



# BUILDING POVERTY SOLUTIONS: IDEAS FOR ACTION A COMMUNITY REPORT

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY - 2018



Poverty is not an accident.  
Like slavery and apartheid,  
it is man-made and  
can be removed by  
the actions of  
human beings.

- Nelson Mandela





YANG MING

What does all of this  
mean for the  
people of Halifax Regional Municipality?

**HALIFAX**



**United Way**  
Halifax



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## 129 Ideas for Action

QUALITY JOBS   
AND LIVABLE INCOMES

TRANSPORTATION 

FOOD SECURITY 

HOMELESSNESS  
AND HOUSING 

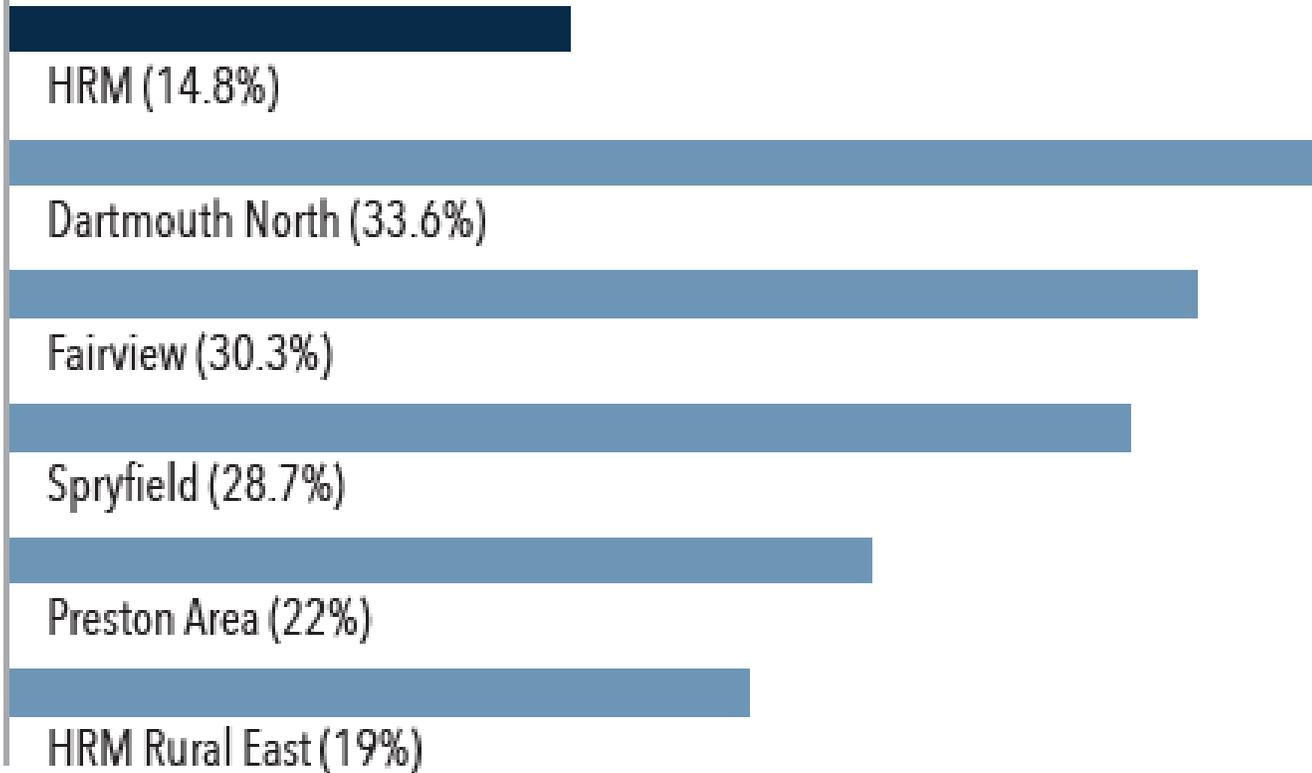
SERVICE ACCESS FOR   
HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

EDUCATION AND  
LEARNING 

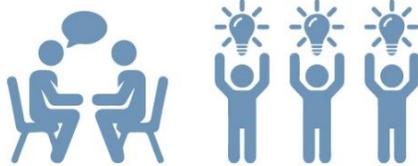
SYSTEMIC CHANGE 

## INDIVIDUALS' POVERTY RATE (LIM-AT),

by Neighbourhood in Halifax Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia (2015)





 <p><b>BUILD FROM EXISTING COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE, RESEARCH AND DATA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• United to Reduce Poverty Consultations (117 participants)</li> <li>• United Way Halifax Agency &amp; Community Partners</li> </ul>	 <p><b>INITIATE DATA COLLECTION AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low income data collected and analyzed for 1000+ census tracts in HRM using 2016 Statistics Canada data</li> <li>• Participate in a community data working group</li> </ul>	 <p><b>CONSULTATIONS TO ENGAGE COMMUNITY AND IDENTIFY BARRIERS AND IDEAS FOR ACTION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solutions Task Teams (6 teams / 48 members)</li> <li>• Focus Groups (13 engagements / 184 participants)</li> <li>• Business Alliance (18 members)</li> <li>• Online Consultations (621 participants)</li> </ul>	 <p><b>PUBLIC REVIEW AND INPUT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ideas for Action Open House</li> <li>• Public Gallery of Solutions – 80 attend in person and 1,391 views online</li> </ul>
 <p><b>ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stewarded by a diverse cross section of 22 members of our community – Poverty Solutions Advisory Committee</li> </ul>			

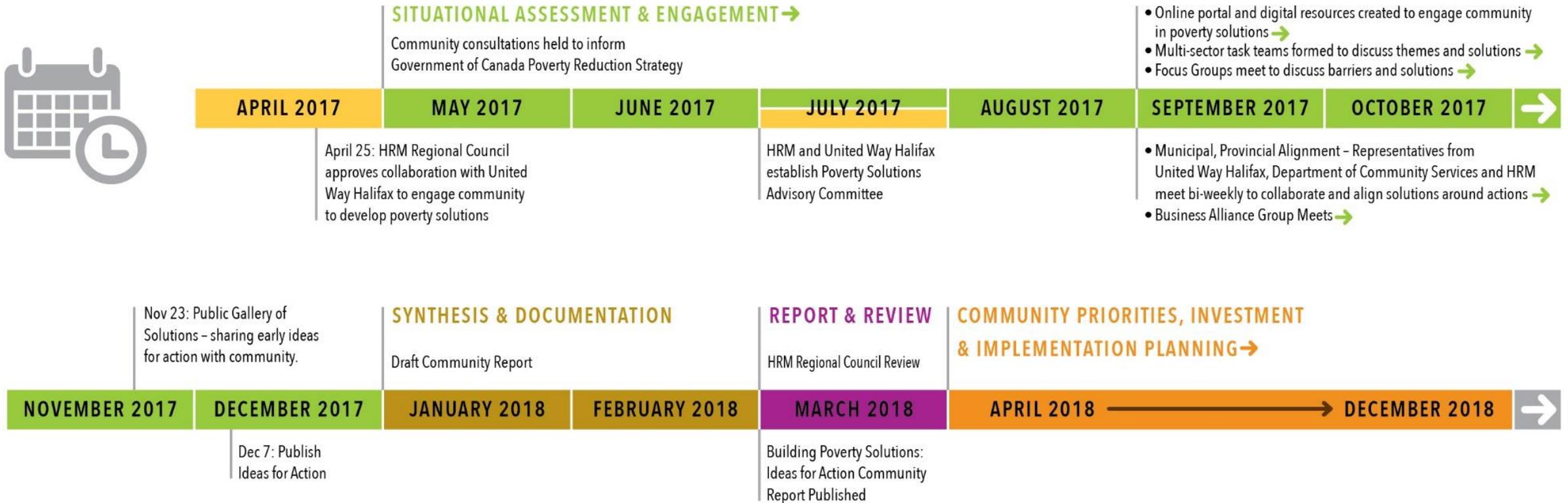
**WE LEARNED FROM...**

- First voice – experts by experience
- Non-profit agencies and service providers
- Community advocates
- Government agency and departments
- Faith-based communities
- General Public
- Business community
- Academic and Poverty Researchers
- Cities reducing poverty and other groups leading and supporting municipal poverty strategies



# ENGAGING HRM IN POVERTY SOLUTIONS

## TIMELINE



# What's next?

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- United Way Halifax prioritization process
- Creating a small group to organize how we steward this work on a go forward on behalf of HRM residents
- Focus on momentum – inviting others to stand up and respond
- Smart Cities alignment
- Discussions about social mandates with various organizations
- Responses from HRM and other organizations connected to the committee

**Thoughts to leave with you...**

**HALIFAX**



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Halifax

The ideal community, as described by one survey respondent:  
**“Everyone has choice – where to live,  
what to eat, how to live their life.”**

Respondents to the Poverty Solutions survey also overwhelmingly emphasized that the responsibility for actions to eliminate poverty rests with all of us – all orders of government, businesses, non-profits, faith communities and spiritual groups, and individual HRM residents.

“There is nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct, or more uncertain in its success, than to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things.”

– **Niccolo Machiavelli**

“From coast to coast to coast, in communities large and small, urban and rural, municipalities are the order of government closest to people’s lives. Their local solutions are helping tackle national challenges – from growth and productivity to climate change – and are building a more livable, competitive Canada.”

**Federation of Canadian Municipalities**

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