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To: Committee of the Whole  
Meeting Date: October 10, 2024  
From: Lisa Gonsalves  
Acting Commissioner of Community and Health Services  
Re: **2024 York Region Point-in-Time Homelessness Count**

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This memorandum updates Council on requirements for Community Entities under the federal housing and homelessness Reaching Home program to participate in national Point-in-Time (PiT) Counts in Fall 2024.

### **York Region will partner with United Way Greater Toronto to conduct the 2024 Point-in-Time Count**

United Way Greater Toronto (UWGT) is the federal Designated Community Entity, for the [Reaching Home Strategy](#). Community Entities, like UWGT, are responsible for administering federal funding to address local homelessness issues. Community Entities are required to conduct a PiT Count in 2024. York Region is partnering with UWGT to conduct the PiT Count. Previous PiT Counts were completed in [2018](#) and [2021](#).

PiT Counts include the number and basic demographics of people who may be experiencing homelessness in a community at a single point in time. This data helps Service Managers, like York Region, better understand the scope of homelessness and assists with service planning. Communities across Canada use a common approach to conducting their count and results can identify where more resources are needed and support the development of targeted programs and policies. Nationally, PiT Counts can provide the federal government with an understanding of which communities have increased need.

### **York Region's 2024 Point-In-Time Count will occur on November 26 and 27, 2024**

York Region's 2024 PiT Count will take place over 24 hours beginning Tuesday, November 26 and ending Wednesday, November 27. York Region and service provider staff will conduct the PiT Count in the community at emergency housing and seasonal shelter sites, drop-in program locations, places where people may be living unsheltered, and places where people who may be experiencing homelessness receive meals such as local churches or community programs.

York Region staff will work with local municipal staff to ensure people visiting local libraries and community centres are captured in the PiT Count.

There are two components of the PiT Count:

1. Conducting a “count” of people experiencing homelessness
2. Helping people experiencing homelessness complete a voluntary survey, which will ask information including the person’s cultural identity, language and sexual orientation

The 2024 PiT Count will have no tax levy impact as it is 100% funded through the federal Reaching Home Strategy and the Provincial Homeless Prevention Program.

### **Data collected through the 2024 Point-in-Time Count will support the 2024 to 2027 Homelessness Service System Plan**

The 2024 PiT Count results will support implementation of [York Region’s 2024 to 2027 Homelessness Service System Plan](#), particularly in Priority Area 3 System Response. The data will inform service system planning and program adjustments to meet changing resident needs. PiT Count data will also support advocacy with the provincial and federal governments to strengthen the response to homelessness, as outlined in Priority Area 4 – Advocacy and Engagement.

A report on results of the 2024 PiT Count will be provided to Council in 2025.

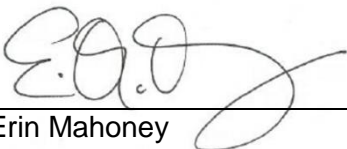
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For more information on this memo, please contact Kevin Pal, General Manager, Social Service Branch 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72150. Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.



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Lisa Gonsalves  
Acting Commissioner of Community and Health Services



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Erin Mahoney  
Chief Administrative Officer

September 25, 2024  
#16268996