



Thriving Together: A Blueprint for Sustainable Community Growth

**Woolwich Township
Community Strategic Plan 2024-2034**



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A group of people, including a woman in a pink hoodie, a woman in a white jacket, a man in a maroon shirt, and a child in a grey hoodie, are walking away from the camera on a dirt path through a forest. The trees have vibrant autumn foliage in shades of yellow, orange, and green. The path is covered with fallen leaves and dappled sunlight.

Mission

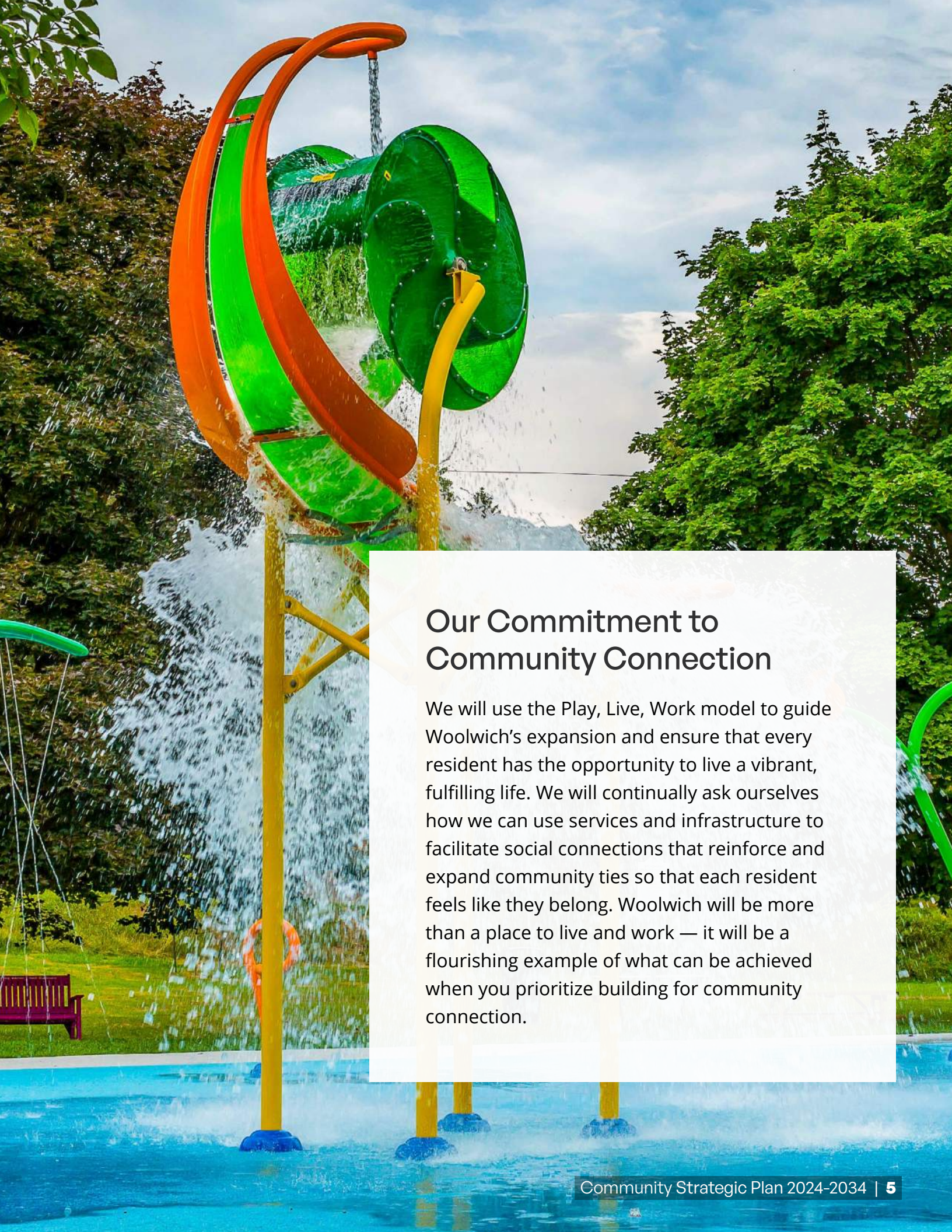
Woolwich Township is committed to providing exceptional public service. We strive to offer customer service that surpasses expectations, promotes community connection, maintains sound financial management and ensures long-term community health and prosperity.

Vision 2034

Create conditions for communities to thrive

We will provide services and amenities to create an environment where Woolwich communities can flourish.

We recognize that access to affordable housing is the foundation of a healthy community. As Woolwich expands, we will endeavour to include affordable developments so that all community members can access affordable housing. We will also develop and enhance the downtown cores of our communities to facilitate community connections and foster economic vibrance. We will intensify existing community connections by building new public spaces, expanding recreation opportunities, and developing transportation corridors that promote active transportation and interconnectivity, leading to more integrated communities.



Our Commitment to Community Connection

We will use the Play, Live, Work model to guide Woolwich's expansion and ensure that every resident has the opportunity to live a vibrant, fulfilling life. We will continually ask ourselves how we can use services and infrastructure to facilitate social connections that reinforce and expand community ties so that each resident feels like they belong. Woolwich will be more than a place to live and work — it will be a flourishing example of what can be achieved when you prioritize building for community connection.



Values

Our core values will serve as the foundation of our actions and decisions. They will guide our efforts and define how we plan Woolwich's development and interact with residents. We will embed these values into every aspect of our work to reinforce a cohesive and purpose-driven organizational culture that is aligned with our mission and vision.

Fiscally Sustainable

We adhere to responsible fiscal practices to ensure the financial stability that will allow us to provide effective services to Woolwich residents and maintain public trust. We prioritize cost-effective and efficient resource allocation to support long-term planning and investments in infrastructure that will improve the quality of life for all community members.

Transparency

We are committed to maintaining open communication with residents so that decision-making processes are transparent. We provide community members with access to relevant information regarding municipal decisions and initiatives and prioritize an environment of trust where residents know that their interests are considered in all decision-making processes.

Community Engagement

We recognize that all community members have valid opinions informed by their unique lived experiences and encourage all community members to get involved in decision-making processes. By providing clear avenues for community engagement, we build consensus for community initiatives and learn from a variety of resident perspectives.

Inclusivity

We foster a sense of belonging and understanding for all residents, regardless of religious beliefs, cultural background, economic status, gender, or sexual orientation. We know that tight-knit communities are built on respect and inclusion, and we will strive to ensure that all community members feel respected and included. Woolwich has a rich history and heritage that we will continue to celebrate and honour along with the diverse identities of existing and new residents.

Planned Development

We carefully manage development to accommodate growth while preserving Woolwich's characteristic green space and small-town charm. We leverage innovative land use planning techniques that will guide development in a manner that optimizes land utilization and avoids urban sprawl.

Environmentalism and Sustainability

We are dedicated to implementing sustainable practices such as environmental and agricultural protections that safeguard our natural resources, greenspaces, and promote ecological resilience. We know that longterm community health is dependent on our ability to execute climate mitigation efforts and we are committed to enacting sustainable practices that preserve our environment for future generations.



2024-2034

Strategic Priorities



Strategic Priorities At-a-Glance

- **Cultivate long-term prosperity**
- **Empower communities to be adaptable and engaged**
- **Provide effective and open leadership**
- **Maintain an innovative customer service focus**



Cultivate long-term prosperity

We will carefully navigate the planning and development of our communities through phased and managed growth that supports environmental sustainability and community well-being.

Woolwich has seen unprecedented growth over the last ten years. As our community continues to expand, it will be essential to build a foundation that secures prosperity for future generations. We recognise the need for financial stability to ensure that we can implement sustainable, phased growth that accommodates the influx of new community members. We also recognise our role as environmental stewards and will take action to balance the need for growth with sustainability efforts that allow us to preserve our climate and reduce

our carbon footprint. Keeping an eye on the horizon, we will leverage funding opportunities and maintain an appropriate balance of agricultural, commercial, industrial and residential assets so that we can provide meaningful employment opportunities to community members and fund equitable distribution of services across Woolwich Township.



Empower communities to be adaptable and engaged

Expand tools and avenues for conversation to bolster inclusivity and community engagement.

We are committed to developing EDI plans and policies to ensure that our communities are safe and inclusive of all residents. By employing a program shift to activate community spaces, we will encourage community integration and diversity. As we continue down this path, it will be essential to improve collaborations with stakeholders and consult all community voices as Woolwich continues to expand. We will intentionally seek feedback by providing Woolwich residents with opportunities to share their thoughts on municipal initiatives and

assess participation rates to better understand how to remove barriers and maximize citizen involvement so that every Woolwich resident has the opportunity to make their voice heard.



Provide effective and open leadership

We will guide with transparency and empathy, fostering a culture of trust and collaboration.

We will fortify internal structures and processes that prioritize accountability and transparency to build community members' trust in governance. Foundational to this trust will be the development of two-way communication that will promote collaboration, eliminate siloes, and build a culture of creative problem-solving. We will also engage with residents to better understand community needs and build collaborations with public, private, and governmental entities to meet those needs. We know that leadership

involves committing to creating an environment where staff can flourish in addition to supporting community members. We will strive to become the employer of choice by providing professional growth and leadership opportunities and ensuring that we have the right people in the right seats to propel Woolwich Township forward.



Maintain an innovative customer service focus

We will be customer-centric in all that we do and continue to push ourselves to find new innovative ways to serve the public.

We will pursue innovation by leveraging technology appropriately and maintaining a clear delineation of services so that we can provide services and programs that meet and exceed community expectations. We will also honour the efforts and goals of our community members by supporting volunteer-driven initiatives that address local needs and build social connections.

The 2024–2034 Community Strategic Plan has been developed collaboratively with Woolwich Township and Overlap.

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**Better is
Possible**