



Newmarket Community Action Table

**Presentation to Town of Newmarket
Council**

May 15, 2023

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Topics

- ▶ What are Community Action Tables
 - ▶ Lead Agencies - Routes Connecting Communities
- ▶ Newmarket Community Action Table Activities
 - ▶ Resident Survey
 - ▶ Working Groups
 - ▶ Quick Action Grants
- ▶ Role for Town of Newmarket Council



Community Action Tables

- York Region Community Safety and Well-Being Plan set the stage
- 4 geographic areas have been established:
 - South Central Richmond Hill
 - South-Central Markham
 - Central Newmarket
 - Northern Georgina
- To address key issues identified in the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan
 - Mental Well-Being
 - Housing Stability
 - Economic Stability
- Routes is the lead agency for the Northern Georgina & Central Newmarket tables



Routes Connecting Communities

York Region not for profit

Est. 1989

6 staff, 139 volunteers

Improve access to basic needs, enhance community engagement and improve social connections



routes

connecting communities

Programs and Services

Routes Connecting Communities is proud to service all of York Region. For each program and service, we're always looking for new volunteers and clients.



Book a ride
for less



Bus trips



Friendly
phone calls



Brain games
booklet



1 on 1
Technology
help



Service
navigation



Pen pal
program



WORLD FLAVOURS
CATERING

Meal catering



Pay-what-you-can
community lunches

Contact us



www.routescc.org



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Newmarket Community Action Table (NMKT CAT)





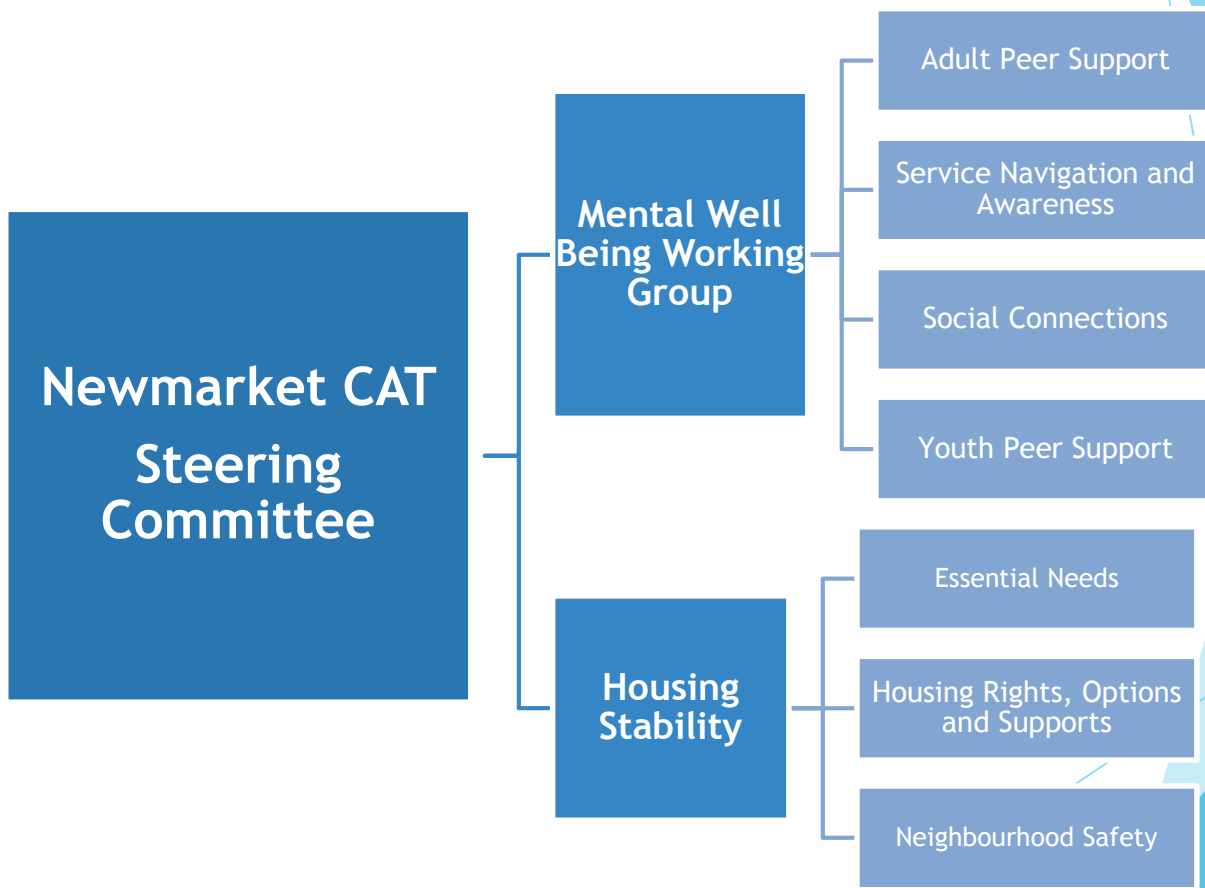
Community Survey Overview

- Respondents were asked 10 questions regarding Community Safety and Well-Being in Newmarket Heights and area
- Received a total of 115 responses.
- Survey results are in your Council packet



Central Newmarket- Community Safety and Well-being

- ▶ Newmarket Heights Area
- ▶ 13,000 residents
- ▶ **MENTAL WELL BEING:** Limited access to affordable services and supports
- ▶ **HOUSING STABILITY:** means having an affordable place to live that is safe, secure, comfortable, and located in one's chosen community. It also means a person can find or keep housing when their needs change. To be affordable, housing costs should not exceed 30% of income.





Focus for Working Groups – Mental Well Being

- **Adult Peer Support:**

- Explore options to provide additional interpretation services and increase culturally-accessible information
- Create peer/community mentorship opportunities to share skills and encourage learning
- Host workshops to support skill building and community learning (e.g., CPR, financial planning etc.)

- **Service Navigation and Awareness:**

- Develop a Service Fair Roadshow to support access and awareness of services
- Develop a Resident Champion Program to provide education and mentoring for service navigation
- Develop self-serve program to improve service navigation (e.g., hotline, directory for mental health and housing)



Focus for Working Groups – Mental Well Being

- **Social Connections:**

- Create opportunities to establish community connections and host mental health events with partners
- Develop and implement a plan to adapt available spaces for multi-use (e.g., school yard for community ice rink, parking lots for events)
- Increase access to recreation programming and space
- Increase access to green spaces to connect residents

- **Youth Peer Support:**

- Create child/youth specific community programming with schools to support after school engagement
- Engage youth in opportunities to volunteer and offer support to the community



Focus for Working Groups- Housing Stability

- **Essential Needs**

- Conduct a survey to determine priority needs of the Newmarket Heights Neighbourhood
- Create a centralized community hub for social services, food services and other essential needs programs
- Enhance supports for vulnerable residents such as childcare signup, meal delivery, tool lending programs etc.
- Through partnerships create low-cost food access opportunities
- Increase access to resources by removing barriers such as service location and mobility

- **Housing Rights, Options and Supports**

- Provide education/awareness workshops (e.g., legal clinic, financial literacy, tenant rights)
- Explore partnerships to support residents to understand their housing options
- Create opportunities for navigation support to help residents navigate and access services
- Explore Roommate Connector Program to support safe and effective roommate matching
- Explore shared living space programs and options to adopt and support symbiotic relationships, privacy considerations etc.,
- Create an advocacy plan with partners focused on understanding barriers to increasing the housing supply and offering solutions to address these barriers.



Focus for Working Groups- Housing Stability

- **Neighbourhood Safety**
 - Assess need and options to increase street lighting to promote safe pedestrian engagement
 - Identify people at risk and make connections to required services
 - Consider and implement a neighbourhood safety program (e.g., Block Parents, Neighbourhood Watch)
 - Explore and implement opportunities to improve safer living and community spaces



Working Groups

- ▶ Well under way!
 - ▶ Housing Sustainability
 - ▶ Mental Well-Being
- ▶ Each group is co-lead by a Resident Ambassador and a Non-Profit Agency Manager
- ▶ Priority is to implement the activities outlined in the York Region Community Safety and Well Being Plan for the Newmarket CAT



Past Events!



Quick Action Grants

Do you have an idea for a project?

We are providing five \$2,000 resident grants and two \$8000 agency grants to organize initiatives in Newmarket that support housing stability and mental well-being!

Current applications accepted for projects running until October 2023

Submit applications by 4:00PM April 26th, 2023

Information Session:

April 12th, 2023 from 11:00AM-12:30PM

April 13th, 2023 from 4:30PM-6:00PM



Quick Action Grants

Round 1

- ▶ Launched April 1, 2023
Closed April 26, 2023
- ▶ Applications received
 - ▶ 5 Resident
 - ▶ 2 Agency
- ▶ Grant Awards
 - ▶ Review is underway

Rounds 2

- ▶ Round 2
 - ▶ Will launch early September 2023
 - ▶ 5 Resident Grants available
 - ▶ Applications close late September



How can Council help?

- ▶ Participate in the Resident led, and Agency led initiatives
- ▶ Consider providing space (indoor/outdoor) for events to take place
- ▶ Promote the activities of the Newmarket CAT with your constituents
- ▶ Be curious about the solutions the Working Groups are coming up with
- ▶ Have us back to Council with an update in the Fall!



Thank you

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