

# Etobicoke Centre Action on Poverty Profile

Provincial  
Riding  
Profiles

## Story Behind the Stats

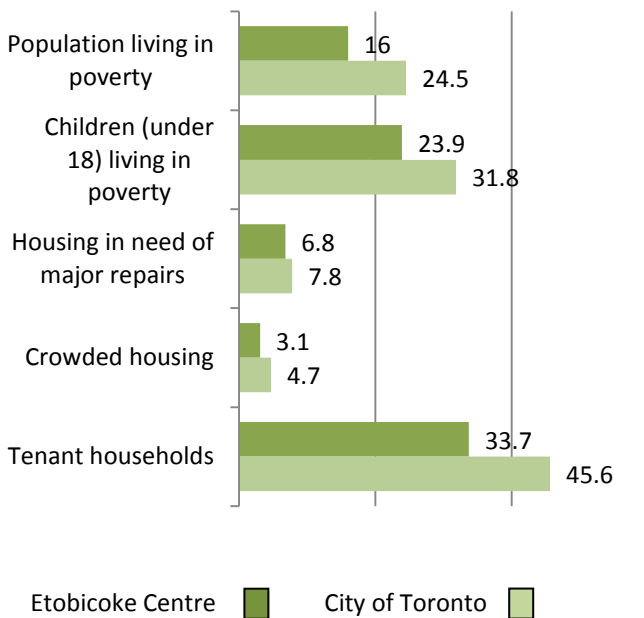
Etobicoke Centre lies on the west border of Toronto and is bordered by Highway 401/Dixon Road, the Humber River, Burnhamthorpe Road, and the Etobicoke Creek. It includes Wards 3, 4, and part of 2.

Due to the misconception that this area is relatively free of poverty, there are insufficient resources and services directed toward this community. Challenges for residents include settlement issues among newcomers, limited access to safe spaces, inadequate transit, and high unemployment rates. Youth in this area also face high drop-out rates and potential involvement in criminal activity.



## Key Figures

%



**111,345 people live in  
Etobicoke Centre  
17,588 live in poverty – 16%\***

**“This area has a large aging population, so many of the already scarce resources are directed towards seniors and neglect the needs of youth.”**

**Hazel Webb  
Director of Community Programs and Services  
Community MicroSkills Development Centre**



The Action on Poverty profile series was created by Social Planning Toronto and the Alliance for a Poverty-Free Toronto. The profile includes Census data from Statistics Canada’s Federal Electoral District Profiles and Community Profiles.

\*For details on calculations and definitions, go to [www.spno.ca](http://www.spno.ca)



# Taking Action in Etobicoke Centre

The Community MicroSkills Development Centre's Youth Welcoming Centre is a space designed to make youth feel supported and welcomed by the community in which they reside, through learning, sharing, and peer support. It offers a variety of services, such as cooking classes, mentoring, tutoring, physical activity sessions, and newcomer-specific programs. Understanding the financial constraints of many of their service users, the Centre provides snacks to all participants and bus tickets for those who need them.

The Youth Council has 12 members who are actively involved in the programming of the Youth Welcoming Centre, ensuring its relevance to their needs. The Council leads the weekly Youth Café program, and members act as role models and mentors for other youth. In addition to facilitating the planning and evaluation of programs, they have taken initiative in transforming the Centre's physical appearance, organizing events, and applying for funding for a project designed to deter youth from tobacco use. The Centre is a place where all youth can feel welcome and develop a sense of belonging, while tackling some of the challenges they face.

[www.microskills.ca](http://www.microskills.ca)

## Alliance for a Poverty-Free Toronto Takes Action

APT is made up of 40 community members and organizational representatives, including individuals with lived experience of poverty, from across the city. We are working together to develop and promote a comprehensive plan of action to eliminate poverty in Toronto.

Want to get involved?

Contact us at [apt@socialplanningtoronto.org](mailto:apt@socialplanningtoronto.org) or call (416) 351-0095 x255

[www.povertyfreetoronto.org](http://www.povertyfreetoronto.org)

## How to Connect with your Elected Representatives on these Issues

Mayor: *Rob Ford*, 416-397-3673, [mayor\\_ford@toronto.ca](mailto:mayor_ford@toronto.ca)

City Councillors: *Doug Ford*, 416-397-9255, [councillor\\_dford@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_dford@toronto.ca) (Ward 2); *Douglas Holyday*, 416-392-4002, [councillor\\_holyday@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_holyday@toronto.ca) (Ward 3); *Gloria Lindsay Luby*, 416-392-1369, [councillor\\_lindsay\\_luby@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_lindsay_luby@toronto.ca) (Ward 4)

School Trustee: *Chris Glover*, 416-397-3106, [chris.glover@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:chris.glover@tdsb.on.ca) (Toronto District School Board-English public school board)

Toronto Catholic District School Board: 416-222-8282

Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP): *Donna H. Cansfield*, 416-234-2800, [dcansfield.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:dcansfield.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)

Member of Parliament (MP): *Ted Opitz*, 416-249-7322, [ted.opitz@parl.gc.ca](mailto:ted.opitz@parl.gc.ca)