

# Vibrant Community Update

May 2019

We wanted to take some time to update all our members on Wednesday's exciting meeting. The meeting began with a brief overview of Vibrant Community (VC) followed by a presentation of the Community and Safety Well-Being (CSWB) Plan by Carmen Cousineau and a discussion about the future of VC.

**What is a Community Safety and Well-Being plan?** On January 1, 2019 The Government of Ontario mandated municipalities (single and upper tier) to prepare and adopt a Community Safety and Well-Being plan (CSWB) by December 31, 2020. As part of these legislative changes, municipalities are required to work in partnership with police services, health/mental health, education, community/social services and children/youth services as they undertake the planning process. The goal of this plan is to achieve the ideal state of a sustainable community where everyone is safe, has a sense of belonging, access to services and where individuals and families are able to meet their needs for education, health care, food, housing, income and social and cultural expression. Staff Sargent David Michaud has been assigned to this special project along with Carmen.

We see an aligned vision between both our initiative and believe that we can be stronger together. The United Counties of SDG, Akwesasne and the City of Cornwall have all agreed to work together to create 1 plan that will address the entire region. Our role with VC is very important to the success of this plan. Over the coming month will be engaging the community in consultation for our plan, reaching across the region and speaking to people with many different backgrounds with a special focus on people with lived experience. This is where we all need to contribute in order to create a complete plan.

We will be putting together a public engagement committee of VC members to have a strong team doing this very important work. We will also be conducting focus groups to dig deeper into our 4 pillars and hope that you

will participate. If you are interested in participating in either one of these groups, please email [chebert@sdccornwall.ca](mailto:chebert@sdccornwall.ca) with your interests.

- Public engagement
- Mental Health
- Access to Health Services
- Poverty
- Community Safety

The plan is just the beginning. Once it has been created, VC's role will be to implement this plan as a collective giving us concrete action items that will positively impact our community for the long term.

Stacey Ferguson, Manager of Social and Housing Services also presented about a unique initiative called Circles. An e-mail with more details will be shared shortly.

Thank you for your continued support in this important project.

*The VC Team*