System Change

8.4 Use these recommendations as London’s mandate to advocate for policy change from provincial and federal governments

In the following advocacy activities, the LFA recommendations were used as a foundation for messaging and developing policy positions.

The LFA Accountability Tables worked in partnership with other organizations to advocate about:

- Ontario provincial election
- National Poverty Reduction Strategy
- Housing as a human right
- Ontario social assistance review
- Ontario provincial budget

Government relations

- 12+ one on one meetings with elected officials and public servants at all levels of government
- Presentation to City of London – Community and Protective Services Committee regarding year-one and year-two progress of London for All project

Public consultations

- Took public position on Supervised Consumption Site at 446 York St and shared position in three public meetings
- Provided feedback on Ontario provincial budget to Vic Fedeli, Minister of Finance and local Ministry of Finance budget consultation
- Presented at local roundtable on National housing strategy attended by Hon. Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister - Children, Community and Social Services
Coalition building
- Worked in partnership with others on five issues at provincial and federal level: Ontario provincial election, National Poverty Reduction Strategy, Housing as a human right, Ontario social assistance review, Ontario provincial budget
- Two in-person meetings with senior staff from Ontario Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
- Ten letters written to elected officials outlining positions on above policies and calls to action.

Letters written
- Letter sent to Honourable Charles Sousa, Minister of Finance, regarding Roadmap For Change recommendations
- Submission to the Human Rights-Based Approach to Housing Team – Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation regarding Human Rights-Based Approach to Housing
- Letter sent to Honourable Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Children, Community & Social Services, regarding Basic Income Pilot project cancellation
- Letter sent to Honourable Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of National Revenue, regarding the Disability Tax Credit (DTC) and Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP).
- Letter to Todd Smith, Ontario Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services re. ODSP Disability definition; sent to Terence Kernaghan and Lisa Gretzky – Opposition critic for Community & Social Services
- City of London – signed letter from Crouch NRC re urgent need to address homelessness
- Letter to City Council in support of Anova/LAWC City of London strategic plan recommendations re. violence against women and girls – recommendations were approved for inclusion in strategic plan

Media relations
- Pitched two policy story ideas to media and were profiled in both: Ontario social assistance review, Developed of supervised consumption site on York St
- Participated as a speaker or panelist in 7 public events regarding advocacy (e.g. media roundtables, conference presentations)
- Federal election – Op-Ed – written by Kelly Ziegner and sent week of October 14

Public presentations
- Development of Supervised Consumption Site at 446 York St in London
- Feedback to Ministry of Finance on Ontario provincial budget
- National housing strategy at local roundtable attended by Hon. Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister - Children, Community and Social Services

Other
- Sara Middleton, Director, Community Impact, attended Maytree Policy School which is a 6-month professional development opportunity focused on the development of an organizational strategy regarding public policy and advocacy.
- Using tools from the Maytree Policy School, a cross-departmental staff working group was convened and identified opportunities within our organization for advocacy and public policy work.
- London for All project profiled in Tamarack publication 10 – Engaging with People with Lived/Living Experience