



Region of Peel Supportive Housing Demand and Supply Analysis and Action Plan

Executive Summary

Goal

The overall goal of the study is to prepare a demand and supply analysis of supportive housing in Peel Region, as well as an action plan for addressing identified needs and gaps, to support the objectives of the Peel Housing and Homelessness Plan.

Guiding Principles

The study reflects the six principles of Peel’s Housing and Homelessness Plan.

- ✓ **people-centered**
- ✓ **sustainable**
- ✓ **innovative**
- ✓ **partnership-based**
- ✓ **transparent**
- ✓ **accountable**

Methodology

The study incorporates the findings from three major phases of work:

Consultation Activities including stakeholder workshops, a housing provider and support service agency survey, focus groups with persons requiring supportive housing, and additional information-gathering from key informants.

Demand and Supply Analysis involving a literature review, best practice review, identification of the range of population groups, data-gathering, identification of barriers to accessing supportive housing, and an assessment tool.

Action Plan co-created with a broad range of stakeholders in the supportive housing system, the Advisory Committee, and Region of Peel staff. About 120 participants contributed to the creation of the Action Plan representing more than 50 agencies and governments.

Approach

Definition of Supportive Housing

The study’s Advisory Committee collaboratively developed a definition of supportive housing for the Region of Peel Supportive Housing Action Plan, as:

Supportive housing is affordable and accessible residential accommodation within an environment that provides individual based supports and services to persons who require them to live independently. Individual based supports and services can include assistance with activities of daily living, assistance with medical care, and other community based supports.

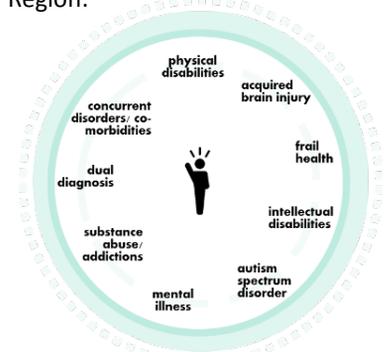
Demand and Supply Analysis

The following table provides an overview of the demand and supply of supportive housing by population group.

Population Group	Demand	Supply
Physical Disabilities	99 applicants on wait list	300 units
Acquired Brain Injury	45 applicants on wait list	18 units
Intellectual Disabilities	716 applicants on wait list	290 units
Autism Spectrum Disorder		22 units
Frail Health	443 applicants on wait list	736 units
Mental Illness	1,093 persons on the wait list	252 units
Substance Abuse/Addictions		27+ units
Dual Diagnosis, Concurrent Disorders, and Co-Morbidities	(covered in other population group categories)	
Totals	2,396	1,645

Population Groups Requiring Supportive Housing

The Action Plan focuses on the following population groups requiring supportive housing in Peel Region:



The Need and Issues

The problem is clear: there is a tremendous need for more supportive housing in Peel Region. However, the supportive housing system is complex and funding to acquire new units and to provide additional support services is limited. The research shows that supportive housing needs are diverse and dependent on a range of individual circumstances. The issues facing people requiring supportive housing fall into three main themes:

Supply-Demand Gap

- Wait times for supportive housing are long and expected to grow.
- The long wait times for supportive housing can lead to crises, worsened health, and more difficulties securing housing.
- There is demonstrated demand for a range of supportive housing choices that meet the specific needs across a person’s life cycle.
- There is a lack of funding available for both the development and operation of supportive housing.

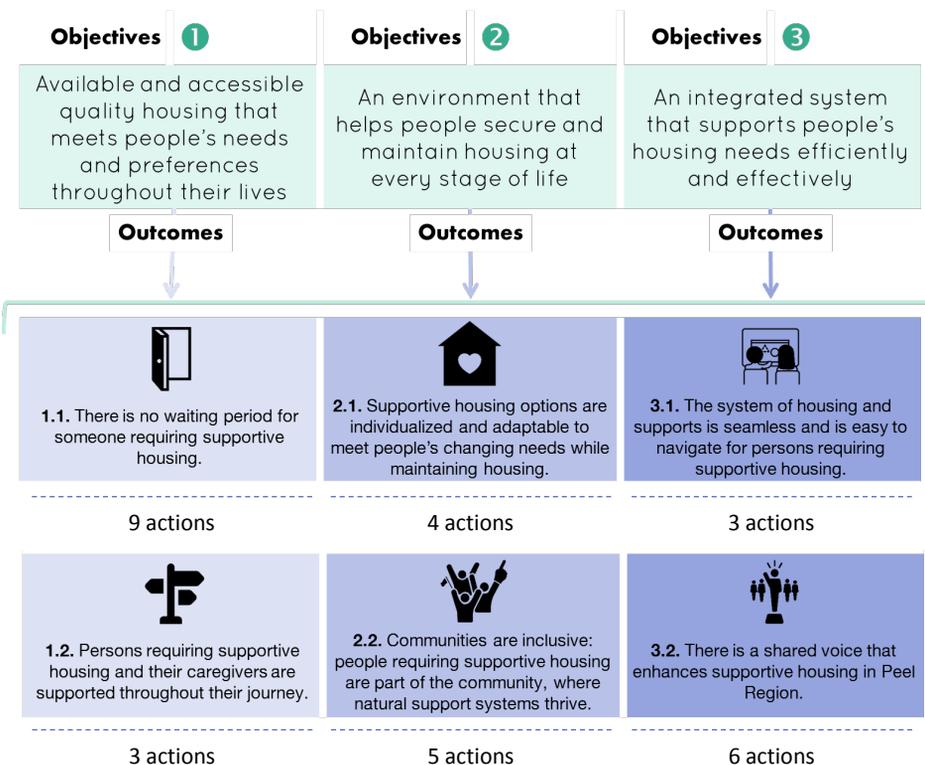
Access Experience

- Accessing supportive housing is often a difficult process.
- Transitions from one type of housing to another are often disjointed.
- Families and informal caregivers lack support.

System Integration

- Social housing providers struggle to meet the needs of both vulnerable tenants and others.
- Persons requiring supportive housing and agencies operating within the supportive housing system struggle to navigate the system’s complexity.
- There is a need to strengthen support networks and advocacy groups for persons requiring supportive housing.
- NIMBY-ism towards supportive housing developments can act as a barrier to developing new units in a broader range of communities.

Action Plan



The Action Plan includes 3 Objectives, 6 Outcomes, and 30 Actions.

The Region of Peel cannot tackle this ambitious Action Plan alone. Successful implementation requires the collective efforts of key stakeholders including: all levels of government involved in housing, health, and community services; non-profit and private agencies, organizations, and community-based groups providing support services, supportive housing, and affordable housing; and the private sector.

As part of the implementation phase of this Action Plan, roles and responsibilities will be established.