of communities. However,

tradit onal approaches to neighborhood act vation of en overlook the critical role of informal individuals who hold influence within their communities but may not hold formal positions of authority. These leaders are essential in fostering connections, driving engagement,

init at ves resonate with the residents they aim to serve. Despite their importance, there is a municipalities can elect vely leverage these informal leaders to rhood act vation, communication, and connection.

This project proposes a focused study on how municipalities can better engage and utilize informal community leaders to act vate neighb—rhoods. Drawing on best practices from examples like the City of Sudbury's Community Act on Networks and the City of Kitchener's Love My Hood Strategy, the project will explore the roles these leaders play, the challenges they face, and the strategies that can be employed to support and amplify their efforts—aims to fill the existing gap in municipal strategies by providing insights and practical right.

	The City of Sudbury's Community
Act on Networks	
	rhood structures. CANs operate as





Α

## Project Object ves

- To analyze the role of informal community leaders in neighborhood act vation dierent municipalities.
- To ident fy challenges and opportunites in leveraging these leaders for elective
- To develop a set of recommendat ons for municipalities on how to betier integrate rhood planning and activation processes.

How do informal community leaders influence neighborhood act vation and engagement in dierent municipal contexts?

 What specific roles do they play in fostering communication and connection within their communities?

What are the key challenges and barriers that informal community leaders face when engaging rhood act vat on?

 How can municipalities address these challenges to betier support and empower these leaders?

Howe ect ve are the strategies employed by the City of Sudbury's Community Act on Networks and the City of Kitchener's Love My Hood in leveraging informal community leaders?

 What lessons can be learned from these models, and how can they be adapted or the City of Kingston to adopt?

What are the best pract ces for integrat ng informal community leaders into formal municipal making processes?

How can municipalit es ensure that these leaders are recognized, valued, and given the



