

## **Terms of Reference**

### **Durham Committee for the Health and Housing of Homeless Residents**

#### **Background**

In response to COVID-19, several tables were established to bring together health, homelessness and housing sectors to support homeless residents. To better coordinate this work, this committee was created to amalgamate the tables and create a streamlined process.

This committee recognizes the interrelatedness of health, homelessness and housing and that an interdisciplinary approach is needed to end homelessness in Durham.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the committee is to plan and implement responses to address COVID-19, including:

- COVID-19 testing
- Supporting isolation and recovery for homeless residents
- Outbreak planning for congregate living settings (i.e. shelters)
- Community medicine models targeted to support homeless residents

And,

To plan and implement longer term solutions to ensure a health-informed response to homelessness in Durham, including:

- Community medicine models of support
- Imbedding mental health and addictions supports in homelessness programs
- The creation of supportive housing

#### **Membership**

Membership will be sought from organizations including but not limited to those in the health, homelessness and housing sectors that are working to support homeless residents in Durham.

#### **Chair**

The committee will be co-chaired by representatives from the three sectors (social

services, community health, public health). Co-Chairs will hold the position for a six month period (subject to change/extension as needed and as agreed upon by the committee).

### **Decision Making Process or Decision Support Process**

The committee membership agrees that decisions about Action Items, Project Direction, and Follow-Up Reports will be made using a consensus-based approach by those in attendance at the bi-weekly meetings. Constructive discussion is encouraged to achieve consensus.

### **Meetings**

Meetings will be held bi-weekly for the duration of the COVID-19 outbreak in Durham. Meetings will be held bi-weekly (or monthly) thereafter.