



WINDSOR-ESSEX  
COMMUNITY  
**OPIOID &  
SUBSTANCE**  
STRATEGY

## **WECOSS Enforcement and Justice Working Group Meeting**

**Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> from  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

# 2025 Project Update: Strengthening Community Safety and Well-Being

# Strengthening Community Safety and Wellbeing

## Project Purpose:

Sustain and expand the neighbourhood safety planning process initiated by the Substance Supports in Neighbourhoods Accessed through Police Partnerships (SSNAPP) team.

## Key Activities and Outputs:

Attend community housing events to educate residents about the existing neighbourhood safety plans developed for the City of Windsor.

Conduct community consultations to examine neighbourhood safety/needs in Leamington and Essex.

Create neighbourhood safety plans for Leamington and Essex.

# Strengthening Community Safety and Wellbeing

## Accomplishments to Date:

- Attended **14** community events from June 19<sup>th</sup> to September 22<sup>nd</sup> to educate residents about existing neighbourhood safety plans:
  - **257** safety plans distributed, in addition to the **1,420** distributed prior to June 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - **96%** indicated they felt more confident in supporting safety related to substance use after receiving a review of the plans.
- Applied for and received a second **Community Safety and Policing (CSP)** grant in partnership with the OPP and the Windsor-Essex Regional Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan to support the development and implementation of neighbourhood safety plans for **Leamington and Essex**.
  - WECOSS will be acknowledged in the new safety plans along with the three SSNAPP partners.

# Strengthening Community Safety and Wellbeing

Steps Completed	Next Steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Compiled a list of key stakeholders for Leamington and Essex safety plan consultations.</li><li>• Adapted existing survey and focus group guide to reflect Leamington and Essex.</li><li>• Launched survey on social media, active until October 31<sup>st</sup>.</li><li>• Weekly social media posts have been developed and scheduled for the month of October.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reach out to identified stakeholders to participate in focus groups.</li><li>• Provide survey and QR code to local businesses and organizations in Leamington and Essex to reach residents.</li><li>• Continue to attend community events to educate residents about existing safety plans.</li><li>• Coordinate and host mental health and substance use training for first responders and service providers in Leamington and Essex.</li></ul>

# Strengthening Community Safety and Wellbeing

## Action Items for WECOSS Working Group Members:



Encourage your staff who work in Leamington and Essex to participate in safety plan focus groups.



Continue promoting and distributing existing safety plans. All safety plans can be found at [WECOSS.ca](http://WECOSS.ca).



Encourage clients and residents in Leamington and Essex to complete the survey.



# Thank You!

**Thank you to the members of the WECOSS Enforcement and Justice Working Group** for your collaboration and support in making these community events and neighbourhood safety plans a success.

We look forward to continuing our partnership and expanding our community safety and wellbeing efforts throughout Essex County!



# WECOSS Action Plan Consultation

# Background

- ❖ For the past four years, the WECOSS has been guided by an action plan from 2021 (2021 Modernization Report).
- ❖ From 2021-2025, the partnership has implemented numerous strategies to address each of the Modernization recommendations and action areas, which have been summarized and shared with the community yearly through our Annual Reports.
- ❖ Now, in 2025, the WECOSS is ready to reposition itself to identify new priorities and areas of focus for the years ahead.
- ❖ A new action plan is being created for the WECOSS, which will include fresh goals and actions for the partnership to achieve over the years to come.
- ❖ The new plan will be informed by a comprehensive community consultation conducted with WECOSS partners and other key stakeholders.

# WECOSS Action Plan Consultation

## Purpose:

Gather input from the community that will inform the development of a renewed, community-informed action plan for the WECOSS.

## Goals:

Identify the most pressing issues and concerns impacting the WEC community as it relates to various forms of substance use.

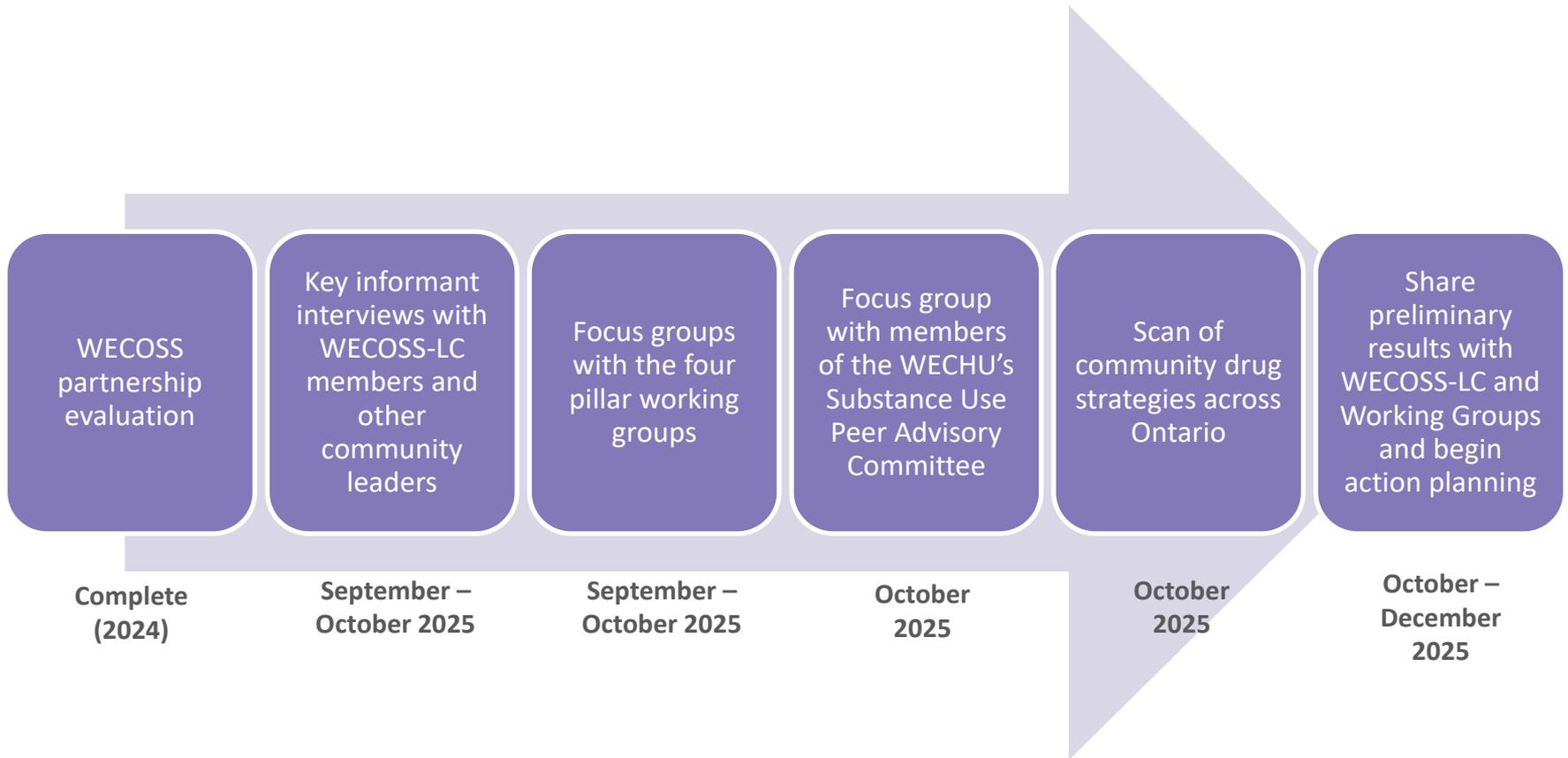
Confirm existing strengths, capacities, and resources currently available to address these concerns at the community level.

Solidify community needs, gaps, and priorities for the WECOSS to address in its future work with community partners.

Define the WECOSS' role in the community by identifying strategies to improve coordination and reduce duplication between the WECOSS and other emerging community initiatives.

Use results from the consultation to generate recommendations guiding the strategic direction for the WECOSS in 2026 and beyond.

# Key Activities & Timelines



# Enforcement and Justice Working Group

## *Focus Group*

- ❖ During today's meeting, a focus group will be held with EJWG members as part of the action plan consultation.
- ❖ The focus group will allow us to explore the future direction and potential areas of focus for this specific pillar over the years to come.
- ❖ Your feedback is important to us and will help to shape the goals, actions, and recommendations proposed within the new action plan.