

North Stormont

*Community Priority Setting Exercise
August 25th, 2005*

Report



Final Report Date: October 2005

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Participants:

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Agenda

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Brief Review United Way of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry
3. **Part I: Issues** – Turbo Brainstorming
 - 3.1. What are your communities' most pressing issues?
 - 3.2. What are the most important factors creating these issues?
4. **Part II: Discussion**
 - 4.1. What's working well
 - 4.2. What needs improvement
5. Dotmocracy regarding issues
6. Discussion Local vs. Regional
7. Discussion regarding sharing of info
8. Closing Remarks

3. Part 1: Issues

- 3.1. What are your communities' most pressing issues?
- 3.2. What are the important factors creating these issues?

3.1. Communities most pressing issues identified

- 3.1.1. Learning Disabilities
- 3.1.2. Community Stewardship
- 3.1.3. Lack of Municipal Leadership
- 3.1.4. Literacy
- 3.1.5. Seniors

3.2. Important Factors Creating Issues

3.2.1. Learning Disabilities

- Quality of home???
- Environment??
- Parenting skills??

3.2.2. Community Stewardship

- Why can't community work together for a common goal?
- General population – memorial park
- Time
- Outdoor learning centre
- Sports-oriented group
- High dysfunction in the family
- Lack of family in the home
- No initiatives ex: let's have a park clean up day

3.2.3. Lack of Municipal Leadership

- Municipal leaders receive a per diem of \$76.00 per meeting

3.2.4. Literacy

- Includes access to libraries; after school literacy classes; computer access as well
- Huge issue – crucial years are passing them by

3.2.5. Seniors

- Intergenerational activities
- Seniors look a tad lost
- Library in Chrysler is closing
- No access to a computer so no connection
- Lack of funds

4. Part 2: Activities/Services/Strategies/Resources:

- 4.1. What is working well in the community?
- 4.2. What do we need to improve or add that would make a difference?

4.1. What is working well in the community?

- 4.1.1. Sports - Community comes together for sports
- 4.1.2. School groups are very involved in the park / tree planting initiatives
- 4.1.3. Recycle programs
- 4.1.4. Able to employ 7.5 Educational Assistants for learning disability – community noticed need and fulfilled the need
- 4.1.5. Prime area for foster homes -good network
- 4.1.6. Low crime
- 4.1.7. Excellent emergency service
- 4.1.8. Community garage sales
- 4.1.9. Dances for youth – supervised
- 4.1.10. South Nation Conservation

4.2. What do we need to improve or add that would make a difference?

- 4.2.1. Money
- 4.2.2. School Cool's
- 4.2.3. Town hall meetings – parents with special needs children
- 4.2.4. Support/informal groups
- 4.2.5. Not enough activities for children with special needs

5. Ranking Of Issues

Achieved through the Dotmocracy process.

- 3.2.1. Learning Disabilities ✓✓✓✓✓
- 3.2.2. Community Stewardship ✓
- 3.2.3. Lack of Municipal Leadership
- 3.2.4. Literacy
- 3.2.5. Seniors

6. Discussion on Local vs. Regional

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|--------|------------------------------|------------------|
| 3.2.1. | Learning Disabilities | Regional |
| 3.2.2. | Community Stewardship | Regional |
| 3.2.3. | Lack of Municipal Leadership | Local & Regional |
| 3.2.4. | Literacy | Regional |
| 3.2.5. | Seniors | Regional |

The group agreed that most of the issues were regional. The only issue - lack of municipal leadership was considered to be both a regional (Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry) and local issue.

6. Addendum

A draft report was sent to all participants for further commenting. No changes were made to the actual report. The United Way previously tried to engage the community members of North Stormont to come together. The first consult had a negative reaction as only three community members (out of a possible 40) showed up. Their comments are written as follows:

- “Just goes to show you how the community feels”
- “No surprise here”
- “No identity with being a part of North Stormont - no one common identity”
- “Vital – we need to have a recreation director for all of North Stormont”
- “Part of problem – need to pay people to pull things together”
- “Youth are losing out”