

April 13, 2023

Public Invited to Participate in Municipal Drug Strategy

On Wednesday, April 5th, in collaboration with experienced consultants, local organizations and community members, The Municipality of Chatham-Kent launched the Chatham-Kent Municipal Drug Strategy.

The need for this strategy was identified back in 2019.

"A local situational assessment of opioid use and related harms was completed in 2019," states Maggie Clendenning, CK Public Health's Harm Reduction Coordinator, "the findings suggested a coordinated approach to substance use, with a focus on prevention, building community capacity and supporting people who use opioids."

Together with Collective Results (an external consulting firm based out of Guelph, Ontario with experience developing local drug strategies), the CK Drug Strategy Steering Committee, CK Public Health, community partners, people with lived/living expertise with substance use, and community support, The Municipality of Chatham-Kent is set to bring forward recommendations for implementation and action to Council in Fall 2023.

"We want to be able to present something that is genuinely reflective of Chatham-Kent and the people who live, work and learn here," says Clendenning. "A real strength in this strategy will be the insight, views and opinions we receive from our community partners, and our community members, respectively."

There are currently two separate surveys open to hear feedback from Community Partners, as well as Community Members. The surveys will be open until Tuesday, April 18th.

Both surveys, as well as additional information about the strategy can be found at www.LetsTalkChatham-Kent.ca/CKMunicipalDrugStrategy

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Media Contact:

Caress Lee Carpenter

519.784.5345

ckphucommunications@chatham-kent.ca