North Shore Poverty Reduction Strategy

- Project overview
- Engagement at-a-glance
- Key themes
- Next steps
“Poverty is not just about money. It’s about not having the opportunities to be part of your community.”
Project Overview

We Are Here

Prepare Draft Strategy
Task Force Working Sessions

Community Engagement

Strategy Outreach, Communications, Feedback & Finalization

Project Initiation, Information Mapping, Research & Engagement Strategy

Phase One
November 2021 to January 2022

Phase Two
February to April 2022

Phase Three
May to July 2022

Phase Four
August to September 2022
"I never felt a sense of community until finding the North Shore Women's Centre."
Engagement At-A-Glance

In total we engaged with 205 people

- **51** Sensitive listening interviews
- **2** Virtual workshops with stakeholders
- **1** Virtual workshop with members of the public
- **6** Focus groups
- **5** Organizations administered our questions to their clients directly
- **4** People interviewed as key informants

51 participants
16 participants
15 participants
61 participants
58 participants
4 participants
“The free outdoor activities are a nice element of life on the North Shore.”
4 Key Themes Surfaced from this Process

1. Work together
2. Enhance navigation services
3. Address the cost of living
4. Take action on reconciliation
Key Theme #1: Work Together

- We heard about opportunities to:
  - Continue **collaborating** on housing, transportation and childcare
  - Create an **equitable and inclusive** North Shore
  - Increase **participation** in community activities
  - Educate and generate **awareness** about poverty
  - Work with **other levels of government** to address issues related to education, healthcare, social housing, income and disability assistance
Key Theme #2: Enhance Navigation Services

- We heard:
  - The North Shore has a **strong social services sector** and there is a desire to continue the **positive collaboration culture**
  - The **need for help is surpassing the capacity and resources** that organizations have to respond to everyone in need
  - Greater **awareness** of existing programs is needed, combined with empowering service providers with resources to **scale-up** their services to meet growing need
  - Opportunity to explore a **centralized approach** for some service provision
Key Theme #3: Address the Cost of Living

- We heard:
  - The **rising cost** of housing, childcare, food and gas is a source of stress
  - Cost of living increases is **felt more intensely** by low-income households
  - **Discrimination** is a barrier to accessing housing and stable employment, and access to **good jobs** is a critical path out of poverty
  - **Build on the strengths** of community service providers to expand their programs to help meet growing needs on the North Shore
  - Increase access to affordable **food, basic goods, services and technology**
Key Theme #4: Take Action on Reconciliation

- We heard:
  - Poverty disproportionately impacts Indigenous peoples because of systemic racism, discrimination, historic and ongoing trauma from colonialism and the legacy of the residential school system.
  - Ensure the Strategy and actions are Indigenous-centred.
  - Prioritize reconciliation and implement the Calls to Action.
  - Facilitate relationship building between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous peoples of the North Shore.
"I thought about moving to a different community, but I can't. All my supports are on the North Shore."
Next Steps

- Opportunity for input from Councils
- Working sessions with the Task Force to develop strategies and actions
- Summary video and public feedback form
- Finalize the North Shore Poverty Reduction Strategy
- Submit Final Strategy to UBCM and Councils
Thank you!
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