

Meeting Minutes

Subject: Simcoe County Data Consortium Winter Meeting

Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 28th, 2024

Meeting Time: 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Chair: Janessa Boutin, County of Simcoe

Attendance:

- Sarah Tiller, County of Simcoe
- Anna Drexler, Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions
- Bill Sullivan, Regional Tourism Organization 7 (RTO7)
- Janessa Boutin, County of Simcoe
- Brandon Correia, Town of Innisfil
- Madison Charman, Barrie Police Service
- Brittany Doner, County of Simcoe
- Morgane Dunot, County of Simcoe
- Melanie Dupuis, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
- Elizabeth Smith, Township of Tay
- Flora Moji Josephs, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury
- Rebecca Jennett, County of Simcoe
- Jonathan Katz, County of Simcoe
- Kezia Cowtan, Rural Ontario Institute (Guest)
- Kim Clarke, Regional Tourism Organization 7 (RTO7)
- Kostandinos Mehilli, County of Simcoe
- Padmavati Chandvani, Children's Treatment Network of Simcoe
- Rebecca McCullough, Canadian Mental Health Association– Simcoe County
- Rebekah Vaughan. United Way Simcoe Muskoka
- Shaun Alfonso, Georgian College

[Link to Data Consortium presentation](#)

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting began with Janessa providing a land acknowledgment and extending a warm welcome to all attendees.

2. Guest Speakers

a. Rural Housing Information System (RHIS) overview by Kezia Cowtan

Kezia provided background on the development phase of the RHIS. The following topics were included in the overview: housing stakeholder assessment findings, collaborations/partnerships, RHIS functionality, data comparison, interactive charts.

More information (with links) included within RHIS slide deck shared with the consortium.

b. Introduction to Regional Tourism Organization 7 (RTO7) by Kim Clarke

Kim Clarke's presentation highlighted RTO7's focus on data-driven decision-making, the use of various tools to gather insights, and the challenges faced in managing and sharing data effectively. Data is used to help tell the story of tourism in the region and its importance. Other topics covered included the organization's background, objectives, data sources, goals and tools.

c. BIG DATA Project (Understanding Poverty in the Region) by Rebekah Vaughan

Rebekah's presentation highlighted the ongoing project in collaboration with Georgian College, focusing on addressing poverty, utilizing a mix of quantitative and qualitative data, and the creation of a dashboard for effective reporting and decision-making. The dashboard uses data from the HealthSTATS dashboards from SMDHU and tables from Statistics Canada.

d. How to Utilize HealthSTATS Dashboards by Melanie Dupuis

Melanie's presentation outlined the redevelopment of HealthSTATS, emphasizing its goal to provide comprehensive health-related data, including demographic information and trends over time, with a focus on user-friendly access through interactive dashboards.

3. CDP Updates

Sarah provided an overview of data acquisition for 2024. Updates on Data Purchase and Access Working Group meetings, new data tables, training and capacity building, and feedback from the Simcoe County Data Consortium were presented.

4. Q&A and Local Updates

Members of the Simcoe County Data Consortium discussed their projects, interests, challenges, and successes within the realm of data. Discussions on dashboards, data availability, and data literacy took place.

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting date and time will be determined through a poll sent out to members. The next meeting is planned to be offered in person.