

21 September 2022

To: City of Owen Sound Council

Re: *Request for Formal Representation to the Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force*

The Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force works in partnership with 52 community-based agencies, planning tables, community groups; universities, institutes and policy-makers. The Poverty Task Force is led by the United Way of Bruce Grey along with leadership from Bruce and Grey Counties.

We have created a platform that allows for meaningful dialogue, education and purposeful partnerships that address the root causes of poverty in Grey and Bruce Counties. Our objective is to spark and inform public debate, and to engage the social, academic and policy communities around important issues of poverty reduction in rural communities.

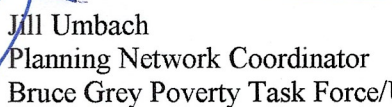
The Poverty Task Force works in partnership to address poverty related issues facing Grey Bruce – housing, income security, employment security, health equity, community voices and transportation; promotes high-level discussion among Grey Bruce municipal and provincial governments, carry out local participatory research with universities, Four County Labour Market Planning Board and other research partners; and takes action with social service agencies and community leaders. We are an action table of the Community Safety and Well-Being Strategy.

The Poverty Task Force is funded by Grey County, Bruce County and the United Way of Bruce Grey. The United Way of Bruce Grey is the administrative lead and employs a Coordinator. The Poverty Task Force currently meets monthly virtually.

We have a number of municipal, county, provincial and federal representatives who participate in Poverty Task Force meetings and action groups. We have significantly benefited from the participation of councillors at the lower-tier municipalities to engage on poverty-reduction strategies.

We believe in seeking formal representation from the City of Owen Sound and other lower-tier municipalities will improve the communication and engagement between our respective organizations.

Yours Sincerely,



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