



Adventure Territory

Community Safety and Well-Being Plan

Summary Document
2025

PREPARED BY
THE CANADIAN CENTRE FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES

Canadian Centre for
Safer Communities



Centre canadien pour des
communautés plus sûres

About this Document

Town of The Pas' Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Plan was prepared by the Canadian Centre for Safer Communities (CCFSC). The plan is a living document. New information, actions, and recommendations related to community safety will emerge regularly and this report reflects the data collected at the time of the CSWB Plan development. This document provides a summary of the key elements of the Town of The Pas' CSWB Plan. For more information, please refer to the full CSWB Plan document.

Acknowledgements

Developing this Community Safety and Well-Being Plan was a collective and collaborative effort. Sincere gratitude is offered to the CSWB Planning Project Team, Advisory Committee, and the community members who shared their perspectives, experiences, and concerns by attending the engagement sessions, responding to consultation questions, and completing the CSWB survey.

Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge that the Town of The Pas sits on the traditional, ancestral, unceded Treaty 5 Territory, the traditional lands of our neighbours, Opaskwayak Cree Nation, as well as many Cree, Dene, and Oji-Cree people, and is the homeland of the Red River Métis People. We recognize, honour, and respect the presence of Indigenous Peoples, past, present, and future.



Background Information

What is a CSWB Plan?

A Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) plan is a strategic framework designed to help guide and inform local decisions and actions to enhance safety and well-being. There is no “one-size-fits-all” approach; each plan reflects the unique needs, priorities, and capacities of the community it serves, though common elements often overlap across jurisdictions.

CSWB aims to create sustainable conditions where everyone feels safe, connected, and supported, with access to education, healthcare, housing, income, food, and opportunities for social and cultural participation. Achieving this requires long-term, collaborative, and evidence-based efforts that respond to local circumstances and reduce crime and other risks.

Town of The Pas, Manitoba

Town of The Pas, Manitoba is located along Highway 10, 520 kilometers northwest of Winnipeg, and 35km east of the Saskatchewan border. According to the 2021 Census, The Pas has a population of 5,639. The Pas is situated along the Hudson Bay Railway, neighbouring the Rural Municipality of Kelsey, and the Saskatchewan River flows between the Town of The Pas and Opaskwayak Cree Nation.¹ The Pas is experiencing many of the same issues that are endemic across Manitoba, and Canada as a whole: a housing crisis, systemic mental health and addictions crises, and crime. These challenges tend to feature in a variety of municipal plans. The Pas is working with the Canadian Centre for Safer Communities to develop and implement its CSWB Plan as part of the Manitoba Community Safety and Well-Being Planning Pilot Project funded by Manitoba Justice.

The Canadian Centre for Safer Communities

The [Canadian Centre for Safer Communities](#) is a national, membership-based not-for-profit organization that brings together urban, rural, and Indigenous communities across Canada to foster community safety and well-being (CSWB) through training, research, and knowledge exchange. We represent over 100 communities across Canada, and our work is guided by a broad concept of community safety and well-being that expands beyond criminal legal responses and reduced reliance on enforcement.

Guiding Principles

The development and implementation of The Pas' Community Safety and Well-Being Plan is guided by the following foundational principles:

COMMITMENT

COMMUNITY-LED

COURAGE

EVIDENCE-BASED

HONESTY

RESOURCEFULNESS

CSWB Plan Vision Statement

The Pas is a vibrant, safe, and welcoming northern community where pride, connection, and support thrive. Known for collaboration and innovation, we offer a peaceful lifestyle with clean streets, beautiful parks, and access to nature, housing, and health services. As a united Tri-Community, we foster opportunity, wellness, and hope for all residents.

Community Assessment

The Pas' Community Safety and Well-Being Plan was developed through a comprehensive data collection process that included reviewing existing information (e.g., Statistics Canada, local reports), conducting a CSWB survey, and community engagement. The importance of co-developing this plan with the broader Tri-Community was emphasized throughout the planning process.



Local Strengths



Community Pride



Small Town Feel



Friendly Community



Natural Environment



Cultural Opportunities



Connection to Tri-Community

CSWB Plan Priorities and Goals

- Improve access to and the condition of existing housing stock.
- Expand housing options across the housing continuum, with attention to specific populations (e.g., seniors).
- Promote the development and improvement of vacant properties.
- Reduce the number of dilapidated and abandoned properties.

- Increase access to low cost, low barrier recreation options.
- Increase access to social opportunities and events for teens and young adults.
- Support youth participation in skills competitions, recreation, and sports opportunities.
- Increase youth awareness of local career pathways in The Pas and the surrounding Tri Community.

Services, Infrastructure & Development

- Increase access to safe and affordable transportation options within The Pas and the surrounding Tri-Community.
- Increase access to safe and affordable transportation options from The Pas and surrounding Tri-Community to larger centres.
- Increase access to health care options.
- Increase the number of local health care practitioners.

- Decrease racism and discrimination at the systemic and structural level.
- Increase sense of belonging among all community members.
- Promote education and awareness on Truth and Reconciliation as well as other anti-racism and anti-discrimination initiatives.
- Strengthen and expand local Truth and Reconciliation efforts, particularly in relationship to TRC Calls to Action emphasized in The Pas' Strategic Plan (50, 57, 92).

- Strengthen community trust and cohesion.
- Improve community perceptions of safety.
- Enhance partnerships between service providers, law enforcement, and the broader community.
- Expand youth-focused crime prevention initiatives.
- Increase access to family support programs for prevention.
- Foster collaboration with Manitoba Justice to support reintegration efforts.

Substance Use & Mental Health

- Enhance safety in service provision for marginalized populations.
- Improve access to culturally appropriate services.
- Ensure equitable access to services across the community.
- Expand addiction supports across the full continuum of care, using the four-pillared approach and incorporating alcohol use prevention strategies.
- Strengthen youth prevention efforts through education and engagement approaches.
- Increase awareness and understanding of individual lived experiences.
- Foster stronger partnerships and coordination among local service providers and the broader community.



CSWB Plan Actions

Actions Already Underway

- Increase investment in housing development.
- Pursue access to appropriate services across the housing continuum, including stable and affordable housing.
- Support redevelopment of vacant properties.
- Review and reform by-laws aligned with housing development needs under the Land Use Plan.
- Partner with Manitoba Housing to improve and maintain existing housing stock.
- Prioritize demolition of dilapidated buildings where the Municipal Act process is already underway.
- Support culturally appropriate services with The Pas Friendship Centre.
- Begin conversations with Manitoba Justice on a Community Mobilization Model.
- Support Kelsey School Division land-based education efforts.
- Identify funding opportunities with Kelsey School Division.
- Support and amplify existing storytelling efforts through The Pas Friendship Centre.
- Maintain and upgrade community spaces through additional clean-ups.
- Continue positive community information campaigns.
- Increase restorative justice opportunities for youth.
- Advocate for Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) recruitment and retention supports.
- Align restorative justice efforts with Opaskwayak Cree Nation's (OCN) Community Safety Plan.
- Investigate youth recreation/community hub options.
- Review existing family programs for barriers to access.
- Explore additional prevention programming with community organizations.
- Advocate for medical transportation options.
- Coordinate with The Pas Community Development Corporation (TPCDC) on economic/community development.
- Work with Communities Economic Development Fund (CEDF) and regional partners on recruitment.
- Support the regional immigration strategy.
- Engage leaders to promote anti-racism and anti-discrimination initiatives.
- Explore community-wide events with Town and local organizations.
- Continue participation in TRC-related programs with OCN and Indigenous-led organizations.

Short Term Actions

- Increase Explore implementation of the Icelandic Prevention Model.
- Reintroduce a school-based addictions counsellor.
- Introduce evidence-based substance use prevention programming in schools.
- Explore a teen clinic / primary health nurse embedded in the high school.
- Launch a storytelling campaign to reduce stigma.
- Explore informal information-sharing agreements between organizations after community mobilization is in place.
- Conduct a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessment.
- Enhance community-led safety networks such as Neighborhood Watch and Citizens on Patrol.
- Support reactivation of Bear Clan.
- Identify funding sources for more youth opportunities and events.
- Deliver pop-up recreation opportunities through partnerships.
- Collaborate with schools and local industries on hands-on learning, internships, job shadowing, and skills development.
- Investigate expanded local transit options such as shuttle, volunteer driver network, or bus/van service for seniors.
- Review policies and procedures that may perpetuate harm or inequality.
- Identify and prioritize policy changes that promote equity and inclusion.
- Develop and deliver a Truth and Reconciliation training and education campaign.

Long Term Actions

- Expand housing options across the continuum, especially for seniors and lower-income residents.
- Improve condition of existing housing stock at scale.
- Reduce dilapidated and abandoned properties over time.
- Expand addiction supports across the full continuum of care.
- Ensure equitable access to services across the community.
- Strengthen long-term youth prevention systems.
- Improve community perceptions of safety at a systems level.
- Increase access to family support programs for prevention.
- Increase access to safe and affordable transportation within the Tri-Community and to larger centres.
- Increase access to health care options and the number of practitioners.
- Decrease racism and discrimination at the systemic and structural level.
- Strengthen long-term Truth and Reconciliation implementation.

Next Steps

A new CSWB Coordinator (Alexis Yahnke) has been hired. Alexis will coordinate the implementation process alongside the Advisory Committee, CCFSC, and local Action Teams. There will be one Action Team per priority area who will be responsible for implementing the actions listed in the CSWB Plan.

For more information, please contact the Community Safety and Well-Being Coordinator at cswb@townofthepas.ca