

Central Etobicoke Community Hub Feasibility Study Results

The Central Etobicoke Community Hub Feasibility Study is a study commissioned by the City of Toronto and conducted by Social Planning Toronto. The purpose of the study is to examine the possibility of opening a Community Hub in Central Etobicoke.

What is a Community Hub?

A community hub makes it easier for local residents to access the health, social, cultural, recreational and other resources they need together in one place.

Community hubs serve as a central access point, which:

- offer services in collaboration with different community agencies and service providers
- reduce administrative duplication
- improve services for residents and are responsive to the needs of their communities

Key Findings of the Study

1. Central Etobicoke has fewer community services than almost every other part of Toronto
2. There is a large high needs population including seniors, youth, and low-income Canadians
3. **A strong desire among many residents and groups for more community services and for community space**
4. **Many partner agencies interested in establishing a Community Hub**

Study Methods

The study examined numerous data sources:

- Data from Statistics Canada, the City of Toronto, and others
- Online survey of 206 residents
- 17 Focus Group sessions including 5 panels of senior citizens, 4 panels of youth, and 2 panels of newcomers to Canada
- 14 Key Informant Interviews with community advocates and elected officials
- Surveys of 24 community service organizations

Community Vision

Based on survey and focus group responses, a Community Hub for Central Etobicoke should provide:

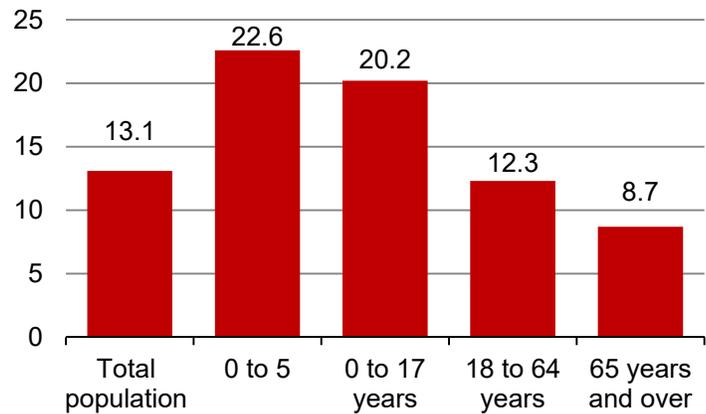
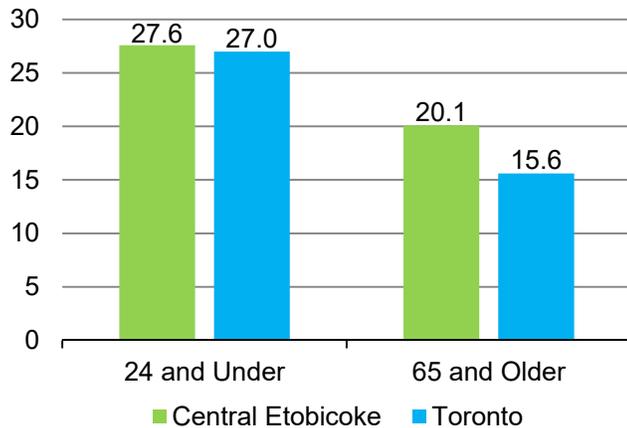
- Community Health Centre
- Recreational Programs for Seniors
- Safe and Accessible Youth Lounge
- Gymnasium, Fitness Studio, and Pool
- Common Space for Residents to Socialize
- Community Garden and Green Space
- Affordable Child Care Services
- Programs for New Parents and for children 0 – 6 years old
- Employment Services
- Mental Health Services

Looking for more information about the Central Etobicoke Community Hub Project?
info@etobicokehub.org

Residents would like a Hub to be a community partnership between residents, not-for-profit service organizations, and the City of Toronto

A High Needs Population

At the 2016 Census, Central Etobicoke had a population of 110,256, making it one of the largest districts in the City of Toronto. The proportion of seniors and youth living in Central Etobicoke are both higher than for Toronto as a whole. Although Central Etobicoke is often thought of as an affluent community, a significant number of residents, particularly youth, live in poverty*.



% of Total Population by Age

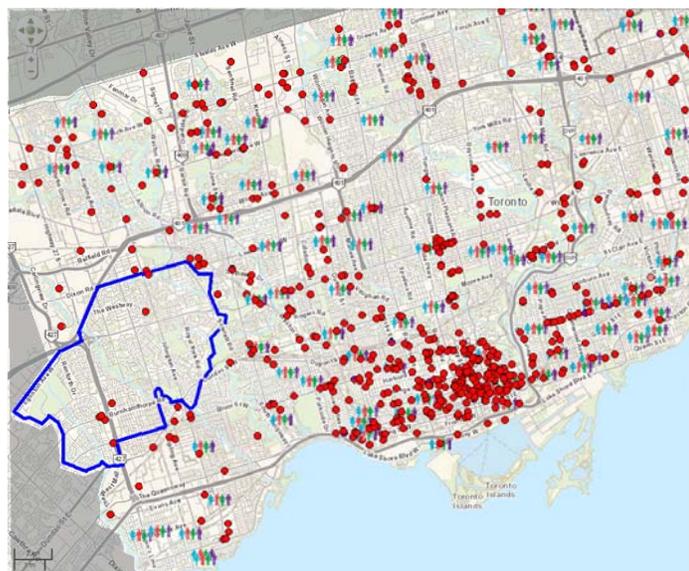
% of Population by Age in Low Income* Households

*Source: Statistics Canada 2016 Census. The rate of poverty is determined using the Statistics Canada After-Tax Low Income Measure (LIM).

Few Existing Services

Relative to other districts in Toronto, **Central Etobicoke has fewer community agencies providing services to residents.**

There are no community health clinics in Central Etobicoke. Central Etobicoke has no Community Centres.



● Community Service Agencies
 👤 👤 👤 Community Centres

Source: City of Toronto (map.toronto.ca/wellbeing)

Organizations Support a Hub

The **Central Etobicoke Community Hub** project has received significant support from elected officials at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels and from numerous City of Toronto administrative departments.

Twelve community service agencies have expressed interest in leasing permanent dedicated and/or shared space totalling 21,945 m² (236,214 sq.ft.).

Six community service agencies have expressed interest in renting shared space on a recurring basis for programming.

Six resident-led community organizations have expressed interest in renting shared space.

The Feasibility Study was submitted to the City of Toronto in December 2017.

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