

**Local Framework for Poverty Elimination** 

Region of Waterloo 2014 Budget Hearing December 11th 2013









#### **Our Commitment**

- Engage our community at a grass roots level
  - Contribute to public education
- Advise and lobby at all orders of government
- Work to disseminate information to help people navigate support systems
- Monitor the implementation of the poverty reduction strategies and plans



#### Local Framework for Successful Poverty Reduction Outcomes



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Criteria 1: Adequate assistance levels to support well-being and health

Criteria 2: Support to all low-income people and for a range of needs

Criteria 3: People are treated with dignity and respect in service delivery

Criteria 4: Greater accessibility to and navigation of the system

Criteria 5: Adequate **Employment supports** 

Criteria 6: Fair labour market. practices and policies

Criteria 7: Integrated systems and appropriate investment by all orders of government

Assess policies and

plans addressing poverty

Share knowledge in the community to eliminate poverty



Criteria 8: Underlying assumptions and philosophy of system plans and reforms are not blaming or punitive

Criteria 9: There are accessible and meaningful ways to participate in the planning, decision making and assessment process

Measure the impact of plans and policies addressing poverty



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#### **Integrated Systems**

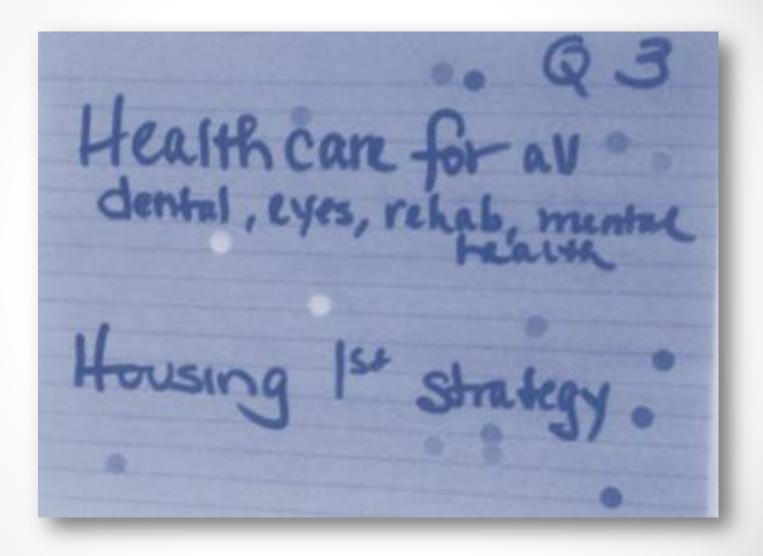


#### Region of Waterloo is doing a great job

- Providing the best possible service delivery
- Advocating before the Provincial Government
- Combining funding from different levels of government











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- Amounts for discretionary benefits must be increased or kept at last year's level





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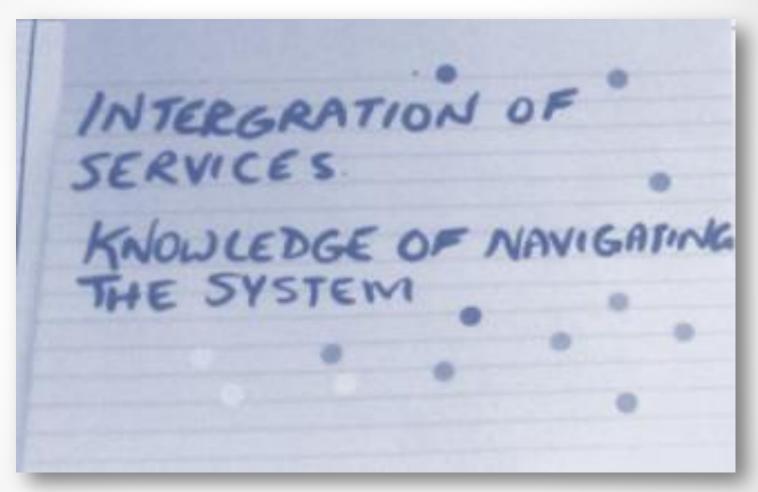
#### Current Social Assistance Rates are not adequate

- Amounts for discretionary benefits must be increased or kept at last year's level
  - Investment is needed in housing and homelessness-related programs
  - The list of funded discretionary benefits must be expanded



### 2. System Navigation







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#### **Current Service Eligibility is not Transparent**

Investment is needed for improving communication regarding eligibility criteria



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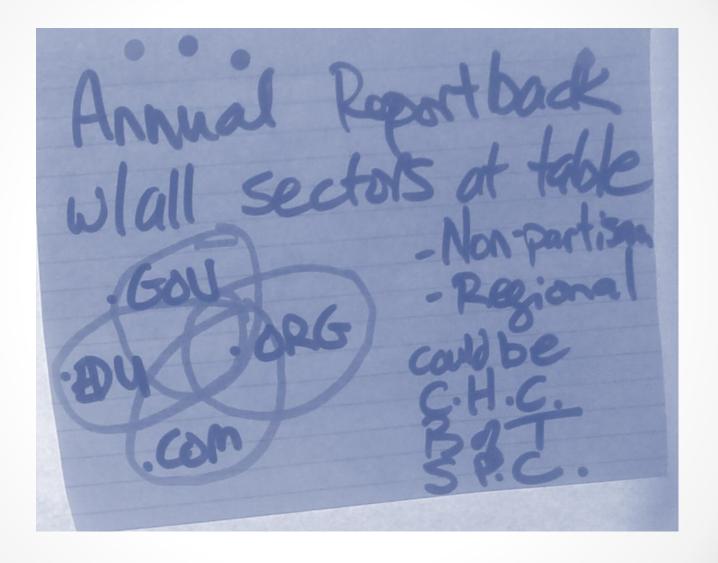
#### **Current Service Eligibility is not Transparent**

Investment is needed for improving communication regarding eligibility criteria

Funding is needed for community groups doing individual advocacy











#### **Current Information Gathering is not Adequate**

- Understanding the "need" in the community and the current "use" of services





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- Collecting information about approved and non approved requests for benefits





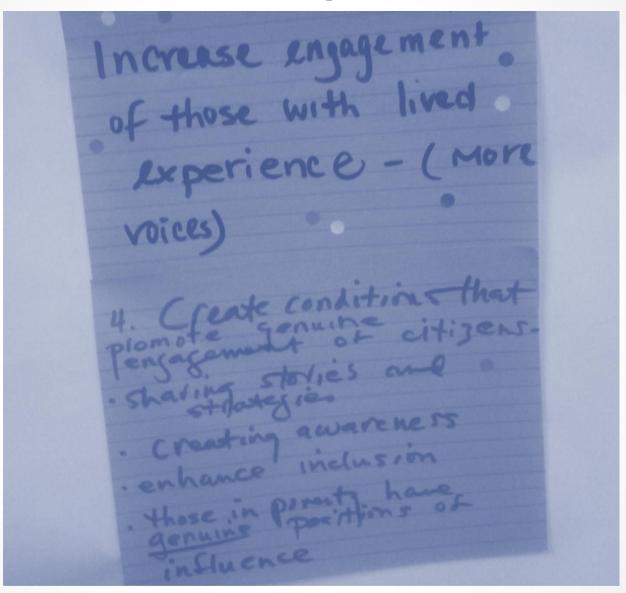
### **Current Information Gathering is not Adequate**

- Understanding "need" in the community and the current "use" of services
- Collecting information about approved and non approved requests for benefits
- Investing in a collective impact information sharing with community organizations



## 4. Accessible Budget Consultations





Region of Waterloo 2014 Budget Hearing December 11<sup>th</sup> 2013



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### Current Public Input Hearings are not Inclusive

 Being more intentional gathering feedback from community members and groups



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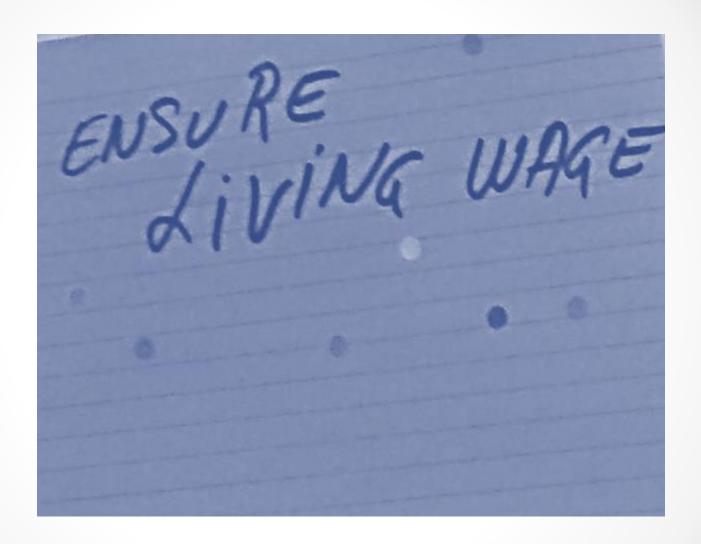
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- Being more intentional gathering feedback from community members and groups
- Providing more accessible materials to gather input



# 5. Employment Practices









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Employing people transitioning from social services



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# Eliminate Poverty

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ACT 1096

Poverty Free Kitchener-Waterloo

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