Wellness and Community Development through Alignment with United Nations University as a Regional Centre of Expertise

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September 16, 2017
2004, Greater Sudbury City Council makes the Healthy Community concept a priority

✔ CGS forms an expert panel to create a Healthy Community concept
✔ CGS Healthy Community Strategy is released

October 20, 2006. The City submits its application to the United Nations University's Institute of Advanced Studies for the creation of a Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development in Greater Sudbury

February 28, 2007. The City named a Regional Centre of Expertise by the UNU’s Institute of Advanced Studies. In receiving the designation, Greater Sudbury joins a network of centres around the world that have been recognized by the UNU
Evolution of Relationship

• 10 year involvement with UNU
• Branded Commitment within City
• Aligned Partners
• Contributed to Evolution and Sustainability
• Policy Shift – Population Health, Health Impact Assessment, Universal Approach to Wellness
• Broad Community Engagement and Commitment
International Research Indigenous Youth

- October 16 – 19, 2017 Kick Off for International Research (2 years)

- Reorient education and training systems for indigenous and marginalized youth using culture, arts and play as an avenue to teach and achieve lifetime success

- This project will incorporate the Teachings of the Seven Grandfathers; Wisdom, Love, Respect, Bravery, Honesty, Humility and Truth

- Collaborative methodology and joint research for indigenous children culture based education
Population Health Concept

- Social Determinants of Health
- Health Equity
- Cross Sector Collaboration
- Collective Impact
- Collaboration
Themes Population Health

• Build resiliency at every age
• Provide children with the best start by investing in families
• Support holistic health
• Support a Compassionate City
• Create accessible ‘play’ opportunities and experience
• Enable more accessible pathways to services, & resources
• Improve access to appropriate housing
• Support and promote mental health
• Support Age Friendly Strategy/Action Plan
• Support ‘Healthy Streets Concept’
• Support Indigenous Pathways

Greater Sudbury
Accessible Play Opportunities and Experience

• Playground Revitalization

• CGS Corporate Strategic Plan recognizes the value of great public spaces and facilities, including playgrounds.

• In 2016, full review of all playgrounds identifying those requiring revitalization

• Ongoing plan to fund and revitalize all playgrounds
Accessible Play Opportunities and Experience

• “Feel Free to Feel Fit”
• Healthy Community Interactive Maps.
• Free weekly public swims and transportation
• Feel Free to Have a Ball
  – teaching children basic physical literacy
Accessible Play Opportunities and Experience

- In 2016, permanent budget enhancement of $59,000 for Affordable transit pass program
- 328 passes issued from March 2016 – March 2017
- Under Review to offer to all clients on Ontario Works (social services to support life skills and intensive case management focus)
- Greater Sudbury Transit Action Plan
Local Poverty Reduction Program

• Successful grant application aimed at evaluating the impact of free extra curricular activities on academic success
• 32 month period, $529,000
• Collaboration of all 4 local school boards, Sudbury and District Health Unit and community partners
Focused Program Review

• Universal Approach to Access (Policy)
  – Accessibility
  – Affordability
  – Transportation

• Eliminating/Reducing Barriers

• Focusing on Program Outcomes
  – Improving Population Health
The Path to Success

• To consider health and equity into all public policy to continue our efforts with the UNU and RCE

• To work globally with the UNESCO and its Regional Partners to improve outcomes for our youth incorporating play at all ages

• Building a resilient community through population health initiatives
Thank you