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| Training Capacity Building Working Groups meeting  Solutions Lab project | |
| Meeting Date: | **Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm ET** |
| Location: | **Online: Adobe Connect meeting room**  **https://cdp.adobeconnect.com/theboardroom/** |

**Notes**

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| **Hosts & presenters:** |
| * Michel Frojmovic * Mary Clarke * John Purkis * Davis Crenna * Michael Ditor * Saeideh Hejazi * Danielle Prapavessis * Lauren Pettapiece – Waterloo University * Breanna Veilleux– Waterloo University |
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| **Participants:**   1. Irena Pozgaj-Jones – County of Simcoe 2. Victoria Chapman – Simcoe County 3. Kholah Nisar – Simcoe County 4. Tom Fortier - Simcoe County (tom.fortier@simcoe.ca) 5. Tiffany Boeing – Simcoe County 6. Jasmine lng – City of Calgary 7. Ted Hildebrandt – Halton Region 8. Andrea Dort – Region of Peel 9. Albert Boakye – Social Planning Council of Winnipeg 10. Kyle Wiebe - International Institute for Sustainable Development 11. Aaron Mulcaster – Kawartha Lake 12. Roberta Jagoe - Region of Durham 13. Dianne H - CMHC 14. Kylee van der Poorten – City of Calgary 15. Medeline Porter CKL 16. Angela Gerbrandt - Manitoba Housing 17. Sahla Mitchell – University of Winnipeg http://uwcrc.ca/ 18. Jeremy Read 19. Allen Mankewich |

**Agenda:**

1. **Introductions**
2. **Review**
   * + **Key insights from Participants:** (Problems in housing data)

* Victoria Chapman – Simcoe County: Geography. Simcoe county level doesn’t cover CSD level, smaller levels.
* Comments of Jasmine - City of Calgary to Victoria: we (think we) had some success adjusting the boundaries of our census tracts with Statistics Canada in anticipation of the upcoming census. As we approach the 2026 census it might be possible to work with Statistics Canada to improve the alignment of their standard geographies to better suit your needs.
* Kylee van der Poorten – City of Calgary: A platform to share data would be great, being able to share data with each other to take data and enrich it. It can be useful to other people too being able to get that back out to the community.
  + - **New research (Waterloo students)**

Reports are available on <https://communitydata.ca/content/solutions-lab-community-decision-making-tools-housing-issues>

**What did you find the most confusing when it comes to housing data?**

* + - * Inconsistencies in reports to reports and organizations to organizations. More Consistency in terms of how data is collected and explained would be so helpful.
      * Sometimes a program or initiative for housing is mentioned in a report but it was tough to find additional research on that or see how It’s been successful in the future. So more consistent progress updating is needed.

**What portion of documents using housing data did you found really compelling?**

* + - * Simcoe County website was one of the most useful pieces of information. Well explained their info, complimentary reports, general data collection that they updated very frequently to show the impacts of the projects that they’ve done.
      * Showing visual data in neighborhood scale in reports was very effective.
      * Albert Boakye-Winnipeg’s question: Did you consider looking at mortgage debts and how it has had influenced in housing data in someway? Answer: we didn’t look at these specific issues in reports.

1. **Idea Generation** Break out rooms: 3 groups
2. **Prioritization of ideas**

Each groups rapporteur will be asked to share their groups top 3-5 solutions in Mural. Everyone will receive 5 votes, which they can use to select their preferred solutions. You can put all your votes on one idea or on 5 different solutions. If you are not able access mural please share your selection with your group facilitator through the chat function in Adobe.

1. Web scraping for rental data 10 votes
2. More comprehensive rental market - 2nd units, not just purpose built, frequently updated
3. Consistency in data boundaries for Housing, Income, Health, Immigration etc. 9 votes
4. Data at the service manager level (in Ontario) as well as a the area municipal level with the service area.
5. Benchmarking standards 8 votes
6. Obtaining housing data from hidden rental markets not captured through census or CHMC (shared living accommodations, short term rentals, room rentals, etc.) 7 votes
7. Housing data in a common location 7 votes
8. Idea bank: data, strategies, success stories and gaps 7 votes
9. State of homelesness across the community not only at the program level. 4 votes
10. Have very user-friednly data and responsive institutions 3 votes
11. If programs developed are income based, treat them as income support programs . Housing programs should be related to actual housing occupied 1 vote
12. Municipal policies and targets need to based on evidence. 1 vote
13. Operational funding agreements that work with capital agreements

**Additional notes:**  
Jasmine Ing & Kylee van der Poorten: We were thinking that one item that might have been missed during today’s session was improving the data about non-market housing in Canada. Right now, we find the CMHC offerings to be insufficient for our needs and we actually conduct our own non-market housing survey from time to time. It’s a big undertaking where we end up contacting non-market housing providers and asking them to fill out lots of information about their buildings. We suspect other local-level Canadian data users would benefit from this sort of data and it’s unlikely that many have prioritized collecting this sort of data due to the resources required.

1. **Next Steps**

Participants can add more comments on Mural or ask other housing experts for comments.  
<https://app.mural.co/t/ctlabs8714/m/ctlabs8714/1613158781799/1b6f26b0c5a1bcfe6150c27910d8484e1fef5967>  
Note: Please add date, your name and organization to your comments.

**Microlabs activities**

* **June Session** 
  + June 15, 2021: National session to share ideas from local microlabs & confirm prototyping approach