

**Reaching Home:**  
**Dufferin County Community Plan**  
**2024–2028**

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## Introduction

In completing this template, communities are encouraged to develop comprehensive Community Plans that reflect the contributions of all funding partners, including other orders of governments, not-for-profit organizations, and the for-profit sector. The Community Plan does not preclude adjustments in priorities throughout the funding cycle; communities are still expected and encouraged to regularly review priorities for investment with their Community Advisory Board(s), including sub-project approval.

To support communities in completing their Community Plan, a Reference Guide has been developed. It is strongly recommended that this be reviewed prior to completing this template to ensure understanding of the requirements.

Please note that in communities that receive funding from both the Designated Communities (DC) and Indigenous Homelessness (IH) streams, ongoing and meaningful cross-stream collaboration is expected to support the achievement of community-level outcomes reflecting the needs of the whole community.

The Community Plan for Reaching Home must be approved by the DC or TH Community Advisory Board (CAB) before it is submitted to Infrastructure Canada.

Additionally, if your community has an Indigenous Homelessness (IH) Community Advisory Board (I-CAB), they must affirm that they have been engaged on the Community Plan before it is submitted. If your community is developing a joint plan with the IH stream Community Entity, both CABs must approve the community plan prior to submission.

In addition to the core elements required in this template, communities are welcome to share any other information and/or documents that they feel might provide further insight into their local context as it relates to housing and/or homelessness context.

## 1. Community Engagement

*As part of the community planning exercise, you must engage with community partners with the goal of understanding the needs of the local homelessness sector and identify local homelessness priorities using a coordinated, systems-based and data-driven approach.*

*Please describe the steps taken to engage your community partners in developing this Community Plan to ensure a community-based approach. Your response must include:*

- *Which partners were engaged;*
- *When and how engagement occurred; and*
- *What aspects of the Community Plan were discussed, as well as what aspects of the Plan (i.e., decisions, outcomes, next steps) were influenced by these discussions.*

**Note:** *Meaningful collaboration with Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners and service providers, as well as the IH CE and I-CAB where applicable, is expected in the development of this Community Plan and must be explicitly referenced in this section. The Indigenous Partners in Your Community worksheet created for the Community Homelessness Report (CHR) may be helpful to complete this section. Please see [CHR: Reporting Tools e-course on the Homelessness Learning Hub](#).*

The County of Dufferin (Housing Services Division) engages in a Housing and Homelessness forum event every year. The County use this opportunity to collect data on their 10-year Housing and Homelessness plan from the community stakeholders who attend. The County of Dufferin is also the designated Service Manager (Ontario Housing Services Act) for Dufferin and as such, delivers and has oversight for housing and homelessness services with various community partners. The Community Advisory Board (CAB) and its sub committee, the Coordinated Access Table (CAT) also provide feedback to the CE regarding the need for homelessness services in the Dufferin community. The County of Dufferin is in the process of collecting data for their Housing Strategy.

County staff are also involved with various other tables and committees that deal with housing, homelessness and poverty, most prominently the Dufferin County Equity Collaborative (DCEC) where many CAB members are also in attendance.

The County of Dufferin engaged with both the CAT and the CAB to determine the projects for the 2024-2026 years and successful projects were voted on and approved by the CAB. All Reaching Home funded projects sit at both CAT and CAB and are instrumental in the development and approval of policies.

The CE and the CAB have reviewed and approved the Community Plan.

## 2. Investment Plan

2.1 In the table below, please identify your community's allocation of Reaching Home funding in the DC or TH and Community Capacity and Innovation (CCI) streams from 2024-25 to 2027-28<sup>1</sup>.

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Total
<b>Reaching Home Annual Allocation</b>	\$693,591	\$693,591	\$717,742	\$717,742	\$2,822,666

2.2 In the table below, please outline your planned division of DC/TH and CCI Reaching Home funding from 2024-25 to 2027-28 by activity area. Please note that it is acceptable that your community's funding priorities change over time. This investment plan is to demonstrate that your community has a vision of moving forward for the allocation of Reaching Home funding.

Activities area	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
<b>Housing Services</b>	25%	34%	34%	34%
<b>Prevention and Shelter Diversion</b>	15%	17%	17%	17%
<b>Client Support Services</b>	32%	17%	17%	17%
<b>Capital Investments</b>	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Coordination of Resources and Data Quality Improvement</b>	13%	17%	17%	17%
<b>Administration</b>	15%	15%	15%	15%
<b>TOTAL</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%

2.3 In the text box below, please describe how Community Capacity and Innovation (CCI) funding will be used to support coordinated and data-driven service delivery (e.g., supporting Coordinated Access, the Outcomes-Based Approach and use of HIFIS or existing, equivalent Homeless Management Information System).

Dufferin County continues to work to enhance our data collection working with Built for Zero Canada and Acre Consulting. We are reporting monthly community data to INFC through the HIP project. We continue to train staff and RH projects through conferences and online learning.

<sup>1</sup> Communities on two-year agreement extensions should report on investment plans for 2024-25 and 2025-26 at this time.

### 3. Cost-Matching Requirement

3.1 In the table below, please outline all funding for homelessness initiatives expected to be received from other funders from 2024-25 to 2027-28<sup>2</sup>. This includes both financial and in-kind contributions.

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Total
<b>Reaching Home Annual Allocation</b>	\$693,591	\$693,591	\$717,742	\$717,742	\$2,822,666

<b>Projected Funding From Other Funders towards Homelessness Initiatives</b>					
<b>Program Name and Funder</b>	<b>2024-25 (\$)</b>	<b>2025-26 (\$)</b>	<b>2026-27 (\$)</b>	<b>2027-28 (\$)</b>	<b>Total (\$)</b>
County of Dufferin	200,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	<b>500,000</b>
<b>MMAH (HPP)</b>	1,674,100	1,674,100	1,674,100	1,674,100	<b>6,696,400</b>
<b>OPHI</b>	300,700	300,700	300,700	300,700	<b>1,202,800</b>
<b>COHB</b>	116,200	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,291,000</b>	<b>2,074,800</b>	<b>2,074,800</b>	<b>2,074,800</b>	<b>8,399,200</b>

3.2 If your anticipated community contributions are not projected to match funding from Reaching Home for each year, please explain the circumstances below and include a description of the steps you will take to meet the requirement.

Please note, 2025-2028 funding from MMAH, OPHI and COHB have not been confirmed as of this date.

<sup>2</sup> Communities on two-year agreement extensions should report on cost-matching for 2024-25 and 2025-26 at this time.

#### 4. Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS)

4.1 Using your 2023-24 CHR as a guide<sup>3</sup>, please check the box if you have met the following minimum requirements as of March 31, 2024<sup>4</sup>. Any status updates since March 31, 2024, must also be reflected:

Minimum Requirement	Has the MR been met?	Minimum Requirement	Has the MR been met?
HIFIS MR 1	N/A	HIFIS MR 3	x
HIFIS MR 2	x	HIFIS MR 4	x

4.2 For each minimum requirement that has not yet been met (as identified in 4.1), complete a table below to describe how you will meet it by March 31, 2026. Please note that confirmation that communities are on track to do this will be required by October 31, 2025.

Minimum Requirement not yet met: N/A	
What are the next steps the community will take to meet this requirement?	Target date for completion

<sup>3</sup> For more information on how the minimum requirements align with your Community Homelessness Report, please consult the Community Plan Guide.

<sup>4</sup> Communities with two-year agreement extensions are not required to complete section 4 at this time.

## 5. Coordinated Access

5.1 Using your 2023-24 CHR as a guide<sup>5</sup>, please check the box if you have met the following minimum requirements as of March 31, 2024<sup>6</sup>. Any status updates since March 31, 2024, must also be reflected:

Minimum Requirement	Has the MR been met?	Minimum Requirement	Has the MR been met?
CA MR 1	N/A	CA MR 10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CA MR 2	N/A	CA MR 11	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CA MR 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CA MR 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CA MR 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CA MR 13	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CA MR 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	CA MR 14	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CA MR 6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CA MR 15	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CA MR 7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CA MR 16	<input type="checkbox"/>
CA MR 8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CA MR 17	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CA MR 9	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CA MR 18	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5.2 For each minimum requirement that has not yet been met (as identified in 5.1), complete a table below to describe how you will meet it by March 31, 2026. Note that confirmation that communities are on track to do this will be required by October 31, 2025.

Minimum requirement not yet met: CA MR 5	
What are the next steps the community will take to meet this requirement?	Target date for completion
Lived experience – We are exploring options with the Voices Table (lived experience) and are researching avenues to gather feedback from current and past BND clients.	March 31, 2026
Indigenous representation – currently in conversation with Brave Canoe at our Coordinated Access Table. They are open to joining the CAB table once they have capacity. This will be revisited with them in the coming months.	March 31, 2026

Minimum Requirement not yet met: CA MR 16	
What are the next steps the community will take to meet this requirement?	Target date for completion
Offers – a document is being created with tips and tricks to assist clients when they are viewing units. One will be created for the	March 31, 2026

<sup>5</sup> For more information on how the minimum requirements align with your CHR, please consult the Community Plan Guide.

<sup>6</sup> Communities with two-year agreement extensions are not required to complete section 5 at this time.



client and then a more formal one for agencies. For example, are there fire alarms, is it a RTA standard form of lease, is it a shared entrance, share laundry etc.	

Minimum Requirement not yet met: [CE to add here]	
What are the next steps the community will take to meet this requirement?	Target date for completion

Minimum Requirement not yet met: [CE to add here]	
What are the next steps the community will take to meet this requirement?	Target date for completion

*5.3 Describe how ongoing, meaningful collaboration on Coordinated Access between Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners has or will take place as your community works to implement, maintain and improve a Coordinated Access system.*

<p>Due to restructuring at our Indigenous organization, we currently have no representation at either CAT or CAB. We have reached out to all indigenous agencies in our area but due to capacity, they have been unable to commit to work with either table.</p> <p>CAB meets every other month to discuss homelessness in the community and to monitor the existing RH projects. Ongoing communication regarding but not limited to RH and HIFIS are shared via email as it becomes available.</p> <p>CAT meets weekly to case conference those on the priority list. Clients are referred to supports and available programs and services are shared.</p>
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## 6. Outcomes-Based Approach

6.1 Using your 2023-24 Community Homelessness Report as a guide<sup>7</sup>, please check the box if you have met the following minimum requirements as of March 31, 2024<sup>8</sup>. Any status updates since March 31, 2024, must also be reflected:

Minimum Requirement	Has the MR been met?	Minimum Requirement	Has the MR been met?
OBA MR 1	N/A	OBA MR 6	<input type="checkbox"/>
OBA MR 2	N/A	OBA MR 7	<input type="checkbox"/>
OBA MR 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	OBA MR 8	<input type="checkbox"/>
OBA MR 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	OBA MR 9	<input type="checkbox"/>
OBA MR 5	<input type="checkbox"/>		

6.2 For each minimum requirement that has not yet been met (as identified in 6.1), including those modified and new as of 2024-25, complete a table below to describe how you will meet it by March 31, 2026. Please note that confirmation that communities are on track to do this will be required by October 31, 2025.

Minimum Requirement not yet met: [CE to add here]	
What are the next steps the community will take to meet this requirement?	Target date for completion

Minimum Requirement not yet met: [CE to add here]	
What are the next steps the community will take to meet this requirement?	Target date for completion

Minimum Requirement not yet met: [CE to add here]	
What are the next steps the community will take to meet this requirement?	Target date for completion

<sup>7</sup> For more information on how the minimum requirements align with your Community Homelessness Report, please consult the Community Plan Guide.

<sup>8</sup> Communities with two-year agreement extensions are not required to complete section 6 at this time.

*6.3 Please describe how ongoing and meaningful collaboration between Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners has or will take place as your community works to meet the OBA minimum requirements. In communities where the Designated Communities and Indigenous Homelessness streams co-exist, collaboration with the IH-CE and I-CAB (where applicable) is expected.*

Due to restructuring at our Indigenous organization, we currently have no representation at either CAT or CAB. We have reached out to all indigenous agencies in our area but due to capacity, they have been unable to commit to work with either table.

CAB will continue to engage with local indigenous services for collaboration.

## 7. Official Language Minority Communities

*The Government of Canada has a responsibility under the [Official Languages Act](#) to ensure that programs and services meet the needs of Official Language Minority Communities (OLMCs). Please describe the steps that you will take to ensure that the services funded under [Reaching Home](#) take the needs of the OLMCs into consideration, where applicable.*

Dufferin County is not considered an Official Language Minority Community. The CE will work with the sub project to ensure that an interpreter is provided should there be a need.

## 8. Community Advisory Board—Designated Communities/Territorial Homelessness

**Note:** You may list more than one name/organization for each sector, and you may list a name/organization in more than one sector, as applicable.

(Lines below can be removed where not applicable)

Sector	CAB Members
Infrastructure Canada (Ex-Officio Member)	Emily Yacuk
Community Entity (Ex-Officio Member)	James Cassidy (Program Manager Ontario Works) Andrea Smith (Community Service Worker)
Provincial/Territorial government	
Local/Municipal government	James Bramley (Town of Orangeville)
Indigenous government	
Individuals with lived experience of homelessness	
Indigenous Peoples, nations and organizations, Friendship Centres	
Indigenous housing organizations	
Youth and/or child-serving organizations, including Child Welfare agencies	Jaime Edge (Choices Shelter and Support Services)
Organizations serving survivors of domestic violence and their families	Lyn Allen (Family Transition Place)
Seniors and senior-serving organizations	
Newcomers and newcomer-serving organizations	Fatima Medeiros (Polycultural Immigrant and Community Services)
The private sector	
Police and correctional services	Terri-Ann Pencarinha (OPP) Jordan Vernelli (OPP – MCRT)
Landlord associations and/or the housing sector	
Health organizations, including hospitals and other public health institutions, and organizations focused on mental health and addictions	Lisa Neuman (Services and Housing in the Province); Maureen Teggart (Dufferin Area Family Health Team), Diane Kite (Community Living); Michelle Marr (Headwaters Health – MCRT))
Veterans Affairs Canada and/or Veterans-serving organizations	
Organizations serving individuals experiencing, or at risk of experiencing homelessness	Savanaha O'Reilly(Orangeville Food bank),
Other	Sharmaine Croydon (Georgian College)



**CAB Chairs or Co-Chairs (if applicable):**

I affirm that the above members of the CAB have reviewed the attached Community Plan, and that a majority of CAB members approve of its content.

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Name

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Signature

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Date (YYYY-MM-DD)

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Name

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Signature

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Date (YYYY-MM-DD)

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Name

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Signature

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Date (YYYY-MM-DD)

## 9. Community Advisory Board—Indigenous Homelessness

**Note:** You may list more than one name/organization for each sector, and you may list a name/organization in more than one sector, as applicable.

(Lines below can be removed where not applicable)

Sector	CAB Members
Infrastructure Canada (Ex-Officio Member)	
Community Entity (Ex-Officio Member)	
Provincial/Territorial government	
Local/Municipal government	
Indigenous government	
Individuals with lived experience of homelessness	
Indigenous Peoples, nations and organizations, Friendship Centres	
Indigenous housing organizations	
Youth and/or child-serving organizations, including Child Welfare agencies	
Organizations serving survivors of domestic violence and their families	
Seniors and senior-serving organizations	
Newcomers and newcomer-serving organizations	
The private sector	
Police and correctional services	
Landlord associations and/or the housing sector	
Health organizations, including hospitals and other public health institutions, and organizations focused on mental health and addictions	
Veterans Affairs Canada and/or Veterans-serving organizations	
Organizations serving individuals experiencing, or at risk of experiencing homelessness	
Other	



**Indigenous CAB Chairs or Co-Chairs (if applicable):**

☐ (If Community Plan is not a joint plan): I affirm that the above members of the Community Advisory Board have been engaged on the Coordinated Access and Outcomes-Based Approach sections of the attached Community Plan.

**OR**

☐ (If Community Plan is a joint plan): I affirm that the above members of the CAB have reviewed the attached Community Plan, and that a majority of CAB members approve of its content.

_____ Name	_____ Signature	_____ Date (YYYY-MM-DD)
_____ Name	_____ Signature	_____ Date (YYYY-MM-DD)
_____ Name	_____ Signature	_____ Date (YYYY-MM-DD)