

Report to Strategic Planning and Policy Committee

To: Chair and Members
Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

From: Lynne Livingstone, City Manager

Subject: London Community Recovery Network – Update Report 2020-2022

Date: June 20, 2023

Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the City Manager the report dated June 20, 2023, with respect to the London Community Recovery Network – Update Report 2020-2022 BE RECEIVED.

Executive Summary

In the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, London City Council established the London Community Recovery Network (LCRN) in partnership with leaders from London's public, private, non-profit and institutional sectors and those representing communities that have experienced disproportionate impacts from COVID-19. The purpose of the LCRN is to work to drive a strong and inclusive recovery for London.

Through a collaborative, data-driven process, the London Community Recovery Network identified recovery areas of focus, shared indicators, and metrics to guide and measure community efforts. These components, along with a common vision for community recovery, form the [London Community Recovery Framework](#). Rather than prescribing specific actions, initiatives, and work plans, members identified the actions they intended to implement to contribute to the common vision and shared measures for London's community recovery. This represented a different way of working together, one that provided members with the flexibility to engage in initiatives that benefited the community, and at the same time, remain focused on the needs of their sectors, their members, and their individual organizations.

In the London Community Recovery Framework, LCRN members made a commitment to regular reporting. As such, the London Community Recovery Network - Update Report – 2020-2022 (see **Appendix A**) provides information related to changes in shared measures and the contributions of members to the LCRN initiatives focused on recovery.

In its first phase of work from September 2020 to December 2020, LCRN members identified ideas for action to drive an immediate community response to the impacts of the pandemic in our community. In its second phase of work from March 2021 to the present, LCRN members adopted a whole-of-community approach – whereby initiatives were identified as in progress across the community. Additionally, on March 22, 2022, Municipal Council endorsed a formal process for accessing Community Recovery Funding, as well as a Readiness Fund to respond to small-scale recovery actions.

Between fall 2020 and spring 2021, Municipal Council approved a total of \$10 million to support social and economic recovery measures. Since then, various business plans have been submitted to Municipal Council, where City funding was requested to support community recovery initiatives. As of August 2, 2022, Municipal Council approved a total of \$7,115,814 towards 31 business cases in support of recovery (see **Appendix B**: the London Community Recovery Network - Funded Initiatives Report for more information about LCRN funded initiatives). On March 7, 2023, Municipal Council directed the remaining \$2,884,186 to the Whole of Community System Response to address health and homelessness in London, pending a business case being brought to Municipal Council.

Linkage to the Corporate Strategic Plan

The London Community Recovery Framework includes strong alignment with all key areas of focus under the City of London Strategic Plan:

Reconciliation, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion

- The City of London is a leader in becoming an **equitable and inclusive community**.
- All Londoners have opportunities to **participate in civic engagement**.

Housing and Homelessness

- The City of London demonstrates leadership and builds partnerships to **increase quality, affordable, and supportive housing options**.
- London has a robust community system of health, homelessness, housing stability services, policies, procedures and by-laws in place to support individuals and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness or in precarious housing consistent with **Council's recognition of the health and homelessness emergency**.

Wellbeing and Safety

- London has **safe, vibrant, and healthy** neighbourhoods and communities.
- London is an **affordable and supportive** community for individuals and families.

Safe London for Women, Girls, and Gender-Diverse and Trans People

- The City of London demonstrates leadership by taking meaningful actions to **address and eliminate** all forms of violence against women and girls, gender-based violence, and sexual violence.

Economic Growth, Culture, and Prosperity

- London encourages **equitable economic growth and diversification**.
- London is a **destination of choice**.
- London encourages the **growth of local artistic and musical talent**.
- London's Core Area (Downtown, Midtown, Old East Village) is a **vibrant neighbourhood and attractive destination**.

Mobility and Transportation

- Londoners of **all identities, abilities and means** can move throughout the city **safely and efficiently**.

Climate Action and Sustainable Growth

- London has a **strong and healthy** environment.
- London is one of the **greenest and most resilient** cities in Canada in alignment with the Council-declared climate emergency and the Climate Emergency Action Plan.
- London's infrastructure and systems are built, maintained, and operated to meet the **long-term needs of the community**.

Well-Run City

- The City of London is **trusted, open, and accountable** in service of the community.
- Londoners experience **good stewardship, exceptional and valued service**.
- The City of London is a **leader in public service**.

In addition, the London Community Recovery Framework aligns with the City of London's commitment to Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression by intentionally seeking input from equity-deserving groups and by ensuring that contributions toward shared measures are inclusive and equitable for all Londoners.

Analysis

1.0 Background Information

1.1 Previous Reports Related to this Matter

- Amendment to Delivery Date of the City of Music Conference and Events Business Case and the London City of Music Expo Business Case, September 20, 2022, SPPC
- London Community Recovery Network – Recovery Funding Business Cases, July 27, 2022, SPPC
- London Community Recovery Network – Recovery Funding Business Cases, June 22, 2022, SPPC
- Community Recovery Network – Recovery Funding Business Cases, June 7, 2022, SPPC
- London Community Recovery Network – Update on Municipally Funded and Community Initiatives, June 7, 2022, SPPC
- Access to City of London Funding for Social and Economic Recovery – London Community Recovery Network, March 8, 2022, SPPC
- London Community Recovery Framework – October 19, 2021, SPPC
- London Community Recovery Network – Community Led Ideas – Business Cases, May 18, 2021, SPPC
- London Community Recovery Network – Current Status and Next Steps, April 6, 2021, SPPC
- London Community Recovery Network – Ideas for Action by Municipal Council, February 9, 2021, CWC
- London Community Recovery Network – Ideas for Action by Municipal Council, February 9, 2021, CPSC
- London Community Recovery Network – Ideas for Action by Municipal Council, February 8, 2021, PEC
- London Community Recovery Network – Ideas for Action by Municipal Council, February 8, 2021, CSC
- London Community Recovery Network – Immediate Ideas for Action to Support London’s COVID-19 Community Recovery – December 16, 2020, SPPC
- Covid-19 Financial Impacts – Update – June 23, 2020, SPPC
- Second Report from the Mayor’s Economic and Social Impact and Recovery Task Forces – May 8, 2020
- Covid-19 Financial Impacts and Additional Measures for Community Relief, April 28, 2020, SPPC
- Homeless Prevention COVID-19 Response and Funding Overview, April 28, 2020, CPSC, Consent Item # 2.3
- Property Tax Deferral Options – April 14, 2020, CSC
- First Report from the Mayor’s Economic and Social Impact and Recovery Task Forces, April 9, 2020

2.0 Discussion and Considerations

2.1 The London Community Recovery Framework

On July 21, 2020, London City Council endorsed the creation of the London Community Recovery Network (LCRN) to begin a community-led process to power London’s recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The LCRN is chaired by the Mayor, supported by Council, and led by over 30 organizations who represent social, economic, institutional, and community perspectives from across London. The collective effort of the LCRN is focused on creating a strong, resilient, and inclusive post-pandemic London. Over the course of 2021, LCRN members collaborated closely to develop the London Community Recovery Framework.

The framework sets out a common vision, focus areas, and shared measures for community recovery and renewal in London. It describes the shared destination of a

post-pandemic London and the measures the community will use to evaluate collective progress. The framework enables the community to assess the impact of contributions to the shared measures and where enhancements or adjustments of effort may be necessary. Recovery and renewal for London will require a longer-term focus. As such, the framework is intended to guide our collective efforts as a community over the next three years.

Specifically, the London Community Recovery Framework:

- Identifies a common vision for London’s community recovery – a vision that includes economic and social aspects of recovery;
- Communicates the focus areas that will guide community recovery and renewal from the pandemic;
- Outlines shared measures to standardize the evaluation of London’s progress towards community recovery and the common vision;
- Supports London Community Recovery Network members’ commitment to contributing to one or more of the recovery-focused shared measures through individual and collective efforts that enable community recovery in London; and,
- Commits to reporting regularly on London’s community recovery efforts.

The London Community Recovery Framework describes the common vision and shared measures of recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic over the next three years for the LCRN members and the broader London community. The framework also serves as a resource for decision-makers at other levels of government to recognize and understand community priorities and to help inform policies, programs, and opportunities to support London’s community recovery.

2.2 London Community Recovery Network – Update Report – 2020-2022

In developing the London Community Recovery Framework, LCRN members defined a common destination and identified shared measures for community recovery. Rather than prescribing specific actions, initiatives, and work plans, members identified the actions they intended to implement to contribute to the common vision and shared measures for London’s community recovery. This represented a different way of working together, one that provided members with the flexibility to engage in initiatives that benefited the community, and at the same time, remain focused on the needs of their sectors, their members, and their individual organizations.

In total, the London Community Recovery Framework includes recovery areas of focus, indicators, and metrics. In addition, the framework includes 8 shared commitments which will guide the ongoing activities of LCRN members over the course of the three-year horizon of the London Community Recovery Framework. Civic Administration has supported this work by leading data collection, analysis, and reporting.

Investing in People We collectively commit to recovery and improving quality of life so that all Londoners can participate and succeed.	Driving Prosperity We collectively commit to sustainable and inclusive economic recovery that creates opportunities for people and enterprises and strengthens London’s diverse competitive potential.	Fostering Community We collectively commit to reconnecting people and neighbourhoods and fostering a community where all Londoners can live, work, and play.
Domestic Violence	Arts, Culture, and Tourism	Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression
Educational Attainment	Business Health	Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability
Food Security	Commercial Vacancy	Community Belonging
Homelessness	Employment	Community Engagement and Social Isolation
Income	Housing Affordability and Availability	COVID-19 Management and Prevention
Mental Health	Labour Market Participation	Crime and Safety
Physical Health	Mental Health in the Workplace	Immigration and Migration
Substance Use	Talent Recruitment and Retention	

A full description of the metric(s) for each indicator can be found in the [London Community Recovery Framework](#).

In total, London Community Recovery Network members identified 260 planned, ongoing, or completed initiatives through 2022 that were supporting London's recovery. Of the total, 198 were initiatives that were created in response to the pandemic, and 62 were existing initiatives that were redesigned to align with London Community Recovery Network recovery efforts.

In the London Community Recovery Framework, London Community Recovery Network members made a commitment to reporting back to the community. A report in 2021 outlined how members were responding to the shared indicators prioritized by the community. The London Community Recovery Network - Update Report – 2020-2022, attached as **Appendix A**, provides information related to changes in shared measures and the contributions of members to the 260 initiatives focused on recovery.

2.3 London Community Recovery Network- Funded Initiatives Report

In 2020 and 2021, Council approved \$10 million to support social and economic recovery measures due to COVID-19. In 2021, a number of business cases were approved for funding.

In its first phase of work from September 2020 to December 2020, LCRN members identified 70 ideas for action to drive an immediate community response to the impacts of the pandemic in our community. In its second phase of work from March 2021 to the present, LCRN members adopted a whole-of-community approach. Civic Administration has supported the review, alignment with the LCRN and development of the business cases.

On March 22, 2022, Council approved a streamlined process for Civic Administration to continue to identify ideas for action and aligned initiatives within the LCRN Framework. This process was launched and included two streams available to Civic Administration and LCRN partners:

Formal Process for accessing LCRN Recovery Funding:

- LCRN Recovery Funding, for recovery initiatives with a submitted budget of **over \$5,000**.
- This process required the applicant/s to develop a business case, which had to be presented to and approved by Council.
- The last formal idea intake was approved by Municipal Council on August 2, 2022. Following the report, idea intake was put on hold due to the Municipal Election.
- As of August 2, 2022, a total of \$7,115,814 has been allocated to 31 recovery initiatives, as part of Phase 1 and Phase 2.
- On March 7, 2023, Council passed a motion that ... “c) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to allocate the remaining fund of \$2,884,186 from the London Community Recovery Network funds towards the implementation of the system it being noted that Civic Administration will return to Council with a business case detailing the proposed use of the funds...”

The Readiness Fund:

- The LCRN Readiness Fund, for recovery initiatives with a submitted budget of **under \$5,000**.
- This fund was set up for community recovery initiatives or supports that were considered small scale, and that both align with the LCRN Framework and are too small to justify a business case delivered through the Council process.
- The source of funding for the \$100,000 commitment for the LCRN Readiness Funding is the funding that has been set aside by Council for social and economic recovery within the Economic Development Reserve Fund.
- As of April 2023, \$60,845 has been approved through this fund.

Refer to **Appendix B**: the ‘London Community Recovery Network- Funded Initiatives Report’ for Phase 1 and Phase 2 recovery LCRN funded ideas.

2.4 Financial Impacts

As noted above, Council approved \$10 million to support social and economic recovery measures due to COVID-19. This funding was set aside in the Economic Development Reserve Fund. Municipal Council approved business cases worth \$7,115,814 up to August 2, 2022, when the process was stopped due to the upcoming municipal election. The application intake did not re-open. The approved allocation includes \$100,000 for the Readiness Fund for applications up to \$5,000 each that are too small for a formal business case. The Readiness Fund is approved and distributed by Civic Administration. As of the time of preparing this report, there is \$39,155 remaining in the Readiness Fund to be allocated.

On March 7, 2023, Municipal Council passed a motion allocating the remaining amount of the LCRN fund, \$2,884,186, towards the implementation of the Whole of Community System Response to address homelessness in London, pending Civic Administration returning to Council with a business case detailing the proposed use of the funds. However, this \$2,884,186 figure reflected only a portion of the commitments from the LCRN Readiness Fund. Assuming all investments approved through the LCRN utilize the full amount of planned funding, only \$2,793,686 will be available to transfer to the Whole of Community System Response. The \$90,500 difference between these two figures will be reconciled through an additional draw down from the Economic Development Reserve Fund, if required to support the business case for the Whole of Community System Response. Assuming this business case is approved by Municipal Council, all funds available from the originally approved \$10 million for LCRN will be fully allocated.

2.4 Future and Next Steps of the LCRN

With the emergency measures and restrictions put in place by the Province of Ontario and health authorities now concluded, the London community has expanded its focus from social and economic recovery to future social and economic growth. LCRN members committed to embedding the vision and shared measures from the LCRN Framework into their strategic plans and business strategies as a means to enshrine the commitments made during the tenure of the LCRN for an enduring impact. For the City of London, many elements of the LCRN Framework have since been incorporated into the 2023-2037 Council Strategic Plan.

The outcomes of the LCRN are wide and deep. Partnering with organizations, businesses, and institutions through an unprecedented time has served to inform and enhance many other community partnerships that are driving outcomes in areas identified in the LCRN Framework. Of the many examples where this is present, none are more evident than the Whole of Community System Response to Health and Homelessness currently underway. Community partners have come together like never before to think innovatively and act in coordination to address deep challenges facing all Londoners.

With LCRN members now implementing many elements of the vision set out in the LCRN Framework, the focus of the Network itself will transition to monitoring the collective impact of LCRN member contributions through annual reporting. To this end, the formal work of the LCRN will close. However, Civic Administration will provide a final recovery measures report in 2024 detailing the community progress on influencing the shared measures expressed in the London Community Recovery Framework.

Conclusion

The London Community Recovery Framework represents a first of its kind in Canada - a community-driven framework enabling diverse organizations to work collectively to drive London's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The framework provides a shared destination for recovery and measures to assess our collective impact through the individual efforts of LCRN members.

Moving forward, London Community Recovery Network members will continue to work together to address these challenges. The London Community Recovery Network made a commitment to track the metrics included in this report for a total of three years. Rather than through a formal London Community Recovery Network structure, the City of London will report on the indicators and metrics in the London Community Recovery Framework through the City of London Strategic Plan annual reporting process. Further, the next City of London report on London Community Recovery Network funded initiatives will present results for the 2024 year-end.

The London Community Recovery Framework would not have been possible without the efforts and contributions of the London Community Recovery Network organizations, members of the London City Council, and Service Areas across the City of London.

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cc. Members of the London Community Recovery Network
City of London Senior Leadership Team
London Community Recovery Working Group

June 2023



London
Community
Recovery
Network

London Community Recovery Network

Update Report | 2020 - 2022



London
CANADA

Land Acknowledgements

We acknowledge that the City of London resides on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Attawandaron.

We acknowledge all the treaties that are specific to this area: the Two Row Wampum Belt Treaty of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy/Silver Covenant Chain; the Beaver Hunting Grounds of the Haudenosaunee NANFAN Treaty of 1701; the McKee Treaty of 1790, the London Township Treaty of 1796, the Huron Tract Treaty of 1827, with the Anishinaabeg, and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum of the Anishnaabek and Haudenosaunee.

This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous people (First Nations, Métis, and Inuit) whom we recognize as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors to society. As representatives of the people of the City of London, we are grateful to have the opportunity to work and live in this territory.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the individuals and organizations who have been part of the London Community Recovery Network for their commitment to London's renewal and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Anti-Poverty Mobilization Network
- Black London Network
- Centre for Research on Health Equity and Social Inclusion (Western)
- Elgin Middlesex Oxford Workforce Planning and Development Board
- Employment Sector Council
- Fanshawe College
- King's University College
- London and District Construction Association
- London and District Labour Council
- London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership
- London Arts Council
- London Business Improvement Areas
- London Chamber of Commerce
- London Community Foundation
- London Development Institute
- London District Heavy Construction Association
- London Economic Development Corporation
- London Environmental Network
- London Faith Groups
- London Food Bank
- London Health Sciences Centre
- London Home Builders' Association
- London Public Library
- London Region Manufacturing Council
- London Small Business Centre
- Middlesex-London Health Unit
- N'Amerind (London) Friendship Centre
- Pillar Nonprofit Network
- St. Joseph's Health Care London
- TechAlliance
- Tourism London
- United Way Elgin Middlesex
- Urban League of London
- Western University
- Young London

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Section 1.0

Introduction

1.1 The London Community Recovery Network

About the London Community Recovery Network

On July 21, 2020, London City Council endorsed the creation of the London Community Recovery Network (LCRN) to begin a community-led process to power London's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The London Community Recovery Network brought together leaders from community groups and networks, the private sector, non-profit organizations, and institutional organizations to participate in community conversations about London's recovery, work collaboratively to develop a community recovery plan, and turn recovery ideas into action.

The London Community Recovery Network is chaired by the Mayor, supported by Council, and led by 51 community leaders representing London's social, economic, and institutional organizations. The London Community Recovery Network is working to build a strong and inclusive post-pandemic London by driving recovery and renewal in our community.

Community Recovery Funding

Between fall 2020 and spring 2021, Municipal Council approved \$10 million to support social and economic recovery measures. Since then, several business plans have been submitted to Municipal Council, where City funding was requested to support community recovery initiatives. As of August 2, 2022, Municipal Council approved \$7,115,814 for several recovery-focused business cases. More information about London Community Recovery Network funded initiatives can be found in the London Community Recovery Network Funded Initiatives Report. On March 7, 2023, Municipal Council allocated the remaining \$2,884,186 to the Whole of Community System Response to address homelessness in London, pending a business case being brought to Municipal Council.

The London Community Recovery Framework

Through a collaborative, data-driven process, the London Community Recovery Network identified recovery areas of focus, shared indicators, and metrics to guide and measure community efforts. These components form the vision for community recovery described in the [London Community Recovery Framework](#).

The term “recovery” has many meanings for different people. However, in the London Community Recovery Framework context, recovery refers to recovery and revitalization from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The London Community Recovery Framework provides a resource for organizations to align their collective recovery efforts while meeting the needs of individual sectors, members, and organizations.

1.2 A Collaborative Approach to Renewal and Recovery

The work of the London Community Recovery Network was to envision how London could thrive post-pandemic and to chart the course for longer-term recovery. London Community Recovery Network members came together in an unprecedented way to think critically about the future and fully engage in designing and implementing individual and collective recovery-related initiatives. Through the London Community Recovery Network, 51 individuals representing 34 organizations contributed more than 2,000 hours to more than 300 initiatives toward recovery and renewal in London. For London Community Recovery Network members, recovery was not about building the same London; it was about building a community that was stronger than where we started.

1.3 Purpose of the Report

In developing the London Community Recovery Framework, London Community Recovery Network members defined a common vision and identified shared indicators for community recovery. Rather than prescribing specific actions, initiatives, and work plans, members identified the actions they intended to implement to contribute to the common vision and shared indicators for London’s community recovery. This represented a different way of working together, one that provided members with the flexibility to engage in initiatives that benefited the community and, at the same time, remain focused on the needs of their sectors, members, and organizations.

London Community Recovery Network members committed to regular reporting in the London Community Recovery Framework. A [mid-year progress update](#) outlined how members responded to the shared indicators prioritized by the community. The London Community Recovery Network Update Report provides information about changes in shared indicators and members’ contributions to recovery between 2020 and 2022.

1.4 Methodology and Structure of the Results

The report results are structured by areas of focus: Investing in People, Driving Prosperity, and Fostering Community. Within each area of focus, several indicators are presented, including a definition of the indicator, corresponding metrics, and examples of London Community Recovery Network members in action.

In the results sections of this report, metric data is included from 2019 (pre-pandemic baseline) to 2022, whenever possible. Where 2019 data was not available, a previous year may have been used to provide baseline data. Further, some data points are not gathered annually; the data provided represents the data available. Unless otherwise noted, all metrics reflect the city of London or the Census Metropolitan Area of London. For data points that used whole numbers, the percentage change between the two values was calculated to illustrate the change over time (e.g., 10 units in 2019 and 20 units in 2022 is a 100% increase in the number of units). For data points that used percentages, the percentage point difference was calculated between the two percentages (e.g., 10% in 2019 and 15% in 2022 is a 5% difference between the two percentages).

The metrics represent indicators of community recovery and renewal at the population level. Therefore, while London Community Recovery Network members' efforts are aligned with these metrics, their contributions alone are not responsible for increases or decreases in data due to the complex and multiple influencers that affect a single metric.

The content included within the *LCRN Members in Action* sections was provided directly from London Community Recovery Network member organizations. The information in these sections is meant to highlight a few of the actions undertaken by members rather than offer a complete and comprehensive accounting of all actions undertaken towards that specific recovery indicator. For more information about the specific actions undertaken by the City of London, please review the [City of London 2019 - 2023 Strategic Plan 2020-2022 Impact Assessment](#).

Section 2.0

Results: Investing in People

Investing in People means improving quality of life so all Londoners can participate and succeed. The Investing in People recovery and renewal focus area is comprised of **eight indicators**.



- 1.** Domestic Violence
- 2.** Educational Attainment
- 3.** Food Security
- 4.** Homelessness
- 5.** Income
- 6.** Mental Health
- 7.** Physical Health
- 8.** Substance Use

2.1

Domestic Violence

What Is It?

Domestic violence refers to violent or abusive behaviours in a family or other trusting relationship and includes intimate partner violence and child abuse. Domestic violence can include physical violence, sexual violence, emotional abuse, verbal abuse, psychological intimidation, spiritual abuse, financial abuse, harassment, stalking, and/or cyber violence.



The Numbers

Domestic Violence Crisis and Support Calls

Year	# of crisis and support calls
2019/2020	9,957
2020/2021	7,490
2021/2022	8,533

Source: Anova

Rate of Child Abuse

Year	# of child protection investigations
2019/2020	2,500
2020/2021	2,280
2021/2022	2,487

Source: Children's Aid Society of London & Middlesex

Between 2019 and 2022, the number of crisis and support calls decreased by 14%. Child protection investigations decreased by 9% between 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 and then increased by 9% in 2021/2022.

LCRN Members in Action

41 students have disclosed sexual assault and/or domestic violence through a 24/7, first-of-its-kind in Ontario collaboration between Western University and the Regional Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Treatment Program.

iHEAL, an intensive community visiting intervention for women who are in the transition of separating from an abusive partner, was initiated by the Middlesex-London Health Unit in 2021 to promote safety, health, and well-being and was expanded through integration within home visiting programs in 2022.

London was the first Canadian city to make a clear and focused commitment to creating a safe community for women and girls. The Safe Cities London Action Plan was unanimously approved by City Council in 2021.

36 additional shelter beds were available to victims and survivors of gender-based violence and women and girls experiencing homelessness in 2021. In 2022, 15 additional beds were funded through the winter response.

To continue to support local Violence Against Women (VAW) agencies, Housing Services received Ministry approval to increase the Average Market Rent used by housing subsidy programs, which will provide additional financial support to those supported by VAW agencies.

The Numbers

2.2

Educational Attainment

What Is It?

Educational attainment reflects the highest level of education a person has completed.



Five-Year High School Graduation Rates

Year	TVDSB	LDCSB
2018-2019	81.0%	90.3%
2019-2020	83.0%	92.0%
2020-2021	84.0%	92.7%

Source: Thames Valley District School Board and London District Catholic School Board

Fanshawe Graduation Rates

Year	Fanshawe College
2019-2020	67.9%
2020-2021	65.5%
2021-2022	62.8%

Source: Ontario Ministry of Colleges and Universities

Western University Graduates

Year	# of undergraduate diplomas issued
2019	7,004
2020	7,080
2021	7,429

Source: Western University

Five-year high school graduation rates increased by 3% and 2.4%, respectively, at the Thames Valley District School Board and the London District Catholic School Board, between 2018-2019 and 2020-2021. Graduation rates decreased by 5.1% at Fanshawe College between 2019-2020 and 2021-2022. Between 2019 and 2021, the number of undergraduate diplomas issued by Western University increased by 6%. Western University's graduation rate, published in April 2022, was 86.4%.

LCRN Members in Action

75 individual micro-credential badges and 20 micro-credential series have been offered to 913 learners since the fall 2021 launch at Fanshawe College. This offers the opportunity to upskill quickly for career readiness or advancement.

43,000 students are enrolled at Western University and its affiliates, with additional growth expected through 2028.

Scholarships were provided by the London District Heavy Construction Association to students in the Civil Engineering and Civil Engineering Technology programs at Western University and Fanshawe College, respectively.

6 high school students in cooperative education at the Boys and Girls Club of London's Digital Creative Arts Centre were trained in camera operation, framing, lighting, shot composition, interview techniques, and editing through the Camera for Kids Program.

2,739 children, on average, received a City of London childcare fee subsidy every month between 2020 and 2022.

Nshwaasnangong, London's first Indigenous-led Child Care and Family Centre, opened in 2021.

2.3

Food Security

What Is It?

When people experience food security, it means they have access at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life. In comparison, food insecurity means people are unable to get or eat the quality or quantity of food they need.



The Numbers

London Food Bank Use

Year	# of people who access emergency food
2019	25,346
2020	22,113
2021	21,522
2022	29,420

Source: London Food Bank

While the number of people who accessed emergency food decreased from 2019 to 2021 by 15%, between 2021 and 2022, there was an increase of 37%, representing 7,898 more individuals accessing emergency food in London.

LCRN Members in Action

\$1,000,000+ in the first year of COVID-19 was **spent by the Food Bank to purchase meals prepared by RBC Place.**

11,400 breakfast bags were **distributed** by Child and Youth Network partners through 12 participating schools during the eight-week school closure in 2021.

Staff from the Smart Start for Babies prenatal nutrition program were redeployed during the pandemic to support the COVID-19 response. Families who would have qualified for this program were referred to home visiting programs where they were provided with access to health education, food literacy tools, and grocery vouchers.

14,744 meals were **delivered to vulnerable populations** in 2020 through a partnership between the City of London and community agencies.

17 greenhouses were **distributed by the Food Bank during the pandemic** to organizations with land and volunteer resources to support production; 16 remain in operation today.

2,882 London Good Food Boxes were **delivered** across London between 2020 and 2021.

2.4

Homelessness

What Is It?

When an individual or family does not have stable, permanent, appropriate housing, or the ability to acquire it, they are considered to be experiencing homelessness.



The Numbers

Rate of Homelessness

Year	# of individuals on London's By Name List
2019	1,161
2020	1,329
2021	1,575
2022	2,171

Source: City of London

Since 2019, the number of people on London's By Name List has increased by 87%, representing 1,010 individuals.

LCRN Members in Action

589 meals were served through the Old East Village Cares annual Christmas luncheon and Easter luncheon at the St. Joseph's Hospitality Centre Café, with each attendee receiving a snack, a treat bag, and a bag with personal care items.

\$48,000 was raised through the LSTAR Charity Golf Tournament for The Grace Café, My Sisters' Place, and Youth Opportunities Unlimited to help serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

200 individual leaders from all backgrounds and areas of expertise, representing more than 70 local organizations, including community health and social services, institutional health care, business and economic development, land and housing development, and staff from other levels of government, came together over three Health and Homelessness summits in November and December 2022 and January 2023. The work of the summits was to engage, listen, and co-design a people-centred, housing-centric system response that could be actioned and resourced quickly to meet the growing urgency and complexity of the health and housing needs of those who are marginalized and experiencing homelessness in London. The proposed system aims to support the whole community – those who are most marginalized, those working in the system, and those trying to provide support, including businesses and community members who also experience the impacts of this crisis. The Whole of Community System Response will be supported by five critical foundations needed to ensure successful system operation, including: Workforce Development; System Governance; Standards of Care; Shared Systems, Processes, and Supports; and Centralized Data and Measurement. The Whole of Community System Response will be implemented through a co-design process with the goal to immediately implement five 24/7 hub sites and 100 units of housing with high supports this year. More information about the Whole of Community System Response can be found on the [City of London's website](#).

2.5 Income

What Is It?

Income, in this context, refers to the amount of money individuals earn from all sources. Having an adequate income means that people earn enough income to take care of their basic needs.



The Numbers

Census Family Low Income Measure After Tax

Year	% of persons in low income in London
2019	17%
2020	13.8%

Source: Statistics Canada

Annual Income is \$35,000 or More

Year	% of Londoners with an annual income of \$35,000 or more
2019	53%
2020	57%

Source: Statistics Canada

The percentage of individuals in low income declined from 17% in 2019 to 13.8% in 2020, representing a 3.2% difference. The percentage of Londoners with an annual income of \$35,000 or more increased by 4% between 2019 and 2020.

LCRN Members in Action

18% increase in investments totalling over \$1,000,000 was allocated to eight community-serving agencies by United Way Elgin Middlesex in 2022 to renew its commitment to basic needs and other emergency supports for people with low income or living in poverty. United Way Elgin Middlesex also provided funding to Living Wage Ontario.

1,000 basic needs kits were created and delivered to local community centres in 2020 by Child and Youth Network partners supported by Western University Students' Council.

\$297,580 in Harvest Bucks was distributed between 2021 and 2022 through emergency food cupboards and community food programs.

2.6

Mental Health

What Is It?

Mental health is a state of well-being in which an individual realizes their abilities, can cope with the everyday stresses of life, can work productively, and can contribute to their community.



The Numbers

Self-Reported Mental Health

Year	% of respondents aged 12 and older who report their mental health as:	
	Excellent	Very Good
2021	28.80%	33.10%
2022	28.67%	33.90%

Source: *EnviroNics Community Health Variables, Perceived Mental Health*

211 Ontario Helpline Inquiries for Mental Health/Addictions

Year	# of calls by London residents to 211 Ontario where the identified need was mental health/addictions related
2019	253
2020	340
2021	443
2022	598

Source: *211 Ontario*

The percentage of respondents who reported their mental health as *excellent* or *good* remained consistent between 2021 (61.90%) and 2022 (62.57%). London residents' number of mental health/addiction calls to 211 Ontario increased 136% from 2019 to 2022.

LCRN Members in Action

713 individuals who suffer from serious, persistent mental illness and addictions were assisted between April 2021 and April 2022 through 1,415 interactions with the Community Outreach and Support Team (COAST), a partnership between St. Joseph's Health Care London, Canadian Mental Health Association Thames Valley Addiction and Mental Health Services, Middlesex-London Paramedic Service, and London Police Service. COAST provides early and proactive intervention, de-escalation, and safe transition to the appropriate healthcare setting for individuals at-risk of crisis or frequently experiencing a crisis due to serious mental health/addiction issues.

The Middlesex-London Health Unit developed a perinatal mental health guideline that has enhanced the consistency and quality of evidence-informed nursing care, including screening, intervention, and referral, to improve perinatal mental health outcomes.

2.7

Physical Health

What Is It?

Physical health is focused on taking care of the body to support optimal health and functioning, prevent illness and injury, and manage chronic health conditions.



The Numbers

Self-Rated Physical Health

Year	% of respondents aged 12 and older who report their physical health as:	
	Excellent	Very Good
2021	24.06%	33.83%
2022	22.85%	34.66%

Source: Environics Community Health Variables, Perceived Physical Health

In 2021, the percentage of respondents who reported that their physical health was excellent or very good was 57.89%. In 2022, that percentage remained relatively constant at 57.51%.

LCRN Members in Action

77% decrease in HIV cases was experienced between 2016 (62 cases) and 2022 (14 cases), in alignment with the Middlesex-London Health Unit Outreach Team's objective and mandate to mitigate the transmission of HIV in the community. **The Outreach Team continues to provide support and service to highly marginalized individuals, with no break in service during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

The Middlesex-London Health Unit's Smart Start for Babies prenatal education program resumed in late 2021, with the return of the group program for Arabic-speaking newcomer families. Expansion to other sites occurred in 2022, with five classes offered at four locations throughout the week.

Nursing home/virtual visiting services to prenatal and postpartum families through the Middlesex-London Health Unit were prioritized throughout the pandemic, with the goals of improving healthy child growth and development, promoting safe, competent, and sensitive caregiver parenting skills, and increasing families' linkages to supports and services. Hybrid visiting options continued post-pandemic, with a priority on in-person service delivery.

2.8 Substance Use

What Is It?

Substance use refers to the use of drugs or alcohol. For some people, substance use can lead to dependence and addiction, overdose, infectious disease, or other complications.



The Numbers

Amount of Heavy Drinking

Year	# of respondents who report engaging in heavy drinking
2017-2018	87,400
2019-2020	66,100

Source: Statistics Canada

Rates of Opioid-Related Morbidity and Mortality

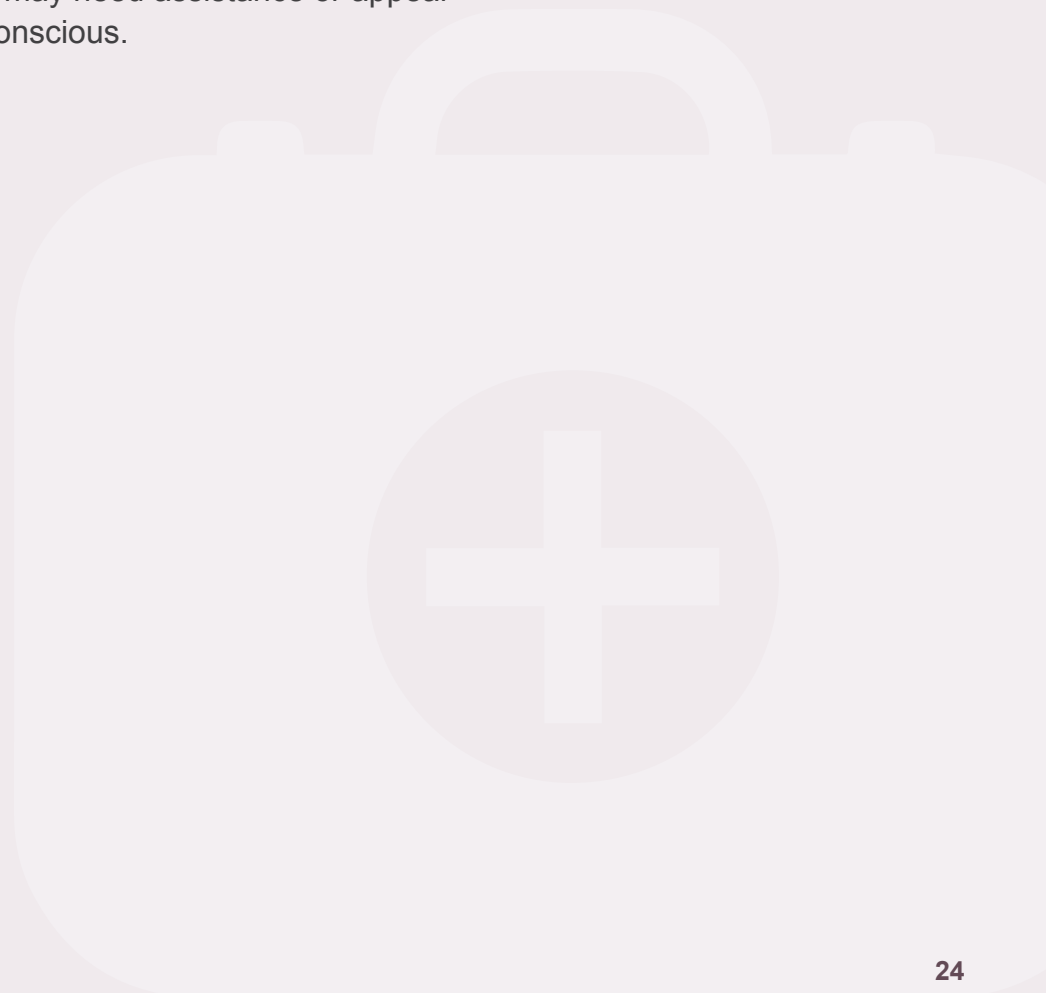
Year	Per 100,000 population rates of opioid-related:		
	Emergency Visits	Hospitalizations	Deaths
2019	109.5	15.1	12.1
2020	144.8	16.5	20.3
2021	203.7	24.8	25.6

Source: Public Health Ontario Interactive Opioid Tool

The number of respondents who reported engaging in heavy drinking in 2019-2020 was 66,100, a decrease of 21,300 from 2017-2018. The rates of opioid-related emergency visits, hospitalizations, and death increased by 86%, 64%, and 112%, respectively, between 2019 and 2021.

LCRN Members in Action

3-5 times a year, **Core Area Municipal By-Law staff** apply their **first aid training** to individuals requiring assistance, using naloxone in overdose situations, providing wellness checks, and calling 9-1-1 for medical assistance. As part of their daily duties within the Core Area, staff routinely check people that may need assistance or appear unconscious.



Section 3.0

Results: Driving Prosperity

Driving Prosperity means sustainable and inclusive economic recovery that creates opportunities for people and enterprises and strengthens London's diverse competitive potential. The Driving Prosperity recovery and renewal focus area is comprised of **eight indicators**.



- 1.** Arts, Culture, and Tourism
- 2.** Business Health
- 3.** Commercial Vacancy
- 4.** Employment
- 5.** Housing Affordability and Availability
- 6.** Labour Market Participation
- 7.** Mental Health in the Workplace
- 8.** Talent Recruitment and Retention

3.1 Arts, Culture, and Tourism

What Is It?

Arts, culture, and tourism provide a substantial economic benefit by bringing visitors to a community while also contributing to community well-being by encouraging creative expression and practice.



The Numbers

Economic Impact of Tourism in London

Year	Total impact (\$) of tourism in London on the GDP
2019	473.5M
2020	274.5M
2021	393.0M

Source: The Conference Board of Canada, Tourism London

Number of Visitors to London

Year	# of overnight visitors to London
2019	2.126M
2020	1.150M
2021	1.550M

Source: The Conference Board of Canada, Tourism London

Between 2019 and 2020, the total economic impact of tourism in London decreased by 42%, then increased by 43% between 2020 and 2021. Similarly, overnight visitors to London decreased by 46% between 2019 and 2020 and increased by 35% between 2020 and 2021.

LCRN Members in Action

1,000 additional Visa cards and Stay a Little Longer packages were created and sold out in 2022 through the expansion of Tourism London's Stay a Little Longer 2.0 Campaign.

\$276,000 worth of activations were added to the Core Area over December 2022 through a partnership between Tourism London, the City of London, Downtown London, and Covent Garden Market to create Downtown for the Holidays.

\$2.1 million was administered by the London Arts Council between 2020 and 2022 through the City of London's Community Arts Investment Program, and an additional **\$237,900** was leveraged through the partnership with the London Community Foundation. These financial investments provided project funding for individual artists and artist collectives, as well as much-needed operational support for local arts organizations to retain professional arts management staff, continue programming development/delivery (in person or virtually), and maintain/secure arts-presenting venues.

253 guests and **37** speakers from across Canada participated in the City of Music Conference and Events hosted by the London Music Office in partnership with Tourism London.

1,200 attendees and 48 companies and organizations with exhibitor booths participated in the London City of Music Expo hosted by the London Chamber of Commerce, including four workshops and six live performances.

4 My Main Street Ambassadors were hired by the Small Business Centre and worked closely with Business Improvement Areas in Old East Village, Hamilton Road, Downtown London, Mainstreet London and the London Economic Development Corporation.

With consideration of pandemic restrictions, the **Dundas Place space was programmed beginning in early August with outdoor activities and performances.**

3.2 Business Health

What Is It?

The health of a business relates to its ability to cover operational costs, influencing its long-term sustainability.



The Numbers

Business Openings and Closings

Year	# of businesses with at least one employee that open and close each year (net change)
2019	319
2020	-295
2021	698
2022	-119

Source: Statistics Canada

Between 2019 and 2022, the number of businesses that opened and closed changed each year, with a net increase of 319 businesses in 2019, a net decrease of 295 businesses in 2020, a net increase of 698 businesses in 2021, and a net reduction of 119 businesses in 2022 in London.

LCRN Members in Action

17,303 unique visitors viewed **447 businesses on FindItInLondon.ca**, launched by Tourism London in partnership with all five Business Improvement Areas.

\$158,500 was distributed in grants to downtown businesses on behalf of the City of London and Downtown London, including a patio grant, property damage grant, holiday window grant, and construction dollars.

\$230,080 in economic impact occurred through the city-wide **ShopLondon2Win Campaign**, with an anticipated **\$111,372 in future spending**.

100 videos featuring local business owners were produced and posted to **FindItInLondon.ca** by Tourism London in partnership with Business Improvement Areas.

49 new businesses were provided with **contacts, resources, networks, and tools** to help their businesses succeed in Downtown London through the Core Area Pilot Program.

5,218 Service London **Business visits**, including 1,766 service counter visits and 3,452 website visits, occurred between 2020 and 2022.

27 regional investment promotion **missions** were conducted by the London Economic Development Corporation between 2020 and 2022.

Patio fees were also waived city-wide, and many patios **were permitted to expand further and extend the patio season** in the colder months.

A new streamlined application process to host sidewalk sales on City property was also launched, helping to make it easier for businesses to serve customers safely outside.

The City of London focused on business needs and recovery efforts through digital submissions for consultations and applications, consistently meeting or exceeding targeted timelines. For example, an online building permit application process was established for all building types, allowing concurrent plan review and improved processing times. Digital drawing reviews and digital signatures were implemented to support business continuity and improve turnaround timelines.

3.3 Commercial Vacancy

What Is It?

Commercial vacancy refers to the number of commercial units, such as office and retail spaces that are unoccupied at a particular time.



The Numbers

Commercial Vacancy Rate

Year	% of office properties that are vacant	% of industrial properties that are vacant
2019	17.88%	2.53%
2020	16.00%	1.65%
2021	18.20%	0.98%
2022	21.40%	0.43%

Source: CBRE

The percentage of vacant office properties increased from 17.88% in 2019 to 21.40% in 2022, a difference of 3.52%. In comparison, the percentage of vacant industrial properties decreased yearly between 2019 and 2022, for a total decrease of 2.10%.

LCRN Members in Action

50,000 square feet of vacant space absorption occurred in the Core Area through targeted initiatives offered through the Core Area Pilot Program.

800+ visitors, 22 retail activations, 10 rentals, and 31 tours of vacant space were conducted through MainStreet London's UpStart Accelerator pilot project at 189 Dundas St.

45 new businesses were welcomed downtown, 24 new leaseholders were engaged, and 15 start-up grants were provided through the Core Area Pilot Program.

200,000 square feet of additional footprint space at Western University has been completed or is currently under construction. Over **\$250 million in additional capital space projects have been approved** and will proceed from 2023-2025.

Western University purchased the building at 450 Talbot St. Architects have been engaged, and preliminary plans are being evaluated. **The Indigenous Gallery is to move downtown**, where the Indigenous works of the McIntosh Gallery are planned to be displayed as a permanent gallery.

The City of London began the development of the Core Area Land and Building Vacancy Reduction Strategy to be submitted to Council in May 2023. This process included identifying current actions that indirectly or directly address Core Area vacancy, a Core Area Land and Building Vacancy Study, a municipal scan, and the development of strategic initiatives focused on property, people, place, and promotion.

3.4 Employment

What Is It?

Employment means full-time or part-time, productive, and decent work for all. Individuals who are employed may be employees of a company or may be self-employed.



The Numbers

Unemployment Rate

Year	% of the labour force that is jobless in London
2019	5.7%
2020	8.7%
2021	7.9%
2022	5.7%

Source: Statistics Canada

Employment Rate of Immigrants

Year	Employment rate
2016	49.8%
2021	48.0%

Source: London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership

The percentage of the labour force that is jobless increased between 2019 and 2020 by 3%, before decreasing in 2021 by 0.8% and then decreasing again in 2022 by 2.2%. The employment rate for immigrants in London decreased by 1.8% between 2016 and 2021.

LCRN Members in Action

158 newcomers participated in two of five introductory sessions on **Starting a Small Business in Canada** offered by the Small Business Centre. With support from LUSO, one of the sessions was delivered in 7 languages.

31 musicians were provided with paid opportunities, and **16 concerts** were presented through TD Sunfest and Home County.

13 chamber musicians were provided with paid opportunities through **11 weekly concerts** presented by London Symphonia's Wednesday Lunchtime concert series.

21 local and international musicians, **9 local and international bands**, and **6 technicians** were provided with paid opportunities through the London UNESCO City of Music Concert Series hosted by the London Music Office in partnership with various organizations.

185 artists, with **60 artists** from equity-denied communities, were provided with paid opportunities through London Arts Live and Culture City X outdoor concerts and art activations in the Core Area.

Each year, the percentage of individuals and families exiting Ontario Works' financial assistance due to employment exceeded targets. In 2020, the target was exceeded by 3% (23% compared to 20%), in 2021 by 4.5% (24.5% compared to 20%) and in 2022 by 6% (31% compared to 25%). In 2022, as an example, 695 families exited Ontario Works' financial assistance to employment.

3,220 jobs were created in London, and **356 jobs** were retained through **London Economic Development Corporation** business attraction efforts between 2020 and 2022.

1,630 new jobs were created in City-owned industrial parks, including expansions, between 2020 and 2022.

3.5 Housing Affordability and Availability

What Is It?

Housing affordability and availability refers to having enough supply of safe, secure, and suitable housing that meets individuals' needs and ability to pay.



The Numbers

Average Income of Londoners Versus Average Cost of a One-bedroom Unit in London

Year	% of average income required to rent a 1-bedroom unit
2019	23%
2020	24%

Source: Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation and Statistics Canada

Average Vacancy Rate

Year	Average vacancy rate
October 2019	1.8%
October 2020	3.4%
October 2021	1.9%
October 2022	1.5%

Source: Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation

The percentage of average income required to rent a 1-bedroom unit in London increased by 1% between 2019 and 2020. While the average vacancy rate decreased overall by 0.3% between 2019 and 2022, vacancy rates did increase temporarily between 2019 and 2020 by 1.6%.

LCRN Members in Action

680 units will be added to London's rental market, with over half designated as affordable or deeply affordable on the former Victoria Hospital lands. The Vision SoHo Alliance, comprised of six non-profit developers and chaired by the London Community Foundation, acquired the lands in September 2022, and construction is due to start in spring 2023 and will be completed late in 2025.

\$4.3 million was invested in four new projects in affordable housing and social enterprises through London Community Foundation's social finance investments.

\$1,000,000 was donated by the London Food Bank to support food literacy and health programs in the Vision SoHo Alliance's affordable housing project.

761 new affordable units were added to the rental stock between 2020 and 2022 in London.

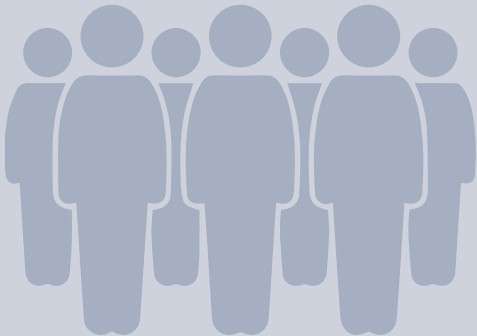
City Council unanimously approved the deferral of 2020 property tax installments and a rent deferral program for tenants of City-owned properties.

The City of London, in partnership with Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services (OAHS), is planning for a new multi-residential apartment building at 18 Elm Street to provide more safe and affordable rental housing in London. The building will provide safe, quality, and appropriate housing for First Nation, Inuit, and Métis people, focusing on addressing the needs of Indigenous women and children, families, and Elders in London.

3.6 Labour Market Participation

What Is It?

Labour market participation reflects the active workforce in London. It includes people who are employed and seeking employment.



The Numbers

Labour Market Participation Rate

Year	% of residents aged 15 and older participating in the labour force
2019	60.0%
2020	61.2%
2021	65.3%
2022	65.8%

Source: Statistics Canada

Since 2019, the percentage of residents aged 15 and older participating in the labour force has increased from 60% to 65.8%, a difference of 5.8%.

LCRN Members in Action

400 frontline staff from community employment organizations participated in 17 sessions to learn, discuss, and share current and relevant pandemic recovery information, resources, tools and supports from the Employment Sector Council and the Elgin Middlesex Oxford Workforce Planning & Development Board.

160 City-led activities to increase opportunities between potential employers, post-secondary institutions, and other employment agencies were implemented between 2020 and 2022. This included: 28 activities to foster connections between students and businesses; 82 activities to support connections between individuals and employment and other training agencies; and 50 activities to support newcomers in achieving their employment goals, including 24 activities to support connections between newcomers and employers, 11 activities to attract newcomers, and 15 activities to support newcomer retention and integration.

An in-person education session about the benefits of inclusive economy approaches for London's business community was facilitated and recorded by the London Chamber of Commerce and Inclusive Economy London and Region and is now hosted on the London Chamber of Commerce's website.

This information may be accessed by business owners looking to learn more about business opportunities in the inclusive economy and how they can position themselves as suppliers and service providers for anchor institutions.

A literature review has been completed to establish specific characteristics that define gig work.

In addition, Elgin Middlesex Oxford Workforce Planning and Development Board has reviewed more than 100 local job postings to refine keywords associated with gig work opportunities. This preliminary work informed the automatic tagging algorithms designed for filtering out the gig jobs from the total job opportunities posted in the London Economic Region.

3.7 Mental Health in the Workplace

What Is It?

A psychologically safe and healthy workplace promotes workers' mental well-being, does not harm employee mental health through negligent, reckless, or intentional ways, and is free of excessive fear or chronic anxiety. Job burnout is a specific type of work-related stress – a state of physical or emotional exhaustion that also involves a sense of reduced accomplishment and loss of personal identity.



The Numbers

WSIB Claims

Year	# of allowed lost-time WSIB claims for mental health in Ontario
2019	2,420
2020	2,137
2021	2,600
2022	2,342

Source: WSIB Ontario

The number of lost time WSIB claims for mental health in Ontario decreased between 2019 and 2020 by 12% and then increased by 22% in 2021 before decreasing again in 2022 by 10%, arriving slightly below the 2019 baseline.

LCRN Members in Action

The Middlesex-London Health Unit expanded mental health benefits and providers for employees and renewed its Employee and Family Assistance Program as the provider continues to enhance their support and service offerings and the services have high employee utilization. The Middlesex-London Health Unit also changed wellness providers for a broader offering of well-being supports that impact various aspects of mental health. During the pandemic, the Middlesex-London Health Unit also offered various group debrief sessions with an external clinician through the Employee and Family Assistance Program. In addition to these changes, the Institute for Healthcare Improvement Joy In Work framework has been introduced with an initial focus on the leadership team, with plans to expand it across the Middlesex-London Health Unit.

The strategic framework for the City of London's People Plan was approved in 2021. It sets a vision of a respectful, inclusive, and collaborative organization committed to delivering valued services to our community and includes four areas of focus: A Well Workplace; A Connecting, Communicating and Collaborating Workforce; A Learning and Leading Organization; A Strong Workforce and Operational Excellence.

3.8 Talent Recruitment and Retention

What Is It?

Talent recruitment and retention refers to the overall process of engaging, onboarding, training, and keeping skilled employees.



The Numbers

Presence of Hard-to-Fill Positions

Year	% of employers who had positions that were hard to fill in the last 12 months
2019	58.0%
2020	49.2%
2021	63.8%
2022	58.0%

Source: Employer ONE Survey, Elgin Middlesex Oxford Workforce Planning & Development Board

Availability of Qualified Workers

Year	% of employers who rate the availability of qualified workers as good or excellent
2019	30%
2020	N/A
2021	31%
2022	32%

Source: Employer ONE Survey, Elgin Middlesex Oxford Workforce Planning & Development Board

The percentage of employers who had positions that were hard to fill decreased in 2020 by 8.8%, increased in 2021 by 14.6%, and then decreased again in 2022 by 5.8%, returning to the same percentage as in 2019. The percentage of employers who rate the availability of qualified workers as good or excellent increased by 2% between 2019 and 2022.

LCRN Members in Action

356 open positions from 49 distinct area employers were shared in 2022 through the Employment Sector Council's Job Developers Network Portal to match job seekers and employers across employment agencies.

20 Job Development Network members registered for exhibition booths at the April 2022 and September 2022 job fairs.

100 newcomers were connected to technology companies through TechConnect held by TechAlliance in partnership with WIL Immploy.

328 Western University and Fanshawe College students were connected to 34 companies with summer and full-time employment opportunities through Tech Talent Exchange.

3,000 students from London and area high schools attended the LevelUP! Skilled Trades career fair put on in partnership with the London and District Construction Association in November 2022, showcasing career opportunities for young Londoners in the highly desired skilled trades sector and beyond.

Section 4.0

Results: Fostering Community

Fostering Community means reconnecting people and neighbourhoods and fostering a community where all Londoners can live, work, and play. The Fostering Community recovery and renewal focus area is comprised of **seven indicators**.



- 1.** Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression
- 2.** Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability
- 3.** Community Belonging
- 4.** Community Engagement and Social Isolation
- 5.** COVID-19 Management and Prevention
- 6.** Crime and Safety
- 7.** Immigration and Migration

4.1

Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression

What Is It?

Anti-racism recognizes the existence of racism, including systemic racism, and seeks to identify, remove, prevent, and mitigate racially inequitable outcomes and power imbalances between groups and change the structures that sustain inequities. Anti-oppression refers to challenging social and historical inequities and injustices that are part of systems and institutions and that allow certain groups to dominate over others.



The Numbers

Police Reported Hate Crime

Year	# of police reported hate crimes per 100,000 population
2019	6.2
2020	8.1
2021	15.6

Source: Statistics Canada

The number of police-reported hate crimes per 100,000 population more than doubled in 2021, from 6.2 to 15.6.

LCRN Members in Action

180 people participated in the **All are Welcome Here/Tous Sont les Bienvenus Ici** event on the United Nations Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination led by the London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership.

21 initiatives supporting reconciliation were implemented by the City of London. The Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Division supported a Council-to-Council meeting between the Mayor and Council with Oneida Nation of the Thames Council. The Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Division also supported the completion of planning for the Turtle Island Healing Walk.

\$429,104 funded eight innovation and two capital projects through the **London Community Grants Program** between 2020 and 2022 that advanced anti-Black and anti-Indigenous racism and anti-oppression initiatives and promoted diversity, inclusion, and equity.

In 2020, Municipal Council reaffirmed its commitment to eliminating systemic racism and oppression by establishing **Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression as a sixth priority of Council**. Municipal Council also unanimously approved the creation of the Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression division. In September 2022, Council unanimously approved the Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Framework and Equity Tool. The Framework supports the Corporation by embedding the principles of equity and inclusion in all aspects of the City of London's work, from design to implementation of corporate policies, procedures, programs, projects, plans, services, budgets, and decisions.

In the summer of 2022, Fanshawe College launched its first **Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Anti-Oppression Task Force**, with over 30 diverse members of the Fanshawe community, including students, staff, faculty, and administrators. This group is working to advance an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Strategic Framework and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Action Plan for Fanshawe College.

On September 30, 2021, the City of London recognized and observed the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour First Nations, Inuit and Métis residential school survivors, their families, and communities and to ensure that public commemoration of their history and the legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process. An “Every Child Matters” flag was raised at City Hall, and City buildings were lit orange. Orange shirts with the words “Every Child Matters” written in English, and translated into the Indigenous languages of Ojibway, Oneida, and Lenape, were made available to City employees, with profits donated to N’Amerind Friendship Centre. In collaboration with the London Public Library, orange buttons and posters were similarly created with the translations and distributed to patrons. An orange crosswalk was painted outside the N’Amerind Friendship Centre and another at Dundas and Richmond. Future events for the commemoration of this day will include opportunities for employees to learn more about the impacts of the residential school system.

London Arts Council hired a new Cultivating Allyship Specialist.

Several confirmed opportunities and public art projects will be administered in collaboration with the City of London to continue the commitment to truth and reconciliation.

A London for Everyone: An Action Plan to Disrupt Islamophobia was developed in response to the June 6 terror attack and provided recommendations for both the City of London and for community-based and public sector organizations to end Islamophobia. Council unanimously endorsed it on February 15, 2022. Implementation of the recommendations began with prioritizing the first anniversary of the attack. It included the creation of a Memorial Plaza at the intersection of the tragedy, a community garden in honour of Our London Family, and a march and a vigil that took place the weekend of the anniversary.

The Middlesex-London Health Unit developed an organizational Anti-Black Racism Plan, with the support of a consultant, based significantly on community input, and they have taken initial implementation steps.

A community advisory group is implementing the plan. In development are a communication plan focused on anti-Black racism messages and program activities to engage the African, Caribbean, and Black communities. Based on consultative feedback from 60+ members of the diverse Black community, the Middlesex-London Health Unit hired a Health Promoter as a COVID-19/vaccine liaison with the Black community. A dedicated team supports the anti-Black racism work, including continued COVID-19 and vaccine distribution.

4.2

Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability

What Is It?

Climate change refers to a long-term shift in the average weather conditions of a region. Environmental sustainability is the responsibility to conserve natural resources and protect global ecosystems to support health and well-being now and in the future.



The Numbers

Emissions Reduction

Year	% of GHG emissions reduced in London
2019	-21%
2020	-30%

Source: City of London

From 2019 to 2020, the percentage of GHG emissions changed by 9% in London.

LCRN Members in Action

63,517 website visits and **585 sales for WORTH**, Goodwill's remanufactured clothing and accessories brand, coupled with a new textile shredder, resulted in diverting 10,000 pounds of textiles from landfill in 2022.

4 electric Zambonis are now operating at City facilities. Each electric Zamboni reduces 19 tonnes of emissions annually, creating a cleaner space for City staff and arena users while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

15 collaborative environmentally focused projects were implemented by the City of London and community groups between 2020 and 2022.

During that same time frame, 30 CityGreen activities and events were hosted, and through the Conversation Authorities (UTRCA, LTVCA, KCCA), there were 164,650 environmental education participants.

The London Environmental Network has hosted several events to help build capacity and understanding around business and residential sustainability, including Accelerate Your Business Sustainability Journey, Green Leader Awards, Retrofit Webinar Series, Green in the City with Green Drinks, and Communities Taking Climate Action.

The London Environmental Network has selected several London residents and businesses for green projects, including Let's Talk Science, London District Construction Association, MTE Consultants, Western Fair District, Play Away Indoor Park, and London Brewing. This first wave of green projects include waste diversion, pollinator gardens, energy efficiency measures, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. The contractors and suppliers are local providers where possible.

The 2022 refresh of the Vital Signs report saw the Environment added as a key issue. After a successful Vital Conversation on Environment, an investigative podcast series about some of the most significant environmental concerns facing London and Middlesex County is being produced.

The Resiliency (Adaptation) Strategy had a completion rate of 50% as of 2022, with the remainder to be completed as part of the Climate Emergency Action Plan. The work aligned with the Green City Strategy, being implemented as part of the ten Areas of Focus in the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

Efforts were made between 2020 and 2022 to implement a series of strategies, including the development of the **City's Corporate Energy Management Conservation Demand Management Strategy, with the completion of 50% of the corresponding actions and an update of the Green Fleet Plan.** Council approved the Climate Emergency Action Plan in April 2022 after considerable community and business engagement.

In 2019, Council declared a climate emergency at the urgency of the community. It triggered several actions, staff reports, and further decisions, including developing a plan to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

4.3

Community Belonging

What Is It?

A sense of community belonging reflects whether individuals feel connected to a community or group (e.g., social, cultural, professional) and that they matter to one another and to the group.



The Numbers

Sense of Belonging

Year	% of respondents who strongly agree or somewhat agree they have a strong sense of belonging in the city of London
2019	88%
2020	N/A
2021	82%
2022	79%

Source: City of London

The percentage of respondents who strongly agree or somewhat agree they have a strong sense of belonging in London decreased by 9% between 2019 and 2022.

LCRN Members in Action

\$600,000 was invested to support operational funding for staff and security in 2021 and 2022 as part of the pilot for extended publicly accessible washroom hours at Victoria Park and the Dundas Place Fieldhouse.

5 mentors were subcontracted for one year, and ten mentees were selected for eight months to participate in the Belong program offered through the London Arts Council.

7% increase in funding for Indigenous-led programs, 3.2% increase for basic needs and emergency support, 2.1% increase for gender-based violence programs, 1.8% increase for housing stability programs, and 1.7% increase for education programs for children and youth was implemented by United Way Elgin Middlesex after a review of their community funding model was conducted.

700 Londoners participated in seven interactive live mural walk activations in the Core Area hosted by the London Arts Council, where 30 artists were engaged, of which 50% were BIPOC artists.

1,475 individuals engaged in the London & Middlesex Local Immigrant Partnership and City of London newcomer events annually between 2020 and 2022.

120 individuals attended the second annual London Newcomer Day, hosted by the City of London, and many community agencies and partners, to welcome and celebrate newcomers and share information about living, working, and studying in London.

200 registrants met virtually in 2020 to explore creating a strong sense of place for all Londoners through the second annual Place Matters Conference supported by the City of London.

4.4

Community Engagement and Social Isolation

What Is It?

Community engagement refers to participation in community-based activities and interpersonal interactions. In comparison, social isolation reflects low levels of social participation and feelings of loneliness.



The Numbers

Welcoming Community

Year	% of respondents who strongly agree or somewhat agree the city of London is a welcoming community
2019	90%
2020	N/A
2021	85%
2022	81%

Source: City of London

Neighbourhood Engagement

Year	# of people who vote in the neighbourhood decision-making program
2019	10,852
2020	No data-COVID-19
2021	4,750
2022	4,187

Source: City of London

In 2019, the percentage of respondents who strongly agreed or somewhat agreed the city of London is a welcoming community was 90%, which decreased by 9% in 2022 to 81%. The number of people who voted in the Neighbourhood Decision-Making Program decreased between 2019 and 2022 by 61%.

LCRN Members in Action

50 non-profit organizations have contributed data to the London Community Foundation's London Vital Signs Data Hub project.

6 concerts were presented at Folk Music Ontario Week hosted by the London Music Office.

200 Londoners attended the Bike Rodeo, and participants remained in Old East Village to circulate to other area activations, including the installations of two large-scale permanent murals on Dundas St. The BIA executed five \$1,000 Construction Dollar giveaways throughout the event, which drew additional attendees. Also included was a Polaroid photo booth, a radio "live to air," and interactive art activities.

1,222,992 visits were received between 2020 and 2022 to City of London community centres.

108,945 participants engaged in City of London recreation and sports programs from 2020 to 2022, and 2,150 individuals received Play Your Way financial assistance annually to encourage participation in recreation and sport. There were also 6,368 opportunities for free drop-in recreation programs.

480 events, exhibits, and classes were offered to Londoners, including 244 hosted by the Dundas Street Partners, 79 hosted by Eldon House, and 157 hosted by Museum London between 2020 and 2022. Attendance in arts and culture experiences during that same time period was 393,584 visitors, including 351,399 Museum London visitors and 42,185 Eldon House visitors.

564 public education activities were offered by the London Fire Department, including "Coffee with a Firefighter" events, to provide members of the community with an opportunity to speak with members of the London Fire Department.

55% of London's 20 community gardens were accessible as of 2022.

In addition, just over one-third of all community garden plots, on average, were subsidized.

100% of available surplus school sites were analyzed for parkland opportunities.

This process will create new community gathering spaces at 1958 Duluth Crescent, 18 Elm Street, and 7 Annadale Drive. The City of London also opened the new Lorne Avenue Park, which stands at the site of the former Lorne Avenue Public School.

800 children registered for the City of London's modified summer camp program in 2020, held at 11 locations across the city.

Further, from October to December, the City introduced free, modified neighbourhood-based programming for all ages at eight community centres.

460 residents submitted ideas through the Neighbourhood Decision-Making Program between 2021 and 2022.

Further, from 2020 to 2022, 198 activities were supported, 12 movie nights were hosted, and 38 events were supported in neighbourhoods.

4.5 COVID-19 Management and Prevention

What Is It?

COVID-19 Management and Prevention in this context means the prevention, control, and management of COVID-19, an infectious disease caused by the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2.



The Numbers

Total Number of COVID-19 Cases

Year	Total number of COVID-19 cases per year
2020	3,935
2021	18,773
2022	24,201

Source: Middlesex-London Health Unit

COVID-19 Vaccination Uptake (Two Doses)

Year	% of the population that is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (age 5+)
2020	0.30% (first dose only)
2021	83.70%
2022	89.60%

Source: Middlesex-London Health Unit

The total number of COVID-19 cases per year increased from 3,935 in 2020 to 24,201 in 2022, a change of 515%. Further, the percentage of the population that is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 increased each year between 2020 and 2022 to 89.60%.

LCRN Members in Action

33 licensed childcare locations were supported by the City of London to provide Emergency Licensed Child Care to 756 children of essential workers during the school closure period from April to June 2021.

Operators were also supported to deliver virtual early years services to over 52,000 participants through 1,874 interactive, recorded, and facilitated sessions from January to July 2021.

\$40.5 million in emergency assistance was received by the City of London through the federal/provincial Safe Restart Agreement to support municipalities in addressing COVID-19 financial impacts and service interruptions.

\$70 million of COVID-19 financial impacts (including lost revenues and additional costs) were navigated by the City of London in 2021. This was made possible through the receipt of significant financial support from the federal and provincial governments, including Safe Restart Agreement funding, COVID-19 Recovery Funds, Social Services Relief Funds, etc. The City also implemented temporary service adjustments in response to public health restrictions that helped offset COVID-related lost revenues and additional costs.

In early January 2020, the City began monitoring the COVID-19 virus spread and activated a logistics team to support City services and community agencies in acquiring personal protective equipment.

This team continued to support the procurement and distribution of personal protective equipment in the community. The City of London also activated the Community Control Group in March and declared a local state of emergency on March 20, 2020. The Community Control Group met regularly until the State of Emergency ended in May 2022.

In response to COVID-19, the Middlesex-London Health Unit launched a comprehensive incident management response which included contact tracing, outbreak management, working with countless organizations to ensure appropriate health measures and protocols were in place, public education, and monitoring and responding to cases in the community. As of November 26, 2022, more than 1.3 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine had been administered across the Middlesex-London region, including more than 68,000 doses at 542 mobile and pop-up clinics. The City partnered with the Middlesex-London Health Unit to open two vaccination facilities, providing staff, facility, security, and technical support. The Western Fair Agriplex was a COVID-19 mass vaccination clinic supporting the community's health and safety until September 2022. The Middlesex-London Health Unit moved its COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Clinic to the Western Fair District's main building in early October 2022 to continue offering COVID-19 vaccinations to the community.

Dearness Home responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by increasing staff training on proper Infection, Prevention and Control measures, including using personal protective equipment. Dearness Home residents enjoyed the entertainment and social interactions through small group settings, room-to-room cohorts, and ongoing health and safety precautions, including ongoing health and safety training for hundreds of essential caregivers.

Throughout the pandemic, the City of London maintained an ongoing commitment to its residents' and employees' health and safety.

Health and safety precautions were incorporated in all operations, including health screening upon entry to City facilities, physical distancing, frequent hand washing and hand sanitizing, and frequent sanitization of high-touch surfaces. The new protocol manual and training for modified summer and fall recreation staff also included COVID-19 health and safety measures and a greater emphasis on mental health.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Middlesex-London Health Unit rapidly deployed staff from across the organization to support case and contact management, outbreak management, infection prevention and control consultation, and the administration of COVID-19 vaccines.

In addition to redeployments, the Middlesex-London Health Unit also increased its staff numbers substantially to meet the demands of the pandemic. In the last year, with the transition from a pandemic state to an endemic state, the Middlesex-London Health Unit has been able to sustain its response to COVID-19 while returning redeployed staff to their baseline work. The Middlesex-London Health Unit will continue to adapt its service delivery to reflect the risk of COVID-19 in the community.

4.6

Crime and Safety

What Is It?

A crime is any unlawful act punishable under the Criminal Code. At the community level, safety reflects being able to live, work, and play without fear of harm or victimization.



The Numbers

Crime Severity

Year	Crime severity index
2019	76.01
2020	74.82
2021	80.09

Source: Statistics Canada

Violent Crime and Sexual Assaults Against Women

Year	% of victims of police-reported violent crime that are female
2019	53.94%
2020	53.35%
2021	53.24%

Source: Statistics Canada

The crime severity index changed from 76.01 to 80.09 between 2019 and 2021, reflecting an increase in crime prevalence and severity. The percentage of victims of violent crime that are female remained at approximately 53% between 2019 and 2021.

LCRN Members in Action

467 calls were diverted from a police-led response to a healthcare-led response via the **Community Outreach and Support Team (COAST)** between April 2021 and April 2022. COAST participants said that when interacting with COAST, they felt heard and that team members genuinely cared about them.

\$5,000 was donated by the **London District Heavy Construction Association** to support London Middlesex Crimestoppers.

Safe Cities London collaborated to deliver bystander intervention training in 2021 to bar staff in the downtown and worked to raise awareness at Western University and Fanshawe College about on-board safety and the London Transit Commission's courtesy stop program.

4.7

Immigration and Migration

What Is It?

Immigration and migration refers to the movement of people from other countries, provinces, or regions into a given geographic area.



The Numbers

Newcomers to London

Year	# of newcomers to London through direct and secondary migration
2019-2020	5,393
2020-2021	7,382
2021-2022	10,255

Source: Statistics Canada

International Student Enrolment at Western University

Year	# of full-time international students enrolled in Western University
2018-2019	4,221
2019-2020	4,565
2020-2021	4,487
2021-2022	4,746

Source: Western University

International Student Enrolment at Fanshawe College

Year	# of full-time international students enrolled in Fanshawe College
2018-2019	8,696
2019-2020	10,690
2020-2021	9,387

Source: Fanshawe College

The number of newcomers to London increased by 90% between 2019-2020 and 2021-2022. International students enrolled at Western University increased by 12% between the start of the 2018 and 2021 school years. Similarly, international student enrollment at Fanshawe College increased by 8% between the beginning of the 2018 and 2020 school years.

LCRN Members in Action

The London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership studied **discrimination among immigrants, Indigenous Peoples, and visible minorities**. This study has been used widely to inform other work conducted by the municipality and community partners.

Matter of Fact sheets on immigration trends in London and Middlesex, produced by the London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership, and featured on the 1000 Acts of Welcome site, informed the public and provided service providers with the data they need to better inform their services.

The London Economic Development Corporation produced its first 'Manufacturing Employment Prospects Report' which will be followed by reports for the Construction, Health, and IT sectors, along with a summary report that will refer to other specific needs. The report provides useful data to support domestic and international recruitment, apprenticeship efforts, immigration program priorities, and useful background for proposals.

Section 5.0

Conclusion and Next Steps

Recovery is not about building the same London; it is about building a community that is stronger than where we started. Recovery for London is about renewal; it requires looking forward and creating a brighter future rather than going back to the way things were. It presents an opportunity for transformation, reimagining, and re-setting what London looks like post-pandemic – an equitable community where no one is left behind.

The pandemic demanded exceptional innovation, partnerships, and flexibility, and recovery and renewal efforts required much of the same. London Community Recovery Network members came together in an unprecedented way, working differently together to revitalize the community and reimagine the future. London Community Recovery Network members designed and participated in initiatives that benefitted community recovery and renewal and, at the same time, focused on the needs of individual sectors, members, and organizations. London Community Recovery Network members implemented initiatives to support London's recovery in alignment with the London Community Recovery Network's vision and objectives. The lessons learned will serve as the foundation for future initiatives, such as using an enterprise-wide approach to address challenges, co-designing solutions in real-time across sectors to address emerging crises, and pursuing outcomes through a collective impact framework.

While there has been a tremendous effort towards recovery and renewal in London, demonstrated by the actions undertaken by London Community Recovery Network members and the indicator results, the data also illustrates that there is more work yet to do to build a strong and inclusive post-pandemic London.

Moving forward, London Community Recovery Network members will continue to work to address these challenges. The London Community Recovery Network committed to tracking indicators for three years. Rather than through a formal London Community Recovery Network structure, the City of London will report on the indicators and metrics in the London Community Recovery Framework through the City of London Strategic Plan annual reporting process. Further, the next City of London report on London Community Recovery Network funded initiatives will present results for the 2024 year-end.

While the structure of the London Community Recovery Network is shifting, the work of renewal and recovery in London will evolve and integrate into London Community Recovery Network members' initiatives, the City of London's Strategic Plan, and the Health and Homelessness Whole of Community System Response to support longevity and sustainability. The legacy of the London Community Recovery Network will continue as the community collectively works towards a resilient, equitable, and inclusive post-pandemic future.



London Community Recovery Network

Update Report | 2020 - 2022



London Community Recovery Network



London
CANADA

The London Community Recovery Network - Funded Initiatives Status Report

June 2023

Introduction

City Council established the London Community Recovery Network (LCRN) in partnership with leaders from London's public, private, non-profit, and institutional sectors and those representing communities that experienced disproportionate impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. Between fall 2020 and spring 2021, City Council also approved a total of \$10 million to be set aside to support social and economic recovery measures. To date, the total Council approved amount has been fully allocated.

From February 2021 to July 2022, Council allocated funding from this funding to support initiatives brought forward by City service areas and community partners through business cases brought forward for Council consideration.

In March 2022, City Council approved a streamlined process for Civic Administration to identify and put forward business cases for Council's consideration. This process was launched and included two streams available to Civic Administration and LCRN partners:

Formal Process for accessing LCRN Recovery Funding:

- LCRN Recovery Funding, for recovery initiatives with a submitted budget of **over \$5,000**.
- This process required the applicant/s to develop a business case, which had to be presented to and approved by Council.
- The last formal idea intake was approved by Municipal Council on August 2, 2022, following the report idea intake was put on hold due to the Municipal Election.
- As of August 2, 2022, a total of \$7,115,814 has been allocated to 31 recovery business cases.
- On March 7, 2023, Council passed a motion that ... "c) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to allocate the remaining fund of \$2,884,186 from the London Community Recovery Network funds towards the implementation of the system; it being noted that Civic Administration will return to Council with a business case detailing the proposed use of the funds..."

The LCRN Readiness Fund:

- The LCRN Readiness Fund, for recovery initiatives with a submitted budget of **under \$5,000**.
- This fund was set up for community recovery initiatives or supports that were considered small scale, and that both align with the LCRN Framework and are too small to justify a business case delivered through the Council process.
- The source of funding for the \$100,000 commitment for the LCRN Readiness Fund is the funding that has been set aside by Council for social and economic recovery within the Economic Development Reserve Fund.
- As of April 2023, \$60,845 has been approved through this fund.

Funded Initiatives Status Report

Civic Administration has tracked the implementation of the community-led and city-led initiatives that received funding under both the formal process for accessing LCRN Recovery Funding as well as the LCRN Readiness Fund.

This report provides information and updates on these initiatives to demonstrate the broad and deep contributions that LCRN partners have made and are making to power London’s community recovery using public funds. The report also serves to underscore the City’s desired Outcome as trusted, open, and accountable in service of the community, as set out in Council’s 2023-2027 Strategic Plan.

The below status report is separated into two sections:

- **Table B1: Council Funded LCRN Initiatives** includes an overview and status update on all community or city-led initiatives that received a Council-directed investment through the formal process for accessing LCRN recovery funding from 2021-2022.
- **Table B2** includes an overview and status update on all community or city-led initiatives that received a Civic Administration endorsed investment through the LCRN Readiness Fund from 2022 until present.

The information collected from project leads reflected in this report is current as of April 2023. Council members will note that many projects are still in progress.

LCRN Investments By the Numbers:

Funding set aside by Municipal Council for Economic and Social Recovery	\$10,000,000
Total Council Approved Initiatives (2020-2022)	\$7,027,564
Total Readiness Fund Investments (as of March 2023)	\$60,845
One-time Council allocation to the Palace Theatre (loan forgiveness)	\$78,750
Total Remaining balance for the LCRN Readiness Fund (as of March 2023)	\$39,155
Remaining funding available for the Whole of Community System Response	\$2,793,686*

* On March 7, 2023, Council directed the amount of \$2,884,186 to the Whole of Community System Response, pending a business case brought to Council. However, this \$2,884,186 figure reflected only a portion of the commitments from the LCRN Readiness Fund. Assuming all investments approved through the LCRN utilize the full amount of planned funding, only \$2,793,686 will be available to transfer to the Whole of Community System Response. The \$90,500 difference between these two figures will be reconciled through an additional draw down from the Economic Reserve Fund, if required to support the business case for the Whole of Community System Response.

Table B1: Council Funded LCRN Initiatives

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Framework Alignment and Funding	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>City of London, Planning and Economic Development, Core Area Programs (Christmas- Holiday Market) The London Community Recovery Network has recommended that the City of London work to initiate a Christmas (Holiday) Market in the community. This would serve as both a local and regional destination and involve local and regional artisans.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Arts, Culture and Tourism; Community Belonging; Community Engagement and Social Isolation</p> <p>Funding: \$200,000</p>	<p>In 2021, the City of London partnered with Downtown London to create the Festival of Markets on Dundas Place.</p> <p>In 2022, the City of London worked with Downtown London and the Covent Garden Market to move the Christmas (Holiday) market onto Rotary Square.</p> <p>The Holly Jolly Holiday Market was supported with this funding to expand to an indoor and outdoor market, running the first 3 weekends in December. The market is a central part of a larger campaign called Downtown for the Holidays, which promotes festivities in Victoria Park and throughout the Downtown.</p> <p>In 2023, City staff and partners are working together to continue this successful program.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>Middlesex London Food Policy Council, and the City of London, Neighborhood and Community-Wide Services (Increase Focus on Addressing Food Insecurity) This idea for action involves the development and implementation of evidence-based policies, strategies, and investments that address food insecurity. Food insecurity is a multi-dimensional issue that includes food availability, stability of supply, access to resources, and the ability to utilize food. Many organizations in London are actively working on addressing the interrelated issues and impacts of food insecurity, which have been exacerbated by COVID-19. The City of London is a key partner in this collective effort through its policy, planning, and resourcing functions.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Food Security, Physical Health; Mental Health</p> <p>Funding: \$100,000</p>	<p>The Middlesex London Food Policy Council (MLFPC) secured Nutrition for Non-Nutritionists (N4NN) to update the Community Food Assessment (CFA), with a targeted completion of June 2023.</p> <p>This work will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Consultations & Discussion (May 2023) • Environmental Scan: Municipal Food Systems Policies & Practices (June 2023) • Exploring a Framework for a Regional Agri-Food Network (June 2023) <p>Each phase will produce a written report. A summary report of all the phases will be written using an SDG lens, and will be available in early Fall, 2023. MLFPC plans to host an event in November of 2023, where the findings of all 4 phases will be released to the public.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>Environment and Infrastructure; Parks Operations (Public Toilets and Sanitation) The LCRN has recommended that the City of London increase the number of publicly accessible washrooms and hours of operation to 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This business case recommends a \$600,000 allocation to support operational funding for staff and security for 2021 and 2022 as part of the pilot for extended hours at Victoria Park and the Dundas Place Fieldhouse.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Community Belonging</p> <p>Funding: \$600,000</p>	<p>The LCRN Business Case for this idea was approved and allocated \$600,000 to support operational funding for staff and security for 2021 and 2022 as part of the pilot for extended public washroom hours at Victoria Park and the Dundas Place Fieldhouse.</p> <p>Two public washroom sites were opened in 2021-2022 for extended hours (Victoria Park – 8am-8pm) and Dundas Place (7am to 11pm, 7 days a week including holidays).</p> <p>An additional \$350,000 was approved in February 2023 to maintain these hours of operation until the end of the year.</p>	<p>Completed with Ongoing Activities</p>

Table B1: Council Funded LCRN Initiatives

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Framework Alignment and Funding	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>London Arts Council, City of London, Neighbourhood and Community-Wide Services, Culture Services (Outdoor Concerts and Arts Performances)</p> <p>The LCRN has recommended that the City of London utilize downtown municipal parking lots for socially distanced concerts to support local music venues and staff to continue operations. Recognizing the current Provincial restrictions for organized event gatherings, the City of London will broaden this idea to cover both outdoor concerts and outdoor performances in all public spaces, with the latter being the most appropriate under some Provincial restrictions. It should be noted that other types of cultural programming (dance, theatre, cinema, etc.) may be included to provide Londoners a range of options.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Arts Culture and Tourism; Community Belonging; Community Engagement and Social Isolation</p> <p>Funding: \$200,000</p>	<p>London Arts Council – London Arts Live and Culture City X outdoor concerts and art activations in the core area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 185 unique artists were provided opportunities to perform in the LAL program, and the number of artists from equity-deserving communities who participated was 60. • 121 artists were provided with paid opportunities, including 36 artists from equity-deserving communities. • 265 arts activations took place through LCRN in the core area <p>TD Sunfest Canada and Home County Music and Arts Festival – Summer Festivals’ BLOCK PARTY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 31 unique musicians were provided with paid opportunities. • 16 concerts were presented by Home County and the Sunfest Block <p>Wednesday Lunch Time Concert Series Party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 unique chamber musicians were provided with paid opportunities. • 11 weekly concerts were presented by London Symphonia <p>London UNESCO City of Music Concert Series:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 individual local and international musicians, 9 local and international bands • 6 technicians were provided with paid opportunities. <p>6 concerts were presented during Folk Music Ontario Week by the London Music Office.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>London Arts Council, City of London, Neighborhood and Community-Wide Services, Culture Services (London Mural and Art Walk)</p> <p>The LCRN is recommending that the City of London create both formally guided and self-guided tours of murals, visual art exhibits, public art installations and monuments in the downtown core</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Arts Culture and Tourism; Community Belonging</p> <p>Funding: \$100,000</p>	<p>In October 2021, the LAC initiated Interactive Live Mural Walk (self-guided walking tour) along Dundas Place featuring a variety of artists painting on movable murals. Eight mural (4-sided) mural walls with wheels that could be easily and safely moved were fabricated by London Woodshop Collective and were set up to facilitate LIVE mural paintings. Eight artists were selected (4 of whom are BIPOC) and scheduled to LIVE paint throughout Dundas Place over the course of eight weeks (October-November 2021).</p> <p>June – October 2022, 7 interactive live mural walk activations took place between 10 am and 4 pm in the central core area of downtown London – Dundas Street:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 artists in total (15 IBPOC artists) participated in the Interactive Live Mural Walk. • More than 100 people were engaged during each walk (approx. 700 participants total) <p>Webpage: https://www.londonarts.ca/public-art-tour</p>	<p>Completed With Ongoing Activities</p>

Table B1: Council Funded LCRN Initiatives

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Framework Alignment and Funding	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>Planning & Economic Development, Core Area and Urban Regeneration (Focus on Actions That Get People Moving Around the Core) The London Community Recovery Network has recommended that the City of London “identify actions to promote a walkable, accessible downtown; address physical barriers, use technologies available to support accessibility needs. Improve signage to help drivers, pedestrians and cyclists navigate; map the journey from the car to ultimate destinations. Uncertainty on timelines acknowledged broader plans to increase walkability/accessibility will take considerable time.”</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Arts, Culture, and Tourism; Business Health; Commercial Vacancy</p> <p>Funding: \$330,000</p>	<p>Downtown Wayfinding Plan: Designs for all signs in wayfinding signage system were approved in February 2022 by the Core Area Steering Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locations of signs for Phase 1 sign installation were finalized in Fall 2022. • Procurement of signs is underway, with installation targeted for Fall 2023. <p>Complementary initiatives are planned or underway to improve mobility and accessibility in the core include new cycling and rapid transit infrastructure projects, and sidewalk repairs completed in 2022.</p>	<p>Completed with Ongoing Activities</p>
<p>Planning and Economic Development; Core Area and Urban Regeneration (A Break in the Clouds: Patio Grant) This Idea for Action suggests the City work with businesses and BIAs to create an action plan to support patios in the city. This includes investigating the use of public property, providing financial support, and amending by-laws and regulations to be more permissive of patios in general.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Community Belonging; Community Engagement and Social Isolation; Business Health</p> <p>Funding: \$100,000</p>	<p>The Core Area & Urban Regeneration team worked collaboratively with London’s 5 BIAs to distribute and administer the \$100,000 allocated to the entire program, titled “A Break in the Clouds: 2021 Patio Improvement Program.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The program was fully subscribed and there was more demand than funding. • Financial support was capped at a maximum amount per business to provide opportunities for as many businesses as possible. <p>The program assisted 64 businesses in London’s 5 BIAs to purchase equipment essential for operating patios.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>Planning and Economic Development, Core Area and Urban Regeneration (Increase Grant funding/ Upgrade Building Code for Façade Upgrades) This Idea for Action suggests the City increase the forgivable (grant) portion of the Upgrade to Building Code and Façade Improvement loan programs. As the programs currently stand, businesses receive a grant back of 12.5% and 25% of the loan amount for Upgrade and Façade programs, respectively, if they maintain a targeted use tenant on the ground floor.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Business Health, Commercial Vacancy, Arts, Culture, Tourism</p> <p>Funding: \$250,000</p>	<p>The City created a new Recovery Grant program for property owners and tenants in five community improvement project areas (Downtown, Hamilton Road, Lambeth, Old East Village, and SoHo). The grant helped cover the cost of interior and exterior property improvements.</p> <p>In total, 58 applications were received. Of the 58 applications, 52 were approved in full and two applications approved partially — meaning some funding was allocated and some funding was waitlisted.</p> <p>A portion of the Recovery Grant funding was also transferred to the Old East Village BIA and Hamilton Road BIA to fund graffiti removal across multiple properties.</p>	<p>Completed</p>

Table B1: Council Funded LCRN Initiatives

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Framework Alignment and Funding	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>Tourism London in partnership with all 5 BIAs (City Wide Support Local Promotional Campaign) The City-Wide Support Local Promotional Campaign, now called “Find it in London,” will focus on promoting local tourism and small businesses through several initiatives and will build upon Tourism London’s “Stay a Little Longer” and “Support Local” promotional campaigns, along with all the programming taking place in the BIAs across London.</p> <p>Tourism London and partners will implement the following initiatives for the Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion of Tourism London’s Stay a Little Longer 2.0 Campaign • Interactive Website with Digital Map and Digital Passport • Holiday Gift Guide • VISA Dollars Pilot Program • Marketing and Promotional Plan • Centralized Project Coordinator 	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Income; Arts, Culture and Tourism; Business Health; Commercial Vacancy; Employment; Talent Recruitment and Retention; Community Belonging</p> <p>Funding: \$760,000</p>	<p>Expansion of Tourism London’s Stay a Little Longer 2.0 Campaign: https://www.londontourism.ca/stay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,000 additional VISA cards and Stay a Little Longer packages were created for 2022. All packages have sold out by December 2022. <p>Interactive Website with Digital Map and Digital Passport: https://www.finditinlondon.ca</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total # of businesses listed 310 (with 142 added in 2022). Total # of businesses currently listed 447 <p>Holiday Gift Guide: https://www.finditinlondon.ca/holiday-gift-guide/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included 196 business listings, as well as ads for all partner BIAs and community partners. <p>VISA Dollars Pilot Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VISA cards were distributed to BIA partners for targeted promotional campaigns within their specific areas. <p>Marketing and Promotional Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yearlong “ON TO” campaign executed through social media • “ON TO” campaign for 2023 to begin May 2023 and run through November 2023 • ShopLondon2Win Campaign: a city-wide contest ran for 6 weeks in the summer of 2022. <p>Business Stories – Video Series: To date, completed filming 100 of 100 videos</p>	<p>In Progress</p>

Table B1: Council Funded LCRN Initiatives

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Framework Alignment and Funding	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>Goodwill Industries (Circular Economy Work and Training Platforms) Goodwill Industries will lead the implementation of the Circular Economy Work and Training Platforms Program to help grow social enterprise by creating living wage skilled jobs and training opportunities for vulnerable and marginalized populations disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, and to improve environmental impacts in the textile industry.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Homelessness; Mental Health; Income; Employment; Labour Market participation; Climate Change and Environment; Community Belonging; Community Engagement and Social Isolation</p> <p>Funding: \$249,000</p>	<p>In 2022, Goodwill continued to increase capacity in the Light Industrial Sewing Platform, WORTH, textile sorting, and shredding. Goodwill continues to grow a local skilled workforce in the community with 34 Sewing Trainees successfully completing the program in 2022.</p> <p>The new shredding machine was set up and staff have been recruited and trained to use it, including two new staff positions to support the sorting of materials before shredding.</p> <p>Marketing and development continued for WORTH, Goodwill’s remanufactured clothing and accessories brand. Significant efforts were made in the summer to participate in community events and pop-up sales to increase demand for products, with those efforts continuing through the holiday season.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2022, there were 63,517 visits to the WORTH website (seetheworth.com) and 585 sales. <p>Between WORTH’s remanufacturing initiatives and the new textile shredder, more than 10,000 pounds of textiles were diverted from landfill in 2022 alone.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>Reimagine Institute for Community Sustainability (RICS) (The Good Foods Project) The Good Foods Project was intended to be a not-for-profit, London-based food delivery project with the goal of providing small, independent business with an affordable alternative to existing third-party food delivery services.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity;</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Food Security; Income; Business Health</p> <p>Funding: \$9,800 (Funding was retained by the City)</p>	<p>The goal of the Good Foods Project, as presented to Council in April 2021, was to provide small independent food establishments with a route to recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic through an affordable alternative to food delivery. Reimagine Institute for Community Sustainability was informed by the private sector that Delivery Deals, a London-based delivery business was interested in launching an online platform. As such, no further action was needed from Reimagine Institute for Community Sustainability, as the project was redirected to Delivery Deals, and as a result the approved funding was retained by the City.</p>	<p>Redirected</p>

Table B1: Council Funded LCRN Initiatives

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Framework Alignment and Funding	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>TechAlliance of Southwestern Ontario (Investment in Ventures with Innovative Solutions) TechAlliance will administer the 'Investment in Ventures with Innovative Solutions' Innovation Challenge: a public competition aimed to address London's recovery needs by encouraging local, creative innovators to submit proposals to solve the technology and social gaps arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting lockdowns. Innovators will propose solutions which positively impact other businesses, community organizations and citizens, creating job stability and overall community resiliency.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Income; Business Health; Employment; Talent Recruitment and Retention</p> <p>Funding: \$180,000</p>	<p>As part of Phase 1 and 2 of the London Innovation Challenge, six London companies were awarded \$20,000 each to address the recovery and renewal areas of focus identified by the London community – Investing in People, Driving Prosperity, and Fostering Community.</p> <p>The Two Challenges:</p> <p>REIMAGINE SYSTEMS FOR PEOPLE: Focusing on inclusivity to drive sustainable growth, three recipients of this challenge represent a variety of sectors including health care, equitable talent acquisition, and small business support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caring Support has reached new heights and continues to help students find placements in the health industry. • Locorum has capitalized on their innovative product and has added hundreds of small businesses to their platform. • Zersent has validated their ESG compliance platform and has engaged local clients. <p>STRENGTHEN BUSINESS HEALTH: With a focus on giving tools to small businesses to drive sustainable growth and safely re-open, three recipients of this Challenge represent a variety of sectors including health & safety, retail, and human resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In The ClearZone has continued to make London businesses safer. • Labourly has validated their product and is now a tool used by Fanshawe students to find opportunities in the trade industry while accurately displaying their relevant certifications for the workplace. • SizeWize has helped London clothing businesses elevate their digital experience to customers who prefer online shopping. 	<p>Completed</p>

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Organization / Project Description	LCRN Framework Alignment and Funding	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>Employment Sector Council (Pandemic Recovery Resources and Training to Enhance Employment for Londoners) WILL Employment Solutions will develop the following three unique COVID-19 workshops to assist the London region’s employment professionals with providing current, relevant, and necessary pandemic recovery assistance to employers and job seekers with diverse professional needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “What’s Working?” A Professional Development Series on COVID-Recovery Strategies • Employer Pandemic Recovery Resources Workshop • Understanding London’s Pandemic Labour Market 	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Business Health; Employment; Labour Market Participation; Talent Recruitment and Retention; Covid-19 Management and Prevention; Community Belonging</p> <p>Funding: \$135,000</p>	<p>Since June 2021, approximately 500 front-line staff from community employment organizations have participated in 21 sessions to learn about current pandemic recovery information, resources and supports. Sessions are recorded to allow attendees to revisit the information at any time. The “Wednesdays at One” series covers three distinct themes and is co-hosted by ESC and the Workforce Planning & Development Board:</p> <p>What’s Working? – A professional development series featuring relevant, current, and readily available resources to assist with pandemic recovery. In 2022 three workshops featured specialized resources available through the member network to help all organizations better serve job seekers experiencing complex barriers to employment.</p> <p>Engaging Employers – Convening Job Developers to better understand, navigate, and access the myriad of evolving COVID-related assistance available to London area employers, to build and strengthen relationships between our region’s business community and employment services sector. These workshops build partnerships and foster shared understanding about employer needs and the pandemic workforce resources available to support them.</p> <p>Bite-Sized LMI – Labour Market Information workshops for job developers regarding relevant COVID impacts on the London Region labour market. Information allows them to better assist job seekers and students in making good employment planning decisions in the current climate.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>London Small Business Centre (My Main Street Local Business Accelerator Program) The My Main Street Local Business Accelerator is a province-wide initiative of FedDev Ontario and EDCO. It will support the revitalization of 65 main street communities across Ontario by providing each with a dedicated Main Street Ambassador, customized marketing research, data analysis and non-repayable funding contributions for small businesses.</p> <p>By participating in the My Main Street Local Business Accelerator, participating communities unlock the following resources for their Main Street neighbourhoods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main Street Ambassador Non-Repayable Contribution • Local Business Non-repayable contributions • Community Market Profile • Wrap-Around Business Support • Main Street Ambassador Network 	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Income; Arts, Culture and Tourism; Business Health; Commercial Vacancy; Employment; Talent Recruitment and Retention; Community Belonging</p> <p>Funding: \$57,500</p>	<p>My Main Street Local Business Accelerator was a data-driven community economic development program focused on revitalizing main streets with a healthy retail mix, while providing residents, new entrepreneurs, and existing businesses with economic opportunities in their main street community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 My Main Street Ambassadors were hired – worked closely with BIAs in OEV, Hamilton Rd, Downtown London, as well as Mainstreet London and LEDC. • 180 Businesses Served – connected them to resources and other recovery programs. • 64 Customized Market Research Reports for business completed. • 40 Successful Small Business Grants facilitated – total \$400K in non-repayable contributions to businesses from My Main Street (Economic Development Council of Ontario and FedDev) • 14 New Business openings 	<p>Completed</p>

Table B1: Council Funded LCRN Initiatives

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Framework Alignment and Funding	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>LEDC, Old East Village BIA, Downtown London (MainStreet London/MSL and London Downtown Business Association/LDBA), and the Small Business Centre (Core Area Pilot Program)</p> <p>The Core Area Pilot Program is intended to support commercial and main street corridor recovery in core areas of downtown and Old East Village, by recruiting new businesses, including those that are home-based, and expanding entrepreneurs to reduce main street vacancies and further develop small business jobs and investment. Business Case Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 10-15 prospects (targeted businesses who potentially could locate in the core). • Add 4-6 new businesses supported (to occupy vacant spaces, scale up growing operations, increase employment) • Leverage 2022 planned investments and programs for OEV, Downtown London, MainStreet London, London Small Business Centre and London Economic Development Corporation to maximize our collective results. 	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Income; Arts, Culture and Tourism; Business Health; Commercial Vacancy; Employment; Talent Recruitment and Retention; Community Belonging</p> <p>Funding: \$300,000</p>	<p>Campaigns attracted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 businesses in OEV • 49 new businesses opened in Downtown London (31 net new) • 3 businesses for LEDC <p>Total space absorption YTD estimated at over 50,000 sq. ft.</p> <p>Program grants – LEDC, OEV and MainStreet London/ Downtown</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leveraged \$122,000* in grant funding to attract businesses and build a pipelines of prospects. To date the partners have committed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 10 grants totaling \$58,000 for OEV (Join OEV) ○ 18 grants totaling \$44,000 for Downtown ○ 2 grants totaling \$20,000 for LEDC <p>Pop-Up Shops: Retail Accelerator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MainStreet London launched the UpStart Accelerator pilot project at 189 Dundas on September 17, which generated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 31 tours of the space (52 people) ○ 10 different rentals ○ 22 workshops/retail activations <p>Downtown London BIA facilitated 22 grand openings to welcome new storefront businesses that opened downtown. It total 49 new businesses were assisted.</p>	<p>Completed</p>

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Organization / Project Description	LCRN Framework Alignment and Funding	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>London Chamber of Commerce (Propel: Moving Business Forward) The London Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with The Achievement Centre will provide programming for up to 50 businesses which will include a series of six 3-hour in-person workshops (participants may choose from these at a carte depending on their specific needs). In addition, each business will have access to up to 4 hours of one-on-one coaching each (this is in addition to the workshop modules). Modules will focus on business recovery and some of the most pressing issues that business owners are facing as they emerge from the pandemic, including finding and keeping talent, personal productivity and managing stress, and coaching for success.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Mental Health; Business Health; Talent Recruitment and Retention</p> <p>Funding: \$46,900</p>	<p>The London Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Achievement Centre provided programming for 44 businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Following the final in person workshop, participants were sent a survey to measure the enjoyment and effectiveness of the program. Aspects of the program were given a score out of 10 as follows:</p> <p>Learning Materials – 9.5/10 Completing Homework – 9.67/10 Setting and Achieving Goals – 8.42/10 Live Workshops – 9.58/10</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>Elgin Middlesex Oxford Workforce Planning and Development Board (WPDB) (Recognition of Micro-Credentials Among Employers in the London Area) The WPDB will conduct research on employers in London area to determine the recognition/acceptance of the micro-credentials presented by job applicants. The research report will help local educational institutions, job applicants, service providers and the public to rethink their approach on up-skilling for the current modern economy.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Employment; Labour Market Participation; Talent Recruitment and Retention</p> <p>Funding: \$12,560</p>	<p>The literature review on the topic has been completed and it helped define the basis for the research, and two consultations held with major stakeholders including, Western, Fanshawe, and Pillar Non-profit.</p> <p>The analysis of the results began in the fourth week of November 2022 and the final report was completed by the end of December 2022. The Report can be accessed here: https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:baa87f92-432d-318c-8a0f-14c47d7bce1f.</p> <p>Close to 70% of the webinar attendees agreed that seeing the report improved their perception of micro-credentials and, more than 90% are more encouraged to promote micro-credentials as a viable alternative to employers desperately looking to fill positions.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>Economic Services and Supports, London Music Office, and London Film Office (Centre Stage Patio Grant) The Centre Stage Patio Grant program will continue to add vibrancy back to the city by offering more opportunities for hospitality businesses to provide patio materials which encourage residents to support dining outdoors at local cafes, restaurants, and bars. In 2022 this enhanced Patio grant provides patio operators options for the purchase of equipment to stage performances that supports greater access for local musicians to present live music performances and cultural activities, in alignment with Canada’s only UNESCO City of Music designation.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Arts, Culture and Tourism; Business Health; Community Engagement and Social Isolation</p> <p>Funding: \$165,000</p>	<p>As of February 2023, 69 approvals were made through the Centre Stage Patio Grant. The grant supported investments in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argyle BIA – 5 • Downtown London – 41 • Hamilton Road BIA – 5 • Hyde Park BIA – 7 • Old East Village BIA – 11 <p>The 2022 program also provided the opportunity for local filmmakers to document the effects of enhanced performance spaces by creating a series of promotional videos that highlight the benefits of the grant for businesses and musicians. The videos can be accessed here: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1mwZG_xzvZINnfzmpkfoe-roKt206gu?usp=drive_link</p>	<p>Completed</p>

Table B1: Council Funded LCRN Initiatives

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Framework Alignment and Funding	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>London Economic Development Corporation (Talent Attraction and Labour Force Growth for Sustainable Economic Recovery) A three-year talent attraction initiative to identify, recruit, and connect targeted newcomers, entrepreneurs, and international students with London employers' needs. This initiative is designed to advance the City of London's immigration strategy and work in parallel with post-secondary international recruitment efforts and other local efforts.</p> <p>The London Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) will work with the City, employers, education institutions, and other partners to support the following initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labour Market Forecast that drives initiatives • Enhancing London as a destination of choice • Targeted recruitment activities in key markets 	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Investing in People; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Business Health; Employment; Labour Market Participation; Talent Recruitment and Retention</p> <p>Funding: \$1,500,000</p>	<p>The Contribution Agreement was executed in December 2022, the LEDC is now undertaking the preliminary labour market and marketing research required in the initial project phase. Additionally, LEDC produced its first 'Manufacturing Employment Prospects Report' which will be followed by reports for the Construction, Health and IT sectors, along with a summary report that will refer to some other specific needs. The report provides useful data to support domestic and international recruitment, apprenticeship efforts, immigration program priorities as well as some useful background for proposals.</p> <p>The report can be accessed here: Manufacturing Employment Prospects Report London Economic Development Corporation (ledc.com).</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>Elgin Middlesex Oxford Workforce Planning and Development Board (WPDB) (Estimating the Size of the Gig Market in London and Area) This proposal suggests a two-step process to help understand the prevalence of gig economy and gig work locally by industry and occupation. The research will provide decisional support to economic developers, planners, job seekers, workers, and employers, when assessing local economic potential and vitality.</p>	<p>Area of Focus: Driving Prosperity</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Employment, Labour Market Participation, Talent Recruitment and Retention</p> <p>Funding: \$31,975</p>	<p>A literature review has been completed with the purpose of establishing specific characteristics that define gig work. In addition, EMO Workforce Planning and Development Board's staff has reviewed more than 100 local job postings to refine key words associated with gig work opportunities.</p> <p>Elev8, the web developer of the WE platform – adopted locally as the Local Jobs Hub – has been hired to buildout the automatic tagging tool and reporting dashboard that will identify, filter, and report the gig job opportunities in the London ER. The gig tagging tool and reporting dashboard were developed during the end of 2022 and beginning of 2023 and are currently tested and adjusted for accuracy.</p> <p>In 2023, the gig jobs' selection tool and its associated reporting dashboard started collecting and reporting data informing the London ER community about the size of its gig labour market. The gig jobs' filter and dashboard can be accessed here: https://workforcedevelopment.ca/gig-jobs-dashboard/</p>	<p>In Progress</p>

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Organization / Project Description	LCRN Framework Alignment and Funding	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>London Chamber of Commerce (London City of Music Expo) To promote and leverage this UNESCO City of Music designation, the London Chamber of Commerce proposes to host an annual full-day Expo to highlight the designation. The event’s focus would be on the local Music Industry, and as such, the event would feature live performances from local artists on a mainstage at various times throughout the day.</p> <p>Additionally, the Expo would include break-out workshops/seminars where attendees would have the opportunity to learn more about what it means to be a City of Music. It is expected that all workshops can be provided as in-kind contributions to the Expo or in exchange for an exhibitor booth.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Arts, Culture and Tourism; Business Health; Talent Recruitment and Retention; Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression</p> <p>Funding: \$100,000</p>	<p>The Chamber hired The Branding Firm to create marketing material to promote the Expo, including a landing page for the event here: https://londoncityofmusicexpo.ca/.</p> <p>The event was held on March 30, 2023, and included 4 workshops and 6 live performances. The event attracted 48 companies and organizations which had exhibitor booths at the event and roughly 1,200 attended over the course of the day.</p> <p>Just prior to the event, the Chamber was able to secure a roundtable meeting with Minister of Tourism, Sport, and Culture, Neil Lumsden alongside key stakeholders at which City officials were able to pitch the idea of a partnership with the Province of Ontario to establish a Creative Sector Incubator in London.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>London Music Office (LMO), Tourism London (City of Music Conference and Events) Celebrating London’s one-of-a-kind UNESCO City of Music designation, the London Music Office, working in partnership with Tourism London, the London Chamber of Commerce, the Canadian Live Music Association and Music Ontario, will bring Ontario communities together in London for a one-day City of Music Conference followed by live music events.</p> <p>The goal is to strengthen Ontario’s live music sector through municipal support, knowledge sharing, and collaboration. Bringing representatives from various Ontario communities together to discuss strengthening the music ecology will continue to position London as a leader in music development and strengthen opportunities for London-based talent.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Income and Mental Health; Arts, Culture and Tourism; Business Health; Community Belonging; Community Engagement and Social Isolation</p> <p>Funding: \$50,900</p>	<p>The City of Music Conference and Events took place on March 31, 2023. The City of Music Conference exceeded expectation with 253 registered guests and 37 speakers. Guests travelled in from across Canada and attracted speakers from as far away as Germany. Live music performances punctuated the event with a total of 6 local artists showcasing.</p> <p>Following the formal conference, Tourism Kingston sponsored a reception with 3 artists performing. Following the conference and reception, LMO partnered with Sunfest to host a concert with two musical groups. LMO used this event to schedule meetings with Mannheim (Germany) City of Music Focal Point and key institutions, partners, and organizations in London.</p>	<p>Completed</p>

Table B1: Council Funded LCRN Initiatives

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Framework Alignment and Funding	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>London Environmental Network (Green Economic Stimulus: Building Retrofits for Local Residents and Businesses)</p> <p>The London Environmental Network (LEN) will accelerate building retrofits carried out by businesses and residents through its programs, Green Economy London (GEL) and Greener Homes London (GHL). LEN will scale up program offerings through increased staff support, program delivery, and retrofit incentives for program participants. Examples of building retrofits include switching to energy-efficient or renewable energy options for heating/cooling and appliances, improving insulation and ventilation systems, and other resource-saving improvements in existing buildings. As a result of the retrofit programming, the London community will see reduced greenhouse gas emissions, reduced energy costs for businesses and residents, and an increase in funds reinvested into the local economy via retrofit projects.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Business Health; Employment; Labour Market Participation; Housing Affordability and Availability; Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability</p> <p>Funding: \$400,000</p>	<p>LEN put a call out to its Green Economy London business leaders for applications for green project support. These projects can include GHG emission reduction, water conservation, waste reduction or environmental stewardship projects. In December 2022, LEN announced the recipients of the Green Project Support 2022. Details on the successful projects can be found here: https://greeneconomylondon.ca/green-project-support-2022-recipients/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=green-project-support-2022-recipients.</p> <p>LEN aims to launch its residential incentives in early 2023, after developing a fair and equitable application and requirement process that exposes as many Londoners to the opportunity as possible. LEN is developing a list of local contractors that are eager to perform sustainable retrofits. LEN has hosted several events to help build capacity and understanding around business and residential sustainability, including; Accelerate Your Business Sustainability Journey, Green Leader Awards, Retrofit Webinar Series, Green in the City w Green Drinks, and Communities Taking Climate Action.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>London Arts Council (LAC) (Belong: Inclusive Arts Experiences for Children and Youth)</p> <p>Through ‘Belong: Inclusive Arts Experiences for Children and Youth Program,’ the LAC proposed to meet a proven need for free, quality arts programming experiences. The program is targeted for children and youth from low-income and newcomer families, in areas of London where these experiences have been less accessible. The Program encourages peer-to-peer creative social interactions, young adult with adult role model opportunities, and mentor to mentee relationships.</p> <p>The arts \ experiences will encompass culturally diverse art practices, forms, and themes including social justice, environment and sustainability, social inclusion, exploration, experimentation, and self-reflection. Participants will explore a variety of artistic techniques and processes throughout the duration of the program.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Educational Attainment; Income; Mental Health; Physical Health; Arts, Culture and Tourism; Employment; Labour Market Participation; Talent</p> <p>Funding: \$411,356</p>	<p>In November 2022, a public call and application package for mentors and mentees were disseminated through the LAC website and social media. In January 2023, each application was carefully examined based on the established guidelines and criteria, and short-listed candidates were invited to interview sessions with LAC staff. After the completion of candidate reference checks, 5 mentors were subcontracted (for a full year) and 10 mentees were selected (for eight months) to participate in the Belong program. Based on their experience, skills, qualifications, and development goals, LAC paired mentors and mentees to establish five 5 mentor-mentee groups.</p> <p>The (spring) sessions commenced the week of March 20, 2023. Attendance for the first week of sessions was approximately 10 – 15 participants per site. The weekly sessions will conclude in the middle of June 2023. The summer sessions (bi-weekly) will begin in early July and conclude in late August. The fall sessions are expected to start in mid-September.</p> <p>The second cohort of ten mentees has also been selected. In May, they will be matched up with a mentor and begin project planning.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>

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<p>Argyle Business Improvement Association (Argyle BIA) (Argyle BIA Currency Pilot Program) The Argyle BIA proposes to pilot the Argyle Currency Pilot Program in the Fall of 2022. Creating Argyle Currency (a gift card program) builds off the success of the London Tourism Visa Gift Card program and will develop a “made in community” economic and social support system. This currency system will increase local spending to assist businesses with recovering from the past hardships of COVID and mitigate the current and future impacts of construction projects.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Business Health; Community Belonging; Community Engagement and Social Isolation</p> <p>Funding: \$27,573</p>	<p>The program was launched in April 2023. The Argyle BIA secured staffing to assist in the outreach component of this project who will be trained by the Miconex team. The marketing of this program is underway and has been designed in collaboration with the Creative and Communicators Director of the Argyle BIA. Several BIA members and leaders in the community joined the Argyle BIA in celebrating the launch of this new program at the office. A virtual launch occurred on social media. The program was well-received by businesses with 20 signing up prior to launch and several people entering the launch giveaway. Currently, the staff are still promoting the program and working on onboarding more businesses. Additional information about the project will be available by the end of 2023.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>London Public Library (Central Branch) (London Public Library Reading Garden Access from Dundas Place Flex Street) The Library’s Reading Garden sits on the Eastern side of the Library and is beloved by its patrons. The Library is seeking to provide access to the Reading Garden directly from the Dundas Place Flex Street by addressing the grading issue and installing a new secure fence with a lockable gate. This effort is part of a larger strategic approach of bringing the Flex Street into the Library space.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Mental Health; Physical Health; Arts, Culture and Tourism; Business Health; Community Belonging, Community Engagement and Social Isolation</p> <p>Funding: \$250,000</p>	<p>The Library is currently engaged with a landscape architect and is close to finalizing a design concept. Once finalized, the Library will begin the procurement process to identify a firm to carry out construction, with the identification of a firm to be completed by the Summer of 2023.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>

Table B1: Council Funded LCRN Initiatives

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Framework Alignment and Funding	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>TechAlliance of Southwestern Ontario (London Innovation Challenge) The next evolution of the London Innovation Challenge will comprise of two challenges, addressing the unique needs of delivering prosperity for our local creative industries of music, film, media arts, and digital gaming. Inspiring local, creative innovators to solve for the specific technology gaps and develop new products to help bolster our creative industries. Innovators will bring forward solutions to impact other businesses, organizations, and citizens, creating job stability and overall community resiliency.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Income; Arts, Culture and Tourism; Business Health; Employment; Labour Market Participation; Talent Recruitment and Retention; Immigration and Migration</p> <p>Funding: \$280,000</p>	<p>The London Innovation Challenge #3 – Bolster Creative Industries, was launched on October 25, 2022, with a goal of innovators submitting ideas which use technology to inspire innovation and provide access to resources that facilitate growth within the local creative industries. The adjudicators for the challenge represented the creative industries and innovators of the Forest City. Two London companies were awarded \$40,000 each to address areas for growth in the creative industries in the city – through resources, access, and technological advancement.</p> <p>More information on 2022 recipients can be found here: https://techalliance.ca/londoninnovationchallenge/</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>TechAlliance of Southwestern Ontario (London Tech Talent Growth) London Tech Talent Growth is an overarching plan focusing on the growth and retention of tech talent in London. The plan rests on three pillars: fostering emerging student talent; connecting internationally trained job seekers; and, enabling local and migrant job seekers while supporting employers. To enable this TechAlliance will create pathways for London’s economic prosperity and the growth of its tech talent through funding for experiences such as Tech Connect, Tech Talent Exchange, and The Rebuild Roster.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Business Health; Community Belonging; Community Engagement and Social Isolation</p> <p>Funding: \$180,000</p>	<p>TechConnect: TechConnect was held in-person on October 3, 2022, at TechAlliance in downtown London, attracting almost 100 registrants.</p> <p>Tech Talent Exchange: TTX Western was held in-person on February 2, 2023, at Western University in partnership with main campus Career Services, Huron University College, Kings University College, Brescia University College and Ivey Business School, hosting 90 students seeking summer and full-time employment with 19 companies registered. TTX Fanshawe was held in-person on March 28, 2023, hosting 238 students and 15 companies.</p> <p>Rebuild Roster: Through a competitive RFP, TechAlliance selected local business tbk Creative to redesign the user experience for The Roster, including greater alignment to TechAlliance’s Job Board. The new Roster will officially launch in the summer alongside TechAlliance’s refreshed website. In the meantime, active marketing and upkeep of the existing platform is being maintained, with 68 active job seekers on The Roster.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>

Table B2: Projects Funded Through the LCRN Readiness Fund

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Area(s) of Focus / Indicator(s)	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>Old East Village BIA (Only in OEV Friday!) The 'OEV Friday!' event is to include public activations along Dundas between Adelaide and Rectory, live music, art, as well as a variety of opportunities for area businesses to participate with their own activities - such as sales, sidewalk sales, in-store entertainment etc. The desired effect of an event such as this promoted by the OEV BIA, and corridor businesses is to bring feet back to the street of Dundas in OEV through events and activities that would be engaging for all ages and interests.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Arts, Culture, and Tourism; Business Health; Community Belonging; Community Engagement and Social Isolation; Crime and Safety</p> <p>Funding: \$5,000</p>	<p>The family friendly event took place on June 10, 2022. The OEV BIA hired artists, services, and musicians directly from the community who were significantly affected by the pandemic. The BIA utilized a personalized promotional approach with the surrounding walkable neighbourhoods to bring the public back to Dundas St. and reconnect with the business community and other residents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 OEV businesses participated directly in the event by hosting live music, event specific food offerings, sidewalk sales and Culture venue tours etc. • Over 200 attendees at the Bike Rodeo from across London. • Attendees remained in the village and circulated to other area activations, including the installations of two large scale permanent murals on Dundas St. <p>The BIA executed 5 x \$1000 Construction Dollar giveaways throughout the event which drew additional attendees to the event to encourage spending in the area.</p>	Completed
<p>London Chamber of Commerce (The Benefits of Inclusive Economy Approaches for London's Business Community: Inclusive Economy Education Program) The London Chamber of Commerce and Inclusive Economy London (IEL) and Region, with in-kind support from the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, proposes to create user-friendly educational material for the business community so they can learn more about the Inclusive Economy London and Region vision, their potential role in bringing that vision to life, and the potential benefits that local businesses can reap by engaging in one or more of these initiatives. IEL proposes two outputs as part of this project: (1) The creation of a user-friendly educational presentation; (2) Hosting an educational briefing session for members of the London business community.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Educational Attainment; Income; Business Health; Labour Market Participation</p> <p>Funding: \$4,500</p>	<p>The London Chamber of Commerce and Inclusive Economy London (IEL) and Region, with in-kind support from the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, developed user-friendly educational material for the business community so they can learn more about business opportunities in the inclusive economy and how they can position themselves to be considered as suppliers and service providers for anchor institutions.</p> <p>The in-person education session was also recorded and is hosted on the London Chamber of Commerce website so that it may be accessed by any business owners looking to understand the benefits of the Inclusive Economy London action tables.</p> <p>The full presentation may be accessed here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGPZUK-N77k</p>	Completed

Table B2: Projects Funded Through the LCRN Readiness Fund

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Area(s) of Focus / Indicator(s)	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>London Community Foundation (LCF) (London Vital Signs Data Hub) The London Vital Signs Data Hub project aims to build on the London Community Foundation’s Vital Signs report - an annual check-up on the state of the community. This would be done by creating an open data resource for the entire community. Using the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a framework, the London Vital Signs Data Hub (LDH) is to display indicators related to well-being and quality of life in the London and Middlesex Region. Data is to include federal census level data as well as program-based data from local agencies who LCF will create data sharing agreements with. As our community emerges from the pandemic, this data hub is intended be a resource for community members, local organizations, and government to ensure a strong, inclusive, just, and equitable recovery.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Domestic Violence; Food Security; Housing Affordability and Availability; Racism and Oppression</p> <p>Funding: \$5,000</p>	<p>The LCF began critical work to advance the progress of this initiative. To date, the project team has established a list of potential data partners and started outreach to community agencies to gather data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 local non-profit organizations in the London Middlesex Region have agreed to contribute data. • Received census data from partners, Community Foundations of Canada, and International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) has been uploaded to the hub, • The data in the hub has been made more user friendly, accessible, and understandable. • The next step is to complete a deep dive analysis of this data to examine trends between different demographic groups (newcomer, Indigenous Peoples, and general population). <p>The data hub is publicly available at www.bethechangelondon.ca/data-hub.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>Boys and Girls Club (BGC) of London (Cameras for Kids) Over the last couple years, the Covid-19 pandemic has had a tremendous impact on youth. The Digital Creative Arts Centre of the Boys and Girls Club of London intends to document stories in the words of students, their pandemic experiences, their reflections on whether life will ever return to pre-pandemic conditions, what “recovery” means, and the resilience they showed. The students will document how they have adapted and/or what the challenges have been and what it took to overcome the challenges of the pandemic. This is intended to be a record to be shared not only with our community but Canadians generally and can also be a curated exhibition at Museum London, McIntosh Gallery, the London Public Library, or other such preservation and display institutions.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Educational Attainment; Immigration and Migration; Community Belonging; Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression; Mental Health; Community Engagement and Social Isolation</p> <p>Funding: \$5,000</p>	<p>Six London high school students in cooperative education at the Digital Creative Arts Centre were trained in, camera operations, framing, lighting, shot composition, interview techniques and editing. The students (who came from HB Beal, Westminster, Oakridge, and Banting) interviewed 16 high school students to tell the story of the last 2.5 years. Students interviewed were from HB Beal, Westminster, Oakridge, Banting, CCH, RMC, South CI, and Monsignor Breyer.</p> <p>Cameras for Kids – ‘Life in Lockdown - Recollections from The Covid Cohort’, presents the stories of 16 high school students and how the pandemic impacted them. How have they adapted and adjusted to the new regulations, rules, and life during the pandemic? How have students been able to move forward even as the pandemic continues to linger and affect society?</p> <p>The vide can be accessed here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-cqp2it5Ag0.</p>	<p>Completed</p>

Table B2: Projects Funded Through the LCRN Readiness Fund

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Area(s) of Focus / Indicator(s)	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>Argyle BIA (Recovering Community Well-Being in Argyle) The Recovering Community Well-Being in Argyle initiative is a response to BIA members and key community groups who requested a discussion forum to address community's well-being concerns (such as: increase in public drug use, the safety of their staff and their mental health, shop lifting, and vandalism). Two meetings will be scheduled to discuss how to recover the sense of safety and well-being in the community. One specific to the BIA members and another for community organizations, such as the service clubs, library, and community association. From these discussions, the Argyle BIA and other organizations will be better informed on the direction of their future programs.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Business Health; Crime and Safety; Community Belonging</p> <p>Funding: \$1,345</p>	<p>The Argyle BIA hosted its first meeting with BIA members, then Deputy Mayor (Josh Morgan), and the Police Chief on September 20th, 2022, at the East London library branch, with 40 people in attendance.</p> <p>The BIA facilitated an open discussion on the well-being of the community, as well as security and safety related concerns. Community leaders and the members were provided with some guidance on how to respond in these situations. Opportunities were identified that will assist in promoting safety in the future. For example, the BIA will be setting up a Community Well-Being taskforce in 2023 to create initiatives that will promote safety in the community i.e., Dundas Street clean-up, landscape design, etc. On November 17th, 2022, the second Community Well-Being event took place at the East Lions Community Centre.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>OEV Cares (Christmas Luncheon and Winter Outreach Program) On December 19, 2022 "OEV Cares" will be hosting a festive meal for London's most economically vulnerable and those who are living rough. OEV Cares will be providing a festive meal, lots of snacks, Christmas treat bags, blankets, socks, hats, mittens, and personal care items for their guests. OEV Cares is hoping to serve between 250 and 300 guests that day, as this will perhaps be the only Christmas celebration that the guests will have this holiday season. The goal is to provide the most vulnerable with a hearty meal, as well as winter gear to help protect them during the cold winter nights.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Food Security; Homelessness; Mental Health; Physical Health; Community Belonging</p> <p>Funding: \$5,000</p>	<p>On December 19, 2022 "OEV Cares" hosted its third annual Christmas luncheon, which included hot meals, lots of snacks, treats, entertainment, winter gear and personal care items. It was the first indoor event, as the pandemic only allowed for takeout meals over the past two years. The event was one of the busiest luncheons ever held in the recent history of St. Joseph's Hospitality Center. Additionally, the London Police Association provided "OEV Cares" with a \$1,000 donation.</p> <p>In total, "OEV Cares" served 280 meals and provided 30 takeout meals.</p>	<p>Completed</p>

Table B2: Projects Funded Through the LCRN Readiness Fund

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Area(s) of Focus / Indicator(s)	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>The Small Business Centre (Immigrant Entrepreneurship: Outreach and Awareness) By building relationships with the organizations that serve immigrants and London’s entrepreneurial support network, SBC will reach three target groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff who work directly with immigrants; • Individuals who are committed to launching a business and seeking assistance; and, • Individuals who are exploring work options <p>SBC’s outreach will not go beyond starting a business, it will be exploratory in nature and introduce the concept of self-employment as an entry point into the labour market. Each of the 5 collaboratively developed workshops will be approximately 3 hours in duration, providing a high-level overview of the considerations and steps involved in launching a business. Following the presentations, participants will be able to book individual consultations.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Income; Employment; Labour Market Participation; Community Belonging</p> <p>Funding: \$5,000</p>	<p>Five workshops about “Starting a Business in London/Canada” have been scheduled. One with each of the following organizations: the YMCA, LUSO, Northwest London Resource Centre, South London Neighborhood Community Centre, and WIL Employment. Offered in various parts of the City, one per month over five months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first session was offered in March 2023 and had 25 attendees. • The second session was the only session offered online. The session was delivered with LUSO, 133 people attended and it was live translated into 7 languages. <p>The third session was scheduled for May 18, 2023 at the Northwest Community Resource Centre.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>Elgin Middlesex Oxford Workforce Planning and Development Board (The development of an Arts, Music, and Culture Job Opportunities Dashboard for the London Economic Region) The WPDB is proposing to develop a Job Opportunities Dashboard to raise the visibility of local job opportunities for the arts, music and culture sector in London and area. The growth of London’s creative workforce will be enhanced if creative professionals can more easily locate suitable job opportunities. A dashboard containing various reporting widgets will summarize the job posting activity for the Arts, Music and Culture in London and area by various parameters such as time, geography, occupation or industry group, income, or other relevant categories. Finally, the dashboard and the selective display of job postings for Arts, Music and Culture will be integrated on a distinct page on the WPDB website.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity;</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Employment; Labour Market Participation; Arts, Culture, and Tourism; Talent Recruitment and Retention</p> <p>Funding: \$5,000</p>	<p>In March 2023, EMOWPDB informed Elev8, the web developer of the Local Jobs Hub- job posting board - about the occupations that are to be captured by the Arts, Music and Culture selection filter and reporting dashboard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various alternative job titles and key words associated with occupations in the Music, Arts and Culture subsector have been tested to improve the accuracy of the job selection tool. • Elev8 consolidated its tagging algorithms and reporting dashboard in early April 2023. • Currently, the job filtering tool and its reporting dashboard are fine-tuned to improve their accuracy. <p>The Music, Arts and Culture jobs’ filter and its reporting dashboard can be accessed here: https://workforcedevelopment.ca/music-arts-culture-dashboard/. User web analytics are collected for the job filter and its reporting dashboard.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>

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Organization / Project Description	LCRN Area(s) of Focus / Indicator(s)	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>London Chamber of Commerce (Community Outlook: A Conversation with our Anchor Institutions) The London Chamber of Commerce will be hosting an event entitled Community Outlook: A Conversation with our Anchor Institutions. City Manager Lynne Livingston giving the keynote address as well as all four CEOs of Fanshawe, Western, LHSC and SJHC. The Chamber has invited a Chief Economist from one of the Major Banks to moderate a roundtable.</p> <p>Funding through LCRN would allow the Chamber to make this a free event not only for Chamber members, but for any member of the community interested about learning about these issues.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Business Health; Talent Recruitment and Retention; Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression; Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability; Community Belonging; Community Engagement and Social Isolation</p> <p>Funding: \$5,000</p>	<p>On May 3rd, 2023, the London Chamber of Commerce hosted an event at the Wolf Performance Hall, entitled 'Community Outlook: A Conversation with our Anchor Institutions':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The event had over 200 attendees • There was also a panel discussion comprised of CEOs from Fanshawe College, Western University, London Health Sciences Centre, and St. Joseph's Health Care London, who spoke with City Manager Lynne Livingstone about their visions for the future of London. <p>The five panelists provided insight into how their institutions aligned with the strategic plan. Topics of discussion included the economic and social impact of the anchor institutions, examples where they are collaborating with each other, and the broader business community.</p> <p>Link to discussion: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=srKSyDwvFrc</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>TAP Centre for Creativity (Unscripted: The Music Series) Unscripted: The Music Series is a musical series to support recovery and revenue streams for both performers and businesses in London. This series would achieve community engagement and support and would contribute to the revitalization of the downtown core by providing a space for musicians to perform and engage in dialogue with audiences. TAP would feature local and international talent at various stages in their careers in this series.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Arts, Culture and Tourism; Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression; Community Belonging; Community Engagement and Social Isolation</p> <p>Funding: \$5,000</p>	<p>TAP Centre for Creativity will host a pay what you will event with musical performers: hackedepicciotto (Berlin, Germany) on July 22, 2023. The event will include a discussion about the ways art and music could help rebuild a city and will include a Q&A featuring hackedepicciotto members Danielle de Picciotto (Co-Founder of the Berlin, Love Parade, & a prominent art/music event organizer before and after the Berlin Wall fell), and Alexander Hacke (original member/bass player and musical director of Einstürzende Neubauten). The Q&A will be led by Richard Moule: Radio Western host of the weekly experimental radio show: Beyond the Beyond & Professor of writing and communications as well as music history at Fanshawe College. [NOTE: This is event is part 1 in a 6-part series.TAP Centre for Creativity also successfully submitted a music series grant application to the Ontario Arts Council.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>

Table B2: Projects Funded Through the LCRN Readiness Fund

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Area(s) of Focus / Indicator(s)	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>OEV Cares (LAC) (OEV Cares Easter Luncheon) OEV Cares will be hosting an Easter luncheon on April 6, 2023, for our city's most vulnerable citizens. OEV Cares will be providing a warm holiday meal, snacks, treats and important personal care items to needy Londoners. The event will take place at the St. Joseph's Hospitality Center Café from noon to 1:30 pm. OEV Cares believes that the luncheon will provide guests with a sense of belonging and togetherness as they come together and enjoy a holiday meal without the pandemic restrictions in place. Dedicated volunteers will welcome all visitors with care and attention, regardless of their circumstance.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Mental health; Community Belonging; Community Engagement and Social Isolation</p> <p>Funding: \$5,000</p>	<p>On April 6, 2023, "OEV Cares" hosted an Easter luncheon at the St. Joseph's Hospitality Center Café:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The guests received a festive meal, snacks, treats, and personal care items. • It was the first Easter event indoors, as all the previous gatherings were held outdoors due to the pandemic. • The London Police Association provided OEV Cares with a \$1,000 donation. • It was the busiest event that has been held at the cafe to date in 2023 <p>In total, OEV Cares served 237 sit down meals and 42 takeout lunches for a total of 279 meals.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>Boys and Girls Club London: Digital Creative Arts Centre (Isolated & Homebound) The Isolated & Homebound documentary will be a deep dive into the reality of seniors in our community during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. It will educate the general public about the pandemic's impact on seniors in our community. Through the voices of 12 seniors from the Horton Street Seniors Centre, we reveal the impact of the pandemic and what we can do as a community do to help them get back to normal.</p> <p>This will be a legacy piece, which will also provide a measuring stick as to how well our seniors have coped during the pandemic. These stories will act as a bridge to understanding, acceptance, and growth as a community. This will benefit the students as they learn the technical aspects of documentary making, and it also serves to create understanding.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Community Belonging; Community Engagement and Social Isolation; Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression; Housing Affordability and Availability</p> <p>Funding: \$5,000</p>	<p>Through the months of February and March (2023), the Boys and Girls Club London: Digital Creative Arts Centre project lead has trained the students that will be participating in the project in camera use, framing, and lighting.</p> <p>Through March and April, the selected students were trained in interview techniques, and have also conducted mock interviews.</p> <p>The Boys and Girls Club London: Digital Creative Arts Centre project lead started scheduling interviews with the senior participants, and as of April 17, 2023, 6 interviews have been conducted. Additionally, the students –with the assistance of the project lead—have started a draft edit script.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>

Table B2: Projects Funded Through the LCRN Readiness Fund

Organization / Project Description	LCRN Area(s) of Focus / Indicator(s)	Community Recovery Impact	Status
<p>Forest City London Music Awards (Back to the Block Party) The Back to The Block Party will be an open air, street concert at Dundas Place. Forest City London Music Awards (not-for-profit) will create a welcoming and free experience for Londoners by featuring a music concert, including food vendors, and encouraging business owners to participate with the Bloc Party. As a kickoff to London Music Week, we have put Covid-19 in the past and brought musicians and audiences back to the core area.</p>	<p>Areas of Focus: Investing in People; Driving Prosperity; Fostering Community</p> <p>Recovery Indicators: Arts, Culture, and Tourism; Business Health; Community Belonging; Community Engagement and Social Isolation</p> <p>Funding: \$5,000</p>	<p>Through the months of March and April (2023), the Forest City London Music Awards (not-for-profit) identified a production company: London Music Hall Productions Inc., as well as most of the performers.</p> <p>The organization began its outreach to retailers to arrange for street participation and engagement during the event.</p> <p>In consultation with Dundas Place, the event footprint has been established and arrangements have been made for street furniture.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>