



# OPS Mental Health Response Strategy consultation approach

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Overview of community-led proposal

January 25, 2021

OTTAWA  
**POLICE**

# Mental health response: A critical community issue



**OPS is committed to working together with the community to ensure that people in our community facing mental health challenges get the help they need.**

- We have a duty of care, in line with CSWB
- This is an issue of public trust

**Better crisis response is only part of the solution**

**A whole-of-community approach is needed, and with \$1.5 million set aside in 2021 budget, we want to bring partners together to for a broad discussion around:**

- More appropriate and effective options
- New & strengthened systems/networks

# What we have heard



**This should be led by the community**

**Mental health is a complex issue**

- Often intersects with race, culture, gender and health equity indicators

**We must work collaboratively with community partners to determine the best way forward**

**Consultation approach is the first step in a three-year strategy designed to build capacity and work towards better mental health outcomes**

# Governance



**From consultation to final recommendations, strategy will be led by arm's length Guiding Council made up of representatives from 5 community networks**

- Champlain Mental Health & Addictions Network
- Kids Come First
- Community Development Framework Coalition
- Ottawa Black Mental Health Coalition
- Ottawa Local Immigration Partnership – Health and Wellbeing Sector Table (OLIP)

# Governance (cont'd)



## **Guiding Council will help us better understand needs of community and drive initiative forward**

- Members to be identified by networks
- Council will select chair
- Ensures a diversity of voices are heard

**Supported by a secretariat composed of OPS, the City of Ottawa, Members of the community, OPH, and working under Council's direction**

# Consultation approach



**Consultation approach has been informed through conversations with community stakeholders**

**Final consultation plan will be determined by Guiding Council**

**Will include a broad mix of tools to ensure key stakeholders (partners, experts and people with lived experience) and the public have an opportunity to share input, such as:**

- Online questionnaires
- Interviews, focus groups & targeted outreach

# Next steps



**Initiation of Guiding Council to work on design of consultation plan and key milestones**

**In 2021, OPS will focus on delivering training designed and administered based on community input**

- Goal is to have an increasing number of officers with specialized training in every frontline unit

# Conclusion



**Mental health is a community issue that requires a whole-of-community response**

**OPS is committed to this community-led and co-developed approach**

**We hope, ultimately, that we can be advocates and support the realignment of existing services and the establishment of new services to better support community members dealing with mental health challenges**





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