

Dear (name),

On May 28th and 29th, we are making a big difference in Chatham-Kent, and we need you to be there. Join us and over 130 exceptional leaders from across Chatham-Kent at the Big Gathering on Poverty Reduction. All we're asking you to bring is your ideas and creativity.

We're spending an evening and a day developing the Community Plan on Poverty Reduction. Similar plans have worked in other communities, and you would be inspired by the actions that have come out of them. That's why we need you. You're a change maker who cares about our community being the best community possible. We know this is a big commitment, but we also know if we take the time to come together as a community and harness our collective ideas, we can make Chatham-Kent greater than it already is.

#BeAChangeMaker this May, and join us and other leaders in business, government, non-profit, and people who will benefit most if we are successful at the Big Gathering on Poverty Reduction.

We are excited about this innovative change effort, and we hope you are too. Below, you will find more information on how to RSVP, the conference details, and a preliminary agenda. Please note this invitation is not transferable.

Sincerely,

Angelo Ligori | Senior Advisor/Special Projects,

Greenfield Global

Greg Hetherington | General Manager & XS Morning Host, CKXS FM

Sham L. Ould

Sharon Oulds | Community Housing Advocate

Lucille Laprise | President, Agricultural Society of Dresden

Darrin Canniff | Mayor, Municipality of Chatham-Kent

Stur Put . Jung Collagher

Steve Pratt & Tracy Callaghan | Co-Chairs of the Chatham-Kent Prosperity Roundtable

The Perfect Time to Gather

Like you, we are also striving for a community that is healthy, resilient, inclusive, and sustainable. We are proud of the successes our community has achieved, and we see the results of this work with historically low unemployment rates, increasing educational attainment rates, strong participation rates in the labour market, and a strong sense of community belonging. With our community on the right path, this is the perfect time to come together to further drive action. This starts with the Big Gathering.

The Big Gathering

We are coming together to share ideas, explore new directions, and build strong relationships among people who care about poverty in Chatham-Kent. This will culminate in the development of the community plan, which will act as a guide for our community's poverty-reduction work. The plan will answer the question "If we work together in this new way, will we get better outcomes?". We believe the answer is yes.

To RSVP

Click HERE to register, and enter password biggathering

When

May 28th & 29th, 2019

Where

Portuguese Canadian Social Club of Chatham 346 Grand Ave. E. Chatham, ON N7L 1W6

Draft Agenda Outline

Thursday (4:30-8:00)	
5:00 - 5:15	Presentation 1 – Poverty by the numbers
5:15 – 5:30	Presentation 2 – History of collaboration in Chatham-Kent
5:30 - 6:30	Dinner – meet & greet
6:30 - 6:45	Presentation 3 – Stories of successes in other communities
6:45 – 7:45	Question #1 – What is happening now with poverty in Chatham-Kent?
Friday (8:30 – 4:30)	
9:00 - 9:30	Keynote Speaker, Paul Born – The importance of collaboration and
	collective impact
9:30 - 10:30	Question #2 – What change do you want to see?
10:30-10:45	Break – meet & greet
10:45 – 11:45	Question #3 – What can we do together?
12:45 – 4:30	Break-off sessions – Developing innovative solutions for identified idea
	areas (eg. workforce strategy, transportation, childcare, etc.)

After the Big Gathering

By the end of the Big Gathering, we will have the foundations for the 2020 community plan to reduce poverty in Chatham-Kent. Over the following months, we will be hosting community consultations to have open discussions and share ideas with our community. This will be where creativity and commitment are fostered, where ideas are embraced and incorporated, and where community excitement is built. By January, the future of poverty reduction in Chatham-Kent begins!