

# Smart Cities Challenge

Connecting Communities  
To Opportunity



# Federal Program Overview

Cities must develop a challenge statement which represents their pressing issues, while demonstrating measurable, attainable and ambitious outcomes through the proposed use of data and connected technology.

A \$50 million prize is available for a municipality or community to address its local issues and produce positive outcomes for residents through new partnerships.

Finalists will be chosen by an independent jury, announced by summer 2018 and will receive a \$250,000 grant to develop a final proposal.

A banner for the Smart Cities Challenge. The background is a blurred image of a city street with people walking. On the right side, there are several thick, curved lines in various colors: green, yellow, orange, and teal. The text "SMART CITIES CHALLENGE" is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters in the center-left.

SMART CITIES  
CHALLENGE

#smartcitiesCanada

#smartcityTO



# Public Engagement & Consultation

The City conducted an extensive public consultation and ideation workshop process which resulted in:

- 1,000 online survey responses
- 200 hard copy survey responses
- 137 formal project submissions
- 180 attendees at Toronto Reference Library panel discussion
- 40 attendees at four professional workshops



**Left to Right: Toronto Reference Library Panel: Moderator, Jennifer Pagliaro, Toronto Star Rob Meikle, Chief Information Officer, Barbara Gray, GM, Transportation Services, Michael Kolm, Chief Transformation Officer and Vickery Bowles, City Librarian – City of Toronto**

# Community Network Engagement

The City collaborated with subject-matter-experts, big thinkers, top talent, academia, and post secondary students through a wide range of channels:

- Toronto Region Board of Trade (Smart Cities Working Group)
- Community groups
- Post secondary students
- Academia
- City Council & staff
- Tower Renewal network
- Private sector C-suite
- TPL Youth Advisory Groups
- Indigenous community workshop



University of Toronto Scarborough Campus workshop including 36 undergraduate and graduate students from diverse fields of study from Human Geography and City Studies, Political Science to Ecology.

# Current State

While Toronto is a prosperous city, there is a widening divide between the rich and the poor, especially in many older tower communities.

Child poverty rates are linked to their caregiver's income. Low-income residents can experience significant barriers to social and economic opportunities due to the costs of transit, childcare, further education and training to name a few.





# Toronto's Challenge

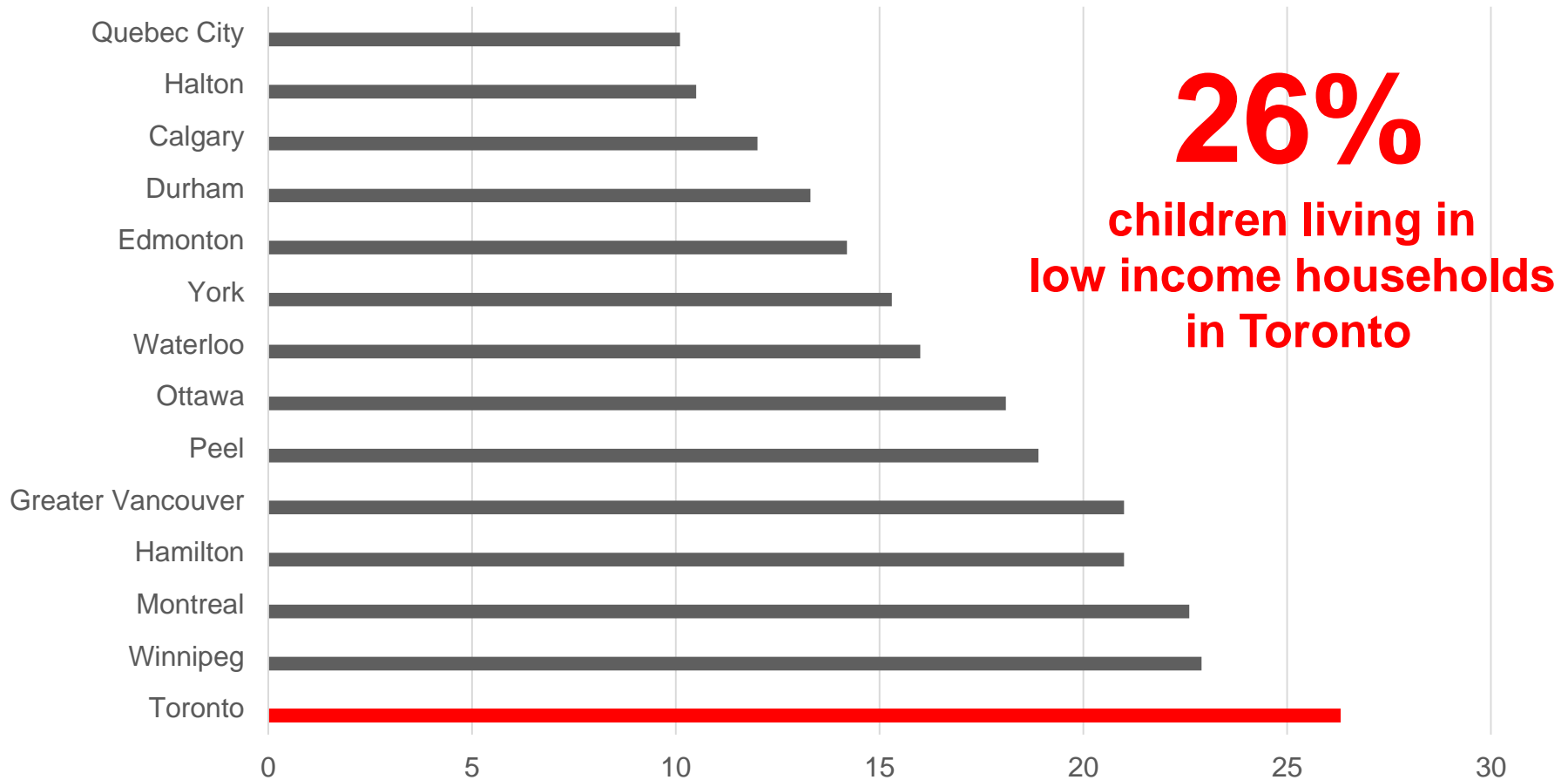
- Rapidly enhance economic opportunities for low-income families and their 47,300 children living in Toronto's older tower communities
- Achieve this by increasing digital inclusion and digital literacy and connecting families to wider training and economic opportunities through a dedicated, community-based platform



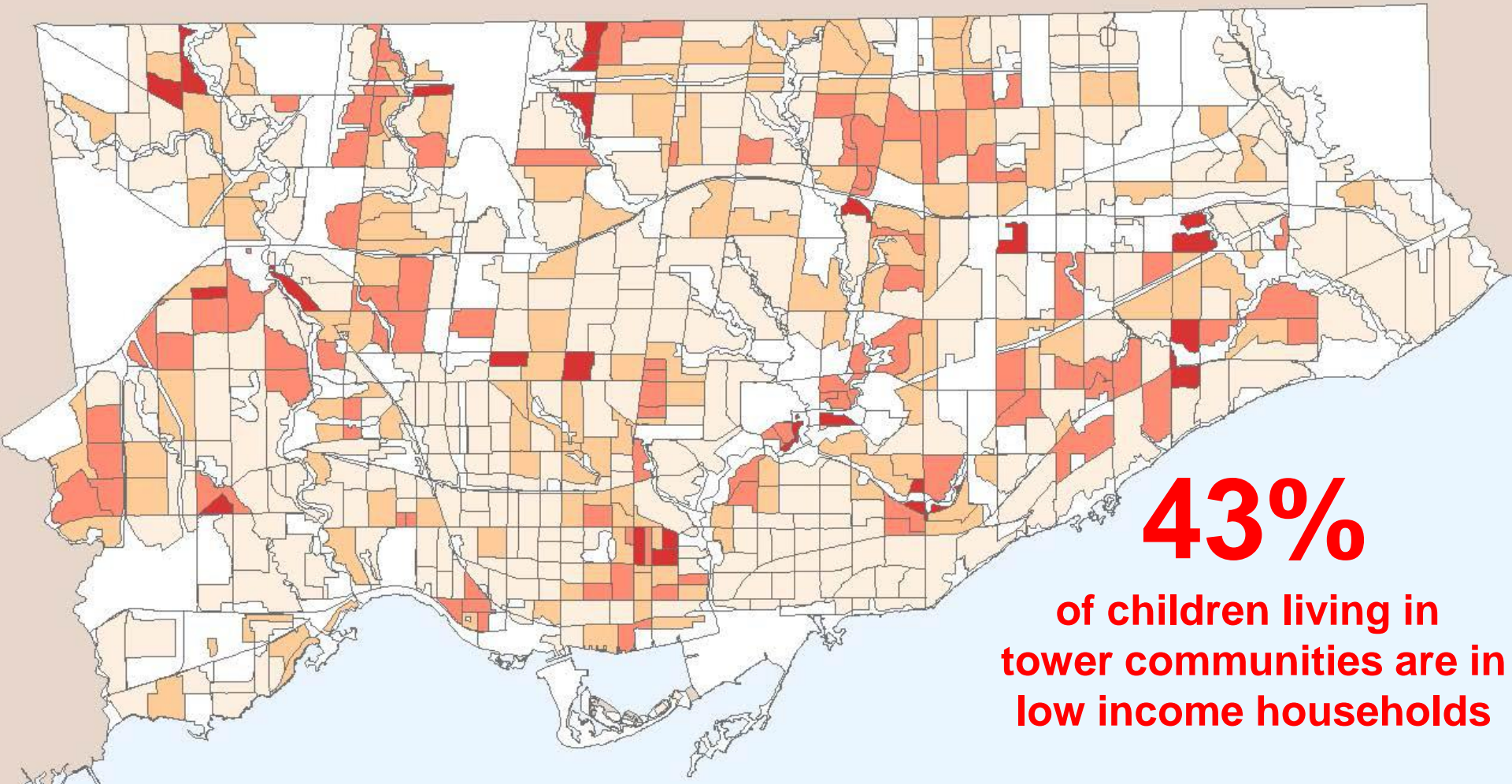
# Canadian Child Poverty Scan

Toronto: Highest rate of child poverty among large Canadian cities

Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census



# Older Tower Communities Snapshot



Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census



# Digital Divide

- Through consultations, learned from tower residents that they have to choose between mobile data or broadband internet access at home as cannot afford both
- Cost prohibitive: \$72 average cost per month for broadband access or \$150 for mobile data and broadband
- Toronto Public Library user data: 27 per cent of users do not have internet access at home and 67 per cent use library internet to study or do work
- Opportunity for collaboration with the private sector on 5G deployment model to address priority areas



# Vision

**Digital Access** is the foundation of social justice as a community-wide public utility

**Digital Literacy** is the enabler

**Digital Platform** is the privacy-protected connector

**Open Data & Analytics** to ensure equal access to economic opportunities

**Community Collaborators** are the integrators and co-creators

**Connected Communities** are prosperous communities



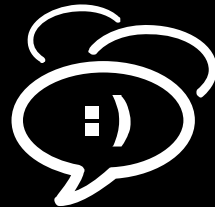
# Pillars of the Solution

In partnership with the Toronto Public Library and tower communities, we will build a software platform that will break down residents' barriers to access and connect them with the information and services they need to realize improved economic outcomes.

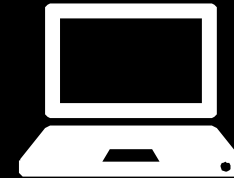
This solution is built on the foundations of digital access and literacy so residents in tower communities have the capacity to fully utilize and benefit from their community platform.



Affordable  
Digital  
Access



Open  
Privacy-protected  
Community-  
Based Digital  
Platform



Digital  
Literacy

Close the digital divide, which disproportionately affects the development of our most vulnerable children

Connect high-rise residents with their broader community through an open platform that is jointly governed by the City, Toronto Public Library, residents and their communities

Reduce child poverty by equipping their parents and caregivers with fundamental technology skills required in the digital economy



# Platform Analytics

Data and analytics will be used to tailor and match services to those in need and to measure usage and progress against our goals. It will be enabled by open data and open platforms to foster innovation and fuel collaboration.

This platform allows us to evolve and scale the solution in Toronto's diverse neighbourhoods and the rest of Canada, in a way our current analog approaches cannot.



# Future State

An investment in Toronto is a national investment in:

- A publically governed scalable digital platform
- National deployment of innovative digital literacy programs
- A collaborative working model for 5G deployment that proactively addresses the growing digital divide
- Leverage the City's leadership position in smart city open data analytics by partnering with residents, community, private, public sector and academia



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# Appendix: Partner Support Testimonials

*“Digital connectivity for 550,000 residents matters because it provides access to jobs, education, transit and community.”*

Douglas Goold, Ph. D. | Vice-President, Policy  
Toronto Region Board of Trade (TRBoT) on behalf  
of the Smart Cities Working Group

*“The initiative has the potential to transform lives of the most vulnerable in Toronto, and increase livability of our city for all.”*

Marc Cadotte | Acting Vice- Principal Research  
University of Toronto Scarborough

*“We applaud the City for honing in on a very important and unique focal point such as tall buildings: one that represents a unique intersection point that surfaces so many smart city key directions.”*

Sanjay Sachdev | Vice-President Sales  
Bell Business Markets

*“It is clear that your team has focused on one of the greatest challenges faced by all large cities in Canada – inequality, affordable housing and the growing gap between rich and poor.”*

Tom Duever, Ph. D., P. Eng., FCIC | Dean, Faculty  
of Engineering and Architectural Science  
Ryerson University

*“TPL is proud to partner on this initiative to embed digital literacy capacity in the tower communities and ensure that it is a core enabler for the success of its residents.”*

Vickery Bowles | City Librarian  
Toronto Public Library

*“The bid will reconnect these neighbourhoods with the city, connect the city to the GTA and will generate a positive economic impact for Toronto and ultimately the country.”*

Matt Di Paola | Partner, Innovation  
sid lee Toronto