

2019-2022 Poverty Reduction Strategy Term Action Plan

Housing Stability

- 1. Improve the quality of all affordable housing**
- 2. Assist low-income individuals and families to secure and maintain affordable housing**
- 3. Increase the supply of affordable housing**

The Poverty Reduction Strategy will leverage the following actions to support the City of Toronto's forthcoming HousingTO 2020-2030 plan:

- Implementing the community benefits framework
- Developing community capacity and inclusive economic development models
- Continuous engagement with residents
- Monitoring and evaluation

Attachment A

Service Access and Coordination

4. Increase service access and availability

- 4.1. Increase the availability of programs and services targeted to low-income residents, equity-seeking groups and Indigenous communities provided by and under the mandate of the City of Toronto
- 4.2. Unlock underutilized spaces and assets for new and enhanced service provision
- 4.3. Develop and expand innovative service delivery models to address the needs of low-income and vulnerable residents
- 4.4. Implement the Toronto Public Library Open Hours Plan to expand the availability of programs and services for low-income residents
- 4.5. Implement collaborative programs and services to address the immediate physical and mental health needs of low-income residents

5. Improve access to high quality programs for children and youth

- 5.1. Continue the implementation of the 10-year Child Care Growth and Capital Strategy
- 5.2. Expand the availability of free or low-cost, high-quality programs for low-income children and youth

Attachment A

Transportation Equity

6. Make transit more affordable for low-income residents

- 6.1. Fully implement the Fair Pass Discount Program
- 6.2. Apply equity standards to Toronto Transit Commission fare structure and policies

7. Improve transit services in the inner suburbs

- 7.1. Maintain and create transit routes that pass equity-based service standards
- 7.2. Prioritize surface transit and accelerate integration with complementary modes of transportation

Attachment A

Food Access

8. Eliminate hunger

- 8.1. Invest in programs and address service delivery gaps in the provision of nutritious food across the public sector and community organizations
- 8.2. Promote healthy, equitable and sustainable food systems

9. Increase access to affordable, nutritious and culturally appropriate food

- 9.1. Improve resident's access to food skills and information including rules around commercial and community-led food production, preparation and sale

Attachment A

Quality Jobs and Livable Incomes

10. Improve the quality of and access to income supports

- 10.1. Assess and respond to social assistance rate, policy and program design changes to best support low-income residents
- 10.2. Integrate financial empowerment and literacy into the delivery of City services

11. Create employment opportunities for low-income groups with high unemployment rates

- 11.1. Better coordinate internal opportunities across the City for effective pathways to good careers for low-income residents
- 11.2. Enhance the employability of residents through investments in innovative models and wrap around supports
- 11.3. Engage with large-scale employers in Toronto to promote policies and practices that enable access to quality and stable jobs for low-income job-seekers
- 11.4. Establish City incentives and/or programs for underrepresented communities to enter into growth industries

12. Improve the quality of jobs

- 12.1. Strengthen City of Toronto practices and policies to enhance employment standards that apply to a) City jobs, b) Public Benefit sector grant recipients, and c) contractors providing services on behalf of the City
- 12.2. Create new pathways, training opportunities and introduce flexibility for low-income residents to enter into City jobs and support transitions/advancement once employed

Attachment A

Systemic Change

13. Leverage the economic power of the city to stimulate job growth, support local businesses, and drive inclusive economic growth

- 13.1. Leverage City operating and infrastructure spending to create targeted hiring and training opportunities, provide economic opportunities, and support community priorities.
- 13.2. Develop sustainable models of inclusive economic development

14. Create a seamless social support system

- 14.1. Develop a policy framework for determining how the City should most effectively allocate subsidies on a universal or targeted basis

15. Coordinate and evaluate the implementation of the strategy

- 15.1. Fund and implement the Poverty Reduction Strategy Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
- 15.2. Integrate an intersectional gender-based lens to the Poverty Reduction Strategy

16. Engage City staff and residents on poverty reduction efforts

- 16.1. Integrate lived experiences of poverty into the implementation of the action plan
- 16.2. Implement a model of continuous engagement with stakeholders, including residents, including the For Public Benefit sector, advocates, experts, private sector

17. Dedicate funding to poverty reduction actions

- 17.1. Identify stable and predictable funding sources for Poverty Reduction activities
- 17.2. Develop and fund the implementation of an Indigenous-specific Poverty Reduction Action Plan, community-led and coordinated with Toronto's Poverty Reduction Strategy