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## Report 2025-127

**Report Title:** 2024 Housing and Homelessness Annual Report

**Committee Name:** Social Services

**Committee Meeting Date:** June 4, 2025

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**Approved by:** Jennifer Moore, CAO

**Council Meeting Date:** June 18, 2025

**Strategic Plan Priorities:** ☐ Innovate for Service Excellence  
☐ Ignite Economic Opportunity  
☒ Foster a Thriving Community  
☐ Propel Sustainable Growth  
☐ Champion a Vibrant Future

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### Recommendation

“**That** the Social Services Committee, having considered Report 2025-127 ‘2024 Housing and Homelessness Annual Report’, recommend that County Council direct staff to share a copy of this report with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and post the report on the County website for viewing by the public.”

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## **Purpose**

To provide the 2024 Housing and Homelessness Annual Report on the County's 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan.

## **Background**

The *Housing Services Act, 2011* (HSA), requires Northumberland County, in its role as the Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM), to have a 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan, and to report annually on the progress made towards objectives in the Plan. The attached 2024 Annual Report highlights key accomplishments under several of the objectives while looking forward to ongoing priorities to continue meeting agreed upon objectives.

The 2019-2029 Housing and Homelessness Plan establishes six strategies required to support improved outcomes in the housing and homelessness systems, these strategies include:

1. Increase Affordable Housing Options
2. Implement Coordinated Access for Housing and Support Services
3. Support Housing Stability
4. Increase Supportive Housing and Supports
5. Build a Diverse Housing Supply
6. Optimize the Existing Housing Stock

These six strategies are well aligned with Northumberland County's Affordable Housing Strategy, Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan and the Community Housing Master Plan. This annual report will address each one of these strategies and provide concrete actions that have been taken, present data (where available), identify gaps where future attention will be required.

According to the *HSA*, all Housing and Homelessness Plans are required to be updated every five years, however the Ministry has requested that Service Managers pause this work until future direction is given.

## **Consultations**

Consultations completed internally with Community and Social Services, Communications and Finance staff.

## **Legislative Authority / Risk Considerations**

The Housing Services Act, 2011 requires that this public report be completed annually.

## **Discussion / Options**

Input into this report was provided by staff in the Community and Social Services and Finance Departments, along with referencing work of external community agencies.

As outlined in the report, key accomplishments from 2024 include:

- Launched the redevelopment plans for 123 King Street, Colborne with the goal of adding up to 60 units to the property.
- Acquired 129 Kent Street, Campbellford Ontario with plans to construct at least three affordable units for the purpose of expanding transitional housing in Northumberland County.

- Continued the expansion and implementation the Made in Northumberland Rent Supplement Program, to support households on the centralized waitlist and those at risk of homelessness obtain affordable and/or subsidized housing.
- Designed and launched a transitional housing program in partnership with community partners, ensuring coordinated service delivery, wraparound supports.
- Opened 310 Division Street to support a coordinated entry into the homelessness system in Northumberland, collaborating with Transition House Emergency Shelter and members of the HLT to support individuals experiencing homelessness through access to a 24/7, 365 day drop in centre, low-barrier emergency shelter beds and transitional housing.
- Obtained access to HIFIS as a method of sharing real time information with participating agencies and to enhance coordinated access to the homelessness system. Over 2024 the IT infrastructure required for HIFIS was realized and data provision agreement with Infrastructure Canada was signed. Full implementation expected in 2025.

The report also outlines key goals for 2025, including:

- Continue to work alongside the Community Liaison Committee to support the successful implementation of 310 Division into the community, by supporting the 18 community partners providing necessary services to homeless individuals within Northumberland County and working with Transition House staff and clients on a continued “good neighbour” protocol.
- Continue to engage with the broader community on Cobourg, and throughout the County, to support the successful integration of housing and homelessness services.
- Expansion and more focus on our outreach team supporting at-risk or homeless clients in all municipalities.
- Invest further into programs that educate and provide food options to support communities with food insecurities.
- Continue to work with the Homelessness Leadership Table to enhance wrap around services.
- Implement a Capital Repair Program on NCHC buildings for better planning and accurate data collection.
- Continue pre-construction work for the construction at 473 Ontario Street with Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services and seek external funding sources.
- Continue working with member municipalities and other sources to develop a land bank of shovel-ready and funding-ready projects.
- Continue to expand the Made in Northumberland Rent Supplement Program.

The County will be updating its 10-year plan which was due in 2024. The province has indicated for service managers to hold on renewing their plans until updated direction is provided.

### **Financial Impact**

N/A

### **Member Municipality Impacts**

Member municipalities will be provided with a copy of the report for information.

**Conclusion / Outcomes**

It is recommended that County Council direct staff to share the report with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and make it available to the public through the County website.

**Attachments**

1. Report 2025-127 ATTACH 1 '2024 Housing and Homelessness Annual Report'