

Post-secondary Student Housing Strategy

PDS 24-2024

Planning and Economic Development Committee

December 4, 2024

Strategy Background

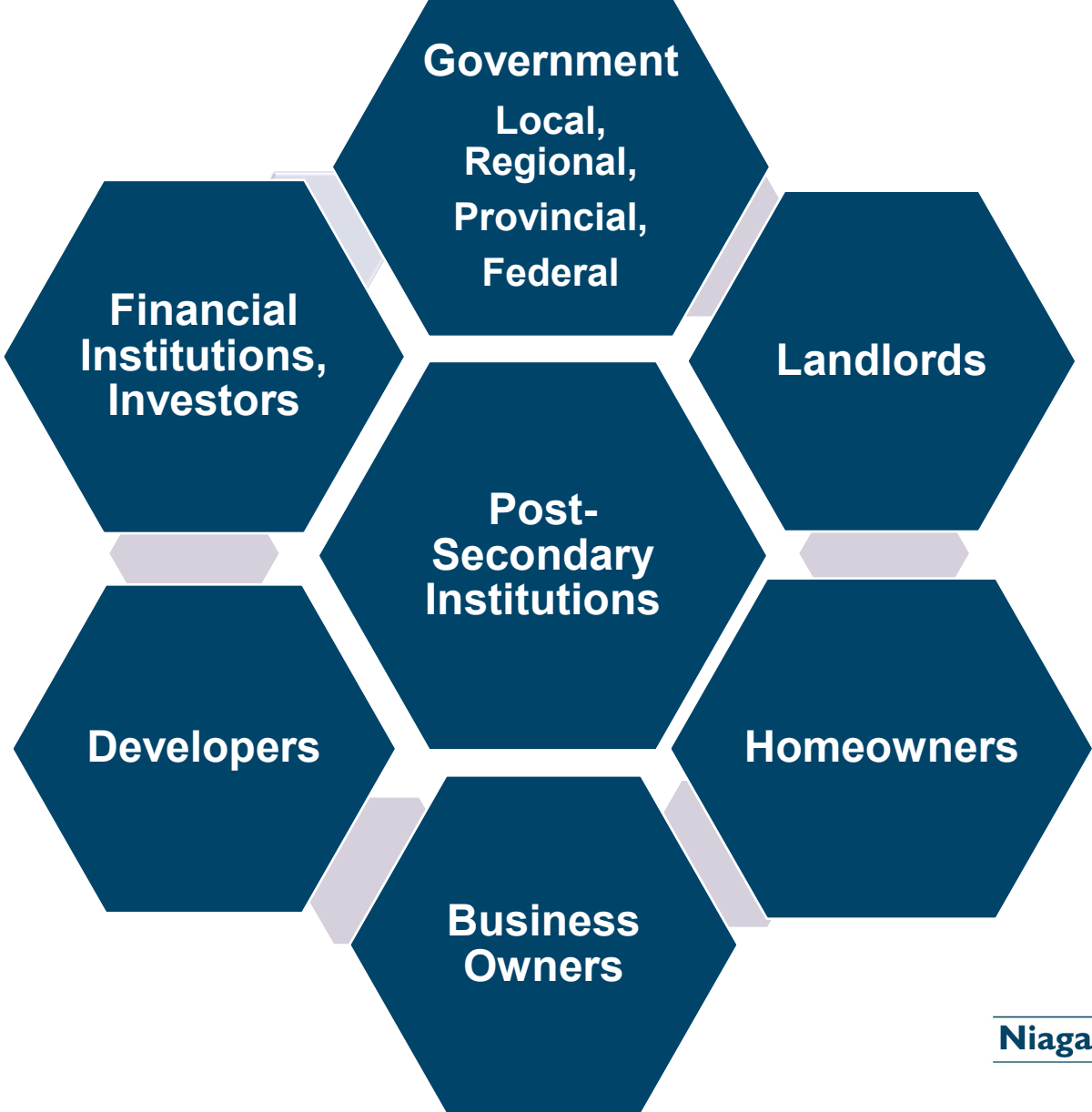
Purpose

The Post-secondary Student Housing Strategy (PSHS) aims to better understand student housing as a distinctive component of Niagara's housing market, and identify opportunities in student housing that can optimize housing supply for all Niagarans

Scope

The PSHS outlines the current context, roles and issues around post-secondary student housing, and suggests potential strategies to address challenges and build on successes in Niagara

Roles in Post-secondary Student Housing



Student Housing Environment

Influencing factors...

- Funding and freezes
- Diverse policy makers and continuous change affecting students, institutions and communities
- Global events

...have contributed to the current state

- 92% of students living off-campus
- Unique needs for each campus and community
- Rapid and continuous change

Niagara Context

Post-secondary institutions (PSIs)

Four major colleges and universities

Enrollment

Approximately 30,000 total (2023-24) students

Students housed off-campus

Approximately 26,000+ (2023-24)

Challenges

Inadequate rental supply; affordability; increased demand; data

Successful approaches

PBSAs, bylaws and zoning, PSI strategic plans

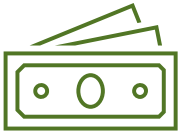
Opportunities for Impact



Data



Housing Supply On- and Off-Campus



Funding and Financing



Policies, Plans, Enforcement



Partnerships and Coordination

Mechanisms for Enabling Change

- Conversion
- Intensification
- Increasing supply
- New business models
- Promoting investment advantages
- Better data collection
- Updating and enforcing policies and processes
- Advocacy for funding and reform
- Cross-sectoral partnerships

Enacting Change

- Workshops and Forums
- New partnerships
- Data collection and coordination
- Co-location opportunities
- Bylaw and zoning updates
- Advocacy to governments, agencies

**Thank you
Questions?**