



Neighbourhood Watch London

Program Transition Plan

Neighbourhood Watch London, 2018



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Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch London's 'Watch Area Program' is a program where neighbours unite and work together. We believe that a safe neighbourhood is one where neighbours talk to each other, and become familiar with their neighbourhood. Where neighbours take the time to know what is going on, look out for and care about each other. If something out of the ordinary is observed, it is reported to London Police Services and then to the other members of their Neighbourhood Watch area. No one knows more about what is going on in a neighbourhood than those that live there.

Studies prove that vibrant and thriving Neighbourhood Watch communities are safer and less likely to be targeted.

Rationale

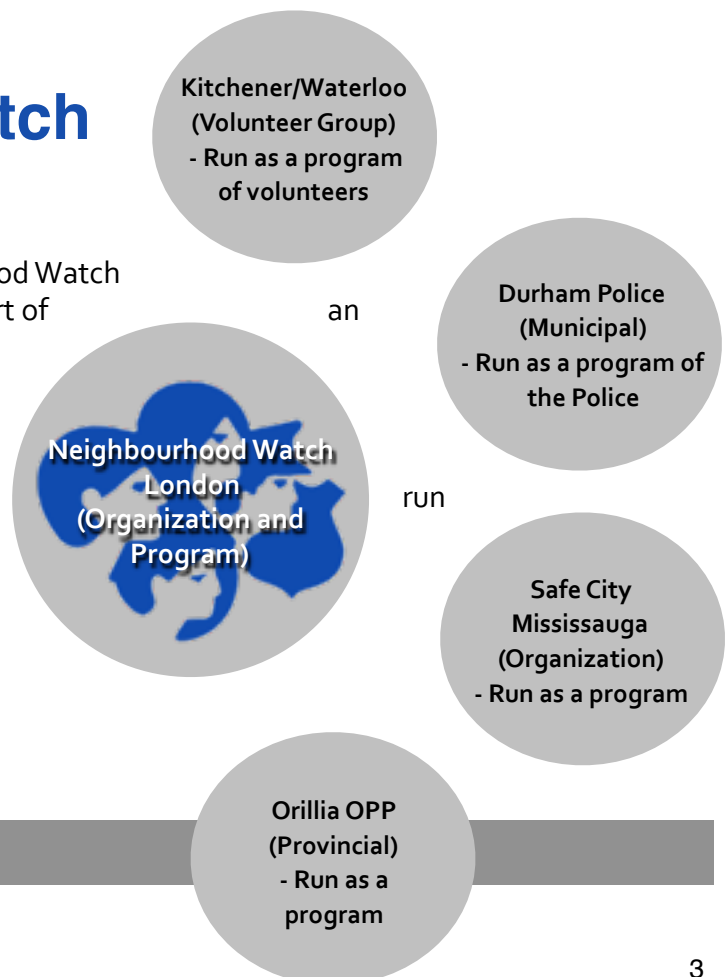
Neighbourhood Watch, as a program is strong at 64,000 current members and is thriving in all wards of the City of London. This plan is presented as the best solution to ensure the continued health and implementation of the program.

This transition plan seeks to recognize and maintain:

- The best interest of the current program members
- The best interest of the community

Neighbourhood Watch Landscape

Historically, on a provincial scale, Neighbourhood Watch programs have been implemented as either part of overall strategy i.e.: integrated with police services or strictly run as a group of volunteers. As they are technically a program, rarely do they operate as an organizational entity. This means that most of the current initiatives are as a *program* under a different organizational structure.



1.0 Current Partnerships

1.1 Non-Profit Organizations

Neighbourhood Watch relies on the partnerships with other non-profit organizations within the City of London to help build safe and vibrant neighbourhoods. These partnerships work with two purposes:

- 1) to help the program connect to residents and resident groups who wish to explore and implement Neighbourhood Watches within their community, and
- 2) to connect the residents to other supports beyond Neighbourhood Watch to access the supports and resources they require to maintain their watch.

For example: A group seniors would be supported by the Neighbourhood Watch Program in setting up a watch, then they would be connected to a community organization that supports seniors so that they may continue to access valuable resources to maintain their efforts.

1.2 Business Relationships

Historically, Neighbourhood Watch as an organization has engaged in a business relationship with local Business Associations. The nature of this relationship was to develop and maintain “Business Watches” similar to the idea of Neighbourhood Watches. This has not been an active initiative for a couple years, however is something that could be explored if the Host Organization was interested.

1.3 Municipal Representatives

Neighbourhood Watch values the connection with Ward Councillors to help bring forward concerns of neighbourhoods/constituents. Neighbourhood Watch also supports and receives support from the London Police, London EMS and London Fire Department to identify and respond to safety needs of community members. These services co-share various resources to maintain Neighbourhood Watches. The City of London partners with Neighbourhood Watch to complete safety audits and respond to needs identified by residents of the community.

2.0 Financials

2.1 Program Core Funding

Historically, Neighbourhood Watch has been funded as an organization by the City of London and with this, has supported the Neighbourhood Watch Program. With the new multi-year funding agreement under the City of London’s Community Grants programming, the funding received by the City of London now supports Neighbourhood Watch as a program versus an organization.

The 2019 fiscal year will have \$30,000 funded by the City of London to implement Neighbourhood Watch as a program. Below is the synopsis of the funding and allocations within the City of London agreement.

Please see Appendix A for the City of London funding agreement.

City of London Core Funding	
Revenue	
City of London	30,000
Expenses	
Staff	25,000
Professional Wages	500
General Admin	3,000
Program Supplies	1,000
Community Events	500
TOTAL	\$30,000

2.2 Corporate Donors

For many years, Neighbourhood Watch has engaged in a corporate partnership with Allstate Insurance to provide Neighbourhood Watch members with access to discounted home and auto insurance policies. At this time, Neighbourhood Watch has a current commitment with Allstate for 2018, however, the Host Organization could explore any future agreements with them. Historically, they have 'donated' \$5,000 towards the Neighbourhood Watch Program annually.

2.3 Individual Giving

In the last two years, Neighbourhood Watch has built an individual donor base of passionate supporters of the Neighbourhood Watch Program. The intention would be to transition these individual donors to the new Host Organization as part of the program assets.

3.0 Program

3.1 Overview/Description

The Role of the Neighbourhood Watch Program Coordinator:

- Help start, recruit and maintain watches by supporting Area Coordinators to support their neighbourhoods and their Watch Members
- Produce and circulate quarterly newsletters

- Send out daily crime alerts
- Provide info on safety and resources both online and in print
- Respond to phone call inquiries about traffic safety
- Communicate with and support neighbours, police, community development initiatives

How it Works

The word "Watch" Simply means 'to look out for'. It works by bringing people together, with a common purpose to create a safe neighbourhood. The Watch Area Coordinator is lead by a resident from the neighbourhood who takes the time to connect with their neighbours to form a Watch Area. We call this lead resident a Watch Area Coordinator.

Becoming a Member

We work with members on how they can:

- Make their homes and apartments safer and less inviting for thieves
- Communicate in effective ways with one another and London Police Services
- Participate in Operation Identification
- Identify suspicious activity in the neighbourhood
- Be aware when your neighbours are away on vacation and watch each others home

What Does Membership Involve?

Becoming a member of Neighbourhood Watch involves a commitment to:

- Improve your home security whether you own or rent
- Be aware of your surroundings
- Report any crime that is occurring and any suspicious activity to the London Police Services and then to your neighbours
- Increasing and perfecting communication with your neighbours
- Receive notifications from Area Coordinators about criminal activity in your watch area zone with a particular focus on break and enters to dwellings and car thefts

The benefits of being part of a Watch member

- Receive ongoing investment in the program
- Develop a sense of community and belonging
- Feel safer and more secure
- Enjoy the benefit of between 16-24% reduction in crime in their areas, in some cases up to 50%
- Participate with information sharing, celebrations and recognition
- Receive a discount on your car and property insurance should you choose to be insured with Allstate Insurance

3.2 Program Coverage (Wards)

3.4 Program Assets

the number of Neighbourhood Watches and the number of members in each area.

See Appendix B for Ward Snapshots.

3.3 Program Outcomes

The outcomes for the Neighbourhood Watch Program are delivered in line with the London Plan endorsed by the City of London. The outcomes of this program are connected to the Strengthening our Community strategic priority.

Neighbourhood Watch Program Outcomes	
Outcome	Increase the number of watch areas across the city.
	Increase community safety awareness throughout the city
Indicators	More residents in watch areas feel safer, connected and more engaged
	More watches exist across the city
	More people learn about community safety and resources
	More residents in watches conduct safety audits
	Newcomers and youth participate in watches

As a long-standing program within the community, the Neighbourhood Watch Program has several assets to transfer to the Host Organization.

Membership and Volunteer Files

- All current members of the program would be inherited by the Host Organization. Information would be provided through the database acquisition.

Crime Alerts

- Process for taking crime alerts from London Police Service and communicating them to area coordinators.
- Crime statistics for 2014-2016

Database

- List of 466 names of the area coordinators plus scanned master list of each watch member and their contact information, project notes, etc.
- Training manual on how to use the database system.
- MailChimp list to distribute newsletters and other pertinent information for Area Coordinators and Watch Members

Equipment, Supplies and Resources

- 2 laptops
- Graffiti removal
- Red envelopes - Medical and pet information (EMS)
- Supporting documents for starting/implementing a watch
- Marketing materials
- Website (optional - could adopt site or take information from it)
- Neighbourhood Watch London 2017 Members Survey Results

Potential Assets: Neighbourhood Watch as an organization currently has two social enterprise type activities that could be offered as program assets. Each of these have the potential to generate revenue to support the program or Host Organization.

- TracTag
- Homefinder Plates

3.5 Program Budget

The Neighbourhood Watch Program is supported by three main funding sources including the City of London Community Grants program, Allstate Insurance and Individual Donors. The program is currently being funded under a 3-year funding agreement with the City of London and is heading into the third year of that agreement in January 2019. The new Host Organization would have the opportunity to apply for another 3-year funding agreement with the City of London - with applications due in mid-2019.

Neighbourhood Watch Program Budget	
Revenue	
City of London	30,000
Allstate Insurance	5,000
Individual Donors	3,500

Neighbourhood Watch Program Budget	
Expenses	
Staff	33,500
Professional Wages	500
General Admin	3,000
Program Supplies	1,000
Community Events	500
TOTAL	\$38,500

4.0 Potential Host Organizations

There are several organizations within the City of London who are passionate about neighbourhood safety, community development and building strong and resilient neighbourhoods. The list below are potential Host Organizations that could be approached to explore the transition of the Neighbourhood Watch Program.

Potential Host Organizations	
Neighbourhood Resource Centres (South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre)	www.slncr.org
London Middlesex Housing Corporation	www.lmhc.ca
London Police Service	www.londonpolice.ca
John Howard Society of London	www.johnhoward.on.ca/london
St. Leonards	www.slcs.ca
London Elgin Middlesex Crimestoppers	www.londoncrimestoppers.com
~Recommendations from City of London	

5.0 Timeline

Below is a proposed timeline for the transition of the Neighbourhood Watch Program to a new Host Organization. This timeline takes into account the estimated amount of time to explore, secure and set up the new partnership. The timeline also takes into account the current legal funding agreement in place with the City of London. The timing of this transition plan would allow sufficient time for the

new Host Organization to adopt, implement and experience the program before having the opportunity to apply for the next 3-year program funding agreement with the City of London.

The target for complete transition is to align with the City of London service agreement - December 31, 2018. The goal would be to have the program completely transitioned to the New Host organization for January 1, 2019.

The current Executive Director will work towards the completion of each of these targets, calling upon the Board of Directors where support is required, as deemed by the Executive Director.

Target Date	Objective
September 2018	Develop a program package to present to potential Host Organizations.
September 5, 2018	Present Program Transition Plan to Board of Directors at regular monthly board meeting in September.
September-October 2018	Explore potential host organizations Approach City of London regarding Host Organization recommendations and current funding agreement.
November 2018	Communicate program changes to Neighbourhood Watch Membership and community (individual communication to members and public joint communication with Host Organization).
December 2018	Layoff Executive Director and Board of Directors assumes responsibility for the Organization.

6.0 Appendices

Appendix A: City of London Funding Agreement

Appendix B: Ward Snapshots