

# Call for Presentations



The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness is seeking presenters for the 2019 National Conference on Ending Homelessness in Edmonton, Alberta November 4-6, 2019.

The National Conference on Ending Homelessness is the annual gathering of a growing national movement of individuals, organizations, communities and government, working together to end homelessness in Canada.

## **We are inviting proposal submissions on:**

- Healthcare and Homelessness
- Housing First
- Indigenous Homelessness & Reconciliation
- Leadership, Planning and Practice
- Research and Policy
- Rural and Remote Homelessness
- Women's Homelessness
- Youth Homelessness

Our program is designed to support and accelerate the end of homelessness in Canada by giving community leaders, agencies, front line workers, researchers, and policy makers the inspiration, information, tools, and training they need to end homelessness.

This conference is an opportunity to meet collectively and exchange learning, best practices and strategies from a growing Canadian and international body of knowledge on ending homelessness.

## **General Presentation Information**

The National Conference on Ending Homelessness will include eighty-four 90-minute sessions organized into 10 streams:

1. A Way Home - Youth Homelessness
2. Canadian Observatory on Homelessness - Research and Policy
3. Coordinated Access
4. Healthcare and Homelessness
5. Housing First
6. Indigenous Homelessness
7. Leadership, Planning and Practice
8. Prevention
9. Rural and Remote Homelessness
10. Women's Homelessness

Presenters can register for the conference at a discounted early bird rate of \$210 before August 2nd, 2019. After August 2nd, 2019 the registration rate is \$320. Note: the presenter rate is limited to only one presenter per presentation, up to a total of four presenters per session.

### What we're looking for

The aim of the conference is to support and accelerate an end to homelessness in Canada. We want to equip conference attendees with information, tools, national connections, and the training they need to end homelessness. We want attendees to walk away with concrete actions they can take to end homelessness in their communities. This means we will be looking for presentations that:

- are consistent with a focus on ending homelessness and the principles of Housing First;
- are solutions focused (we can talk about problems, barriers and challenges, but bring the ideas and solutions too);
- provide conference participants actionable knowledge;
- are innovative and, not least of all, interesting;
- are high calibre;
- meet the needs of communities, organizations, sector leaders, and front-line workers who are at different stages on the road to ending homelessness; and,
- provide *new* material/observations/experience to conference attendees

### Diversity

When submitting your proposal bear in mind that the conference is dedicated to providing voice to, and speaking to the needs of, a variety of perspectives and experiences. Please ensure your presentation proposals are sensitive to different individualized and intersectional qualities and social circumstances that may affect experiences of homelessness such as: lived experience of homelessness, LGBTQI2S, youth, culture, age, familial status, and gender. We want to provide a platform for people with lived experience of homelessness and encourage proposals to make space for PWLE in the presentations, such as participating meaningfully in sessions as presenters.

### Reconciliation

Following on the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the CAEH wants to continue to fulfil our role in reconciliation with Indigenous peoples by providing a forum with an environment of mutual respect and understanding. We encourage presenters to consider how presentations can relate to any of the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and honour Residential School Survivors and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. We will be looking for content focused on Indigenous homelessness for each of our concurrent session streams.

### Got a better idea!?

If you have a unique idea, presentation or session concept that does not necessarily fit in the categories outlined above, please consider submission to the program. There's always room for great ideas that move us toward ending homelessness in Canada!

### All submissions must contain the following information:

- Presentation title
- The name(s) of the presenters and their affiliation(s) identifying one lead presenter
- Email address/es and contact details and phone?
- A short (300 words max) presentation summary
- Whether you are proposing a presentation or a complete session
- Which stream you are applying to present in

Please note: in order to develop a complete program, and include as much high-quality content as possible, the CAEH will put presentations together into sessions with similar themes. We may ask proponents putting forward complete sessions to make adjustments to accommodate other linked presentations. We reserve the right to edit session and presentation descriptions and limit the number of presenters.

### Submitting a proposal

All submissions will be made through our online submission portal at <http://conference.caeh.ca/program/call-for-presentations/>

Please note: we are calling for submissions to be sent in earlier than previous years. **The submission deadline is March 31, 2019.**

Authors will be notified of their acceptance by early May. If you have any questions relating to the call for presentations, please contact [tim@caeh.ca](mailto:tim@caeh.ca)

### No guarantees!

Given the overwhelming response to our recent calls for presentations, we expect considerable interest in this year's conference. Therefore, we cannot promise all proposals will be accepted. The location and theme of the 2020 conference will be announced on the last day of this year's conference – please reconsider re-submission for 2020.

## **A Way Home Youth Homelessness Call for Presentations**

In partnership with A Way Home Canada (a national coalition reimagining how we respond to youth homelessness through transformations in policy, planning and practice) we are hosting a stream of sessions on youth homelessness.

This stream of the conference will focus on policy, research, planning and practice considerations in preventing and ending youth homelessness. We are looking for evidence-based interventions that are showing results in preventing and ending youth homelessness. In your proposal please make it clear how your program is an evidence-based intervention.

There will be seven 90-minute concurrent sessions in this stream.

The overarching theme for 2019 is Youth Homelessness Prevention. Presentations and panels may cover any of the following categories:

- Family and Natural Supports programs including Youth Reconnections
- Shelter diversion programs or protocols such as Host Homes or school-based programs
- Youth transitioning from systems of care (Child Intervention, Justice, Mental Health/Addictions)
- Housing First for Youth programs
- Interventions that are focused on rural youth homelessness or targeted populations (LGBTQ2S, Indigenous, New Canadian)
- Supporting change management to make the shift to prevention
- Systems approach to policy and planning work
- Data collection, integration and/or harmonization
- Innovative community and government partnerships

In your submission, please clearly indicate which theme your presentation fits within. Also, please share the format you think would work best for your session (e.g. formal presentation, facilitated conversation, workshop with audience participation, etc.).

Please note that we may not be able to schedule your submission as a full session and depending on the number of submissions, we may need to combine several submissions into single sessions.

## **Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Research and Policy Call for Presentations**

COH's research and policy stream provides an opportunity for academics, researchers, policy makers and practitioners to present their most promising, innovative and relevant research findings. As this is a conference that focuses on practice, we ask that applicants to this stream highlight how their research is relevant and accessible to a predominantly non-academic audience. Due to an increased number of submissions, we are prioritizing content and presenters that are able to explicitly identify the implications or the "so whatness" of their research.

### **Topics**

Over the past few years, the COH has focused its research efforts on the theoretical and practical aspects of homelessness prevention. At this year's conference, we are focusing all of our sessions on the topic of Homelessness Prevention. Within this framework, we invite a wide variety of topics including:

1. Indigenous homelessness prevention
2. Youth homelessness prevention
3. Priority populations: women, families, veterans, etc. homelessness prevention
4. Rural and small-town homelessness prevention
5. Data and measuring progress towards preventing and ending homelessness
6. Knowledge mobilization practices regarding homelessness prevention research, policy and practice
7. Other - You are also invited to submit an abstract on a theme not listed, so long as it is relevant to the overall prevention theme.

### **Presentation Formats**

Over the past few years, we have asked presenters in our stream to join our efforts in making research more accessible. We have done this by using various presentation formats, including:

Below are a few ideas. In your submission, please indicate which formats you would be interested in. We will provide support to the selected presenters to ensure presentations meet the required format.

PechaKucha – A concise presentation style where presenters show 20 slides for 30 seconds each (10 mins presentation max). The presentations are fast-paced and focus on key messages. This presentation style allows ample time for questions and engagement with attendees. Watch this <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jJ2yeplaAtE> for more information.

Speed Geeking – A take on speed dating, where presenters are arranged along the outside of the room, in this format each presenter will have their own "station." Participants will attend four stations, meaning that each presenter will discuss their work four times with smaller groups. The small group format encourages deeper discussion and a range of opinions.

Talk Show – In this format, we will select 3 – 4 presenters who submitted research on a related topic (eg. "Housing First for Youth"). Each presenter will have 5-7 minutes to provide an overview of their research, using up to 3 PowerPoint slides. When the presentations are through, the facilitator or the "talk show host" will facilitate a discussion about the topic. Presenters will receive a list of questions prior to the conference and will have the opportunity to provide input. Session attendees will be encouraged to ask questions too.

Debate - The debate format is a great way to create energy in a room for a research topic. This presentation would work best in a partnership, where both presenters are able to outline each side to an issue or new initiative. The format would allow for each side of the topic to start by presenting their idea in 15 minutes or less before launching into a timed debate with a moderator. Questions can be prepared beforehand and collected from the audience.

It is a creative way to inject improvisation and critical analysis into your presentation while keeping the audience engaged. Presenters who are interested in a debate must submit with others who are prepared to participate in this format.

Other Ideas – If you and your colleagues have an innovative format you'd like to try, please let us know in your submission. Your content and format should fill a 90-minute session. We will give preference to submissions that encourage the participation and engagement of attendees.

### **Submission Guidelines**

Researchers (academic, government, non-profit, consultant) and students are invited to submit abstracts for presentations. Submissions that do not contain the following information will not be considered.

- Presentation title
- Preferred presentation formats (check all that apply)
  - Single presentation
  - Full panel (3 - 4 presenters)
  - PechaKucha
  - Speed Geeking
  - Talk Show
  - Debate
  - Other – please explain
- Primary topic (select one)
  - Indigenous homelessness prevention
  - Youth homelessness prevention
  - Priority populations: women, families, veterans, etc. homelessness prevention
  - Rural and small-town homelessness prevention
  - Data and measuring progress towards preventing homelessness
  - Knowledge mobilization practices regarding homelessness prevention research, policy and practice
  - Other - You are also invited to submit an abstract on a theme not listed, so long as it is relevant to the overall prevention theme.
- The name(s) and affiliation of presenters – that is, who will be presenting at the conference itself. If you are submitting a full panel, please indicate the name and affiliations of each presenter.
- Email address and contact details of key contact (select one)
- Abstracts cannot exceed 300 words and should include:
  - Statement of project's purpose
  - Brief description of methods
  - Summary of findings (if applicable)
  - Implications for policy or practice (the “so what-ness”)
  - Keywords (up to 5)
- Answers to the following questions:
  - What types of stakeholders will be most interested in this research?
  - How does this research contribute to better solutions to prevent and end homelessness?

## **NEW STREAM! Healthcare and Homelessness Call for Presentations:**

Homelessness is one of the most impactful social determinants of health. People who experience homelessness have an average life expectancy of less than 50 years and face a unique constellation of physical and mental health problems. As well, they face challenges accessing effective and meaningful healthcare. A person's health and their experiences with the healthcare system are important factors in determining whether they will become homeless and, likewise, whether someone who is currently experiencing homelessness would be able to successfully obtain adequate housing. Health care providers can play an important role as advocates for their clients, and collectively have a strong voice that acts as an important contribution in helping to end homelessness.

The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness is happy to announce that it will be hosting the new Canadian Network for the Health and Housing of the Homeless (CNH3). This healthcare forum will provide a platform to share knowledge, experiences, and wise practices for healthcare providers who work with homeless people across the country. This forum will both develop and deepen relationships between shelter and housing sector colleagues and health care partners, with a view to broadening and strengthening collective learning and systems responses.

Healthcare providers and the CNH3 work collaboratively toward our shared goal of ending homelessness in Canada. The 'Healthcare and Homelessness' stream will provide a significant opportunity to embark on building these important relationships and set a high standard of care among our community of practice. There will be seven 90-minute sessions in this stream.

We are inviting submissions on the following practice, policy, and research areas:

- Innovate models to deliver effective primary care, mental health care, substance use management, dental care and/or palliative care.
- Harm reduction and harmful substance use management strategies
- HIV, Hepatitis C and STI screening, prevention and treatment programs for people experiencing homelessness.
- Healthcare and support programs for youth experiencing homelessness.
- Healthcare and support programs for youth living in and/or exiting the child welfare system.
- Healthcare and support programs for LGBTQ2S people experiencing homelessness.
- Healthcare programs for refugees and other newcomers in the shelter system
- Geriatrics and care of the 'elderly' (>55) amongst the homeless.
- Management of behavioural health challenges related to dementia, mental illness, developmental delay and neurocognitive disorders amongst people experiencing homelessness.
- Palliative and hospice care for the homeless
- Mobile and outreach healthcare services
- Healthcare and advocacy for people involved with and/or transitioning to/from the criminal justice system.
- Trauma screening, trauma informed care and trauma therapy for the homeless
- Preventing and/or managing discharge from the hospital sector to homelessness
- The roles of healthcare providers in eviction prevention programs

- Medical-legal partnerships (MLPs) for the homeless and preventing homelessness
- Managed alcohol programs (Development, Implementation, Evaluation)
- Assertive Community Treatment (Development, Implementation, Evaluation)
- Intensive Case Management (Development, Implementation, Evaluation)
- Infirmaries and respite care facilities (Development, Implementation, Evaluation)
- Approaches to cultural safety for homeless Indigenous Peoples accessing healthcare
- Indigenous Intensive Case Management
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) screening, support and care programs for people experiencing homelessness.
- Developmental disabilities and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) screening, support and care programs for people experiencing homelessness.
- Co-design and/or other strategies to ensure the meaningful inclusion of the voice of people experiencing homelessness in accessing in the design and delivery of care
- Peer support models for people experiencing homelessness.
- Using data for system level performance and quality improvement
- Approaches to maintaining continuity of care during healthcare and housing transitions.
- Public health challenges and management strategies for the homeless (infectious disease outbreaks, environmental injuries and illness, emergency preparedness and response, health promotion, disease and mortality surveillance, disease prevention)
- Innovative approaches and programs to improve sexual health and manage sexual violence for vulnerable people experiencing homelessness.
- Innovative partnerships between health care, shelter, drop-in and housing sectors
- Innovative models to support financial security and poverty reduction amongst people experiencing homelessness (i.e. income security health promotion)
- Education programs for healthcare trainees to care for the homeless
- Healthcare provider advocacy approaches and efforts to end homelessness

For presentations describing new or innovative program models or practices, please ensure that they are presented so as to be firmly contextualized with existing research in the relevant disciplinary area and that the presentation addresses important questions in the field.



## **Housing First Call for Presentations**

Housing First was first introduced into Canada almost a decade ago. Since then it has widely adopted across the country and has been adapted to fit many different local contexts to serve a range of different sub-populations.

The Housing First stream of sessions are geared toward senior leaders and front-line workers in organizations supporting people experiencing homelessness across Canada working in, or thinking about shifting to, a Housing First approach. It is designed to exchange practical and locally applicable learnings from a growing Canadian body of knowledge on Housing First in order to develop adaptable high performing Housing First programs.

There will be 10 90-minute sessions in this stream. We are seeking presentations on the following topics:

- Adaptations of Housing First for Different Populations
- Housing First Core Principles and Elements
- Housing First Fidelity and Evaluation
- Housing First and Community and Social Integration
- Housing First in Housing Outside Scattered Site Private Market Rental
- Housing First and Meaningful Daily Activity
- Housing First and Recovery Orientation
- Separating Housing and Supports/Services
- Exploring the Difference Between Housing First for Youth and Housing First for Adults
- Housing First and the LGBTQI2S Population
- Housing First with Families
- Housing First for Indigenous People
- Housing First with Veterans
- Housing First and FASD
- Housing First in Rural Settings
- Housing First for Individuals Being Discharged from Mainstream Systems
- Housing First and Employment
- Housing First and Landlord Engagement and Relations and Tenancy Considerations
- Peer Support in Housing First
- Self-Care for Housing First Teams
- Cultural Competency in Housing First
- Managed Alcohol Programs
- Assertive Community Treatment (Development and Implementation)
- Intensive Case Management (Development and Implementation)
- Indigenous Intensive Case Management Practices
- Housing Procurement
- Landlord Relations and Tenancy Considerations
- Housing First Home Visits
- Harm Reduction
- Motivational Interviewing

- Motivational Interviewing and the Medicine Wheel
- Narrative Therapy in Housing First
- Housing Focused Outreach
- Trauma Informed Care
- Indigenous perspectives on Trauma Informed Care
- Assertive Engagement
- Service Provider Self-Care in Housing First
- Housing First Team Meetings
- Person Centred Strength Based Case Management and Service/Treatment Planning
- Other – This is not an exclusive list of topics, please feel free to propose a session or presentation topic

## **Indigenous Homelessness Call for Presentations**

First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples are disproportionately represented amongst homeless populations in most communities in Canada and are 10 times more likely to use emergency shelters in Canada than non-Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous Peoples become homeless and experience homelessness differently than non-Indigenous Peoples and are challenged by the impacts of colonialism, the residential school era, and the 60s/70s Scoop in constructing poverty, racism, loss of culture and more.

Following on the report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, the CAEH wants fulfil our role in reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples by providing a forum with an environment of mutual respect and understanding, where we can work together to understand the root causes that contribute to homelessness for Indigenous Peoples and solutions.

In these concurrent sessions we would like to explore Indigenous culture and history to specifically understand the context from which homelessness for Indigenous Peoples occurs, specifically the role of colonization, and explore how Indigenous Peoples are working on or how they view strategies for ending homelessness.

There will be 10 90-minute concurrent sessions in this stream. We are inviting submissions on:

- Understanding and Responding to the Impacts of the Residential School Era or the 60s/70s Scoop
- Unique Considerations for Ending Homelessness for First Nations, Inuit, Metis and Non-Status Peoples
- Decolonizing Housing and Homeless Services
- The Role of Child Welfare in Ending Homelessness for Indigenous Peoples
- Understanding the Unique Needs of Indigenous LGBTQ2S Peoples
- The Role of Reconciliation in Ending Homelessness
- Addressing Intergenerational Trauma
- Considerations in Housing First for Indigenous Peoples
- The Intersection Between Homelessness and MMIWG
- Housing and Housing First in the North
- The Role of Ceremony and Cultural Reconnection in Recovery
- The Role of the Loss of Language in Homelessness for Indigenous Peoples
- Understanding the Link Between Land Dispossession and Homelessness
- Homelessness Prevention for Indigenous Peoples
- Elder and Senior Homelessness in Rural and Urban Settings
- Prevention of Homelessness for Indigenous youth
- Voices of Indigenous Peoples with Lived Experience of Homelessness
- Strategies to Reduce Governmental, Institutional and Systemic barriers
- Innovative Strategies in Community Development
- Other

## **Leadership, Planning and Practice Call for Presentations**

The 'Leadership, Planning and Practice' section of our program focuses on supporting senior leaders and front-line workers in homeless systems across Canada in shifting from managing homelessness to ending it. There will be 10 90-minute sessions in this stream. We are inviting submissions on the following topics:

- The Role of Emergency Shelters in Ending Homelessness
- Key Considerations in Ending Homelessness for LGBTQI2S Individuals
- Lessons from Successful Community Level Homelessness Reduction
- Community Planning for Ending Chronic Homelessness
- Models of Peer Support and Peer Employment
- Models for Engaging People with Lived Experience of Homelessness in Local Leadership, Planning and Decision Making
- What Does It Take to End Chronic Homelessness?
- Effective Community Leadership for Ending Homelessness
- Housing Focused Winter Emergency Response Planning
- Models of Collaboration with Law Enforcement
- Models of Emergency Shelter Diversion
- Strategies for Addressing the Opioid Crisis
- Family Homelessness
- Veterans Homelessness
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Understanding and Responding to FASD
- Addressing the Unique Challenges of Rural and Northern Homelessness
- Preventing discharge from Mainstream Systems (Foster Care, Jail, Health Care) into Homelessness
- Housing Strategies for People who are not Successful in Scattered Site Housing First Programs
- Engaging People with Lived Experience
- Models of Harm Reduction in Permanent Housing (Scattered Site or Congregate)
- The Role of Faith Communities in Ending Homelessness
- Homeless Management Information Systems and the Important Role of Data
- Housing Focused Outreach

Other – This is not an exclusive list of topics, please feel free to propose a concurrent session or presentation topic

## **NEW STREAM! Rural and Remote Homelessness Call for Presentations**

Due to the mounting evidence of the important role that rural and remote communities play in preventing, reducing, and ultimately ending homelessness across Canada, this year's National Conference will include a stream of sessions dedicated to rural and remote homelessness.

This stream of the conference will focus on programs, policies, and practices that have been adapted or created specifically for and/or by rural and remote communities. The intention is to provide tangible, innovative, and evidence-based solutions for rural and remote conference participants. There will be seven 90-minute sessions. Special consideration will be given to presentations that address:

- Housing First in the rural and remote context
- Rural and remote interventions for targeted populations such as youth, LGBTQ2S+ people, First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people, women, veterans, and people with disabilities
- Rural and remote research and policy
- Enumeration and homelessness data collection processes for rural and remote communities
- Prevention of rural and remote Homelessness
- Migration and the connection between rural, remote, and urban homelessness
- Innovative housing projects in rural and remote communities
- Rural and remote-specific responses to emergency and transitional Housing
- Engaging municipal leaders in rural and remote communities
- Addressing rural and remote specific challenges such as transportation, sustainable funding, lack of housing options, etc.
- Overcoming the unique challenges rural workers face, such as burnout due to lack of supports, isolation, and the lack of local and regional resource integration

Submissions are welcome on topics not listed above. In your submission, please clearly indicate the format of your presentation (panel, round-table discussion or working groups, power point, etc.).

## **Women's Homelessness Call for Presentations**

Women experiencing homelessness can face distinct gender linked challenges. According to the 2013 'State of Homelessness in Canada,' report, women are at increased risk for hidden homelessness, living in overcrowded conditions or having sufficient money for shelter, but not for other necessities. Violence against women is a major cause of homelessness for women; while some women may be able to access Violence Against Women shelters, others have to engage the services of homelessness shelters. When women become homeless, they are at increased risk of violence and assault, sexual exploitation and abuse. As a result, many women will go to lengths to avoid the shelter system, including staying in dangerous and unhealthy relationships and/or making arrangements to move in with a partner (even when that situation is unsafe) rather than submit to the incredible risk of violence and exploitation on the streets.

This stream of sessions is designed as an opportunity to explore the causes of, and solutions to, homelessness for women. There will be nine 90-minute sessions in this stream. We are seeking presentations with the following themes:

- The Intersection Between Homelessness and MMIWG
- Understanding and Responding to the Impacts of Colonization and the Residential School Era
- Addressing Intergenerational Trauma
- The Role of Ceremony and Cultural Reconnection in Recovery for Indigenous women
- The Role of the Loss of Language in Homelessness for Indigenous Women
- Understanding the Link Between Land Dispossession and Homelessness
- Homelessness Prevention for Indigenous Women
- Addressing Gaps in Shelter and Housing for Marginalized Women
- Mothering and Homelessness: Challenges and the Impact on Children
- Responses to Trafficking of Women
- The Unique Experience of Indigenous Women
- Advocating for Woman and Children with Child Protection Services
- Ending Homelessness for Senior and Elder women
- Trauma Informed Care and Person-centered Practice
- Considerations in Homelessness Prevention for Women
- Listening to the Voices of Women and their Realities of Homelessness
- Models of Supportive Housing for Women
- Housing First for Women and their Families
- Strategies to Reduce Governmental, Institutional and Systemic Barriers
- Lessons on Successful Policy Advocacy

We will also welcome submissions on themes not included on this list that are in keeping with a focus on ending homelessness for women.