

Common Community Safety and Well-Being Risks

Community Safety and Well-Being Plan for York Region

Research and engagement so far has helped scope risks in York Region

The term risks is used in this type of work to refer to negative characteristics or conditions in individuals, families, communities or society that may increase likelihood of harms. These could include things like systemic discrimination, crime, victimization, addiction, drug overdose, suicide, and other prescribed risks (*Police Services Act, 1990*).

A literature review and jurisdictional scan were carried out to identify common risks identified in community safety and well-being plans in Canada and internationally (United States, United Kingdom and Australia). This list of common risks was refined through engagement with internal subject matter experts at York Region, Human Services Planning Board of York Region (Advisory Committee) and local municipal staff to identify what potential risks may be most relevant across York Region. Potential risks are also aligned with goals in Vision 2051, social determinants of health, and risks identified in the Risk-driven Tracking Database for York Region.

Potential risks in York Region are set out in Table 1. Work is already underway to address some of these risks in York Region. As such, Table 1 also highlights some examples of existing York Region and York Regional Police (YRP) programs that can be leveraged in developing a Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.

Table 1:

Potential Risks and Examples of Related York Region and YRP Strategies and Programs

Risks and Descriptions	Examples of Related York Region or YRP Strategies or Programs*
<p>1. Alcohol and Substance Misuse Alcohol or drug misuse and overdose, and criminal offences related to drugs and alcohol</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opioid Action Plan, 2019 • Harm Reduction Program • Report Bad Drugs
<p>2. Crime Victim or perpetrator of personal or property crime</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood Watch (YRP) • Crime Stoppers (YRP partner with Crime Stoppers of York Region) • Business Watch (YRP)
<p>3. Discrimination Negative attitudes or actions, including hate crimes that are targeted toward a specific group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2017-2021 York Region Newcomer Strategy • York Region Immigration Portal

Risks and Descriptions	Examples of Related York Region or YRP Strategies or Programs*
<p>4. Education and Development Low educational attainment and/or low Education Development Instrument (EDI) scores among children age 0 to 6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EarlyON Child and Family Centres • York Region Early Intervention Services
<p>5. Employment and Income Having low income and/or being unemployed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ontario Works • Child Care Fee Subsidy • Employment Resource Centres • Community Investment Fund
<p>6. Housing Stability Housing is not affordable, adequate, or suitable</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Solutions: A Place for Everyone • Subsidized Housing • Housing Stability Program • Homelessness Prevention Program • Home Repair Program • Emergency and Transitional Housing • Community Investment Fund
<p>7. Mental Health Poor mental health and extreme life stress, and unmanaged mental health issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Support Team (YRP partner with York Support Services Network) • Transition to Parenting • Stress Lesson and Kids Have Stress Too • Community Investment Fund • Street Outreach Van
<p>8. Physical Health Poor physical health, chronic illness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Information Line – Health Connection • School Immunization Clinics • Healthy Schools Program • Smoking Treatment for Ontario Patients (STOP) on the Road • Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program • Community Investment Fund
<p>9. Social Isolation Weak sense of community belonging</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • York Region Seniors Strategy • EarlyON Child and Family Centres • Adult Day Programs

*Examples of related programs and strategies only; not an exhaustive list

#10130161