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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 22, 2024

Community Consultation for the 2025 – 2035 Leeds and Grenville Housing and Homelessness Plan

The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville is asking the public to provide feedback for the 2025 – 2035 Housing and Homelessness Plan that is under development. The new ten-year Plan will continue the conversation about Leeds and Grenville's housing and homelessness needs, and is gathering input through an online survey and at a public information session.

Leading up to the community consultation, a comprehensive housing need and demand review was undertaken by the Community and Social Services Division, including a review of homelessness data, housing market trends, rent-g geared-to-income waitlist demands, housing assets and needs, affordability, and accessibility of housing. This critical information was the foundation for building the draft plan to meet the identified needs and the proposed goals and outcomes. In addition to the public information session and surveys, targeted consultation sessions are also being held for persons with lived-experience of homelessness and housing instability, as well as community partners working in the housing and homelessness sector.

As rents have continued to rise since the COVID-19 pandemic, households in Leeds and Grenville have struggled to afford the cost to pay rent, purchase their first home, and find an affordable place to call home. The need for more affordable housing options, supportive housing, and homelessness supports has never been greater in Leeds and Grenville. Leeds Grenville's Housing and Homelessness Plan strives to embody a strategic, community-focused approach to end homelessness, and plan for and meet future housing needs for low-to-moderate income households in Leeds and Grenville. The community consultation will provide an opportunity to listen to the challenges, what is working, and comment on the proposed actions and outcomes to address and prevent homelessness, and facilitate and promote an adequate supply of community and affordable housing.

The online survey is available from October 22 through November 15, 2024, and is accessed by visiting <https://www.leedsgrenville.com/en/services/10-year-housing---homelessness-plan.aspx>. The public also will have an opportunity to attend an in-person information session to provide their input on Wednesday November 6, 2024 at 1:30pm at the Brockville Memorial Civic Center.

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Register in advance for the public information session by visiting the Leeds and Grenville website, or by contacting the Community Housing Department of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville, by emailing Tammy.Herbison@uclg.on.ca or by phone at (613) 342-3840 ext. 2122. Paper copies of the survey can also be provided upon request by contacting the Community Housing Department.

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Media inquiries:

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