health and Addiction:

44.7% of elementary students reported feeling positive emotions like happiness and calm = down from 2019⁶ (Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board).

<50% of secondary students said they feel comfortable expressing their emotions at school⁷ (Simcoe County District School Board).

60% reported a 'significant change' in mental health concerns in people served (Provider Survey).

52% reported a 'significant change' related to substance use/addiction of their clients served⁸ (Provider Survey).

Simcoe County has higher rates of Emergency Department visits and hospitalizations for self-harm and death by suicide compared to the provincial average⁹.

Access:

40% increase in calls to 211 from 2019-2023

Top reasons for 211 calls: 1. Housing 2. Income 3. Mental Health/Health

⁵ HIFIS (Homeless Individuals and Families Information System) is a federally supported, real-time database used by service providers to track and coordinate homelessness-related data and services.

⁶ Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board, Elementary and Secondary School Climate Reports, 2024

⁷ Simcoe County District School Board's (SCDSB) School Climate Survey 2023-2024

⁸ CSWB Provider Survey, 2025

⁹ [Health Stats Dashboard, SMDHU 2020-2023](#)

Strategies

North Simcoe CSWB Plan 2025-2029



The principles of equity, diversity and inclusion will underpin our approach

Strengthening Pathways Out of Homelessness

Everyone deserves to feel safe in their community. For people experiencing homelessness, the lack of stable housing can lead to increased vulnerability and involvement in high-risk situations. At the same time, some residents who are not experiencing homelessness may feel unsafe, particularly in parks or downtown areas where visible homelessness is more common. This strategy focuses on improving safety for everyone by strengthening connections to housing, outreach, support services, and ways to mitigate safety-related concerns for all residents.



Social Development

Risk Intervention

Lead Agency

County of Simcoe

Partners:

Homeless System providers and appropriate Health System providers

Goal

Improve perceptions of safety of the community and safety related to critical incidents for those experiencing homelessness

Objective

Enhance coordinated access to housing and social supports to reduce housing-related safety incidents for those experiencing homelessness

Action

Strengthen referral pathways to prevention supports and reduction strategies for homelessness through:

- Centralized Outreach
- Shelter/Supportive Housing
- Case Conferencing / Navigation Tables

Exploratory Measures to Consider

- Perceptions of safety (housed and unhoused residents in the community)
- Safety related to critical incidents
- Housing-focused outcomes

Transitional-Aged Youth Services Network

Young people aged 12 to 25 (transitional-aged) face growing mental health and addiction challenges. Currently, services can be hard to access and are often disconnected, leaving youth and their families unsure where to turn for help. This strategy supports the current development of an Integrated Youth Services Network that brings agencies together to make services easier to access, more connected, and better tailored to the needs of youth.

Creating a single-entry point (the networked system of providers) and encouraging collaboration between service providers will help reduce gaps in support, respond to the needs of a growing and changing population, and ensure services are appropriate for each stage of youth development. When youth and their families get the right help, they feel better and do better.



Lead Agency

CFS Counselling and Well-Being through the work of the Integrated Youth Services Network

Partners: Youth Hubs, Justice, School Boards, Indigenous Services, Child Welfare, Ontario Health Teams (OHTs), Child Youth & Family Services Coalition of Simcoe County (CY&FSCSC), Youth

Goal

Improved mental health and well-being outcomes for youth aged 12-25

Objective

Enhance coordinated, accessible, and developmentally appropriate mental health and addiction (MHA) services for youth

Action

Support the development and expansion of the emerging Integrated Youth Services Network that will prioritize:

- Create a single access point into the system
- Expand collaborative and integrated programs
- Adapt services to population growth and diversity
- Identify service barriers and gaps

Exploratory Measures to Consider:

- Collaboration
- Service-related outcomes for youth
- Youth and caregiver satisfaction results

Community Mobilization Pillar of the Local Drug Strategy

This strategy is rooted in the understanding that substance use is a complex health and social issue that requires a compassionate, coordinated, and community-wide response. By working through the North Simcoe Local Drug Strategy Table, local partners can align efforts, reduce stigma, and strengthen the continuum of care and support for people who use drugs. A focus on collaboration with allied groups, upstream prevention, and stigma reduction helps ensure that responses are not only reactive but proactive, addressing root causes and supporting long-term well-being. This approach fosters a more connected and informed community where individuals are met with dignity, timely support, and pathways to recovery.



Lead Agency

The North Simcoe Local Drug Strategy Table (SMDHU)

Partners (may include, but are not limited to):

Police, Paramedics, Indigenous-led services, Mental Health, Addiction, Health, Libraries, Faith-based orgs, Housing/Homelessness, Municipalities, Employment, Education.

Goal

A more connected, compassionate, and coordinated community response to substance use, where people who use drugs are better supported through informed, collaborative, and stigma-free approaches.

Objective

The North Simcoe Local Drug Strategy Table will collaborate and coordinate actions that reduce stigma, enhance local support and services to meet the needs of the community, and drive upstream solutions to substance use and addiction.

Action

The Local Drug Strategy Table to explore and prioritize actions (where appropriate) that complement existing efforts, with a focus on:

- Explore collaboration with allied mental health and addiction groups/tables/collaboratives to address mental health and addiction navigation support needs for people seeking addiction supports and services
- Collaborating with partners and other tables to advance upstream, preventative approaches to drug use and addiction
- Develop and deliver community education and engagement campaigns focused on informed empathy

Exploratory Measures to Consider:

Collaboration and system coordination.

Community awareness and attitudes.

OPP / 211 e-Referral Pathway

Police are often the first point of contact for people facing challenges like homelessness, mental health issues, or financial hardship, but these situations do not always require a police response. This strategy helps bridge the gap by creating a simple referral process between the OPP and 211, a trusted service that connects people to local supports. When officers come across someone who needs help beyond what police can provide, they can send a quick e-referral to 211, ensuring that person gets a follow-up call and help navigating the system. It is a practical way to connect people to the right support at the right time, while making use of community resources and potentially reducing future calls to the police if the person is connected to the supports and services that they need.

Co-Leads

OPP

Community Connection/211

Goal

People who come into contact with police and need non-emergency support are connected to the right services, at the right time, through stronger partnerships and referral pathways.

Objective

Create a simple and effective e-referral process between police and 211 so that individuals with social or health needs can receive follow-up support and help navigating services.

Action

The Police will pilot a new referral process with Community Connection/211. When officers engage with someone who could benefit from community services, such as housing, mental health supports, income assistance, and other services, they will send an e-referral to 211.

Exploratory Measures to Consider

- Access and reach
- Needs and navigation
- Outcomes and system impact



Informing Action

Access to consistent, meaningful data was a key challenge during the first CSWB Plan. Many partners used different systems, tracked different indicators, and had limited capacity to share data, making it difficult to assess progress or respond to emerging issues.

This strategy takes a more practical and collaborative approach. By starting with an inventory of existing datasets and exploring shared indicators tied to plan priorities, the County can build a stronger foundation for future data work. This phased model emphasizes learning, trust-building, and achievable steps rather than overcommitting to complex systems too early.

Aligned with the provincial CSWB framework, this strategy supports collaboration, risk prevention, and information sharing by helping partners better understand what drives safety and well-being across communities. It also responds directly to lessons learned from the first plan: start small, focus on alignment, and use what is already available to guide smarter decisions moving forward.



Social Development

Prevention

Risk Intervention

Lead Agency

County of Simcoe

Partners:

Police Services, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, Community Connection, other relevant partners

Goal

To support municipalities and community partners in better understanding and responding to community safety and well-being issues through practical, collaborative data initiatives

Objective

Begin with achievable steps to map, access, and use shared data to support CSWB planning, decision-making, and ongoing learning

Action

The County of Simcoe will lead this work by:

- Hiring a summer student to map available datasets across CSWB-related organizations and assess potential for sharing
- Exploring key indicators with partners that align with the priorities in the Plan(s)
- Identifying current data gaps and exploring potential sources of supplementary data (e.g., Environics Analytics), recognizing any cost limitations
- Exploring safe and practical ways to share data in the future
- Using lessons learned from this phase to inform future data-related collaborations

Exploratory Measures to Consider

- Partner engagement
- Capacity-building and relationship development
- Innovation and learning

Coordinating Action and Measuring Progress

Governance and Advisory Support

The following three groups play key roles in the development, monitoring, and alignment of the CSWB Plan:

North Simcoe Geographical Municipal Coordinating Committee

(GMCC) – This group is responsible for oversight and governance of the CSWB Plan. The GMCC will provide oversight to create space for shared learning, reflection, and alignment across strategies, not day-to-day management.

CSWB Local Table – The Local Table serves as a subject matter advisory group that monitors progress on the CSWB Plan and provides input on the local application of both county-wide and locally developed strategies. A subset (executive group) from the local table will report back to the GMCC and to the Simcoe County CSWB Advisory Body.

Simcoe County CSWB Advisory Body (formerly referred to as the CSWB Steering Committee in the 2021-2025 Plan) - The Advisory Body, comprised of subject matter experts across areas of risk, plays a key role in matters of county-wide interest or application as well as aligning CSWB planning with broader system planning through joint strategic efforts that support the collective advancement of local and regional CSWB strategies.

Actioning the Strategies

Strategy Leads - Each strategy in this Plan will be led by a designated Lead Agency with partner support.

Implementation of the strategies will be phased to encourage collaboration, learning, and adaptation.

In the first year, each strategy lead will:

- Clarify roles
- Explore early measures of success
- Identify key performance indicators
- Set baselines and data-sharing methods
- Launch activities toward their goals

This approach follows the CSWB Framework's focus on proactive planning, shared accountability, and continuous improvement, using local data and lived experience to keep strategies flexible and responsive.



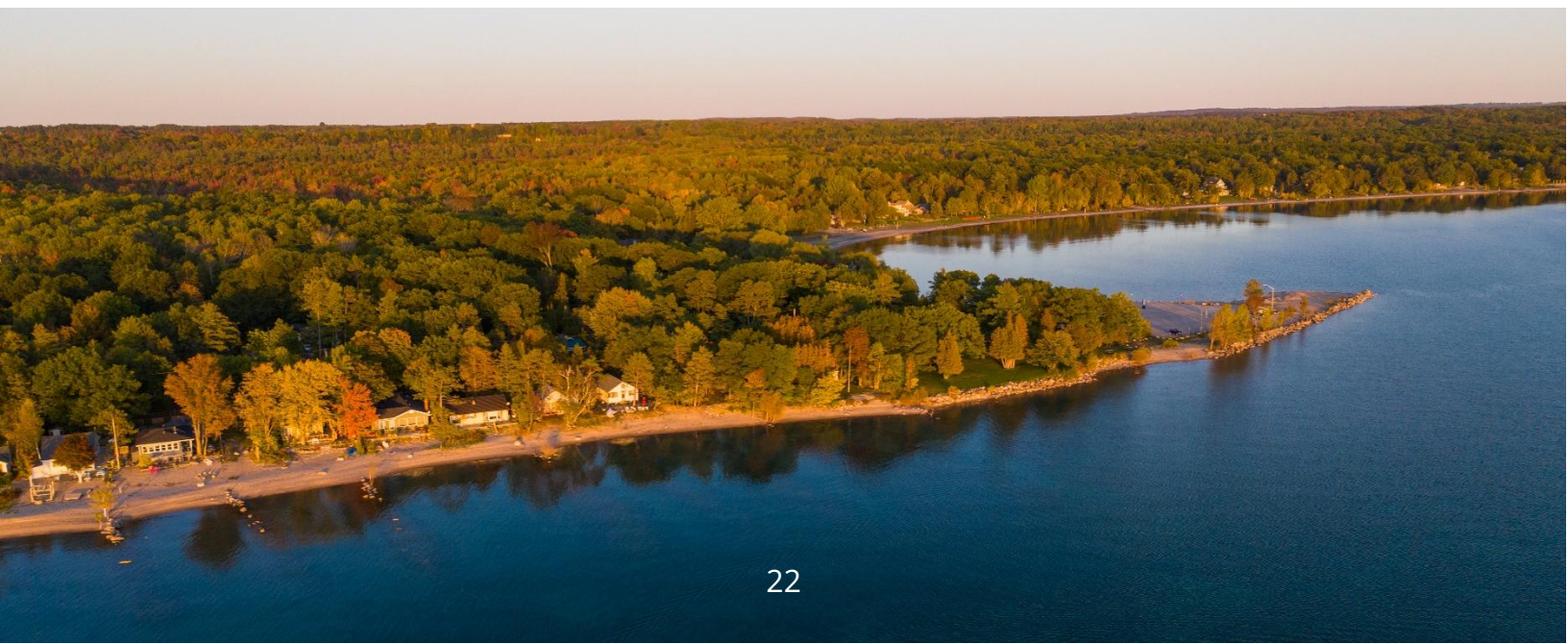
Other Important Priorities Beyond this Plan

During our engagement with community members and service providers, we heard many thoughtful and meaningful ideas. While not all are reflected in this version of the Plan, they remain important. Some are already underway, some need more time or resources, and some may inform future planning.

These priorities are included here, so they are not forgotten. They may guide future work, support others in shaping initiatives, or be part of a future Plan update.

- **Pathways to safety for victims of intimate partner and gender-based violence** – The absence of an articulated strategy in the refreshed Plan does not diminish the keen awareness that we need to work with community partners to improve access and outcomes for those at risk and victims.
- **Continuous engagement** – Recognizing that some voices and demographics may have been underrepresented in the initial engagement process, the implementation of this Plan will include a commitment to ongoing and responsive engagement, exploring methods beyond traditional approaches as needed to better reflect the diversity of perspectives in the community.
- **Access to healthcare** - Primary and specialist care, mental health supports, and timely services, remains an important priority. Health system partners continue to work toward improving access and equity across the region, and their efforts will be key to supporting overall community well-being.
- **Addressing poverty** – Finding ways to identify poverty-risk earlier, so that early interventions and assistance can be offered. Collaborative groups are working to address this.

As this work moves forward, the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion will remain essential to ensuring a wide range of voices and experiences are reflected.



Building On What Exists

The North Simcoe CSWB Plan was developed in the context of a wide range of ongoing work across the municipalities, Simcoe County, and the community. The strategies outlined here are intended to align with and support these broader efforts. Where possible, actions in this Plan build on work already underway or amplify it through collaboration.

Housing / Homelessness

Plan / Strategy Name	Lead	How it Aligns
Midland Official Plan	Town of Midland	The Town of Midland's Official Plan supports a range of housing options, including affordable and supportive housing, to meet the diverse needs of current and future residents.
Community Improvement Plan (CIP): Downtown CIP Affordable and Sustainable Housing CIP	Town of Penetanguishene	A tool used by municipalities to incentivize private and public sector investment within a prescribed area.
10-Year Affordable Housing and Homelessness Prevention Strategy And the 10-point homelessness prevention strategy	County of Simcoe	Outlines steps for the development and implementation of creative solutions for increasing affordable housing
Also Aligned: the work of the Simcoe Alliance To End Homelessness, Coordinated Access for Homelessness, the Municipal Liaison Group		

Mental Health and Addiction

Plan / Strategy Name	Lead	How it Aligns
SCDSB Mental Health Strategy and Action Plan	Simcoe County District School Board	Guides priorities for advancing school mental health
SMCDSB Mental Health and Well-Being Strategic Priorities and Action Plan	Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board	Guides priorities for advancing school mental health
Also Aligned: North Simcoe Local Drug Strategy Table, Simcoe Muskoka Drug Strategy (SMDS)		

Data

Plan / Strategy Name	Lead	How it Aligns
County of Simcoe Interactive Map (GIS)	County of Simcoe	Provides interactive maps and spatial data that help identify community needs, plan services, and support evidence-based decision-making for community safety and well-being
County Of Simcoe Data Portal	County of Simcoe	The online portal supports Simcoe County and its partners in identifying community needs through data
Health Stats Simcoe Muskoka	Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit	Provides information and data about the health status of Simcoe and Muskoka people and communities
Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) Diversity Hub Contact: sclip@simcoe.ca	Simcoe County Local Immigration Partnership	To connect stakeholders and provide local access to resources that support inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility for vulnerable populations in Simcoe County
Also Aligned: Simcoe County Data Consortium		

Appendix A: Organizations and Voices that Helped Inform the Plan

Barrie Area Native Advisory Circle /
Mamaway Wiidokdaadwin

Barrie Native Friendship Centre

Biminaawzogin Regional Aboriginal
Women's Circle (BRAWC)

Canadian Mental Health Association
(CMHA) Simcoe County

Catulpa Community Support Services

CFS Counselling + Well-Being

Chigamik Community Health Centre

Child Youth & Family Services Coalition of
Simcoe County

Community Connection

County of Simcoe – Health and
Emergency Services

County of Simcoe – Housing and
Community Social Services

Elizabeth Fry Society Simcoe Muskoka

Empower Simcoe

Family Connexions

Georgian Bay Native Women's
Association (GBNWA)

Huronia Transition Homes

John Howard Society of Simcoe &
Muskoka

Midland Public Library

New Path Youth and Family Services

North Simcoe Muskoka Specialized
Geriatric Services

North Simcoe Ontario Health Team

North Simcoe Residents (survey
respondents)

Ontario Provincial Police (Southern
Georgian Bay)

Salvation Army

Shelter Now

Simcoe County District School Board

Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School
Board

Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

The Gilbert Centre

The Guesthouse Shelter

Town of Midland

Town of Penetanguishene

Township of Tay

Township of Tiny

United Way Simcoe County

Waypoint Centre for Mental Health

Appendix B: Helpful Terms and Acronyms

Acronyms

- **CMHA** – Canadian Mental Health Association
- **CSWB** – Community Safety and Well-Being
- **GMCC** – Geographic Municipal Coordinating Committee (GMCC)
- **MHA** – Mental Health and Addiction
- **OHT** – Ontario Health Team
- **PiT Count** – Point in Time
- **SCATEH** – Simcoe County Alliance To End Homelessness
- **SMDHU** – Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Terms

- **Case Conferencing / Navigation Tables** – Regular meetings where service providers collaboratively coordinate care and support for individuals with complex needs.
- **Coordinated Access** – A streamlined process where individuals are matched to services through a shared intake and referral system across agencies.
- **Equity-Deserving Groups** – Communities who experience systemic barriers to access, opportunities, and resources, such as racialized people, Indigenous populations, 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, and others.
- **Integrated Youth Services Network** – A group of service providers working together to improve access, coordination, and quality of services for youth.
- **Navigation / Navigators** – People or services that help individuals understand and access the right support systems.
- **Outreach Services** – Services delivered directly to people in the community (rather than in a fixed location), often targeting individuals who face barriers to accessing traditional services.
- **Risk Intervention** – Targeted actions to support people facing escalating challenges before a crisis occurs.

Appendix C: CSWB Framework

The Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Framework is a way for communities across Ontario to work together to make life better and safer for everyone. It helps us look at the big picture, what people need to live well, and focus on preventing problems before they become emergencies.

The Province of Ontario created a model to guide how communities do this work. It resembles a bullseye with four layers, or “areas of focus.” Each layer shows a different way we can support people in our community, from long-term planning (green) to immediate help in a crisis (red).

The Four Areas of Focus

Social Development

Improving housing, education, mental health, and employment over time creates stronger communities and reduces future risks.

Prevention

Early action through programs and outreach helps address issues before they become serious.

Risk Intervention

Coordinated support is provided to individuals or families showing signs of serious challenges to prevent crises.

Incident Response

Emergency services address urgent situations, with a long-term goal of reducing the need for crisis intervention.

How We Work Together

Collaboration

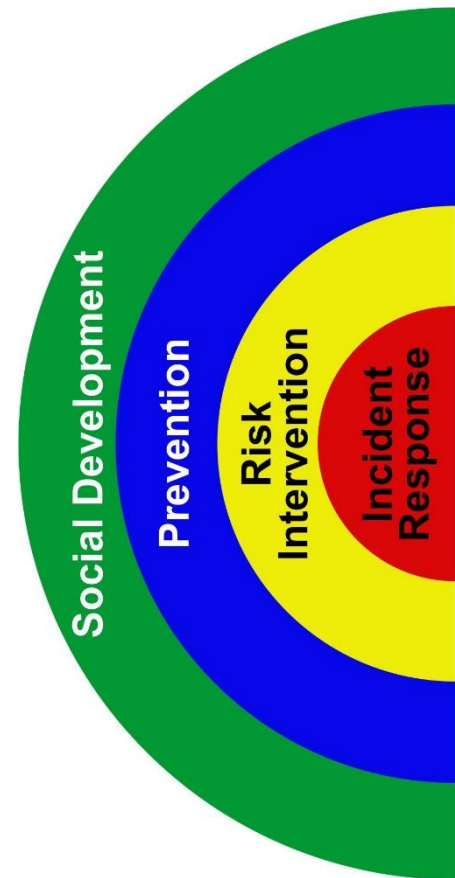
Bringing together partners from various sectors and services to work towards more effective and coordinated solutions.

Sharing

Sharing de-identified data helps partners understand emerging needs and risks, leading to better-informed and unified responses.

Measuring Progress

Tracking results shows what is working and where.





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