

### There are pressures on Timmins.

- Need for Truth and Reconciliation
- Opioid Crisis
- Housing Affordability Crisis
- Downtown Economic Decline
- High Crime Rate (and difficulty recruiting officers)
- Cuts to Social Assistance
- Limited access to walk-in medical care (shortage of family doctors)
- Others?

### Many Indigenous Voices are advocating for:

- Respect for Indigenous ceremony, protocol, and culture.
- More acknowledgement and repairs of traumas from colonialization, residential schools, Sixties Scoop, and missing and murdered Indigenous women.
- More Indigenous staff and languages.
- Eliminating stereotypes and generalizations that discriminate against Indigenous people (including acts of aggression).
- More collaboration.

### Many residents & businesses are advocating to move Living Space because of unresolved concerns:

- Crime, drug trafficking, theft, break and enters, etc.
- Fear of aggressive, unpredictable behaviours, fires in empty buildings.
- Open drug use, discarded needles.
- Outdoor urination, defecation.
- Disruption of daily activity and sleep.
- Discomfort seeing people in distress.
- Business impacts, property values.
- Lack of support services.

### People experiencing homelessness have told us:

- People are homeless for many reasons (released from jail, domestic violence, addiction, etc.).
- It's important not to judge or belittle.
- Shelter needs to be close to services and walkable – or people won't use it.
- "Buck is passed" with current approach to services – we're told "see this person", "see that person".
- Living Space needs more services – psychiatrist, dentist, housing, etc.
- Need help transitioning from rehab to housing (so don't return to shelter).

### Services providers told us:

- Time and effort needed to provide services is exponentially higher than in the past. Inadequate resources.
- With current approach, staff are burnt out and clients left spinning.
- The conversation about Living Space is highly charged and difficult to engage in.
- Communication with neighbours is essential when emergency shelter services are introduced in a community.
- Aging population is also at risk of homelessness.

### There are a growing number of people experiencing homelessness in Timmins.

- 435 people experiencing homelessness in District of Cochrane that want housing\*\*
- More than 4 in 5 people identify as Indigenous
- Approx. 80% self-report substance use issue
- 50%+ self-report challenges with mental health
- 4/5 report multiple health issues

### Where people go when not accessing services:

- Street or sidewalk or alcove
- In park or public space
- Couch surfing
- Occupied or abandoned private property

In the evening, there is one place for people to go: Living Space.

During the day, there are more places for people to go: Living Space Drop-In is one option, and below there is the beginning of a list of services people experiencing homelessness rely on.

**Living Space**  
Emergency Shelter  
(8pm-8am)

**Location**

**Operations**

**Governance**

No drug consumption permitted

**Living Space**  
Drop-In  
(8am-8pm)

**There are enforcement efforts and outreach patrols working to address concerns:**  
Mushkegowuk Fire Keeper Street Patrol  
Timmins Police Services  
Timmins Fire Department  
City of Timmins Bylaw Enforcement

**In 2023, CDSSAB received increased funding (from approx. \$2M/yr to \$6M/yr for next 3 years) to prevent homelessness. Plan\*\* is to use the funds to:**

- Create 10 units Supportive Housing in 2 yrs, with 24/7 services in Yr 3, with plan for 40 more
- Create service hub with food, hygiene facilities, service navigators
- Add Housing Loss Prevention Workers
- Integrated paramedicine program
- Create 6 units Transitional Housing

### Some things that influence what and how services are provided:

- Quality of the staff, including their training, cultural competencies, salaries, etc.
- Requirements of the funder (Province of Ontario, Government of Canada, CDSSAB, etc.)
- Degree of collaboration between service providers (e.g. [Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Leadership Committee](#), [Cochrane District System of Care](#), Community Advisory Board, etc.)
- Whether service is led or co-led by an Indigenous-led organization
- Level of client interest in receiving services



#### Drop-In

Living Space (7 days/week, 8am-8pm)  
The Salvation Army (Wed, Sat, Sun, 1-3pm)  
CMHA (Fri, 8:30-11am)



#### Public Toilet

Living Space



#### Anti-Hunger Coalition

Meals:  
Project Love (Mon)  
Timmins Native Friendship Centre (Tues)  
First Baptist Church (Tues, Fri)  
The Salvation Army (Wed, Sun)  
Lord's Kitchen (Thurs, Fri)  
St. Matthew's (Fri)  
Timmins Food Bank (Sat)  
Better Tomorrow (Sun)  
Snacks:  
Mushkegowuk (Mon-Fri)  
Salvation Army (Tues-Sat)  
Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services (Fri)



#### Health care

Misiway  
Milopemahtesewin Community Health Centre  
Safe Health Site  
Timmins and Area District Hospital  
Porcupine Health Unit



#### Addictions

Safe Health Site  
Jubilee Centre  
Timmins and Area District Hospital



#### Education & training

Monteith Correctional Facility  
Ojibway & Cree Cultural Centre  
Northeastern Catholic District School Board  
Northern College  
College Boreal  
Hearst University  
Algoma University



#### Housing

CDSSAB  
Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services  
Timmins Native Friendship Centre



#### Mental health

Canadian Mental Health Association  
Timmins and Area District Hospital



#### Legal services

Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services



#### Job search

Employment Services  
Timmins Public Library



#### Public transit

Timmins Transit  
Timmins Taxi

\*\*See Updated Plan and Investment Strategy for Homelessness Prevention Program Funding in the Cochrane CDSSAB, Sep 9, 2023, prepared by Orgcode Consulting Inc. for CDSSAB

\*This Draft Reference Sheet is compiled based on feedback received to date from participants in the Relocation Review. It is a catalyst for discussion and does not assess the merit or accuracy of any of these perspectives, nor does their inclusion here indicate an endorsement of any of these perspectives on the part of Third Party Public or the CDSSAB. This is one of several discussion support tools created by Third Party Public as part of the Relocation Review.