

“MAKING A DIFFERENCE TO POVERTY IN NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY”



Northumberland Poverty Reduction Action Committee (NPRAC)



Northumberland
Community Futures Development Corporation
Société d'aide au développement des collectivités



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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper attempts to bring together a number of the various factors and issues for those in Northumberland County who experience poverty as a way of life, whether generational or situational. Many of the issues interact with each other and level of income is generic and basic to all. One of the biggest challenges for Northumberland and what many rural counties share is that the rural nature both hides and further disadvantages those living in poverty. Local issues require attention and effort within the rural context.

A recent report published by the Ontario Association of Food Banks showed that the cost of poverty to every Ontario household is \$2,299 to \$2,895 each year¹. With the concerning economic times currently being experienced throughout North America and the world and locally with recent plant closures and job losses; the number of individuals and families living in poverty can be expected to increase.

Northumberland County has assets which make a significant difference to reducing poverty. The Northumberland Poverty Reduction Action Committee (NPRAC) is laying the blueprint for the Poverty Reduction Strategy based on the identified needs of a rural county. The priorities have been described as:

- Basic Income Security, including access to food, clothing and health care
- Transportation
- Affordable Housing
- Skills Development, Training and Education
- Economic Development
- Coordination of Agencies and Programs
- Awareness campaign and advocacy

The Recommendations for long term strategies are based on NPRAC working at both the local action level and advocating broadly by joining with others across the country with similar goals to reduce poverty. In order to achieve this, the recommendations are:

1. Focus activities on the seven key priorities.
2. Implement a social planning capacity for Northumberland County
3. NPRAC to strive for excellence in advocacy.
4. Make poverty reduction a “top of mind” issue for all sectors.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

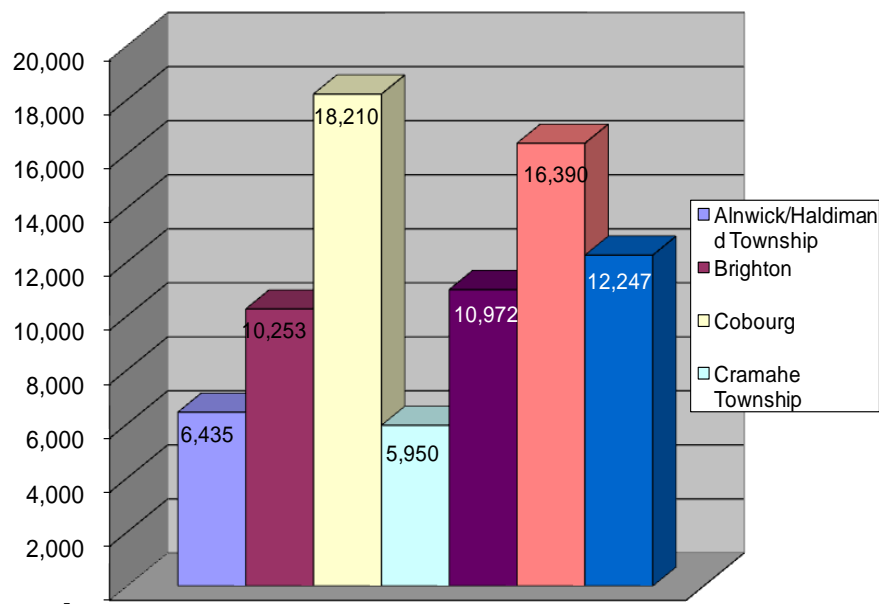
Northumberland Poverty Reduction Action Committee (NPRAC) is committed to home-grown, local solutions to reduce poverty in Northumberland County. This discussion paper will:

- Describe issues of poverty from a Northumberland perspective.
- Provide current data that illustrates the effects of poverty locally.
- Indicate local priorities, gaps and emerging issues.
- Describe recent initiatives have been achieved in the last year to eighteen months.
- Indicate some of the services available related to the priorities although it is not intended to be a comprehensive listing.
- Make recommendations:
 - specific to each of the areas set-out in the paper which require action to reduce poverty in Northumberland County
 - that are broad in scope and encompasses local, provincial and national activities and policies which affect the reduction of poverty in Canada.

2.1 DEMOGRAPHICS OF NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY

The County of Northumberland, in the south east of the province, is 1903 square kilometers in size and is made up of 7 towns and municipalities. With a population of 80,963 persons (2006 census), it's a mix of rural and urban areas. The county has increased in population by 4.5 percent since the previous census (2001) whereas the province of Ontario has increased by 6.6 percent. This shows a growth rate that is approximately one third less than the province as a whole.

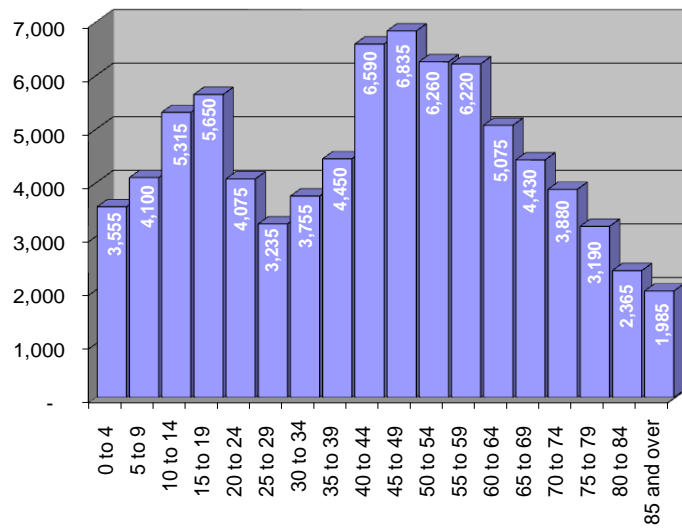
Chart 1: Population Demographics for Northumberland County, 2005



Source: Statistics Canada Census 2006 of Population

It is a fact that the population in Canada is aging:

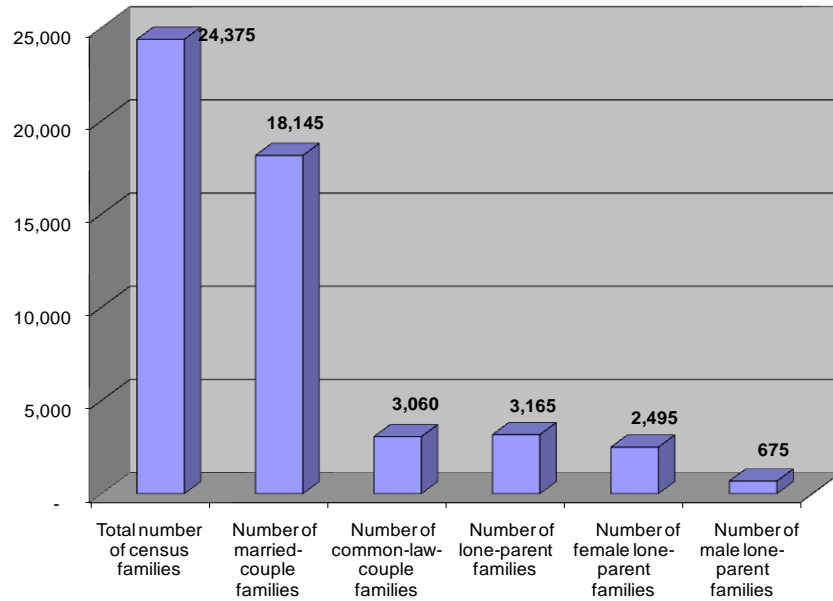
Chart 2: Age Demographics for Northumberland County, 2005



Source: Statistics Canada Census 2006 of Population

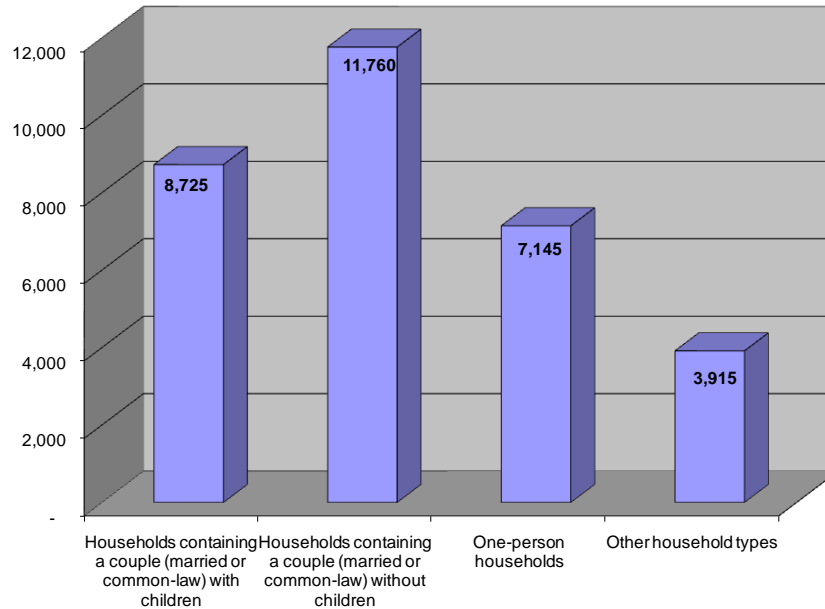
The median age for Northumberland County residents is 44.8 years.

Chart 3: Family Structure Demographics for Northumberland County, 2005



Source: Statistics Canada Census 2006 of Population
Census Family refers to a married couple (with or without children of either or both spouses), a couple living common-law (with or without children or either of both partners) or a lone parent of any marital status, with at least one child living in the same dwelling. "Children" in a census family include grandchildren living with their grandparent(s) but with no parents present. The chart does not recognize singles.

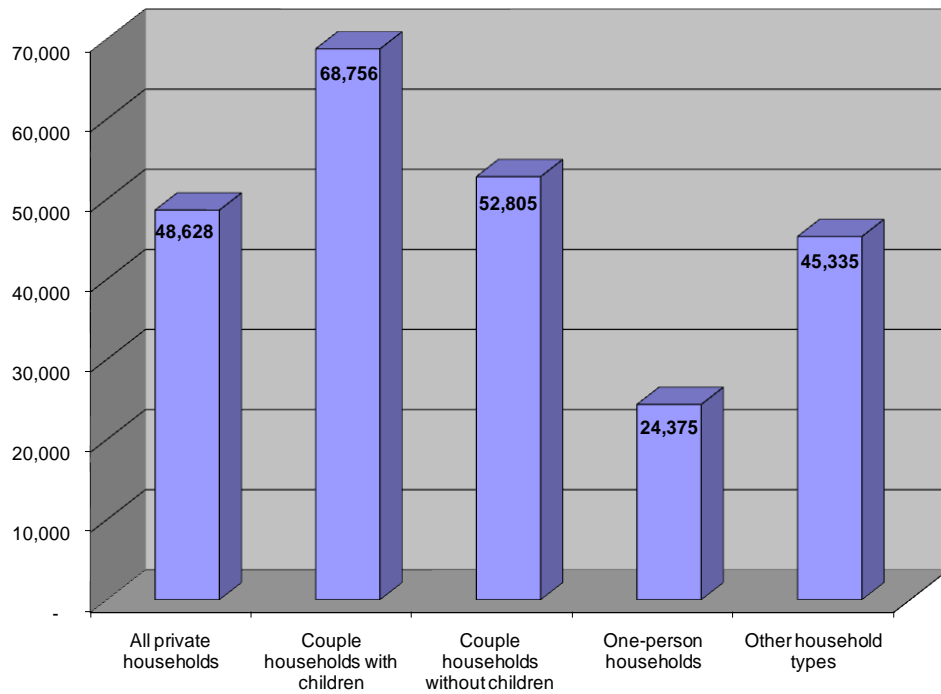
Chart 4: Household Types for Northumberland County, 2005



Source: Statistics Canada Census 2006 of Population

Private household refers to a person or a group of persons (other than foreign residents) who occupy the same dwelling and do not have a usual place of residence elsewhere in Canada. It may consist of a family group (census family) with or without other persons, of two or more families sharing a dwelling, of a group of unrelated persons, or of one person living alone. Household members who are temporarily absent on Census Day (e.g., temporary residents elsewhere) are considered as part of their usual household. For census purposes, every person is a member of one and only one household. Unless otherwise specified, all *data in household reports are for private households only.*

Chart 5: Northumberland County Median Income by Family Structure Type, 2005



Source: Statistics Canada Census 2006 of Population

Household total income – The total income of a household is the sum of the total incomes of all members of that household. Total income refers to the total money income received from the following sources during calendar year 2005 by persons 15 years of age and over.

2.2 DESCRIPTION / DEFINITIONS OF POVERTY

Poverty has many aspects and local variations and does not have a clear definition that is generally accepted in Canada. In November 2008, the Ontario Association of Food Banks released its report *The Cost of Poverty* and in it indicated, “Poverty is an extremely complex condition with economic, cultural, social, as well as institutional roots. Complicating it even further is the fact that causes and effects of poverty are known to interact.”ⁱⁱ The Fraser Alert titled *Poverty in Canada: 2006 Update* identifies a “basic-needs approach” to measuring poverty and gives the rationale “...poverty is fundamentally a problem of insufficiency and not inequality.”ⁱⁱⁱ Other definitions include the level of income relative to the “poverty line” or the “market basket” (Nutritious Food Basket) approach. In Northumberland County, the Poverty Action Reduction Committee has adopted for its working definition of poverty:

“...not having sufficient income to meet the basic necessities of living, with the result being an inequality of opportunity.”

2.3 BASIC INCOME AND POVERTY

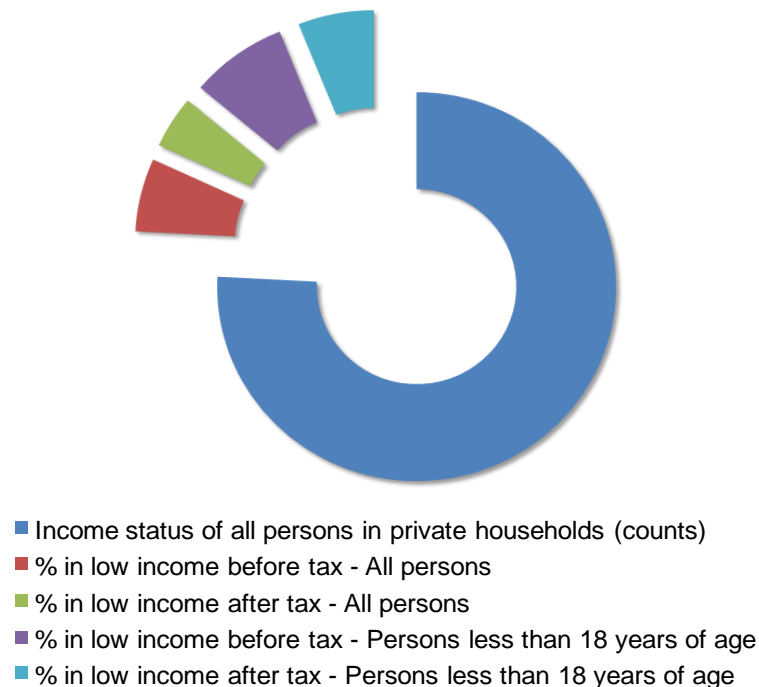
The following indicates that the percentage of Northumberland County residents with a reported income that was below the 'poverty line'

Poverty line: 7.9% before tax and 5.7% after taxes

(\$20,778) 2005 was 7.9 percent before tax and 5.7 percent after tax. According to census data, 62,880 people in Northumberland County had income in 2005.

This data only incorporates those that have income; it is noted that it is not inclusive of those less than 15 years of age, and those that are not deemed to have an income. Therefore, this number cannot be viewed as inclusive of all residents of Northumberland County and should be considered an under-reporting of poverty within the county. However, in comparison the rate of low income for the province was 14.7 percent before tax and 11.1 percent after tax for the same time period.

Chart 6: Northumberland County Low-Income Percentages, 2005



Income status of all persons in private households, before or after tax, refers to the position of an economic family in relation to Statistics Canada's low income cut-offs. Since each family member shares the income status of that family, percentages of low income can be derived for all persons in private households.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

In Northumberland County, there has been a strong public interest in the issues and effects of poverty for many years. The current focus on a Poverty Reduction Strategy is based on a county wide approach.

The following chart highlights some of the recent local activities:

Year	Activity	Participants / Lead	Results
2006	“Community Matters” Report: Consultation and survey to identify priority areas	Northumberland United Way with grant from Trillium Foundation	Priority areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ health care ▪ affordable housing ▪ cost of dental care ▪ transportation ▪ youth issues
2006	“A Caseload Analysis of Ontario Works Participants in Northumberland County” Survey and interviews to determine barriers to employment	Northumberland County: Community and Social Services	Barriers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ transportation ▪ affordable housing ▪ child care ▪ education ▪ mental health ▪ food ▪ physical health ▪ wages and finances
2007	Formation of Northumberland Poverty Reduction Action Committee (NPRAC)	Interested agencies, groups and individuals	County-wide focus on poverty, its effects and reduction strategies
2008: January	Release of “Affordable Housing Needs in Northumberland County”	Affordable Housing Committee	
2008: April	Community Action Day to set goals and objectives based on local needs and data	NPRAC	

2008: June	Report released which identified priorities	NPRAC	<p>Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ basic income security ▪ transportation ▪ affordable housing ▪ awareness campaign ▪ skills development ▪ training and education ▪ economic development ▪ coordination of agencies and services ▪ advocacy
2008: October	Development of priorities: "Programs, Gaps and Solutions"	Sub-committees of NPRAC	
2008: December	Announcement: Poverty Reduction Strategy	Province of Ontario	Commitments and measurable goals to reduce poverty including binding legislation

3.2 PRIORITIES OF NORTHUMBERLAND POVERTY REDUCTION ACTION COMMITTEE

Since its inception in 2007, the stated goal of NPRAC is “working towards developing a strategy to reduce poverty in Northumberland County.”

Developing a strategy to reduce poverty in Northumberland County.

Through facilitated discussions focused on poverty issues particular to Northumberland County, priorities have been identified for strategies and action:

- Basic Income Security, including access to food, clothing and health
- Transportation
- Affordable Housing
- Skills Development, Training and Education
- Economic Development
- Coordination of Agencies and Programs
- Awareness campaign and advocacy

The following sub-committees and groups are working with NPRAC:

- Basic Income Security
- Economic Development
- Education
- Food Access Northumberland (FAN)
- Helping Everyone Access Recreation Together (HEART)
- Housing
- Transportation

4.0 BASIC NECESSITIES

For those living with poverty access to basic necessities becomes essential for daily living whether income is sourced from government or employment. Increases in cost, rise in consumer prices

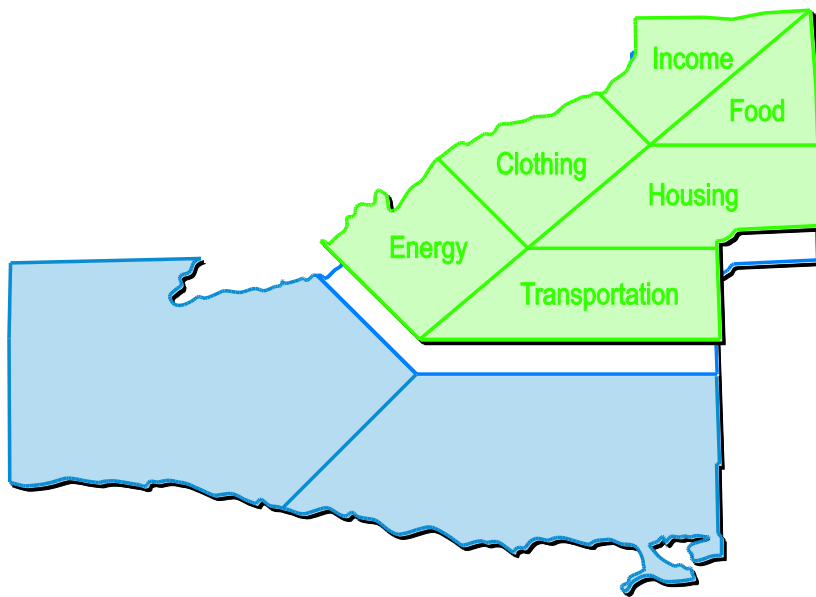
Given the rural nature of Northumberland, transportation is a basic necessity.

changes to government

programs and unanticipated events become the reasons for further stress.

Necessities are identified as being the basics: food, clothing, shelter.

Given the rural nature of Northumberland, transportation is also a basic need.



4.1 PRIORITY: INCOME SECURITY

Individuals and families “living below the poverty line” are those in our county who have inadequate income to cover their basic needs. Insecurity results from too little income regardless of the source. This means that the proportion of income spent on the necessities of food, clothing and shelter are such that deprivation is a regular experience.

Income security is not an issue that can be solved locally. It requires changes that are beyond a local solution and include public policy at all

Local solutions are found in supporting access to meeting basic needs.

levels of government. Local solutions are found in supporting access to meeting basic needs.

Advocacy and education are the strategies that will have wider impact and long-term benefits in terms of assuring basic income.

According to a report compiled by the HKPR District Health Unit in 2006, 7 percent of all people living in Northumberland County and 9 percent of

7% of all people living in Northumberland County and 9% of children were living below the local low-income cut-off established by Statistics Canada.

children were living below the local low-income cut-off established by Statistics Canada.^{iv} The Ontario Works Caseload in Northumberland

County has increased by 11.1 percent at the end of December 2008 compared to December 2007. The increase for the province was 6.1 percent for the same time period.^v

Income security means adequate income to meet basic needs. This is not limited only to those who are in receipt of benefits and other government supports. Many individuals and families who are affected by poverty have, in whole or in part, income from employment. The working poor are vulnerable due to low paying jobs, changing employer requirements and often barriers to support programs. The priorities for Northumberland are based on local needs regardless of the source of income support. In order to reduce poverty, strategies and solutions and policies must take into account the issues for those supported through social assistance as well as those who work.

Poverty and risk of poverty is increased for some more than others in the general population. The most obvious are: children and youth, seniors, single parent households and people with disabilities. The effects of poverty are felt differently by each and strategies need to be designed to meet their particular needs. Obviously the broad issues of adequate income, education and skills development, employment and transportation are the same.

Poverty and risk of poverty is increased for some more than others

INITIATIVES – LOCAL

NPRAC

- The largest initiative is the development of the Northumberland Poverty Reduction Action Committee which has brought together a broad base of individuals and sectors to work to reduce poverty locally. The representation at the table includes, and is not limited to, government, business and labor, education, those living with poverty, faith groups, volunteers and not for profit services.
- NPRAC will prepare a backgrounder to present to Municipal Council members as part of the education/awareness component of the Northumberland Poverty Reduction Strategy.
- NPRAC co-ordinates and/or endorses resolutions of other advocacy groups as well as the advocacy efforts of the members.
- Basic Income Security sub-committee is working towards coordinating advocacy efforts that address income including endorsing resolutions from provincial groups such as Campaign 2000 and 25/5.

– PROVINCIAL

Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy

- plans to establish an Asset Building initiative to assist families to build and maintain their assets.
- will increase the Ontario Child Benefit to up to \$1,310 per child per year.
- The government will undertake a review of social assistance with the goal of removing barriers and increasing opportunity – with a particular focus on people trying to move into employment from social assistance.

- On two occasions the Minister Deb Matthews of Child and Youth Services has come to Northumberland County to meet with representatives to discuss issues related to rural poverty.
- Northumberland was represented at the table in the discussions leading up to the provincial strategy on literacy.

WHAT'S NEEDED

- Collaborative advocacy aimed at all levels of government for raising the rates of all income support categories.
- Greater support for those with legal needs/rights issues.
- Improved access to services/justice.

4.2 FOOD SECURITY

Food security remains a challenge to many individuals and families and hunger continues to be the area with the greatest need for assistance.

Food is a concern for 15% of local families with children aged 17 years and under; and 11.5% of households experience food insecurity due to lack of money.

According to recent statistics from the HKPR District Health Unit, 11.5 percent of households experience food insecurity due to lack of money^{vi}. Food security was determined if survey respondents stated that they worry that there would not be

enough food to eat, did not have enough food to eat, or did not eat the quality or variety of foods they wanted to eat.

Each June, HKPR District Health Unit collects data from several grocery stores using a provincially standardized tool known as the Nutritious Food Basket (NFB)^{vii} to determine the average cost of food items commonly purchased and recommended by Eating Well with Canada’s Food Guide. This list is food items only and does not include items such as cleaning products, diapers, toilet paper, and personal care items. In 2009, a new Ministry of Health Promotion Protocol was used and the resulting NFB cost for a family of four is currently \$174.60 per week.

Chart 7: Costs for a Family of Four, 2004-2009

	Weekly Cost	Monthly Cost	Weekly Cost Increase	Percentage Increase
2009	\$174.60	\$756.02	\$33.79	24.0%
2008	\$140.81	\$609.71	\$4.85	3.4%
2007	\$135.96	\$588.71	\$3.16	2.3%
2006	\$132.80	\$575.02	\$3.43	2.6%
2005	\$129.37	\$560.17	\$3.32	2.6%
2004	\$126.05	\$545.80		

The Ontario Hunger Report 2008^{viii} published by the Ontario Association of Food Banks states that there has been an increase in the number of

The Food 4 All Warehouse reports an overall increase of 30% when comparing 2008 to 2009.

Ontarians accessing food banks in the fall of 2008. Information from Northumberland food banks shows that this is a local trend. The Food 4 All

Warehouse reports an overall increase of 30% when comparing 2008 to 2009. They have experienced a great increase in demand for food from all of the member groups since the start of the year.

Chart 8: Food Shipped by Service Organizations, 2008 & 2009^{ix}

Service Organization	% Usage	Food Shipped Jan. – Jun. 2009		Food Shipped Jan. – Jun. 2008	
		Cases	Pounds	Cases	Pounds
Food Banks	45	5,734	126,148	3,724	81,928
Church Groups	26	3,389	74,558	1,729	38,038
Community Groups	16	2,055	45,210	2,597	57,134
School Nutrition Programs	13	1,670	36,740	1,824	40,228
Total	100	12,848	282,656	9,874	217,228

INITIATIVES – LOCAL

Food 4 All Warehouse

- The food warehouse was established through multiple partnerships with Northumberland United Way, County of Northumberland, business, volunteer organizations, school boards and food banks. It services approximately 150 organizations and has distributed over 1.6 million pounds to the county in the last five years. Currently it's moving into improved space at the former Kraft Canada site in Cobourg.
- The acquisition of a new warehouse truck a year ago has increased access to food and distribution to local members.

Food Access Northumberland (FAN)

- co-ordinates and supports existing and new community-based food programs
- links community groups and individuals to existing services
- co-ordinates two meetings annually for food-bank providers
- hosted community consultations in the Spring of 2009 to determine the needs and barriers of this group
- is hosting consultations with service providers in the Fall of 2009 to increase awareness and coordination of services based on previous identified needs and barriers

- is supporting buy local food initiatives and educating community members about importance of locally grown food

HKPR District Health Unit

- with input from FAN produces and posts on the Health Unit Website, Hungry, a listing of food programs in the county
- mobilizes and promotes access to food programs
- provides skill-building opportunities related to food skills and healthy eating practices for priority populations
- costs out a Nutritious Food Basket every May and produces an advocacy tool
- works to reduce health disparities and inequities in priority populations by minimizing barriers and increasing access to services as well as monitoring and reporting on the determinants of health such as food security.

Northumberland Child Development Centre

- The “A Bright Place to Start” program provides peer support and nutritional guidance to families of young children living in conditions of risk. It is co-facilitated with the Health Unit and services involve a community partnership.
- The “Milk for Moms” distributes gift certificates for milk through 29 partner agencies. In 2008 more than 10,000 children in 5,000 families were helped.

- PROVINCIAL

Ontario Association of Food Banks (OAFB)

- setting standards of operation for food banks

Ontario’s Poverty Reduction Strategy

- is doubling the government’s investment in Student Nutrition Programs, with a new investment of \$32 million over three years beginning in 2008.
- Northumberland Food For Thought coordinates and supports 36 school nutrition programs and serving approximately 2,100 students per day.

WHAT'S NEEDED

- Continue advocacy efforts around income, affordable housing and transportation in rural areas
- Work with existing key agencies and community partnerships to increase transportation to services such as food programs.
- Advocate that the Nutritious Food Basket become a provincial standard of living indicator that measures whether or not people can afford a nutritious diet.
- Increased distribution of information about food programs using local papers and a variety of locations throughout the community.
- Distribute food to all rural areas of the county, although most communities currently have access to a food bank/cupboard.
- Provide clients with as much choice as possible when food is distributed.
- Increase access to food banks by increasing hours for families and individuals who are working and varying hours during the month (including an opening on a Saturday).
- Increase volunteer base to distribute food and encourage volunteers to adhere to the Ontario Food Bank Code of Ethics.
- Provide child-minding services for food program users interested in volunteering.
- Train and provide information to volunteers of food banks and outlets accepting vouchers from food-related programs.
- Provide more skill building around storing and cooking fresh produce and cooking healthy meals from scratch.
- Co-ordination around community gardens, including the initiation of a community garden network, enabling networking, skill building, sharing of resources and increasing promotional efforts.

4.3 ADEQUATE CLOTHING

For individuals and families with inadequate basic income, most used up in shelter costs, clothing is low on the priority list. Also, transportation to find appropriate clothing may be difficult. Whether winter clothing for children, an outfit for a job interview, or everyday clothing in decent condition, everyone needs to be able to gain access to adequate and appropriate clothing.

An emerging issue for families with children who receive the Ontario Child Benefit is that increased amounts will be paid based on eliminating the former clothing allowance received twice a year. This means that families who are already stressed financially will have to save for back to school and winter clothing.

INITIATIVES – LOCAL

NPRAC Basic Income Security sub-committee

- is investigating a Clothing Distribution Network

211 Information Service

- provides coordinated information having started in May 2009

Transportation sub-committee

- work of the committee will also support the issue of access to clothing

WHAT'S NEEDED

- There is currently no coordination of clothing services or information regarding where individuals can go.
- Transportation remains a major issue for those who do not have the means to travel to the services, especially if they live in rural areas as

Transportation remains a major issue

many of the thrift stores are located in the towns or attached to an existing food bank.

4.4 PRIORITY: AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Affordable Housing is a top priority identified in both the *Community Matters Report*^x (2006) and the *Community Action Day Report*^{xi} (2008).

“Northumberland County faces an acute affordable housing shortage.”

Safe, affordable housing is an issue throughout the County of Northumberland. In January 2008 the Affordable Housing Steering Committee published their report in which it stated;

“Northumberland County faces an acute affordable housing shortage.”^{xii} Housing and the issues associated with housing affect all areas of life for those living with poverty. The adequacy of housing, the amount required to maintain housing, associated costs such as energy and repairs all affect health and opportunities. An indication of the need for affordable housing is that at least 2,500 households in Northumberland County are at risk of homelessness. The causes are:

- Affordability with renters paying more than 30 percent of income.
- Supply: little rental accommodation being built and multi-family dwellings being converted to single family use.
- Overcrowding.
- Housing stock requiring major repairs.
- Insecurity of tenure for those living in motels, boarding and rooming houses.

In addition to the lack of available, appropriate housing, the amount that is required for rent and utilities often means that there isn't enough income

Rent and utilities are costing in excess of 60% for many who are living on low income.

left for other necessities. The HKPR Health Unit report (November 2008) on Child Poverty indicates that rent and utilities are costing in excess of 60

percent of income for many who are low income.^{xiii}

SOCIAL HOUSING

In 2000 the province downloaded the Social Housing responsibilities to the municipalities and the County of Northumberland became the largest landlord in the county with 14 buildings consisting of 344 affordable housing units able to house approximately 500 individuals.

There are a further 533 subsidized housing units which results in a total of 877 units for the county. This portfolio of social housing units is more than

Social housing units are more than 25 years old and require extensive maintenance, thus limiting resources to develop new affordable housing units.

25 years old and requires extensive maintenance limiting the resources to develop new affordable housing units.

In order to be eligible for social housing, households must meet eligibility requirements established by the Province of Ontario through legislation and regulations of the Social Housing Reform Act, 2000. If the applicant is deemed eligible for assistance, the household is placed on the Centralized Waiting List.

ISSUES

- Insufficient affordable housing stock and little new rental affordable housing being built.
- Adequate and affordable housing for singles, seniors.
- Funds to update current stock of social housing.
- High percentage of households on wait-list for Rent Geared to Income (RGI) housing who have incomes below the poverty line.
- Safe, affordable supportive housing for individuals with chronic mental health issues such as dual diagnosis.
- Barriers such as outdated by-laws i.e. licensing of rooming houses, sharing residences, restrictive social assistance rules, secondary suites.
- Lack of housing standards for those living in motels
- Lack of vital services by-laws.
- Protection for roomer/boarder(s).
- Lack of moving services and storage for those who have been evicted.
- Inadequate funds available for housing repair assistance programs. In 2008 there were over 2000 homes in the county which require major repair.

INITIATIVES – LOCAL

County Council

At the July 22nd meeting, County Council passed 4 motions related to housing:

- Rent Bank Agreement entered into with the province and an agreement with the Salvation Army for the delivery of the service.
- Social Housing Renovation and Retrofit Program agreement which will result in distribution of funds to the Local Housing Corporation and 10 other providers in the county.
- To participate in the Canada Ontario Affordable Housing program through a service agreement with Northumberland Habitat for Humanity.
- To participate in the New Rental Housing program to provide more rental housing for low-income seniors and persons with disabilities.

Affordable Housing Steering Committee

- As part of their strategic plan will look at ways to address the issue; including recruitment of new community partners to consider solutions.
- The Legal Centre is currently examining roomer/boarder protective municipal laws on behalf of the Affordable Housing Steering Committee.

NPRAC

- Uses opportunities for funding to review current by-laws, research by-law changes other communities have made and submit recommendations to each municipal council in the county.
- Advocacy efforts encourage municipal council members to keep affordable housing at the forefront of municipal plans.

Utility Trust

- Provides funding to replace outdated fuel tanks.
- Assists residents to pay for utility arrears; avoid disconnection and allow low income people to remain in their housing.

Northumberland Habitat for Humanity

- Gives a “hand up” to home ownership to low income families, in partnership, by building and renovating safe, decent and affordable housing. Financing is provided through a zero interest mortgage with payments geared to income.
- The program known as ‘A Brush with Kindness’ was established to assist with routine maintenance and modest repairs.

Northumberland Services for Women (NSW)

- In June 2009 NSW opened Cornerstone, a second stage housing program. The building has 20 units consisting of singles, one and two bedroom units. Rents are at the Affordable Housing initiative level. The program runs for one year for the residents with an opportunity to remain longer should it be necessary.

– PROVINCIAL

Ontario's Poverty Reduction Strategy

- will stabilize funding for the Provincial Rent Bank program with a dedicated commitment of \$5 million per year.
- In 2009, the Ontario government's 10-year, \$60 billion infrastructure plan will include social housing as an initiative.

Ontario's 2008 budget

- included expansion of the Ontario Strategic Infrastructure Financing Authority (OSIFA) loan eligibility to include private and public non-profit sector housing providers access up to \$500 million in loans to support investments in social housing infrastructure, both capital repairs and new affordable housing projects; as well as \$100 million for social housing providers to repair existing social housing including cost-saving energy upgrades.

WHAT'S NEEDED

- Coordinate and/or endorse current advocacy campaigns to address the resource needs of service providers delivering repair assistance programs.
- More affordable housing particularly in the rental market
- NPRAC to support the provincial movement for the licensing of builders.

Municipalities

- endorse the Affordable Housing Steering Committee plan
- Endorse the provincial program to grant affordable housing first right of refusal on land declared surplus.
- Celebrate progress and successful partnerships.

4.5 ENERGY USE AND CONSERVATION

Costs for energy put more pressure on individuals and families struggling with inadequate income. Many rental units require that heating and

For people already paying more than 30% of their income on shelter costs, the increase in energy needs in the winter months proves to be an insurmountable challenge.

electricity costs be paid over and above rental fees. For people affected by poverty who are already paying more than 30 percent of their income on shelter costs, the increase in energy needs in the winter months proves to be an insurmountable

challenge. For those living in sub standard housing energy costs and conservation are not something that can be easily addressed.

A particular problem for those living in rural areas is oil tanks that are outdated and expired. Replacement costs are prohibitive for many living on low income and make home heating a major issue as well as unaffordable.

The County of Northumberland's Green Light Initiative began with conducting energy audits of the social housing units in the County; to outline the energy savings opportunities, energy and water cost savings, and estimated implementation costs, applicable grants and incentives. In 2008, the energy conservation plan was completed by the Northumberland County Housing Corporation.

INITIATIVES – LOCAL

NPRAC

- Endorse the work of Low-Income Energy Network (LIEN).
- Send letter to Housing Help Association of Ontario supporting poverty/energy areas.
- Investigate Peterborough's Energy Conservation program to determine if it can be recreated in Northumberland County.

Affordable Housing Steering Committee

- is working to generate public awareness about energy costs and conservation methods.

WHAT'S NEEDED

- There needs to be increased education for the public on gas and electricity resale. Contracts can be costly and difficult to terminate when prices go down.

- Explore opportunities for initiatives with County of Northumberland Community & Social Services Housing Department.
- Assistance for low-income homeowners to replace out-of-date oil tanks that oil companies can no longer refill.

4.6 PRIORITY: TRANSPORTATION

With a large area of the county being rural, transportation is a common issue for many residents. One of the “top three issues” in the Community

Transportation affects all aspects of daily life for those living in poverty in terms of access to needed supports and services

Matters Report (2006) was identified as a lack of transportation by four of the rural areas.^{xiv} Access to public

transportation was a concern for many as there are only public transit in Port Hope and Cobourg. Available and affordable transportation affects all aspects of daily life for those living in poverty in terms of access to needed supports and services. In 2006 the majority of people (90 percent) drove motor vehicles to get to work and due to limited availability only 1 percent took public transit.^{xv}

ISSUES

- Currently there is no county-wide transportation system. The Northumberland Transit Initiative requires the support of each Municipality and Northumberland County in order to make the system available to all residents of Northumberland County.
- **Northumberland Transit Initiative (NTI) Route**
 - The current route is only running two days a week which does not provide enough assistance for residents to reach daily employment or education.
 - NTI not a door to door service in the rural areas which can lead to safety issues for participants walking to the pick-up locations on roads with no sidewalks.
 - The current route availability is Cramahe Township and Haldimand Ward. There are a number of inquiries from Trent Hills, Hope Township, Hamilton Township and Alnwick Ward and Brighton area. None of which offer affordable transportation to their residents.
- There is no transportation subsidy program available to low-income residents not associated with an agency that provides such a program.
- There are caps on subsidies available to eligible recipients as well as a limitation on coverage available.

- **Shuttle Service between Port Hope and Cobourg**
 - No accommodation for children/strollers.
 - Reduced week-end hours.
- There are no routes available elsewhere in the County (i.e. Campbellford).
- Cost of Community Care services is beyond the budget of some individuals.
 - Service is only available to Community Care clients.
- There is no auto repair service available to assist with the maintenance of vehicles for those living on low income.
- Taxi rates are not affordable for low-income individuals and families to afford if they need to travel outside of the urban centres.

INITIATIVES – LOCAL

- In 2008 the Northumberland Transportation Initiative began as a pilot project to provide affordable transportation for residents of Cramahe Township and nearby Alnwick/Haldimand.
- Funding opportunities are currently being explored by NTI Project Coordinator to expand and enhance the route
- Investigation of flat rate, affordable fees for travel around the County for low-income residents.
- Funding has been achieved to make the van wheelchair and scooter accessible.
- Cobourg Transit has offered support in allowing NTI riders to transfer onto their buses for no additional fee. Outreach has been made to Port Hope for the same consideration and discussion pending.

WHAT'S NEEDED

- A solution is to advocate for coordination of services currently available. A coordinated list of services would provide an opportunity to create solutions to the transportation issues throughout the County.
- The biggest gap is in finding/accessing consistent funding to develop and operate a county-wide system. Until this can be achieved, people living with poverty outside of the two towns in the county will not have the kind of access to transportation to allow them to become independent.
- Consideration needs to be given by some group or individual to find ways to support those who can have their own transportation with assistance for repairs and maintenance.

- NTI needs the continued support from over 70 local Agencies and Organizations in Northumberland County that have been contacted to ensure that all of their clients are aware of the transportation service.

5.0 HEALTH CARE

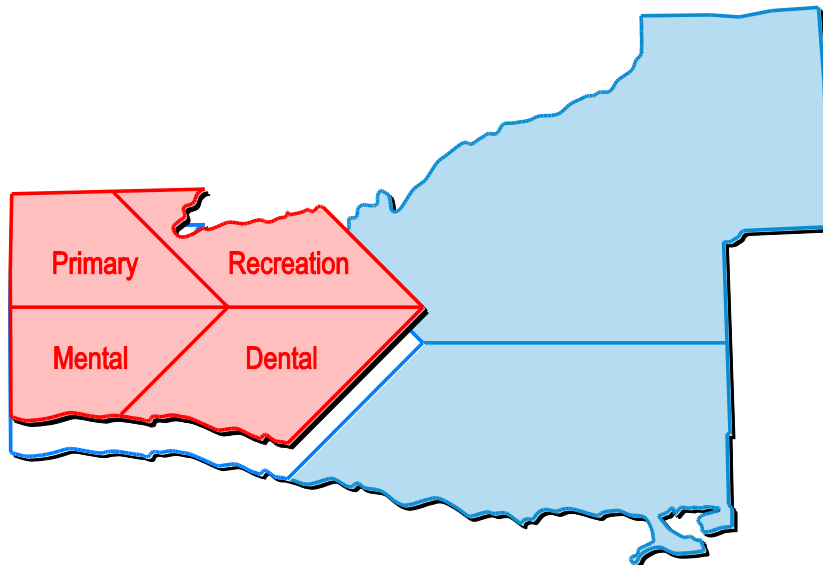
A lot of focus has been put by the health care community on the social determinants of health. Health Canada has compiled a list eleven determinants of health in Canada and include; income and social status, social support networks, education and literacy, employment and working conditions, physical and social environments, biology and genetics endowment, personal health practices and coping skills, healthy child development, health services, gender, and culture^{xvi}.

Health care was identified as one of the top three issues in each of the geographic areas of Northumberland surveyed in the *Community Matters*

47.1 percent of residents indicated that health care, mainly access to a primary physician, was a major concern.

Report. Throughout the county, 47.1 percent of residents indicated that health care, mainly access to a primary physician, was a major

concern to them. For the purpose of this paper health care will include primary health care, mental health, dental health and wellness and recreation.



5.1 PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

Ontario is currently facing an overwhelming concern regarding primary health care. With an aging population, including physicians, there are doctor shortages in a growing number of communities. There are currently three ongoing doctor recruitment and retention campaigns taking place in Northumberland County.

There are currently three ongoing doctor recruitment and retention campaigns taking place in Northumberland County.

ISSUES

- Coverage for prescription medicine for low-income families not receiving OW/ODSP.
- Coverage for dispensing fees for OW/ODSP clients with multiple medications to fill each month.
- Ontario Trillium Drug Program has a threshold deductible that must be paid before coverage begins.
- Availability of doctors.

INITIATIVES - LOCAL

- Family Health Teams in Brighton and Campbellford.
- Opening of Port Hope Community Health Centre in 2008.

NPRAC

- Basic Income Security sub-committee is conducting survey of local drug stores that offer dispensing fee relief.
- Raise awareness of resources available through Awareness Campaign.

Community Health Bank

- (subject to funding availability) can offer assistance with covering deductibles for prescription coverage.

Port Hope for Youth

- Started in the fall of 2007 as a collaborative of services for youth at risk. Sponsored by Northumberland Child Development Centre it provides on site social services delivered by the County as well as other service providers including health, education and social supports.

WHAT'S NEEDED

- Advocate for health care program for non-social assistance recipients similar to OW/ODSP program.
- Develop a connection with the Central East LHIN for liaising and advocating for health care for Northumberland County.

5.2 ACCESS TO RECREATION

Physical activity and access to recreation are important to the health of all individuals in a community. Physical activity combined with adequate nutrition is important in the prevention of chronic disease.

Many children in low-income families are denied the opportunity to participate in recreational activities that are vital to their health and

Low-income families face many barriers that prevent access to recreation opportunities...

development. “Statistics show that children in low-income families are much less likely than children living in high-income families to participate in organization sports (25 percent compared

to 75 percent). Low-income families face many barriers that prevent access to recreation opportunities – user fees and equipment costs; lack of transportation, family support and awareness of opportunities; isolation and exclusion; inadequate or no facilities; parks and/or playgrounds in their communities and lack of safe places to play.”^{xvii}

ISSUES

- Access to recreational activities for rural families
- Attitudes to the stigma of accessing assistance
- Information and access to subsidies
- Awareness of the importance and benefits of physical activity
- Registration fees and equipment costs are barriers to participation

INITIATIVES – LOCAL

- Launch of new innovative website and forum “encouraging access to affordable physical activity for all.” (www.joininnorthumberland.ca)
- A joint project known as H.E.A.R.T. (Helping Everyone Access Recreation Together) developed to ensure all people in Northumberland have the opportunity to participate in recreation activities without barriers.
- Distribution of free bike helmets to 250 children and youth sponsored by the Cobourg and District Community Safety Council.

WHAT’S NEEDED

- **NPRAC**
 - can collaborate and support the work of Active Living Northumberland in raising awareness of the importance of access to recreation for low-income families

- advocate for access to recreation
- Consistent, sustained funding or funding strategies to support continued access
- Encourage interested parties to work together
- Continue and support Active Living Northumberland to work with other organizations to reduce risks and ensure maximum benefits for those who have barriers to healthy active living.

5.3 MENTAL HEALTH

People coping with economic distress have higher levels of stress, despair, anger, loss of control and depression deeply affecting their mental health leading to the need for increased access to mental health services and hospitalizations that provide short-term care to treat the symptoms. Unfortunately, without ongoing supports once the symptoms are reduced, many individuals return to the situation where mental and emotional health cannot be maintained and basic needs are not met. The research shows that this type of chronic stress leads to increased potential for family conflict, domestic violence, family breakup, children in care, suicide, drugs and alcohol abuse, gambling and other addictions as a means of attempting to escape or cope with feelings of hopelessness.

ISSUES

- There are only two addictions counselors available to serve the entire county.

There are only two addictions counselors available to serve the entire county.

- There are no methadone clinics in Northumberland County; clients must travel to Durham Region or Peterborough to receive treatment
- Individuals suffering from mental health disorders and who do not have a doctor cannot apply for ODSP and lose access to the supports that could help them get treatment.
- There is a need for an ODSP social worker to assist clients in assessing their overall situation in order to address underlying issues that require treatment and successfully move them through the system.
- No in-patient beds available in Northumberland County; patients wait in emergency room hallway waiting transfer for an available bed in another hospital (in Peterborough, Oshawa, or further).
- There are not enough psychiatrists to deal with the growing number of mental health disorders; including services for eating disorders, forensic mental health issues (relating to criminal activity), and community mental health services to reduce need for in-patient care.
- Lack of housing options for those suffering from mental health disorders; especially those related to forensic mental health.
- Sufficient resources for sole support parents to effectively manage mental health issue while maintaining focus on raising children.

INITIATIVES – LOCAL

Northumberland Community Counseling

- Agency opened in 2008.

Central East LHIN

- is working on programs and funding to support community mental health services dealing with early mental health interventions.

- PROVINCIAL

Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy

- includes a portion of the Mental Health and Addictions Strategy that will target low-income youth who have severe mental illness and/or substance abuse issues.

WHAT'S NEEDED

NPRAC

- Support and join advocating for additional addictions counsellors by providing information to assist advocates for changes to the mental health sector that addresses the link between poverty and mental health.
- Advocate for staff social worker to assist Ontario Works and ODSP clients access the information and supports they need to receive a diagnosis, get treatment, and counseling.
- Include housing needs for those with mental health issues in advocacy campaign for increased affordable, supportive and safe housing.
- Advocate for sustainable funding for Northumberland Community Counseling Centre.

LHIN and MHLTC

- To utilize projection rates in infrastructure planning in order to ensure Northumberland County is adequately serviced in funding distribution as it relates to physician recruitment, including psychiatrists.

5.4 DENTAL CARE

Many Northumberland County residents reported the cost of dental care as a major issue. Currently children between the ages of 0 to 17 years are eligible for limited coverage under the provincial Children in Need of Treatment (CINOT) program, provided there is no other coverage available. Coverage under this program is limited to dental conditions requiring urgent care such as pain, injury or visible cavities whereby payment for treatment of the condition would result in financial hardship for the parent. Financial hardship may have to be proven to be eligible for this coverage.

Ontario Works dependent children up to their 18th birthday are covered for basic dental treatment and care. Coverage for adults on Ontario Works

There are no programs covering preventative adult dental health.

differs across Ontario. In Northumberland County it is limited to discretionary benefits up to \$500 per calendar year for basic exams, extractions, and fillings that

are required to “alleviate pain” or required to assist in their participation of the program. Pregnant women receiving Ontario Works in Northumberland County are also eligible for some basic preventative services up until a few months after they give birth.

There is currently no coverage for basic preventative care and dental treatment such as check-ups, cleanings and non urgent fillings for children under any program. There are no programs covering preventative adult dental health.

ISSUES

- No basic dental coverage for low-income families, adults and seniors.
- Prevention coverage for adults, seniors and non-eligible children.
- Limited coverage for OW/ODSP recipients/families.
- Better communication needed for available coverage.
- No coverage for dentures; although there are new ODSP client rules that will cover some costs.
- Access to the services that are available.

INITIATIVES – LOCAL

Oral Health Coalition

- advocating for coverage for all

Port Hope Community Health Centre

- has dental space and their patient focus includes low-income population

Mobile Dental Hygienists

- are available to travel to individual homes.

Independent Dental Hygiene Clinics

- PROVINCIAL

Ontario's Poverty Reduction Strategy

- The government will invest \$45 million annually to provide dental care for low-income Ontarians, beginning in 2008.

WHAT'S NEEDED

NPRAC

- To include information about Oral Health Coalition in the awareness campaign; as well as supporting the work of the Coalition

6.0 SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING AND EDUCATION

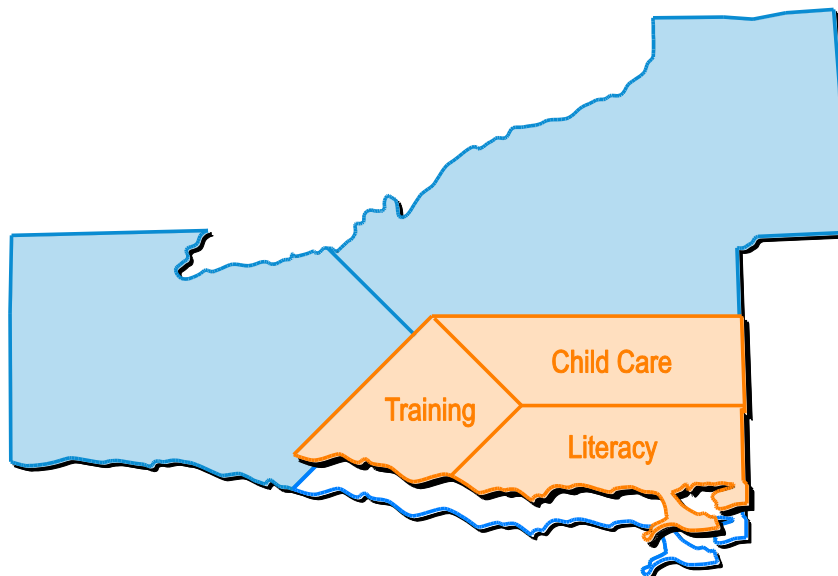
In order to improve the lives of those living with poverty, it is essential to work to alleviate root causes as well as to provide access to services and supports. Long term, sustainable improvements in the lives of individuals, and the community, come about when people are able to participate in the economy. There is much research that links lack of literacy, education and skills to intergenerational poverty.

There are many programs and services in Northumberland County that are aimed at addressing issues of barriers to employment. However, the

The top three priorities for Northumberland are: job readiness deficiencies, skilled trade shortages and deindustrialization.

biggest issues are for access and supports for individuals followed by the changing needs of employers. In 2008

and 2009 Northumberland County has experienced the world wide economic downturn that has added severe pressures to the local workforce. In 2008 the Workforce Development Board completed a series of consultations which resulted in setting priorities based on local trends. The top three for Northumberland are: job readiness deficiencies, skilled trade shortages and deindustrialization.^{xviii}



6.1 AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE

The County of Northumberland is striving to meet the demands of childcare through the Community and Social Services Children's Services Department. Current funding is invested in supporting child-care-fee subsidy, child-care-employee-wage subsidy and services for children with special needs; LEAP, student and temporary care assistance; the Community Outreach Program; and the Children's Enrichment Program. Unfortunately, the demand is outgrowing the supply of licensed child care spaces.

...demand is outgrowing the supply of licensed child care spaces.

ISSUES

- Northumberland County Community & Social Services Children's Services has implemented a wait list for child care subsidized assistance due to the growing requests.
- Insufficient licensed child care spaces in rural areas.

There are insufficient licensed child care spaces in rural areas.

- Insufficient licensed infant care spaces (infant care is for children aged 0 to 18 months); currently there are 26 spaces available in the licensed child care system.
- Current Best Start initiative funding of \$1.6 million is scheduled to be terminated as of March 2010.
- Early learning and child care workforce remains under-paid in comparison with other educational professionals.
- A new initiative in the Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy outlining full-day learning for 4- and 5-year old children poses possible re-licensing and re-structuring of current licensed child care providers; including funding for infrastructure changes.

INITIATIVES – LOCAL

NPRAC

Advocates to:

- endorse the movement for a universal child care system
- increase the investment by the provincial government for the development of licensed home day care spaces

- endorse the need for provincial and federal government for funding to offset the costs to licensed child care providers of adherence to the Day Nurseries Act requirements for the provision of infant care

Provincial: Ontario Government

- will focus the first phase of implementation of the four- and five-year-old full-day learning on low-income neighbourhoods

Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy

- will extend the Up-Front Child Care Benefits for participants requiring support to maintain their participation in employment and employment assistance activities, including young parents participating in the LEAP program under Ontario Works

What's Needed:

- Federal government support and resources for a universal child care program.
- Increased availability of cooperative day care.

6.2 LITERACY

Literacy skills are the core to successful education, training and employment. Literacy is one of the root causes of poverty. Beyond reading

Computer literacy is becoming an essential skill.

and writing, literacy skills include basic mathematics, use of clear language, communication skills, critical thinking

(problem-solving) and study skills. As workplaces are reliant on computers to conduct business, computer literacy is becoming an essential skill.

Barriers to reading and writing will have an impact on an individual's ability to get a job, keep a job, and remain competitive in the workplace.

ISSUES

- Consistent availability and access to literacy programs throughout the County.
- Awareness by the public and business of the link between literacy and poverty.
- Business leaders making literacy training available in the workplace.
- Adult literacy was not sufficiently identified in the Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy however its investment in Employment Ontario has temporarily increased funding.
- Adult education is offered by the local School Board at the Centre for Individual Studies in Cobourg only which raises transportation issues.

INITIATIVES – LOCAL

- Literacy Service Planning table, including the READ Centre, local School Board and the community college. (Academic Upgrading)
- Publication by the Workforce Development Board including material specific to Northumberland County, *Want the Competitive Edge? Literacy in the Workplace*^{xix}.
- Literacy Day Northumberland held in January 2009 brought together a cross section of individuals and groups to better understand the scope and issues related to literacy in Northumberland County.
- Increase in funding for adult literacy provided by the provincial government in 2009 to the READ Centre and to Sir Sandford Fleming College.

WHAT'S NEEDED:

- Earlier and regular testing of school children for literacy and resources for supports.
- Employers' commitment to supplying literacy training in the work place as part of professional development.
- Access to training outside of regular hours.
- Transportation and child care provision

6.3 PRIORITY: SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING AND EDUCATION

For many years, it has been recognized and accepted that one of the keys to reducing poverty and its negative effects is education which includes

One of the keys to reducing poverty and its negative effects is education which includes skills and training.

skills and training. Without opportunities or when there are barriers, it is unlikely that aid alone will be successful. The workforce

needs people who are educated and trained in order to reduce the human and financial costs of poverty. Northumberland County is clearly going through the post industrialization changes that many Ontario communities are currently experiencing. Therefore, it is essential that educational opportunities be made available and individuals supported in their retraining process.

ISSUES

- Lack of an inventory of local programs and services available throughout the County.
- Limited awareness of the free and subsidized training programs available.
- Barriers to accessing apprenticeship opportunities such as the limited number of employers willing to sponsor apprenticeship opportunities, the issues with employers adjusting apprenticeship opportunities, problems with employers adjusting apprentice wages as skills increase, and the difficulty employers face in completing the “paperwork” required to sponsor an apprenticeship position.
- Lack of local labour market opportunities that support the local skills set, caused by a decrease in manufacturing jobs with a large population of manufacturing/industrial skills base.
- Lack of local post-secondary opportunities for County residents who do not / cannot access training elsewhere.

INITIATIVES - LOCAL

- Increased information being distributed including a number of printed materials on the programs and services through the Northumberland Blue Book, Directory of Services for Children and Youth, Where to Find

Help in Northumberland County, and the Directory of Mental Health Services.

- The Northumberland County Strategic Plan 2008-2011 identifies six sectors of interest and on the focus of Economic Development, one area is Skilled Trades.^{xx}
- The plan also identifies the need for a greater Community College presence.
- Elearnnetwork.ca, a provincial initiative, provides free internet access points to Ontarians who want to take online post secondary courses. A new access point has been opened in Port Hope.

Workforce Development Board

- is currently conducting assessment of available local skills in an effort to inform local labor market needs.

- PROVINCIAL

Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy

- Learning Opportunities Grant funding will be more focused on helping low-income students who are most in need.
- Ontario's Poverty Reduction Strategy will exempt social assistance earnings as income for persons participating in post-secondary education.
- Parent's Reaching Out Grants funding will be re-focused to better help parents in higher-needs areas participate in their children's education.
- Will double to over \$22 million annually funding in the Youth Opportunities Strategy to expand the program in existing communities and offer new programming in other priority communities. The Youth Opportunities Strategy is designed to help children overcome economic disadvantages by providing jobs, training and outreach for young people.
- Provincial increase in investment in Literacy Basic Skills programs, including Fleming College's Academic Upgrading Program, the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board basic literacy classes, and The READ Centre, will increase access to 1/3 more people than previously served.

WHAT'S NEEDED

- Increased promotion of the availability of training dollars.
- Increased promotion of literacy/upgrading programs (Fleming College Academic Upgrading, KPRDSB literacy classes, and The READ Centre)
- Increased awareness of Second Career and Apprenticeship opportunities.
- Model such as the Centre for Individual Studies to serve adults.

NPRAC

- Collaborate with the Literacy Task Force to support and/or assist with coordination of education and awareness.
- Advocate for the expansion of the Colleges to offer more certificate and diploma programs in Northumberland locations.

7.0 STRATEGIES AND INVESTMENTS

The priorities that have been developed for Northumberland County can be seen as addressing particular or individual needs and priorities that are broader strategies to reduce the effects of poverty. This section describes the latter.

7.1 PRIORITY: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic development is an integral part of any poverty-reduction strategy. Business can create employment, income and local entrepreneurial activities, all of which contribute to a reduction in poverty. All of this means many things for the community. More individuals holding employment means less reliance on social assistance programs, and spending in those programs could be funneled into other areas. When a person experiences less stress, it takes pressure off the health care system with fewer trips to the doctor, potentially less need for prescription medication addressing stress-related health issues, and improved productivity for businesses. Increased training gives the workforce a broader skill base which can attract potential new industries into the area. Overall, stable employment, a living wage, and increased training combine to strengthen the business community and expand economic development opportunities.

In the last two years, there has been significant change in the manufacturing sector, representing 20.9 percent of the labor force in this

There has been significant change in the manufacturing sector, representing 20.9% of the labour force in this county.

county. In 2007, over 150 manufacturing jobs were lost. In 2008, that number grew to over 500.^{xxi} The current

economic climate is showing no signs of decreased job losses as a number of manufacturing sites continue to decrease. Many of the new industry coming into the area is retail and fast food, providing only part-time, low-pay jobs that create further stress on the economic climate.

ISSUES

- Employers need different skills and education by their employees from those of the former industrial jobs.
- Those seeking employment and where to get programs want services in their own community.
- The demographics of who is seeking employment has changed dramatically in the recent economic downturn.
- Entry level jobs often are low pay jobs and require a level of education and skills.
- Jobs are changing from those of industry to knowledge based.

- Expectations of a good job have changed to sustained, long term employment from high pay, low skill jobs.

INITIATIVES – LOCAL

- **NPRAC Economic Development sub-committee**
 - is working to coordinate and organize with the County Economic Development Advisory Committee to educate business on the cost of poverty and how business and jobs are linked in poverty reduction work and encourage sustainable employment in Northumberland County.
- Economic Development officers have established a working group.
- Community Employment Resource Partnerships (CERP) has set up a website.
- Equi-Pass (www.equi-pass.com) and E-Learning Network (www.elearnnetwork.ca) systems

Equi-Pass and E-Learning Network systems started.

- These offer a wide range of training and supports online at low cost.
- HUB strategies have been finalized and six locations are being set up.
- Broadband deployment is underway to rural areas.

– PROVINCIAL

- **Ontario's Poverty Reduction Strategy**
 - will commit \$20 million to develop a Social Venture Capital Fund that will find innovative solutions to difficult social problems and improve social outcomes by:
- Providing emerging, innovative social ventures with funding to attract private investments or develop private sector partnerships, and operate in a sustainable manner; and
- Develop new, successful strategies for investing in Ontario-focused social ventures in order to help increase the level of institutional, private and corporate investment.

WHAT'S NEEDED

- Information to business/industry as how business and jobs are linked to poverty reduction

- Increased understanding by the business community about the cost of low-paying jobs and how unstable employment affects the community as a whole
- Encouragement and support for small business, better understanding and promotion of what Northumberland does well.

7.2 PRIORITY: COORDINATION OF AGENCIES AND SERVICES

The coordination of services is essential in creating the support system to assist individuals living in poverty with the resources needed. There are a number of service agencies that already collaborate informally to ensure clients have the tools necessary to make changes in their lives.

... is not happening at a county-wide level.

Unfortunately, this is not happening at a county-wide level.

There has been a large amount of research conducted in the area of service coordination in the health care sector by Gina Browne, PhD., Founder and Director of the System-Linked Research Unit on Health and Social Service Utilization with McMaster University Health Sciences. “Making people healthier and better able to cope with their life circumstances results in savings elsewhere,” states Dr. Browne in her research.

“The most successful strategies are those that:

- Are cooperative and cross-sector, linking physical health care to social services, mental health services, and other services;
- Are comprehensive and holistic, treating the whole person or the whole family in context;
- Are proactive, reaching out to those who are unlikely to find the help they need on their own;

The most serious barrier to the delivery of these services is the separate funding of the various sectors.”^{xxii}

ISSUES

- Central site for information that is easy to access work plans, research papers, etc. for those in the social services sector.
- Service delivery models that are specific to individual client needs.
- “One stop shopping” that can access a range of services and programs for those in need of services and supports.

INITIATIVES – LOCAL

Community and Social Services Hubs

- The implementation of six Hub sites throughout Northumberland County makes it possible for service providers to meet with individuals closer to their home.

- The Northumberland Transportation Initiative is a partnership between Community Care Northumberland, local services, provincial funding and contributions from municipal government.

211 Telephone Service

- 211 telephone information service started as of May 2009 to provide access to information about social services and programs.

Access to Broadband

- Northumberland County is in the process of implementing rural broadband service that will support increased access to the internet for rural residents and businesses.

NPRAC Homepage

- Northumberland United Way is creating a home page for NPRAC on Info Northumberland, www.fourinfo.com .

Teen Education and Mothering (TEAM)

- Fall 2008: Partnership and collaboration between the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board and seven community agencies to start an alternative education program for pregnant and parenting teens.

Port Hope for Youth

- Began in the fall of 2007 as a collaborative of services for youth at risk, sponsored by the Northumberland Child Development Centre. It offers social services delivered on-site through the County as well as services by a wide range of education, health and social support providers.

Backpack for Kids Program

- Started as a partnership between Northumberland United Way and Staples Business Depot. In 5 years it has grown from stuffing and distributing 100 back packs to 1,450 in 2009. The additional community funding partners include Rotary Clubs, financial institutions, union local and the County.

– PROVINCIAL

Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy

- Will invest \$5 million annually in a Community Opportunities Fund to encourage community revitalization through partnerships between

local businesses, governments, volunteers, community agencies and local residents.

- Will invest \$7 million annually in the development of a Community Hub Program focusing on using schools as hubs that respond to community needs related to poverty reduction and student achievement.

WHAT'S NEEDED:

- Expansion and evaluation of the Hub design and delivery of services.
- New models and commitment to working together based on centralized or “one stop” service delivery for those requiring supports.
- Continued emphasis on non-traditional partnerships that bring together various sectors, including government and business, as well as volunteer to address issues.
- Learning opportunities and transfer of knowledge about what works to reduce poverty.

7.3 PRIORITY: ADVOCACY: AWARENESS/COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Advocacy groups across Canada are calling on the federal government to invest in a comprehensive poverty reduction strategy. The strategy should include targets, a timetable and public accountability for its income supports, a system of universally accessible early childhood education and care, a national affordable housing plan, investments in post-secondary education, and training and incentives to create good jobs^{xxiii}.

With the recently released Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy, many advocates are disappointed with the recommendations. There are a number of advocates that feel that the focus on child poverty means there are many groups that are left out of the strategy. The strategy does not include any programs for the homeless, the aged, aboriginals, or specific programs for adults that do not involve children, including single adults with no children. Poverty is a multi-faceted issue.

In Northumberland County, there are a number of programs and services that address the many areas of poverty and the issues of low-income households. The Northumberland Poverty Reduction Strategy will be inclusive of the many facets of this complex social issue. A main focus of the NPRAC sub-committees is advocacy. Imparting relevant information needed for change to those in a position to make decisions that can produce those changes is essential. Provision of accurate statistics, human interest stories, challenges and successes are all inclusive of an effective advocacy campaign.

The consistent message of the Northumberland Poverty Reduction Action Committee is that poverty needs to be a top-of-mind issue for business,

Poverty needs to be a top-of-mind issue

government, social service programs and local residents. Identifying the good that is being done is a key component to continuing to maintain the

great momentum and support already existing throughout Northumberland County; while at the same time speaking to the gaps that exist and identifying accessible, tangible solutions.

The advocacy component is tied closely to the awareness campaign identified in the next section. It is clear that there are a number of individuals in the County that are aware of the situation of the low-income population and are working to bring the issue to the rest of the County.

The Awareness Campaign will provide further suggestions about advocating for change.

A promising achievement is the development of a relationship with the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) for the purpose of

A promising achievement is the development of a relationship with the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT).

doing research into poverty issues and outcomes particular to a rural county like Northumberland.

7.4 AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

The main goal of this campaign will be to educate and inform the community-at-large about the extent of poverty locally and its impact on community resources. This will include ensuring those living in poverty are aware of the programs and services that are available in the various municipalities and identification of where the gaps in programs and service exist in order to advocate to fill those gaps.

Implementation of various communication pieces such as a letter campaign to local politicians, newspaper advertisements that inform the community of programs and services, radio advertisements that educate the community on the cost of poverty; and presentations to various sources by champions of the overall campaign, are a few of the methods that are being used.

The awareness campaign focuses on bringing poverty to the community as a 'top of mind' issue. Only when the community understands what poverty is, how it affects the health of the community, and is informed about the depth and root causes of poverty can the misconceptions be reduced and positive steps toward long-term and sustainable change begin to occur. Removing the stigmas that are attached to poverty is an essential step toward the reduction and eradication of poverty.

The HKPR Health Unit in November of 2008 listed "What You Can Do" in their publication "Child Poverty: A Problem We Cannot Afford". Basically the call to action for the community is: Be Informed, Speak Up and Get Involved.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTIONS

There are currently many services and programs existing for families and individuals living in poverty in Northumberland County. A comprehensive, broad-scale plan to implement change needs to focus on the prevention of poverty while addressing the root causes. Presentation of the local facts, a comprehensive approach, and a community-wide call to action all need to be included in the plan. Everyone has a part to play in utilizing the strengths and resources of Northumberland County to bring about the policy based, multi-sectoral change needed to reduce poverty.

8.1 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are provided to inform the Poverty Reduction Strategy for Northumberland County and to support the goals of NPRAC:

Each of the issues related to poverty in Northumberland County have been outlined in this report in a manner that describes:

- The issues particular to Northumberland and the rural nature of the county.
- Recent activities and initiatives aimed at reducing poverty and its effects.
- Specific, although not limited, recommendations and activities for each of the issues and priorities.

Focused and specific activities are essential and are making a difference to reducing poverty in the county. However they need to be positioned in relation to strategic long term goals.

It is recommended that:

The Poverty Reduction Strategy for Northumberland is based on a long term strategy which *focuses on the seven key priorities: basic income security; transportation; affordable housing; skills development, training and education; economic development; coordination of agencies and programs; and awareness campaign and advocacy.*

The Poverty Reduction Strategy will be effective in terms of showing results if it is grounded in evaluation and analysis of outcomes. Currently information and data that can be used is about specific or local services and is not being gathered consistently in order to better understand county wide issues. There is a clear need for Northumberland to have the capacity to gather and analyze information, data and trends at both the local and county level. Dedicated staff resources will benefit planning and evaluation for all those who are working on poverty issues and other community issues.

It is recommended that:

Northumberland establish and support a *social planning body on behalf of the County.*

In its goal to find “home-grown solutions” NPRAC has a tremendous opportunity to bring together or be a gathering place for local planning and actions aimed at reducing poverty. It is important to continue to have a balance of advocacy and activities. This will mean that NPRAC continue to develop a “centre of excellence” in advocating for a rural county by acting on behalf of the group as well as assisting others to grow their advocacy skills and influence.

It is recommended that:

NPRAC provide leadership excellence in its advocacy role that is both broad and local.

Strategies and actions to reduce poverty are local, provincial and national. What is most important in 2009 and beyond is that groups and individuals stay together in their focus to reduce poverty and that the sense of urgency be maintained. This means that planning, measuring and evaluating both the effects and the solutions to poverty will inform future directions. For this to happen in a concerted manner, poverty reduction has to be used as one of the “lens” on all agendas in the county and the communities. This is essential for business, social services, faith groups, sports and recreation, health care, education, employers, service clubs, local governments and all others who are part Northumberland County.

It is recommended that:

The reduction of poverty be “top of mind” and become a lens through which all activities, programs and services are planned and evaluated by all sectors of the County.

9.0 SUMMARY

This report covers the activities of the Northumberland Poverty Reduction Action Committee from its beginning until the present. In less than two years it has built on work that had started in previous years to bring a rural county perspective to poverty. The seven priority areas for poverty reduction in Northumberland have been defined and solutions, gaps and achievements are stated in the report. Contained in the report are local actions and plans that contribute to the overall goals and support the high level recommendations.

1. Focus on the seven key priorities.
2. Implement a social planning capacity for Northumberland County.
3. NPRAC make its' key strategy "excellence in advocacy".
4. Poverty reduction becomes "top of mind" throughout the County.

In conclusion, from an unlikely source, Walt Disney, words which give perspective to the goals of those working to reduce poverty in Northumberland County:

"Think beyond your lifetime if you want to accomplish something truly worthwhile."

Northumberland Poverty Reduction Action Committee

Community Health Centre Port Hope
Habitat for Humanity Northumberland
Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit
Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board
Ministry of Community and Social Services (Ontario Disability Support Program)
Northumberland Child Development Centre
Northumberland Coalition Against Poverty
Northumberland Community Futures Development Corporation
Northumberland Community Legal Centre
Northumberland County Community and Social Services
Northumberland County Housing Services
Northumberland Labour Council
Northumberland Transportation Initiative
Northumberland United Way
Port Hope Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (HEART)
Sir Sandford Fleming College, Cobourg
St. Vincent de Paul
The Help Centre

Individual Members: Doug Bates
 Rev. Phyllis Dietrich
 Stephanie Escott
 Gerald Gray
 Carolyn Rienstra
 The Honourable Christine Stewart, P.C.

Funders (Ongoing)

Northumberland Community Futures Development Corporation
(NCFDC)

Northumberland Community Legal Clinic (NCLC)

Northumberland County

Northumberland United Way

2008 Community Action Day

Northumberland Child Development Centre

Northumberland County

The Legal Centre

Northumberland United Way

Services Related to Priorities

The listings are provided related to the priority areas.

4 Counties Addiction Services Team

Campbellford Office

T: (705) 653-3352 Toll-free: (800) 461-1909

Cobourg Office

T: (905) 377-9111 Toll-free: (800) 461-1909

4 County Crisis

Toll: (866) 995-9933

Access Community Services Inc.

Residential Service Provider for Developmentally Delayed Adults

160 Walton St., Port Hope, ON L1A 1N6

T: (905) 885-6358 F: (905) 885-1753

www.accesscommunity.ca

Alderville First Nation Women's Shelter

8467 County Rd. 45, Roseneath, ON K0K 2X0

T: (905) 352-2140 F: (905) 352-3824

www.aldervillefirstnation.ca

Alderville Learning Centre

11696 Second Line Rd., Roseneath, ON K0K 2X0

T: (905) 352-2793 F: (905) 352-1080

www.aldervillelearningcentre.com

Alpha House

168 Hibernia St., Cobourg, ON K9A 3J8

T: (905) 372-4774 F: (905) 372-4774 (call first)

www.alphahousenorth.org

Beginning Pregnancy Care Centre, Cobourg

T: (905) 373-4575

Brighton Health Services Centre

170 Main St., Brighton, ON K0H 1H0

T: (613) 475-1555

Campbellford & District Community Mental Health Centre

Campbellford Memorial Hospital

T: (705) 632-2015 Crisis: (705) 653-1140 ext. 2193

Campbellford Community Resource Centre

65 Bridge St. E., Campbellford, ON K0L 1L0

T: (705) 653-5161 F: (705) 632-2096

www.campbellfordcrc.ca

Campbellford Memorial Hospital

146 Oliver Rd., Campbellford, ON K0L 1L0

T: (705) 653-1140

Canadian Red Cross *Port Hope Office*

33 Ward St., Unit 11, Port Hope, ON L1A 4A6

T: (905) 885-9696 F: (905) 885-7517

www.redcross.ca

Career Edge

81 Dundas St. W., Trenton, ON K8V 3P9

T: (613) 392-9157 F: (613) 392-8331

www.careeredge.on.ca

Carpenters Union Local 397 Training Centre

459 Croft St., Port Hope, ON L1A 3V9

T: (905) 885-0885 F: (905) 885-0850

www.thecarpentersunion.ca

Central East Community Access Centre

151a Rose Glen N., Port Hope, ON L1A 3V6

T: (905) 885-6600 Toll-free: (800) 347-0299 F: (905) 885-6222

www.ccac-ont.ca

Centre for Individual Studies

700 D'Arcy St. Unit 30, Cobourg, ON K9A 5T3

T: (905) 372-1697 F: (905) 372-5492

<http://northumberlandcis.kprdsb.ca/>

Children's Aid Society of Northumberland

1005 Burnham St., Cobourg, ON K9A 5J6

T: (905) 372-1821 Toll-free: (800) 263-7902

www.northumberlandcas.org

Christian Horizons

206 Bagot St., Cobourg, ON K9A 3G4
T: (905) 372-2655 F: (905) 372-8948
www.christian-horizons.org

Cobourg & District Seniors' Activities Centre

201 Second St., Cobourg, ON
T: (905) 372-5510

Cobourg Community Employment Resource Centre

Fleming Building, 1005 Elgin St. E., Ste. 103-A, Cobourg, ON K9A 5J4
T: (905) 372-9372 F: (905) 372-5247
www.cercnorthumberland.ca

Cobourg Transit

55 King St. W., Cobourg, ON K9A 2M2
T: (905) 372-4555
www.cobourg.on.ca

Colborne at Leisure Township of Cramahe

1 Toronto St., Colborne, ON K0K 1S0
T: (905) 355-2821 Toll-free: (877) 272-4263 F: (905) 355-3430

Community Care Northumberland

www.commcare.ca

Brighton Office

Prince Edward Square, 46 Prince Edward St. Units 13,14, Brighton, ON K0K 1H0
T: (613) 475-4190 F: (613) 475-3990

Cobourg Office

Fleming Building, 1005 Elgin St. W. Ste. 304, Cobourg, ON K9A 5J4
T: (905) 372-7356 F: (905) 372-3898

Colborne Office

25 King St. E., Colborne, ON K0K 1S0
T: (905) 355-2989 F: (905) 355-1805

Port Hope Office

74 Queen St., Unit J, Port Hope, ON L1A 2Y9
T: (905) 885-9860 Toll-free: (866) 514-5774 F: (905) 885-1818

Campbellford Office

174 – 15 Oliver Rd., P.O. Box 1087 Campbellford ON, K0L 1L0
T: (705) 653-1411

Hastings Office

6 Albert St., P.O. Box 549 Hastings ON K0L 1Y0
T: (705) 696-3891

Community Living - West Northumberland (E.A.R.N.)

275 Cottesmore Ave., Cobourg, ON K9A 4E3
T: (905) 372-4455 ext. 246 F: (905) 372-2783

Community Living Campbellford/Brighton

(Community Employment Innovations Network)
39 Elizabeth St., Unit A, Brighton, ON
T: (613) 243-7553 Toll-free: (888) 475-0522
www.communityemployment.ca

Community Mental Health Supportive Housing Services

Lakeshore Community Mental Health Services
101 Elgin St. W., Ste. 29, Cobourg, ON K9A 5J4
Toll-free: (866) 373-5633 F: (905) 373-8187

Community Outreach Program

County of Northumberland Community & Social Services
T: (905) 372-3372 ext. 2473 Toll-free: (800) 354-7050 F: (905) 372-6463
www.northumberlandcounty.ca

Community Training & Development Centre

300 Alexandria Dr., Cobourg, ON K9A 4R5
T: (905) 372-9967 F: (905) 372-9703

Community Works

7147 Lake St., Bewdley, ON K0K 2E0
T: (905) 342-1146

County of Northumberland Community & Social Services

555 Courthouse Rd., Cobourg, ON K9A 5J6
T: (905) 372-6846 Toll-free: (800) 354-7051 F: (905) 372-6701
www.northumberlandcounty.ca

Durham College – Job Connect

100 Mill St. S., Port Hope, ON L1A 2S5
T: (905) 885-4852 F: (905) 885-7791
www.durhamcollege.ca

Fast Track Walk-in Clinic

Northumberland Hills Hospital Emergency Room
Hours: Monday to Friday 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Five Counties Children’s Centre

<http://www.fivecounties.on.ca/>

700 D’Arcy St., Unit 3, Cobourg, ON K9A 5T3

T: (905) 377-0192 ext. 223 F: (905) 377-9491

174 Oliver Rd., Campbellford, ON K0L 1L0

T: (705) 653-1334 Toll-free: (888) 779-9916 F: (705) 653-2480

Sir Sandford Fleming College

1005 Elgin St. W., Ste. 300, Cobourg, ON K9A 5J4

www.flemingc.ca

Academic Upgrading

T: (905) 372-6865 ext. 5226 F: (905) 372-8570

Job Connect

T: (905) 372-6865 ext. 5238 F: (905) 372-8570

Second Career

T: (705) 749-5503 Toll-free: (866) 353-6464

Food Access Northumberland (FAN)

T: (905) 885-9100 or 1-866-888-4577 ext. 497 or 325

Food 4 All Warehouse (moving to Cobourg fall 2009)

33 Industrial Park Rd., Colborne, ON K0K 1S0

T: (905) 355-1973 F: (905) 355-1974

www.foodforall.ca

Girl Guides

121 Simcoe St. S., Oshawa, ON L1H 4G7

T: (905) 579-9976 Toll-free: (877) 323-4545

<http://www.guidesontario.org/>

Habitat for Humanity Northumberland

45 Ewart St., Cobourg, ON K9A 4K5

T: (905) 373-4663 Toll-free: (888) 282-3809 F: (905) 373-1459

www.habitatnorthumberland.ca

Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board

1944 Fisher Dr., Peterborough, ON K9J 7A1

T: (705) 742-9773 Toll-free: (877) 741-4577 F: (705) 742-7801

www.kpr.edu.on.ca

Hillside Family Medicine

199 Isabella St., Campbellford, ON K0L 1L0

T: (705) 653-1801 F: (705) 653-5483

HKPR District Health Unit

www.hkpr.on.ca

Port Hope Office

200 Rose Glen Rd., Port Hope, ON L1A 3V6

T: (905) 885-9100 F: (905) 885-9551

Toll free: (866) 888-4577

Brighton Office

35 Alice St., Brighton, ON K0K 1H0

T: (613) 475-0933 F: (613) 475-1455

Campbellford Office

22 Doxsee St., Campbellford, ON K0L 1L0

T: (705) 653-1550 F: (705) 653-3114

Home Instead Senior Care Cobourg

(905) 377-0324

Hungry Pamphlet

<http://www.hkpr.on.ca/uploadedFiles/hungry08.pdf>

info Northumberland

T: (905) 372-8913 Toll-free: (800) 396-6626

www.fourinfo.com

Jumpstart

Cobourg, Salvation Army T: (905) 373-9440 Toll-free: (866) 865-0768

Campbellford, Canadian Tire T: (705) 653-3250

Trenton, Trenton Parks & Recreation T: (613) 752-1019

Kawartha Participation Project

77 Towerhill Rd., Peterborough, ON K9H 7N3

T: (705) 745-4122 F: (705) 745-5989

www.kpp.ca

KidSport™

Municipality of Port Hope, Department of Parks, Recreation & Culture

(905) 753-2230

Kinark Child & Family Services

20 Strathy Rd., Unit 3, Cobourg, ON K9A 5J7

T: (905) 372-4361 Toll-free: (866) 230-8531 F: (905) 373-1382

www.kinark.on.ca

Lakeshore Community Mental Health Services

T: (905) 377-9891 Toll-free: (888) 294-7579

Life Long Learning Centre

560 Dodge St., Cobourg, ON K9A 4K3

T: (905) 372-1183 F: (905) 372-7488

<http://www.183training.com/>

Loyalist College, Belleville

T: (613) 696-1913 ext. 2185

NeighbourLink Northumberland

PO Box 412, Cobourg, ON K9A 4L1

T: (905) 373-1558

Northumberland Big Brothers Big Sisters

18 John St., 2nd Floor, Port Hope, ON L1A 2Z2

T: (905) 885-6422 Toll-free: (888) 278-2484 F: (905) 885-4699

<http://www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/northumberland>

Northumberland Child Development Centre

38 Walton St., 3rd Floor, Port Hope, ON L1A 1N1

T: (905) 885-8137 Toll-free: (866) 218-1427 F: (905) 885-4819

www.ncdcent.com

Northumberland Community Counselling Centre

12 Elgin St. E., Cobourg, ON K9A 0C5

T: (905) 372-6318 or (905) 372-6425 Toll-free: (866) 748-5720

Northumberland Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC)

1005 Elgin St. W., Ste. 206, Cobourg, ON K9A 5J4

T: (905) 372-8315 F: (905) 372-2238

www.northcfdc.ca

Northumberland County Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team

T: (905) 373-4600 Toll-free: (866) 373-5633

Northumberland Food For Thought

T: (905) 372-7863

Northumberland Hills Hospital

1000 DePalma Dr., Cobourg, ON K9A 5W6

T: (905) 372-6811 Fax: (905) 372-4243

Northumberland READ Centre

700 D'Arcy St. Unit. 31, Cobourg, ON K9A 5T3

T: (905) 373-7066 F: (905) 373-8162

Northumberland Services for Women (NSW)

PO Box 935, Cobourg, ON K9A 4W4

T: (905) 372-6381 Toll-free: (800) 263-3757 F: (905) 373-4800

www.nsfw.ca

Northumberland Transportation Initiative Community Care Northumberland

74 Queen St. Unit J, Port Hope, ON L1A 2Y9

T: (905) 885-0537 Toll-free: (866)768-7778 F: (905) 885-1818

www.commcare.ca

Northumberland United Way

1005 Elgin St. W., Ste. 203, Cobourg, ON K9A 5J4

T: (905) 372-6955 Toll-free: (800) 833-0002 F: (905) 372-4417

www.northumberland.unitedway.ca

Northumberland Up From the Ashes Poverty Action Group

c/o 199 Sutherland Cres., Unit 29, Cobourg, ON K9A 5L7

T: (905) 377-1082, or (905) 653-4185, or (905) 342-2031

Northumberland Youth Advisory Council (NYAC)

c/o Northumberland Community Futures Development Corporation

1005 Elgin St. W., Ste. 206, Cobourg, ON K9A 5J1

T: (905) 372-8315 ext. 225 F: (905) 372-2238

www.northumberlandyac.ca

Northumberland Youth for Christ

330 Division St., Cobourg, ON K9A 3R3

T: (905) 373-4707 F: (905) 373-7212

www.nyfc.org

Port Hope Community Employment Resource Centre

Lakeland Place, 74 Queen St., Unit L, Port Hope, ON L1A 2Y9

T: (905) 885-2372 F: (905) 885-5706

Port Hope Community Health Centre

99 Toronto Rd., Port Hope, ON L1A 3S4

T: (905) 885-2626 Toll-free: (866) 768-2626 F: (905) 885-2646

Port Hope Transit

Town Hall, 56 Queen St., Port Hope, ON L1A 2Y9

T: (905) 885-4544 F: (905) 886-7698

<http://www.porthope.ca/Resident/Transit.aspx>

Port Hope Walk-in Clinic

Port Hope Medical Centre; 249 Ontario St., Ste. 104, Port Hope, ON L1A 3Y9

T: (905) 885-0611

Hours: Monday to Friday 1:00 pm to 7:30 pm; Weekends and Holidays 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Rebound Child & Youth Services

700 D'Arcy St. N., Unit 20, Cobourg, ON K9A 5T3

T: (905) 372-0007 F: (905) 372-0070

<http://www.rcys.ca/>

Ruth Clarke Activity Centre for Seniors

81 Mill St. S., Port Hope, ON L1A 2S8

T: (905) 885-2228 F: (905) 885-7698

Schizophrenia Society of Ontario – Peterborough/Durham Branch

466 George St. N., Peterborough, ON K9J 7H7

T: (705) 749-1753

Scouts Canada

Baltimore, contact Dennis Baxter T: (905) 373-8282

Brighton, contact Nora Adams T: (613) 475-5946

Port Hope, contact Kim T: (905) 885-6867

Warkworth, contact Greg Finley T: (705) 632-1868

Cobourg, contact Debbie Lang T: (905) 377-9254

Hastings, contact Lu-Anne Anderson T: (905) 653-5024

St. Jerome's Food Cupboard Warkworth

T: (705) 924-1531

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Cobourg T: (905) 373-9391

Grafton T: (905) 349-3763

Port Hope T: (905) 373-2940

Teen Education and Mothering (TEAM)

Cobourg District Collegiate East, 355 King St. E. Cobourg On K9A 1M2

T: (905) 372-4774 ext.292

The Help Centre

1005 Elgin St. W., Ste. 301, Cobourg, ON K9A 5J4

T: (905) 372-2646 Toll-free: (888) 698-3382 F: (905) 372-2205

www.thehelpcentre.ca

The Salvation Army Campbellford Family Services

67 Queen St., Campbellford, ON K0L 1L0

T: (705) 653-4185 F: (705) 653-2220

The Salvation Army Cobourg Community & Family Services

66 Swayne St., Cobourg, ON K9A 4W4

T: (905) 373-9440 Toll-free: (866) 865-0768 F: (905) 373-9370 (call first)

Transition House Coalition of Northumberland

10 Chapel St., Cobourg, ON K9A 1H9

T: (905) 377-0378 F: (905) 377-0378

www.transhouse.ca

VON Hastings, Northumberland, Prince Edward

80 Division St., Trenton, ON K8V 5S5

T: (613) 392-4181 Toll-free: (888) 279-4866 F: (613) 392-7665

Watton Employment Services

18 Spencer St. E., Cobourg, ON K9A 1C2

T: (905) 372-1901 F: (905) 372-7790

www.watton.ca

Women's Health Care Clinic

157 Charlotte St., Peterborough, ON K9J 3T7

T: (705) 743-4132 Toll-free: (800) 419-3111

Workforce Development Board

159 King St. Ste. 208, Peterborough, ON

T: (705) 749-3250 Toll-free: (800) 340-0111 F: (705) 749-3162

www.solutionsatwork.info

WrapAround Northumberland

Children's Aid Society of Northumberland

1005 Burnham St., Cobourg, ON K9A 5J6

T: (905) 372-1821 F: (905) 372-7902

<http://northumberlandcas.org/wraparound.htm>

YMCA Northumberland

www.ymcanorthumberland.ca

93 Elgin St. W., Cobourg, ON K9A 4X5

T: (905) 372-0161 F: (905) 377-8940

170 Main St., Brighton, ON K0K 1H0

T: (613) 475-2887 F: (613) 475-5438

YMCA Northumberland, Ontario Early Years Centre

339 Elgin St. W., Cobourg, ON K9A 4X5

T: (905) 377-1271 Toll-free: (866) 301-6392 F: (905) 377-8940

www.ontarioearlyyears.ca

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