Summary Report London for All: A Roadmap to End Poverty

Objective	Initiative	Target End Date	Accomplishments	Variance
Changing Mindsets	1.1 Develop a campaign to educate and engage the community on poverty that	5/31/18	In collaboration with the City of London and Circles to enhance the Poverty Over campaign.	
	1.2 Grow existing awareness and engagement initiatives	5/31/18	Inventory of existing initiatives - work underway with the BOOP and Circles Guiding Coalition.	
	1.3 Increase the number of organizations providing Indigenous Cultural Safety training	5/31/18	In June 2017, the Ontario Indigenous Cultural Safety (ICS) Program celebrated its growth into a province wide initiative and revealed a new brand. This training program was developed for Ontario in partnership with San'yas ICS training – a program of the Provincial Health Services Authority of British Columbia. It is led and administered through the Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre (SOAHAC) with financial support from the South West LHIN and Ontario's Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC). SOAHAC has reported a substantial increase in participation in the online training program and the full-day training events which they continue to host. A final report on participation will be made available in Fall 2018.	

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	1.4 Increase the number of organizations providing Cultural Competency training	5/31/18	London Cross Cultural Learners Centre (CCLC) resumed its provision of Intercultural Education Services in January 2017, focused on Cultural Competency training. A variety of training modules have been developed to meet the needs of the community. Intensive training is available for specialized audiences: workshops focusing on practical implications in specific areas of competence are available, and Train- the-Trainer courses are available for those who want to become certified trainers and provide training to their organization(s) and/or clientele.	
	1.5 Collaborate with school boards to build on existing resources that help students understand the impacts of poverty and to reduce stigma.	5/31/18	Ongoing work with the TVDSB, LDCSB, and French school boards	
	1.6 Strengthen relationships and increase partnerships between municipal leaders, Indigenous peoples and community partners to create an Indigenous poverty strategy	5/31/20		
	1.7 Create a "Made in London" campaign that encourages residents to think and buy local in order to support the local economy and increase local employment	5/31/20	Connected to work on 1.1 along with work with Pillar Nonprofit.	
	1.8 Publicly acknowledge support for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action's recommendations and use the findings to educate Londoners and address systemic racism and discrimination	5/31/20		
	1.9 Strengthen programs to counteract violence against women and support National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls	5/31/20		

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			OSAP changes in effect in Summer 2018 for individuals on Social Assistance.	
Income & Employment	2.1 Use London's Community Economic Roadmap to accelerate skills training programs that meet local labour market needs	5/31/18	LEPC provide an understanding of labour market needs and profile skills needed for the future. With this information, plans to provide a skills training information session to OW staff and potentially input into Fanshawe College course offerings.	
	2.2 Become a Basic Income Guarantee pilot site	5/31/18	The Ontario Basic Income pilot project was launched in 2017. The City of London was not successful as a host City.	
	2.3 Develop and implement hiring practices aimed at increased diversity	5/31/18	Workforce Planning Summit held May 2018. Discussions regarding hiring practices aimed at increased diversity. Ongoing discussions with ESC, LEPC, Workforce Planning and Development Board and Labour.	
	2.4 Implement social procurement policies at public institutions	5/31/18	Kings University College will be hosting a Procurement Symposium in Fall 2018.	

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			Great work by the London Poverty Research Centre at King's University College and the Middlesex London Health Unit.	
			When determining a Living Wage for a given community, it is necessary to consider a wide range of local factors and conditions that can affect how earners are able to meet their basic needs. A Living Wage is specific to the community for which it is calculated.	
			The methodology used to guide the research for a Living Wage in London, Ontario was based on the Canadian Living Wage Framework; the calculations themselves were made using the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives' (CCPA) 2014 Living Wage Calculator.	
			London's Living Wage = \$15.53 / hour	
	2.5 Establish the Living Wage figure for London	5/31/18	A wide range of factors that impact the costs facing wage earners and their families, were considered for the calculation, including:	
			 housing and utilities; nutritious food; clothing and footwear; transportation; child care and school-associated fees; leisure time, including sports fees, entertainment and outings; health, dental and vision care; and, other personal costs. 	
			Once they reviewed the data, researchers were able to determine that the Living Wage for London, Ontario is \$15.53 per hour; however, where the employer provides an employee medical insurance plan, the Living Wage drops to \$14.57 per hour.	

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	2.6 Support the implementation of the Brighter Prospects: Transforming Social Assistance in Ontario recommendations, including linking social assistance rates to inflation and allowing individuals to retain more of their assets before accessing social assistance	5/31/20	Effective September 2017 changes were implemented through Brighter Prospects: Transforming Social Assistance in Ontario. Increased limits for assets for recipients of ODSP and Ontario Works so that individuals and families can build financial resilience and better weather daily cost pressures and unexpected financial needs.	
	2.7 Advocate for adequate, liveable rates for people accessing Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program	5/31/20	Along with a submission on the Income Security roadmap from the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) for which the City of London is one of the 47 Representatives, a proposal was prepared by the London Community Advocates Network and sent on behalf of LFA to the Honourable Charles Sousa, Minister of Finance. Additionally the Income Security roadmap was attached to the submission. The Roadmap for Change is a comprehensive plan that will help break the cycle of poverty in Ontario. The recommendations contained in the report will significantly improve the income security system in Ontario.	

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	2.8 Advocate for adequate, liveable rates for older adults accessing social assistance and pension programs, including: • Canadian Pension Plan•Guaranteed Income Supplement • Old Age Security • Guaranteed Annual Income System	5/31/20	Along with a submission on the Income Security roadmap from the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) for which the City of London is one of the 47 Representatives, a proposal was prepared by the London Community Advocates Network and sent on behalf of LFA to the Honourable Charles Sousa, Minister of Finance. Additionally the Income Security roadmap was attached to the submission. The Roadmap for Change is a comprehensive plan that will help break the cycle of poverty in Ontario. The recommendations contained in the report will significantly improve the income security system in Ontario.	
	2.9 Evaluate provincial minimum wage levels in the context of the Low Income Measure and use as a tool to address poverty where appropriate	5/31/20	London Poverty Research Centre - research near completion.	
	2.10 Promote the business case for employers to pay a Living Wage and acknowledge those who are already doing so	5/31/20	LivingWageLondon.ca	

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	2.11 Urge Federal and Provincial partners to create more employment training programs using an equity lens to target specific demographics with increased barriers to work (e.g. persons with disabilities, persons with mental health or addictions challenges, etc.)	5/31/20	Along with a submission on the Income Security roadmap from the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) for which the City of London is one of the 47 Representatives, a proposal was prepared by City of London staff and sent on behalf of the CYN to the Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development. Additionally the Income Security roadmap was attached to the submission, specifically pages 117-123 focus on employment, and pages 103-123 covers supporting persons with disabilities. The Roadmap for Change is a comprehensive plan that will help break the cycle of poverty in Ontario. The recommendations contained in the report will significantly improve the income security system in Ontario.	
	2.12 Support provincial efforts to enhance legislation to support workers in maintaining employment, such as provincial Bill 177, which provides survivors of sexual or domestic violence with up to 10 days of paid leave to deal with the harm they experienced	5/31/20	DOMESTIC OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE LEAVE - rolled into Bill 148 - came into effect January 1, 2018 Domestic or Sexual Violence Leave provides a new stand-alone leave specifically for victims of domestic or sexual violence. The leave entitles an employee who has been employed for at least 13 consecutive weeks to a leave of absence when that employee, or the employee's child, is the victim of domestic or sexual violence or experiences the threat of sexual or domestic violence. Employees are entitled to claim 10 days of Domestic or Sexual Violence Leave and/or up to a potential maximum of 15 weeks of leave.	

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	2.13 Encourage employers to consider skills and knowledge in the absence of credentials (e.g. diplomas and degrees)	5/31/20	Working in partnership with LEDC - creation of a toolkit with several tips to get top talent in your workforce in a challenging labour market. Ex. Knighthunter - need to provide more option fields for companies submitting a job posting - to demonstrate skills.	
	2.14 Work with employers to increase flexibility in workplace for those with family responsibilities including basic benefits and sick time	5/31/20	Bill 148: Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act: 10 days of personal emergency leave days will be extended to all workers and 2 of those days will be paid, as of January 1, 2018 - a first in Canada. No doctor's note will be required to access any of these days. The new leave protections came into effect January 1, 2018, and represent an important step forward to ensure that workers are better able to take care of their health and that of their families.	
	2.15 Collaborate with employers to close the wage gap for Indigenous peoples, women, LGBTQ, differently abled, and racialized communities	5/31/20	Great work underway by Linda Davis and the Ontario Gender Wage Gap Strategy Steering Committee.	
	2.16 Support initiatives aimed at increasing employment opportunities for newcomers in London, such as:	5/31/20	Great work being done in this area: City of London Immigration Strategy; WiL Employment Services; CCLC; LMLIP; SLNRC; College Boreal.	

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	2.17 Advocate for the elimination of the cost of applying to have a criminal record expunged to remove a financial barrier for people looking to find work	5/31/20	In partnership with the OW/ODSP Advocates Network, letters were sent on behalf of London For All to The Honorable Ralph Goodale, Minister of Public Safety Canada; and the Honorable Jody Wilson-Raybould, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada regarding eliminating fees to obtain pardons and having a criminal record expunged. We also prepared a memorandum outlining the step by step process to have a criminal record expunged and shared this document with the LFA Income & Employment group, Ontario Works, and Bridges Out of Poverty / Circles groups.	
	2.18 Promote and invest in opportunities for entrepreneurs living with low income, such as microloans	5/31/20	City of London - Community Economic Roadmap; Goodwill; Pillar; London Community Foundation.	
	2.19 Create more supports for Londoners looking to develop new social enterprises	5/31/20	Pillar - Verge Fund; Small Business Centre; Rise Asset Development.	
	 2.20 Provide supports to address bad credit by collaborating with the financial sector to provide banking alternatives and credit counseling, eliminating the need for predatory lending 	5/31/20		
	 2.21 Reorganize individual social assistance funds, subsidies and vouchers to make it easier for people to access resources 	5/31/20		

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	2.22 Reduce clawbacks for people moving from social assistance to paid employment	5/31/20	Effective January 2017, child support payments are fully exempt from social assistance benefit calculations, thereby increasing incomes for families receiving both social assistance and child support. Prior to this change, child support payments were treated as income and deducted dollar-for-dollar from benefits. Clients are no longer required to pursue child support as a condition of eligibility for social assistance. The provincial basic income pilot will evaluate the impact of a 50% clawback rate for employment income earned - currently employment income is clawed back from social assistance amount dollar-for-dollar.	
	 2.23 Bring service providers together to develop a plan that coordinates supports for people transitioning from social assistance to work or school 	5/31/20	Checklist being created for OW/ODSP internal training to educate workers on what is available for individuals off-boarding from OW/ODSP.	
	2.24 Review job creation strategies in all sectors to ensure a focus on full-time, permanent work with adequate pay	5/31/20		
	2.25 Advocate for increased enforcement of child support payments	5/31/20	Advocacy letter being drafted by Mike Laliberte and Rob Spencer for LFA review.	

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Health	3.1 Develop and implement a coordinated local mental health and addictions strategy, collaborating with Southwest Local Health Integration Network and other key stakeholders.	5/31/18	City of London The City of London 2015-2019 Strategic Plan called for the development of a Community Mental Health and Addiction Strategy as part of the Plan's key focus on Strengthening our Community; caring and compassionate services and the elimination of "barriers for individuals facing poverty, mental health and addictions and help them find pathways to be successful." An Advisory Council, consisting of representatives of key local service providers and agencies was formed in July 2017. SW-LHIN (South West Local Health Integration Network) The SW-LHIN has been working with its mental health and addictions partners to increase capacity as well as to standardize and coordinate mental health and addiction services across London. This work has been driven by and continues to align to Ontario's Comprehensive Mental Health and Addictions Strategy: Open Minds, Healthy Minds. The strategy also recognizes the need for a dedicated response to the mental health and addictions needs and crisis within Aboriginal communities.	
	3.2 Reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and addiction and create a campaign to support connecting people with appropriate services.	6/1/20		

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	3.3 Advocate for extended health and dental benefit programs, including Ontario Drug Benefit and Non-Insured Health Benefit, for a longer period of time for those transitioning off social assistance	5/31/20		
	3.4 Expand local no-cost dental programs for Londoners living with low income	5/31/20		
	3.5 Connect primary care providers accepting patients with Londoners who need care and live with low income including primary care	5/31/20		
	3.6 Working with the South West Local Health Integration Network, use health equity lens to increase access to care for vulnerable people	5/31/20		
	3.7 Advocate for the expansion of Community Health Centres15	5/31/20		
	3.8 Support implementation of proven outreach-based family support program	5/31/20		
Homelessness Prevention & Housing	4.1 Build a culture of practice around effective implementation of the Housing First approach	5/31/18		
	4.2 Engage landlords in keeping more people housed	5/31/18		
	4.3 Invest in housing allowances to support flexible, permanent housing stability for individuals and families	5/31/18	Significant progress has been made in this area and an inventory is being created of the various allowances available.	
	4.4 Implement strategies that assist in housing women at risk of or experiencing homelessness	5/31/18		
	4.5 Implement strategies that support housing youth at risk of or experiencing homelessness	5/31/18	Ongoing work with Youth Opportunities Unlimited and Project Home. Will continue to provide updates	

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	4.6 Leverage funding and invest in the regeneration of existing London and Middlesex Housing Corporation properties	5/31/18	London City Council enhanced investments to support the regeneration of social housing (total of \$750K approved in the 2016-2019 multi-year budget). LMHC internal plan going to London City Council by end of June 2018 and full plan by December 2018 with an ongoing strategy for re-energizing stock with a focus on community.	
	4.7 Continue to implement London's Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan16 which includes increasing the stock of affordable housing and supportive housing	5/31/20		
	4.8 Increase physical accessibility in affordable housing	5/31/20		
	4.9 Support mixed income and intensification housing development policies to avoid creating large areas with low-income housing	5/31/20		
	4.10 Enhance community safety in social housing	5/31/20		
	4.11 Create a coordinated response with supports and protections for vulnerable people living in the community	5/31/20		
	 4.12 Continue to support the evolution of emergency shelters to improve diversion, rapid housing, and specialization 	5/31/20		
	4.13 Expand the capacity of the Housing Stability Bank, which provides emergency rental and utility assistance	5/31/20		
	4.14 Expand supportive housing approaches for people with disabilities	5/31/20		

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	4.15 Connect with healthcare to work with older adults with complex needs to develop attainable housing strategies responsive to their needs, creating spaces for those who are residing in hospital or do not qualify for long term care	5/31/20	Age Friendly London Network housing group is working in collaboration with Cheshire Community Support Services on a grant application to support research on innovative supportive housing models for seniors in London; looking to develop made-in-London solutions to house older adults with complex needs. In addition, AFLN community support & health services group is a community partner on a grant application led by London & Middlesex EMS. If funded, this project will use technology to provide inhome patient monitoring and support to vulnerable older adults.	
	4.16 Partner with Indigenous community to create housing plan	5/31/20		
	4.17 Coordinate available supports for people transitioning between housing options	5/31/20		
	4.18 Implement strategies to assist with start-up costs of housing (furniture, moving, household items)	5/31/20		
	4.19 Encourage organizations (e.g. faith organizations, social entrepreneurs) to invest in attainable housing to increase housing supply	5/31/20		
	4.20 Clear the social housing waitlist and reinvest resources in housing that keep the waitlist clear	5/31/20		
	4.21 Encourage private sector to increase supply of attainable rental housing	5/31/20		
	4.22 Streamline the process by which affordable housing is accessed to help people get housed more quickly	5/31/20		

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Transportation	5.1 Reduce transit-related costs for people with low income through consideration of pricing and subsidy models	5/31/18	Effective January 1, 2018, a new income related transit program was launched. This program is for Londoners, 18 and over whose income is at or below the low income cut-off (after tax). This is a 2 year pilot project. The cost of a subsidized bus pass for eligible Londoners is \$52.00/month.	
	 5.2 Engage all stakeholders, including businesses and London Transit Commission, regarding timing, routes, and accessibility to help connect people to services, supports, and employment opportunities 	5/31/18		
	5.3 Allow children under 12 to ride public transit free to help families with transit costs and encourage ridership	5/31/18	This was implemented on January 1, 2017	
	5.4 Increase accessibility of transit for persons with disabilities	5/31/20	Great move forward for accessibility every LTC bus is accessible. All new LTC buses have variant seating provided at the front of the bus. Some buses have 2 variant seating sections and newer buses have 3 sections - and these sections indicate that they are for persons with disabilities. Attendants and support workers ride for free on LTC and paratransit - as long as the individual is registered. This is already in place but not widely advertised. It is included in the Disabilities Act which is coming in the spring of 2019. LTC updated their communication on this and the information is located on the LTC website; and was released through their connections to regular paratransit riders.	
	5.5 Increase safe, affordable transportation options, such as improved cycling lanes and cycling infrastructure, that serve people who live, work, or seek services in London" at end of sentence	5/31/20		

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	5.6 Explore innovative approaches to transportation, such as rideshare programs	5/31/20		
	5.7 Introduce discounted bus pass for youth (13 to 18 years old)	5/31/20	A resolution was passed on October 17, 2017 to review / propose this discounted pass. A business case exploring options will be presented to City Council during budget deliberations on November 27, 2017. A budget public participation meeting was held on November 22, 2017. This new program will roll out September 1, 2018 for all youth 13 to 17 years of age. As part of the 2018 budget update, Council endorsed a 22 month pilot identifying the following model/option: Bulk purchase of passes and re-sale to youth (ages 13-17) at \$52/month.	
Early Learning & Education	← 6.1 Increase the number of licensed childcare spaces	5/31/18	The City of London - Children's Services provided an additional 534 licensed childcare spaces (for ages 0 - 4 years) in 2017 and 176 additional spaces will be provided in 2018/2019.	
	6.2 Reduce the wait time to receive childcare subsidy	5/31/18	There is no wait list for childcare subsidy. Applications are processed immediately upon receipt.	
	6.3 Demonstrate active use of an equity lens in childcare quality strategies	5/31/18	Strive (formerly Quality Child Care Coordinating Committee) is a collaborative group of Child Care and Early Years Practitioners who support learning and development in order to enhance quality practice. STRIVE incorporates an equity lens and is available to all Child Care providers.	
	6.4 Increase capacity of childcare sector to address mental health issues	5/31/20		

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	6.5 Advocate for increased investment by all levels of government in early years education and literacy programming	5/31/20		
	6.6 Support development of national childcare strategy	5/31/20		
	6.7 Advocate for increases to childcare fee subsidy for low income families	5/31/20		
	6.8 Expand elementary school initiatives that increase awareness of all post-secondary options	5/31/20		
	6.9 Advocate for improved quality of parental leave benefits, including exploration of flexible leave times	5/31/20	Bill 148 - latest Federal budget provides parental leave up to 18 months.	
	6.10 Expand mentorship and support programs for new parents	5/31/20	Summer 2018 - Community-wide planning led by the City of London to ensure cohesive approach to evidence-informed parenting programs.	
	6.11 Expand matched savings programs to help families save for education	5/31/20		
	6.12 Create flexible childcare spaces outside of daytime working hours	5/31/20		
	6.13 Develop a community strategy to eliminate financial barriers for school-based extracurricular activities	5/31/20		
	6.14 Implement coordinated approach to education, building on proven projects in London and other communities, to increase high school graduation rates	5/31/20		
	6.15 Develop a community strategy to eliminate financial barriers to achieving GED (General Educational Development)	5/31/20		
	6.16 Collaborate with post- secondary institutions to identify ways to support students living in poverty	5/31/20		

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	6.17 Increase availability of financial literacy and "basic life skills" training for all Londoners, including children and youth	5/31/20		
Food Security	7.1 Support development of the London & Middlesex Food Policy Council	5/31/18	The collaborative team of London Community Foundation, Middlesex-London Health Unit, City of London and Middlesex County, announced the development of the Middlesex-London Food Policy Council in June 2016.	
	7.2 Support campaigns that promote healthy, local food	5/31/20	Great work through HEHPA - promoted through CYN and MLFPC.	
	7.3 Until emergency food sources are no longer required, ensure fresh, high quality food is easily available (convenient locations and hours) to those who need it	5/31/20	Great progress though MLFPC; London Food Bank; London Food Coalition; big chain Grocers; Harvest Bucks Committee; London Good Food Box Advisory Group.	
	7.4 Expand programs that support residents shopping and cooking together to save money, such as collective kitchens	5/31/20	CYN Food Families, Growing Chefs	
	7.5 Expand local food literacy programs for all ages to increase knowledge of affordable, healthy food options	5/31/20	Working on better communication of existing programs compiled in 7.4	
	7.6 Support local policies and strategies that encourage more community gardens and urban farms on public and private land to provide space for residents to come together, volunteer, and grow their own food	5/31/20		
	7.7 Work with farmers to provide more fresh food to people who need it most	5/31/20		
	7.8 Reclaim quality, usable food from grocery stores and restaurants in a cost-effective way	5/31/20	Hosting Second Harvest Food Rescue symposium in May 2018.	
	7.9 Increase availability of gift cards, food cards, coupons, price-matching, and fresh food vouchers that provide healthy, culturally appropriate food	5/31/20		

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	7.10 Work with local growers and service providers to distribute seeds and soil during growing season, paired with education on growing food	5/31/20		
	7.11 Build on research on "food deserts" (areas of the city with little or no access to grocery stores) and support business models that address them (e.g. markets, fresh food in convenience stores, etc.)	5/31/20		
System Change	8.1 Review supports and services to understand which to scale up and which to stop	5/31/18	In process and agenda item of LFA Leadership Table meeting June 2018.	
	8.2 Bring poverty-focused planning tables together to coordinate, collaborate, and streamline efforts	5/31/18	London for All is about long-term solutions and systems change. United Way has convened 60 stakeholder organizations and over 160 volunteers from diverse backgrounds to come together to ignite change.	
	8.3 Engage people with lived experience in democratic processes and institutions	5/31/18	More than 160 volunteers from diverse backgrounds are engaged in the work of London For All. At present, 38 individuals have identified with lived/living experience in poverty and are involved as key decision-makers in the work of London For All. All individuals with lived experience are eligible for compensation of their time, travel, expenses to participate in our work. We are engaged with the MSW program at King's University College and the University of Toronto. With the assistance of two MSW students, a group of individuals with lived/living experience in poverty are working on the development of a City of London - Lived Experience Advisory Council.	
	8.4 Use these recommendations as London's mandate to advocate for policy change from provincial and federal governments	5/31/20		

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	8.5 Build strong, engaged, community-driven neighbourhoods by continuing to implement the London Strengthening Neighbourhoods Strategy17	5/31/20		
	8.6 Promote London's "community hubs" (such as Family Centres, resources centres and libraries) and online resources to help families connect to supports	5/31/20		
	8.7 Develop strategies and services to address unmet needs identified through the review of supports and services	5/31/20		
	8.8 Identify ways to streamline and simplify access to support	5/31/20		
	8.9 Strengthen the culture of collaboration across all organizations and sectors	5/31/20		
	8.10 Research the viability of Neighbourhood Economic Development Corporations that provide community-driven opportunities to access resources that strengthen neighbourhoods and encourage community participation	5/31/20		
	8.11 Promote charitable gift- giving toward programs with sustained, transformative impacts on poverty	5/31/20		
	8.12 Build more public gathering spaces (e.g. recreation centres, parks) to increase access to space for unstructured recreation and space for community to come together	5/31/20		
	8.13 Recognize Londoners' commitment to volunteerism and a caring community and build upon these efforts	5/31/20		