

Tough Times

Nothing about Us, Without Us, Is for Us

LOCATION CONFIRMED FOR PEEL REGION'S FIRST INTERIM SUPERVISED CONSUMPTION SITE



By: Moyo Health & Community Services

On July 7, 2022, Peel Regional Council approved two years of pilot funding for the region's first supervised consumption site. This was in response to serious concerns about the alarming increase in deaths due to overdose from drug poisoning in our communities.

In the year since funding was approved, Peel Region has lost 155 people to preventable deaths due to drug poisoning. Securing a location for the supervised consumption site could not be more urgent. On July 6, 2023, council approved the location of the site, at 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A. This location will be co-located with other health services that will be moving to the regional building, including oral health and a healthy sexuality clinic.

At Regional Council there were strong expressions of support from Peel Public Health and community members. Peel's Associate Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Kate Bingham, stressed the urgency of need and the benefits of this site including access to public transportation, as well as helpful building elements such as a separate entrance, washroom facilities, and sufficient space. We also heard from Melissa Harricharan, a member of the Peel Drug Users Advisory Panel who shared her personal story emphasizing the importance of harm reduction services in her life and in the lives of people close to her. She too emphasized the importance of supervised consumption services and the urgency with which they are needed in our region.

Supervised consumption sites are a health care service that allow drug use under the supervision of staff trained in overdose response. In addition to providing overdose prevention and education, Peel's supervised consumption site will provide sterile supplies to prevent infections, basic health care (e.g., wound care), harm reduction education and counselling, as well as referrals to other health and social services such as addictions treatment, housing, food programs, and employment services. Further, the supervised consumption site will help address safety concerns such as improperly discarded needles and public drug use.

The significant progress towards the opening of Peel Region's first supervised consumption site is thanks to the years of work of community members and advocates who have been calling for action to address the epidemic of drug poisoning that has been growing in Peel Region for years. Peel Region's first supervised consumption site will be operated by Moyo Health & Community Services, and clinical services will be provided on-site by Wellfort Community Health Services. Pending completion of construction, it is hoped that the site will open in the fall of 2023.

Visit Moyo Health and Community Services [here](#):



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HARM REDUCTION FOR SOBRIETY, STABILITY AND BUILDING COMMUNITY



By: Melissa Harricharan

My name is Melissa Harricharan, and I am a member of the Peel Drug Users Advisory. I spoke at city council on July 6th, 2023 to be heard on issue of the implementation of the consumption and treatment service in Brampton and the importance of the site for community.

Many people think harm reduction and consumption and treatment sites are just about drugs, and letting people get high but at council I wanted to share my story to display the importance harm reduction can play in sobriety and stability and building community.

Back in 2010 I was deep in my addiction. I was smoking crack daily and living outdoors and doing survival sex work to fund my substance use. I had lost my way and lost my family and leaned on drugs to get me through the daily struggle of paying for my substances, doing sex work, and living outdoors. It was a cycle I remained in for years rotating between programs and services trying to find a way off the streets and into some form of housing that didn't involve depending on clients. Entering shelters, I faced barriers and found most did not know how to support me. Many of the things I needed to do broke rules like curfew or being intoxicated and resulted in me getting banned or kicked out of shelter. I found myself in a constant rotation where I started paperwork I never finished, and I couldn't make an appointment or keep to a schedule which left me stuck. My life was turmoil and as a result I needed to stay available to make the money needed to get the drugs that numbed all the hurt I felt for having lost my way and having disappointed my kids.

Throughout my addiction I would pop into their lives as much as I could but I felt so much shame that a lot of the time I avoided facing anyone who knew me before the drugs. I wanted to do better and be better but the stigma I experienced caused me to self stigmatize myself into not believing I was worth more than I was had. I leaned on Regeneration for support and meals and clothes but even going into that space at times I felt I wasn't worthy of God or His love.

And then one day I met a Harm Reduction Worker handing out supplies. They didn't ask me any personal questions or try to push me to talk about my addiction and getting sober, they just asked me what I needed in that moment and handed me a pipe. While getting the harm reduction supplies they told me they were a Harm Reduction Worker and were running a drop-in for sex workers at John Howard and let me know I could pop in whenever they were there. I didn't go in that day but I was intrigued and so the next time I saw them I went up to them and asked them a ton of questions. They told me they had been exactly where I was and that through harm reduction they were able to build a better relationship with their substance use and eventually became a Harm Reduction Worker. Up until that point I had never met a worker that I felt understood me and my life, it felt safe, and so I latched on right away. They were awesome and easy to talk to, it felt different in a good way and so I went to them every time I needed support or someone to just vent to. Before I knew it, they had gotten me into programming and I received subsidized housing, I reconnected with my oldest kids and had a loving boyfriend that stood by my side. Things in my life started changing, they even gave me a job, and I started working as a peer for sex worker drop in at John Howard. I felt like I had a purpose again and I had started to build a life for myself. With that stability I could finally focus on more than just survival and through the support of that Harm Reduction Worker and someone at Regeneration I entered detox and then rehab and am now 6 years sober expecting my next child, employed, housed and happy. Harm reduction isn't just about using drugs safely (though in the face of a poisoned drug supply that has to be the first step because let's face it dead people can't fill out intake forms or show up to appointments). Harm reduction supports clients to figure out what they want and how they want to get there without the judgement of drug users, without expecting sobriety.

I had been offered rehab more times than I want. It wasn't until I was able to get out of crisis and begin feeling safe that I could really begin the journey of abstinence. I was ready to go and I was aiming for success this time. Previous attempts at getting sober were huge failures. The system was just as broken as I was with waiting lists and closed programs presenting constant barriers to get sober.

That's why I delegated at council. We need a consumption and treatment service in Brampton – it's where I am a from, it's where many of my dead friends are from and it's where my adult kids live. Consumption and treatment services provide our community members a place to stay connected while they wait for either a

space to open up or for them to be ready to start the journey of sobriety, a space where they know they won't be judged, a space where they have consistent supports and teams of people they know understand them. A space free of judgement, where all types of supports are available, so they can feel safe enough to get information and explore opportunities to get into programs. Where they know they can use their drugs safely to live to see another day.

Bramalea was where I bought and used my drugs, it was the area I had many of my regulars and could always get a "date" and or find a place to hang out in and it's an area saturated in overdoses, some of which I resuscitated and many of which have been fatal. This area needs this space. Amongst these buildings are people who feel disconnected and alone. It's different than downtown Brampton where Regeneration has outreach, has spaces and places to hang out and going to those hot spots I knew workers and friends would eventually end up. In this area it's all a little more hidden amongst the many buildings and parkettes and stairwells but it's here and this community deserves the opportunities I received.

I know for a lot of people harm reduction means allowing drug use and providing equipment. Folks think it's supporting people to use while ignoring addiction but that isn't true. I am proof of that. Harm reduction is just as much about sobriety as it is about people using drugs in safer ways. Harm reduction was exactly what I needed when I needed it the most and without it I would likely not have survived or lived long enough to get to rehab, and I definitely wouldn't have gotten into rehab because it was my Harm Reduction Worker who literally made sure I got there and when they kicked me out, got me to the next detox and from there got me to rehab. This community needs Harm Reduction Workers and consumption and treatment services to keep it safe. I need this service here so relapse doesn't equal death, my kids need this service here so experimenting doesn't end their lives and my friends need this service so if and when they decide they're ready to explore their relationship with their substance use they're alive to utilize those opportunities.

It's not just about a space to use drugs and not die, consumption and treatment services with harm reduction supports and care remind people they are worthy and belong and that they don't need to choose sobriety to matter. That's how we build healthy communities and healthy citizens, by providing care and compassion and supports without any strings attached.

The Warrior Within

By: Vanessa

In the depths of my soul's lament,
A journey unfolds, a battle unspent,
As a woman, I dare to share my plight,
A dance with darkness, a brave soul's fight.

In a world of whispers and shallow glance,
Where shadows dance on the stage of chance,
I ventured forth, an innocent soul,
In pursuit of perfection, I lost control.

The mirror became a merciless foe,
Reflections distorted, in anguish, I'd grow,
Obsession took hold, a relentless tide,
As the spectre of an eating disorder did reside.

A dance with demons, a dangerous art,
A tug-of-war raging within my heart,
For society's gaze, I longed to appease,
Yet my worth was never in numbers' decrees.

In a whirlwind of emotions, I found my worth,
Beyond the confines of this constrained girth,
For mental health, I took a stand,
With courage, I rose, like shifting sand.

Seeking solace, I found my voice,
In therapy's embrace, I made the choice,
To break the chains, to heal and mend,
To reclaim my spirit, to ascend.

Through tears that fell like cleansing rain,
I faced my fears, embraced the pain,
In vulnerability, I found my might,
And learned to embrace the darkest night.

Support surrounded me, love held me tight,
My journey to healing, a courageous flight,
With every step, I found my release,
In self-compassion, I found my peace.

To all my sisters, who fight this fight,
You are not alone in the depths of night,
Together we rise, hand in hand,
United, we'll conquer and firmly stand.



On September 30th,
#NationalDayForTruthAndReconciliation and
#OrangeShirtDay, we remember the legacy of
residential schools – honoring lost lives, supporting
survivors' healing, and embracing truth and
reconciliation. Let's continue this vital journey together.

Renting in
an apartment
building?

Mississauga Apartment
Rental Compliance (MARC)

Learn more at mississauga.ca/MARC

MISSISSAUGA

Does your unit or building need repairs or maintenance?

Have you told your landlord, but the problem has not been fixed?

The Mississauga Apartment Rental Compliance (MARC) pilot program ensures apartment buildings are well-maintained to support safe, secure and liveable communities.

Call 311 or visit: mississauga.ca/MARC



REgeneration
Marketplace

Regeneration Marketplace is a food bank, operated by
Regeneration Outreach Community.

Location
253 Queen St E, Brampton (second set of doors)

Hours of Operation

Tuesday:	9:00 AM – 3:30 PM
Wednesday:	9:00 AM – 6:30 PM
Thursday:	9:00 AM – 3:30 PM
Friday:	9:00 AM – 3:30 PM
Saturday:	8:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Closed daily from
-12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. -

Registration Process

Please bring ID with you, a short registration form will be required at your first visit, and you will be able to get food on the same day. Families are able to utilize the service once/week. Please remember to bring your own grocery bags.

If you have any questions, email to marketplace@regenbrampton.com or call 905 796 5888



REMOVING BARRIERS TO ACCESS - TORONTO METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY BUILDING A NEW SCHOOL OF MEDICINE IN BRAMPTON



It's no secret that Ontario's healthcare system is in crisis. Long wait times and a shortage of family doctors affect millions of people across the province. However, it's also no secret that this crisis hits some groups of people much harder than others.

A wide range of diverse and underserved communities in Ontario cannot access the care they need due to roadblocks in our healthcare system. Some may not be able to find a doctor who speaks their first language – or even any doctor at all. Others may have had experiences of racism in the medical system that discourage them from seeking care when they need it.

People experiencing homelessness often run up against serious problems when trying to access healthcare. For many, one of the biggest challenges is not having a doctor. For others, worries about not being listened to or treated as individuals by doctors and other healthcare professionals can prevent them from seeking care when they need it. People experiencing homelessness may also receive medical advice that does not take their situation into account and is difficult to follow.

Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU) believes that a different approach is needed to remove these roadblocks and bring better care to diverse and underserved communities. That's why TMU is building a new school of medicine in Brampton. Scheduled to open in 2025, the school will create a new approach to primary care focused on training doctors who know and respect the many communities and cultures that make up Peel Region. Every part of the school will be inclusive and community-driven.

TMU is building the school of medicine together with the communities it will serve. Brampton residents have provided valuable feedback that has shaped the school. Community members have also identified many community strengths that they feel the school of medicine can use to build its programs.

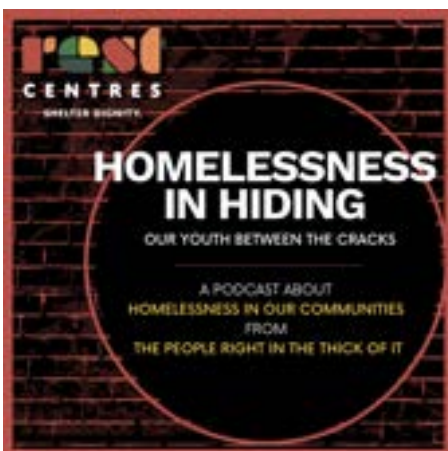
One of the main goals of TMU's School of Medicine is to increase primary care capacity, especially in the communities where there is the most need. The admissions process will intentionally recruit medical students who want to work in diverse and underserved communities. Students will train in Peel Region, building relationships with local hospitals, clinics and organizations and working with people from a wide variety of communities, including people experiencing homelessness. It is likely that many future doctors trained at TMU will choose to practice in the community they call home.

The school of medicine also plans to increase healthcare capacity by creating a series of Integrated Health Centres (IHCs). In cooperation with the school's clinical partners, these IHCs will bring together doctors, nurses, social workers and other medical professionals to make healthcare more accessible.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and Reconciliation will be included in every element of the school of medicine. Doctors will be trained to provide culturally respectful care to people from a wide variety of communities and cultures, and to understand the social and economic factors affecting health. The school will also work to remove barriers in the admissions process and recruit students from communities that are underrepresented in the medical profession.

Like many cities across Canada, Brampton is rapidly growing and changing – and so are its health needs. TMU's School of Medicine will ensure that the doctors of the future are ready to meet these changing needs, and to provide high-quality care to diverse communities.

[Join our mailing list to receive the latest planning updates for the TMU School of Medicine.](#)



Homelessness in Hiding: Our Youth Between the Cracks is a REST Centres podcast that explores the issue of youth homelessness in our community.

By sharing personal stories and exploring the broader impact of this crisis, the podcast sheds light on the urgent need for action.



NON-PROFITS IN PEEL FORM METAMORPHOSIS NETWORK TO ADDRESS THE TRANSITION OF HUMAN SERVICES IN THE WAKE OF PEEL'S DISSOLUTION



By: Sean Meagher, Coordinator, Convene Toronto

When the Provincial Government announced its plan to dissolve the Region of Peel, people in the nonprofit sector knew this was going to affect a lot of the people we serve. Most of the funding and the coordination for community services, from housing to youth services, to childcare to equity programs, happens at the Regional level.

As new legislation designed to dissolve the region worked its way through the legislature, leaders from the nonprofit sector started to call each other and ask tough questions:

- Will agencies have to refuse services to someone from the other side of the 407?
- There are several Region-wide services offered in one location like family shelters, will people from other areas have access to that service?
- Will we need three housing departments and three childcare systems? How will we pay for the added costs?
- Will nonprofits be applying to three funders and reporting to three municipalities?

Nobody knew the answers to these questions. Four nonprofits started the discussion, which then grew to eight, and shortly thereafter a whole network developed.

The Peel Community Metamorphosis Network, now represents over 80 nonprofit organizations across Peel Region. These organizations and groups represent and collectively serve the health and human service needs of Peel residents.

We know, from first-hand experience, the complexities of the community services sector in the region, and recognize that reorganizing this complicated network of supports will be challenging — and that it is only one of the tasks before the newly-appointed Transition Board.

To begin the hard work of coordinating our activities, over 80 nonprofit leaders gathered for a half day on June 26th so that we would be properly prepared to lend a hand in our efforts.

Many of those same nonprofits worked together to coordinate a comprehensive and successful collective response during the pandemic, and our strong relationships in communities helped to take Peel from a hotspot of –

COVID-19 infection to a national leader in vaccination rates. We did that by making sure that our planning reflected the needs and priorities of the most vulnerable, and responded to the way the diverse communities in Mississauga, Brampton, and Caledon really work.

We know that the work of reorganizing human services in Peel will require the same level of planning, coordination, and responsiveness to community. We should also note that this is happening when challenges affecting Peel such as a lack of affordable housing, homelessness, food insecurity, low social assistance rates, inequality and discrimination, opioid deaths, high levels of settlement and domestic violence, are at crisis levels. So we are working to bring together data, explore the scope of challenges and opportunities.

To achieve that we have struck working groups addressing each of the service areas in Peel, including immigrant services, seniors programs, health, and many others. Those working groups are tasked with identifying the challenges and potential solutions. We recognize how important it is that the transition does not adversely affect vulnerable people and equity-deserving populations in Peel.

We have had an introductory meeting with the Transition Board, as well, and are working hard to ensure they are informed about challenges and opportunities, as well as the complexities of our unique, highly diverse community.

While this work is important, and a sound strategy coming from the Transition Board will be a key component of ensuring good outcomes from this process at the end of the day, the decision will rest with the Minister and the provincial government. Therefore, we know that it will be equally important to ensure that MPPs in Peel keep the community informed. This is one way that underfunded services can navigate this huge change, and the added overhead, without real investment from the Province, and a fundamental commitment to a community led transition.

If you have questions about this process, please feel free to contact us at info@communitymetamorphosis.ca.

TOUGH TIMES IN THE COMMUNITY



Top Left: Cupe Local 966, Top Right: Lakeshore Lofts, Bottom Left: Open Window Hub, Bottom Right: Dixie Bloor Neighbourhood Centre

SHELTER WITH DIGNITY



By: Manina Murphy

This image blew up on Twitter in October 2020. It was Toronto's new 100-bed shelter in the Better Living Centre at Exhibition Place which was part of the City of Toronto's 2020/21 winter services plan. Their October 6th news release describes this as a 24-hour respite site.

"To ensure safe and welcoming places for people who need them during the coming winter weather."

Where do I even start? There is a major disconnect between these descriptors and the reality of this space.

There is very little in this space that supports the human beings "living" here. After the many years of government efforts and money spent to find solutions to our homelessness issues, surely, we could do better than this.

While "Housing First" is recognized as best practice, informs planning, and funding, the actual implementation and positive outcome takes time. For our homeless population, waiting for housing is a daily struggle to survive.

What that means is, that shelters are a necessary interim support. It does not mean that we can't do better than what our current shelter system looks like.

The very sad truth is that these environments continue to traumatize our most vulnerable humans. By not responding to the very reasons that brought them here, by forcing them into places that retraumatize them on a daily basis, we are sending a loud and painful message.

Environments that support these needs are integral to recovery from complex issues. Trauma-Informed Design must be part of our collective efforts. Well established research shows that providing human-centric, supportive, healing and restorative environments will yield improved outcomes.

How can we expect our vulnerable communities to heal when we continue to reinforce their lack of worth by warehousing them in these oppressive environments? Would we send cancer patients here for treatment?

The money that is spent in an effort to mitigate harm is done so without the front-line insight into what this community actually needs to heal and recover. The result is unequivocally far short of successful.

It is imperative that the decision makers take the time to really listen to the community they are trying to help. How can you come up with solutions if you don't talk to the people experiencing the problem?

It is my hope that we can come together to develop real life solutions. #ShelterWithDignity



About Manina Murphy:

I am a mother, grandmother and dedicated advocate for social justice. I have many years of lived experience advocating for at risk youth and the challenges of mental health & addiction.

My adopted daughter came to me with unimaginable childhood trauma and a fierce determination to build a better life.

Through my journey with her, I learned how to navigate and push the boundaries of our less than perfect system. She taught me how to achieve results and create a path towards healing.

About Space Designs:



I take these experiences and fight in honour of her memory.

Dirty Little Secrets

By: Natalie K.

My eye catches the shine of the foil; it lays flat against the scratched wooden coffee table in a room left to wither, the carpet's stained. Torn and worn down by the footprints of the community.

Opening its door, I'm swept back in time.
To the years I was told to feel shame about.
To hide, regret, keep hidden.
Wither. Wither. Wither.

They made me wither.

They told me
forget this smokey and sad looking space,
but this is where I'm from...

Sitting down on the corner of this squeaky bed I feel comfort.

I smile knowing all its Dirty Little Secrets.
I feel at home.

Looking at its wear and tear I'm reminded of skin.

The broken and scratched surfaces make sense to me. Familiar. 1-star yelp reviews plague it.

Judgments made by strangers
Ugly words thrown together
Describe its imperfections
Fuck them, this room is resilient.

2 YEARS TOO LONG



Story By: 2 years too long

Being a single mom in the Region of Peel has been a difficult journey. Especially when you are a single mom who also struggles with substance use.

With my first child I had to navigate Children's Aid Society on my own fulfilling all the requirements to get my child back like completing school, getting sober, securing a job, finding adequate housing all while experiencing homelessness because upon apprehension of my child I lost a portion of my support payments and that rendered my apartment unaffordable.

I began the journey thinking I could get everything accomplished within the 3-month timeline Children's Aid had set our agreement for, what I found instead was

while rotating through the shelter system traumatized from losing my child I was met with waitlists, pilot programs that kept filling up and workers who had no idea how to help me.

The 3-month timeline turned into a torturous journey that instead stole 2 years of my right to parent my child. It wasn't that I wasn't doing all the things they asked of me it was that the services that were supposed to help me weren't there or if they were they were filling up and I was waitlisted.

After 2 years of being at the mercy of kinship to be able to see my child, I finally made it into a case management program that provided me with subsidies for housing and supports to bring my child home. But even then I was still dealing with my own burnout from living in shelters, going to school full-time on an accelerated program, and living with the stigma of substance use. Then I was also dealing with being a single parent without custody, trying to secure housing from a shelter, being on Regional financial support, and losing a mother who recently passed away due to an overdose.

Our lives are complex and a lot of the programs in the Region of Peel are not equipped to deal with us. What helped me the most was being involved in peer work and having an outlet for the things I was going through. Speaking to workers as a

service user I felt I wasn't being heard about the issues and barriers I was facing but being a peer, I was able to share the things I was going through and use them to help inform services in the future. It's sad that that's what it took to be heard. Had anyone been listening to me when I was facing these barriers perhaps, I wouldn't have lost those two years of being a mom to my child.

Perhaps I wouldn't stayed with my abusive ex, perhaps I wouldn't have done and gone through and accepted the things that happened to me, but they weren't listening, and all these things did happen and now I live with the trauma from them.

We won't ever get those years back. I hope my child can forgive me for them some day, and that they don't lead her down the hard path I have had to live from the generational curse of poverty and addiction my family holds. Who knows what the future holds for us, we still have a system to battle to try to get free of poverty.

I wrote this story not for sympathy or for personal healing but that workers understand the true cost of these barriers, and so another parent doesn't lose years of being with their child because no one is listening.

REFUGEE CRISIS IN PEEL



By: Folashade Okomayin, Housing Support Worker, Dixie Bloor Neighbourhood Centre

Peel Region is experiencing an influx of more refugees than ever; these refugees are seeking shelter and housing simultaneously. The highest influx of refugees resulted in many sleeping outside, at stations, and on streets because shelters in the GTA are at capacity.

The Region has extended its shelter capacity by adding more hotels to its overflow shelter, and most of the residents

are asylum seekers, with a vast number coming from Africa. However, more than this, temporal measures are needed to solve the issues of accessing housing faced by the refugees. Canada is already in a housing crisis, with many people losing their homes because they can no longer afford the payment of rent due to increases by their landlords. Some landlords terminated rental agreements because they received new tenants that could pay the current market rate.

Refugees face many challenges, including traumatic stress, cultural differences, dehumanization of refugees, delay in documentation, language barriers, unemployment, and so on.

According to Mississauga.com, "The federal government has pledged one-time funding for GTA cities, including \$97 million for the City of Toronto and \$115 million for surrounding communities" (Alexandra Heck, July 24, 2023).

While wondering how far this one-time funding can go to alleviate the current

surge, what happens when the money is exhausted?

There are so many questions that need answers; how long are the refugees going to stay in the hotels? What are the plans for them to get into affordable housing? What measures are considered when it comes to discrimination from homeowners against refugees because of their colour?

We need answers and we need to act. If you are a refugee or know someone who is looking for assistance, you can contact:



[Immigration Peel Refugee Support](#)



[African Community Services of Peel](#)



[Dixie Bloor Neighbourhood Centre](#)

REGIONAL HOMELESSNESS SERVICES IN PEEL



In Peel there are many programs available to support housing, shelter and fundamental needs. Please visit www.peelregion.ca/housing for more information.

Street Helpline - 1-877-848-8481

- Offering 24/7 support for urgent homelessness needs, food, shelter access, referrals and more. The Street Helpline connects you to our mobile Street Outreach team who can often come to your location to help. If you're in crisis or face an urgent need, call us.

Shelter Intake Line - 905-450-1996

- We can help you find the best option in any Peel shelter, including in adult, youth and family shelters.

Mental Health Support

- Distress Centre Peel – 905-278-7208
- Kids Help Phone – 1-800-668-6868
- Mental Health Mobile Crisis Centre of Peel – 905-278-9036
- Youth Mental Health Crisis Response Service – 416-410-8615

City of Brampton

Regeneration Meal Program and Supports -156 Main St N, Brampton

- Facilities and food for people in need
- Showers and laundry
- Phone and computer
- Staff support
- Clothing
- Breakfast - 8a.m. to 9:30a.m. (9:15 a.m. on Sundays)
- Lunch - 11:30a.m. to 12:30p.m., Monday to Thursday
- Hours - Monday to Friday 7a.m. to 3p.m., Saturdays 7a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Sundays 7a.m. to 9:15 a.m.

City of Mississauga

- Services are available to support at-risk individuals and the homeless in Mississauga, including free hot meals and shower access.
- Visit mississauga.ca/recreation-and-sports/sports-and-activities/assistance-programs/help-for-the-homeless/

Open Window Hub | 2023 Partnerships

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Homeless Community Clinic 8400 Steeles Ave. E. Unit 28 Markham - 3pm	Homeless Health Clinic 1235 Macpherson Valley Road Markham - 3pm	Homeless Health Clinic 100 Macpherson Rd. Markham - 3pm	Homeless Health Clinic 1235 Macpherson Valley Road Markham - 3pm	Homeless Health Clinic 1235 Macpherson Valley Road Markham - 3pm
Home Health & Community Services Markham - 10am	Homeless Health Clinic Markham - 10am	Homeless Health Clinic Markham - 10am	Homeless Health Clinic Markham - 10am	Homeless Health Clinic Markham - 10am
Street Outreach Markham - 11am	Street Outreach Markham - 11am	Street Outreach Markham - 11am	Street Outreach Markham - 11am	Street Outreach Markham - 11am
Street Outreach Markham - 12pm	Street Outreach Markham - 12pm	Street Outreach Markham - 12pm	Street Outreach Markham - 12pm	Street Outreach Markham - 12pm

Description of Partners & Services

Home Health & Community Services: Home Reduction Program on-site providing harm reduction needs, distribution of naloxone, overdose prevention/education training/distribution and safe sex supply distribution. Information/education available on other substance use, sexual health and STI/diagnosis/STI test.

Street Outreach Team (SOT): Outreach on-site available following an on-site supports in Peel Region individuals, 16 years and over, and families who are homeless or at risk of being homeless.

Homeless Health-Peel Team: Nurse Practitioner on-site providing primary care, health education, mental health & addiction support, general care, chronic disease management, genetics, smoking cessation and palliative care. Operating in every shelter in Peel. No health card or identification required.

Region of Peel Housing Services: Housing Support Program on-site providing services to individuals who are at risk of being housed, and actively homeless or need affordable housing.

High Priority Response Team (HPRT): Community Health Ambassador providing short term case management, rapid response on-site assessment identifying needs, providing referrals and access with system navigation. Also provides assistance with phone calls, appointments and follow up to ensure retention in services.

Regeneration Identification Clinic (ID Clinic Coordinator): Assists individuals with getting a Canadian born certificate and walks the applicant through the process. This service is offered every 2nd and 4th week of the month.

The Library

REgeneration THRIFT STORE

About Us

Regen Thrift is a place where you can **buy good** by shopping sustainable, secondhand and gently used items, and do **good** by supporting the business and vulnerable living within the Region of Peel.

By shopping at our not-for-profit Thrift Store, you are directly supporting the many programs within our organization. All proceeds made go directly back into Regeneration Outreach Community.

How to Donate

Our drop off is located at the back of the Thrift Store. Our hours are Tuesday-Friday, 10AM-5PM and Saturday, 9AM-3PM.

Every donation counts and helps to break the cycle of poverty in Brampton.

CONTACT US

330 Queen St E, Brampton, ON L6Y 2M6
 T: 905-762-4444
 www.regenrth.com

Volunteer With Us

Come join us at Regen Thrift to help support your community. Without the help of our volunteers we wouldn't be where we are today.

If you are looking to volunteer either for school or for the good of your community apply on our website, or scan the QR code below.

JOIN US!

PEEL POVERTY ACTION GROUP

The Peel Poverty Action Group (PPAG) is looking to recruit new members.

Are you looking to get involved in advocacy work?
 Are issues around homelessness and poverty important to you?
 Do you want to see change in your community?

People with lived experience, frontline workers, advocates, students, service providers, and members of diverse community groups are welcomed to join us and share your voices and concerns!

Our mission is to work collaboratively and collectively while informed by diverse voices of experience from all sectors, to take local action and advocate for system and policy change by addressing the root causes of poverty and work to eliminate homelessness.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Daphna Mustbaum at daphna@ppag.ca.



Are you a person with lived experience who likes to write?

Are you looking for ways to get your voice heard?

Tough Times is looking for content providers for its upcoming editions.

PWLE who contribute to Tough Times will receive an honourarium for their contribution.

Please contact daphna@paeh.ca if you are interested.

VISIT PPAG'S WEBSITE

