

**Thanks!** We interviewed you as part of a McMaster research study about your neighbourhood. You said you would like to see a copy of the results... so here are some highlights.

# Hamilton Neighbourhoods Study

2015 interim report

## ABOUT THE STUDY

Our research team at McMaster, led by Dr. Jim Dunn, is working with the City of Hamilton's Neighbourhood Action Strategy Office. In 2014, we interviewed residents in Hamilton to help us understand what residents liked about their neighbourhood, what they would change and how living there affects their health and daily lives.

Study invitation letters were sent to a randomly selected sample of residential addresses (both houses and apartments). The survey was conducted with one resident per household. Residents were eligible to complete the survey so long as they were 18 years of age or older and regularly lived at the residence being surveyed. The survey was voluntary and confidential.

**We talked to 300 residents aged 18 and over.**

On average, respondents had been living in their neighbourhood for **13 years** and living in their current dwelling for **11 years.**

**77%** would like to stay in their neighbourhood for years to come.

**90%** reported that they were either 'very satisfied' or 'satisfied' with their residence overall, and **92%** with the neighbourhood overall.

**99%** felt safe in the neighbourhood during the day. At night, they felt less safe in the neighbourhood.

**94%** described the people in their neighbourhood as 'friendly' or 'very friendly'.

**31%**  
felt that ser-  
vices for youth  
was important  
but lacking in  
their neighbour-  
hood.

**82%**  
felt that the people  
in their neighbourhood  
could be trusted.

**81%** agreed that  
the people in their  
neighbourhood want the  
same things from the  
neighbourhood.

**LITTER**  
was deemed  
a 'somewhat or  
serious problem'  
by **55%** of  
respondents.

When  
asked if there  
was anything that  
makes it difficult to partici-  
pate in community events and  
organizations, the top four re-  
sponses were:

- 1. Busy with work**
- 2. Lack of interest**
- 3. Health reasons/mobility concerns**
- 4. Lack of time**

People we surveyed were asked: "What do you think are the TWO most important things that would make your neighbourhood a better place to live?" Here's what we heard most often, with the number of responses in brackets.

- 1** Better or more communication within the neighbourhood [31]
- 2** Improvement to infrastructure [28]
- 3** A general sense of community [26]
- 4** More and/or better cafes, restaurants & bars [26]
- 5** Resources for children & youth [24]

## Neighbourhood Engagement Matching Grants Program

The City of Hamilton's Neighbourhood Action Strategy has a new program that provides one-time funds to support community initiatives. This program is available across the whole city. The program is designed to involve the community and build connections across neighbourhoods. If you have a project idea, you can apply for funds up to a maximum of \$1000.

For more information, visit [www.hamilton.ca/  
community-funding-programs](http://www.hamilton.ca/community-funding-programs)

### HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

Dr. James Dunn and staff at McMaster University are doing the research study this report is based on. If you have any questions, please contact us.



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