

Dear Community Member:

On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 the Commission for the Review of Social Assistance in Ontario released *Discussion Paper 2: Approaches for Reform*. This paper advances dialogue with Ontarians which began in June 2011 with the release of *Discussion Paper: Issues and Ideas*, and continued over the summer and fall through community conversations. The Commission is requesting feedback on the options presented in *Discussion Paper 2* by **March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012**.

In an effort to engage with people and organizations with diverse perspectives on social assistance, the Guelph & Wellington Task Force for Poverty Elimination, with the support of other community partners, would like to invite your group or organization, including its staff, volunteers and clients, to consider providing feedback by taking advantage of one or more of the follow options:

### **1. Take the online survey.**

An online survey will ask questions based on the major themes and options identified in *Discussion Paper 2*. The survey will be available from February 21<sup>st</sup> to March 9<sup>th</sup> and can be accessed from [www.gwpoverty.ca](http://www.gwpoverty.ca). A reminder email will be sent out prior to this period with a direct link to the survey. Hardcopies of the survey will also be available upon request.

### **2. Facilitate your own consultation session.**

Many groups and organizations may choose to facilitate their own consultation sessions with their staff, volunteers and/or clients. To support this process, we would like to offer a facilitation guide with questions based on the options presented in *Discussion Paper 2 in simple, easy to understand language*. The guide will also include local social assistance data and a background/summary of *Discussion Paper 2*. The facilitation guide will be available on February 21<sup>st</sup>. If you choose this option, we request that you share the information collected by **March 9<sup>th</sup>** to be included in our communities final submission to the Commission.

### **3. Host a consultation session with our support.**

From February 21<sup>st</sup> to March 9<sup>th</sup>, we are offering to facilitate consultation sessions with your staff, volunteers and/or clients hosted by your group or organization. For this option, it is the responsibility of your group or organization to bring people together and we will provide the facilitation and collect feedback. We can also offer snacks, bus tickets and child care assistance. A follow up session after the final report is submitted to the Commission can also be arranged if requested.

**Please let us know by February 17<sup>th</sup> which of the three options you would like to take advantage of by contacting:**

**Randalin Ellery, Coordinator**

**Guelph & Wellington Task Force for Poverty Elimination**

**[gwpoverty@gmail.com](mailto:gwpoverty@gmail.com)**

**519-821-0571 x29**