



CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS



Call for Presentations

The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness is seeking presenters for the **2021 National Conference on Ending Homelessness taking place virtually November 3 and 4, 2021.**

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.

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.

CAEH21 will be virtual

The global pandemic forced us to cancel CAEH20 planned for Toronto last year. This year, after carefully considering all of our options, we made the decision to shift to a virtual national conference on Nov 3-4, 2021 and plan to move back to an in person and / or an in person-virtual hybrid conference in Toronto in November 2022.

Switching to a virtual conference requires many changes to the conference program. We are outlining the changes and requirements for CAEH21 in this document. Please read this document carefully to understand what will be different about CAEH21.

Integrating People with Lived Experience of Homelessness

Integrating people with lived experience of homelessness (PWLE) into the work of ending homelessness and the National Conference on Ending Homelessness is a priority for the CAEH. Our aim is to integrate lived experience participation and perspectives in all conference concurrent session streams.

TIP: *While including PWLE in your presentation is not mandatory, it will increase your chances of selection.*

General Presentation Information

The 2021 National Conference on Ending Homelessness will have a smaller program, with shorter sessions and include **56, 60-minute** sessions organized into 14 topic areas. We are inviting presentation proposals on:

1. [Building Equitable Homeless Systems](#) – DEI
2. [A Way Home – Youth Homelessness Prevention](#) – AWH
3. [Canadian Observatory on Homelessness – Research and Policy](#) – COH
4. [Canadian Observatory on Homelessness – Prevention](#) – P
5. [Coordinated Access](#) – CA
6. [Health Care and Homelessness](#) – HCH
7. [Housing First](#) – HF
8. [Indigenous Homelessness](#) – IH
9. [Lived Experience](#) – LE
10. [Leadership, Improvement and Change Management](#) – LCM
11. [Pandemic Response & Recovery](#) – PRR
12. [Rural and Remote Homelessness](#) – RRH
13. [Women’s Homelessness](#) – WH
14. [Unique Populations](#) – UP

New for CAEH21

We’ve all had a lot of exposure to online meetings and events since the beginning of the pandemic. In order to deliver a high quality, engaging and relevant program online we are making several changes to our program this year.

Every year the CAEH also reviews feedback from the previous conference with our partners and we make changes to our processes, program, and the overall conference organization to improve the event for our participants.

This year we are introducing several improvements including:

- A smaller program with fewer and shorter sessions delivered over two, four-hour days.
- A pre-proposal webinar for people interested in submitting a presentation proposal. This webinar will go over the call for presentations, the process and the conference and answer any questions.
- A presenter webinar for successful proponents to talk about the preliminary program, tips for great presentations and to answer questions.
- All presentations will be pre-recorded in the early fall. Presenters are expected to be present and online during their session and participating in the chat and Q&A.
- All sessions will be recorded and made available online following the conference.

- Introducing a new ‘Unique Populations’ stream to explore and address homelessness for unique populations including (but not limited to): 2SLGBTQIA peoples, new Canadians, migrants, veterans, people living with disabilities, and seniors.
- A new proposal submission portal and registration system. This change is intended to streamline the registration and proposal process, reduce cost to keep registration fees as low as possible, give participants more information on the conference and the program and create a more interactive conference experience for participants.
- In this year’s call for presentations, we are encouraging people to submit presentation proposals versus complete sessions to ensure we can take the greatest variety of content. We will allow complete session proposals, but proponents should be aware there will be limited opportunities for full sessions and full sessions are less likely to be accepted.
- The introduction of a speaker cap in every session. Responding to feedback from participants, we are limiting the number of presentations in a session to three and the number of presenters in a session to a maximum of three.
- Asking for more detail in the application process to ensure a more accurate description of the session in the conference program.
- Earlier selection of moderators and more preparation of moderators to ensure sessions run more smoothly.

Timelines

The **deadline for submissions** to this call for presentations is **August 6, 2021**.

Presenters for the conference receive a discounted early bird rate of \$75 but **MUST** register for the conference before September 22nd, 2021. Failing to register by September 22nd, may result in the removal of your presentation.

Note: the presenter rate is limited to only one presenter per presentation, up to a total of three 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, the progressive realization of the right to housing 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

TIP: *You will have a much better chance of having your proposal selected if your presentation is geared to giving participants clear, effective and **actionable** solutions to homelessness.*

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, 2SLGBTQIA, youth, culture, age, familial status, and gender.

Safe Space Promise

We welcome all participants including people with lived experience of homelessness, people of colour, marginalized groups and individuals, allies working outside the homeless sector and those of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. We are committed to ensuring that the National Conference on Ending Homelessness is a safe and respectful event and space for all participants. Ensuring the conference is a safe space is a shared responsibility of all participants.

We have introduced a **Safe Space Promise** and during registration all participants will be asked to indicate acceptance of the promise. Agreeing to the Safe Space Promise is an agreement by all participants to treat fellow participants respectfully and to help ensure the National Conference on Ending Homelessness is a safe space for all participants. Participants are also acknowledging that any form of discrimination, violence, bullying or abusive behaviour may result in removal from the conference.

If any discrimination is witnessed or experienced during this conference, or if you feel unsafe, please notify a conference organizer or any member of staff or a member of the Alliance's Board of Directors. If you have suggestions on how we can improve the National Conference on Ending Homelessness experience for all or make the conference a more inclusive space, [please let us know](#).

Reconciliation

Following on the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Calls to Justice of the Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls 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 are especially interested in Indigenous content from Indigenous organizations and individuals. If you are presenting in the Indigenous stream or on Indigenous homelessness, presentations must include Indigenous presenters.

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) and bio(s) of the presenter(s) and their affiliation(s) identifying one lead presenter
- Email address/es and contact details and phone
- A short (300 words max) presentation summary
- A learning objective
- Description on how your presentation will help participants leave with actionable tools and tips to prevent and end homelessness
- A presentation description as you would like it to appear in the program to a maximum of 100 words
- Which stream you are applying to present in
- Whether or not your presentation includes people with lived experience of homelessness

REMINDER: We are limiting the number of presenters to a maximum of three per session and limiting the number of presentations per session to three.

Submitting a proposal

All submissions will be made [through our online submission portal](#)

Please note: The timeline for submissions to be sent in is shorter than previous years. **The submission deadline is Friday, August 6, 2021.**

Authors will be notified of their acceptance by the end of August. If you have any questions relating to the call for presentations, please contact tim@caeh.ca.

No guarantees!

Given the overwhelming response to our previous calls for presentations, we expect considerable interest in this year's conference. Therefore, we cannot promise all proposals will be accepted, especially given the reduced amount of presentation time. The 2022 National Conference on Ending Homelessness will take place in Toronto in November 2022 – if you are not accepted for 2021, please consider re-submission for 2022.

Building Equitable Homeless Systems Call for Presentations

Indigenous peoples and people from equity seeking communities experience homelessness and housing need at disproportionately high rates. Equity seeking communities include (but are not limited to: Indigenous peoples, women, young people, Black and racialized communities, 2SLGBTQQIA communities).

Indigenous peoples and people from equity seeking communities are more likely to experience poverty and systemic inequities that place people at risk of homelessness, ranging from elevated interactions with the child welfare and criminal justice systems to lack of access to housing, employment, and health care. They are also more likely to experience bias at the hands of the people, systems, and even data algorithms designed to respond to these vulnerabilities. Altogether, the interactions of these various factors contribute to high rates of homelessness and inequitable outcomes for these populations.

The homeless serving system works to prevent homelessness, triages people experiencing homelessness and supports and re-houses people experiencing homelessness, has not been designed to identify or respond to racial disparities or the unique needs of people from equity seeking communities. It could be argued that the homeless response system perpetuates the inequalities that drives homelessness for these populations.

Achieving a just, equitable and sustainable end to homelessness requires us to tackle the inequity and systemic racism in the homeless serving system. In this stream, we are looking for sessions and presentations that explore community level measures that have been taken, or could be taken, to build equitable homeless systems and create a just and lasting end to homelessness that leaves no one behind. Presentations could include:

- Adapting triage, assessment and prioritization tools and processes;
- Adapting coordinated access to unique needs;
- Measuring equity in homeless serving systems;
- Improving By-Name Lists and data collection to better capture experiences and outcomes for people from equity seeking communities; and,
- Presentations exploring challenges in the homeless serving system for equity seeking communities.

A Way Home Youth Homelessness Prevention 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 a continuum of prevention-based policy, research, planning and practice elements pointed towards ending youth homelessness. The COVID-19 pandemic revealed the gaps and weaknesses in our social safety net and have disproportionately affected young people at-risk of or experiencing homelessness. These experiences have compounded the importance of prevention within our work and illustrate the pressing need for broad uptake nationally. To add to the complement of evidence-based interventions and policy examples captured within [the Roadmap for the Prevention of Youth Homelessness](#), we are looking for examples that align with it. In your proposal, please make it clear how your work is **evidence informed**.

When considering a submission to the 2021 CAEH Conference Youth Homelessness stream, ask yourself these questions:

- Does our program, practice, policy or research align with the Roadmap's definition of prevention?
- Can we demonstrate unique examples that speak to partnerships, collaboration, engagement with youth with lived experience of homelessness and systems design aimed at youth homelessness prevention?
- Are our efforts focused on preventing and sustaining exits from youth homelessness?
- Would the knowledge shared support the Roadmap's overall comprehensive knowledge base?

In your submission, please clearly indicate which theme your presentation fits within:

- [Structural Prevention](#)
- [Systems Prevention](#)
- [Early intervention](#)
- [Eviction prevention](#)
- [Housing stabilization](#)

Priority will be placed on programs or initiatives that are:

- proactive, rather than reactive, approaches to youth homelessness, from a preventative and rights-based lens
- demonstrating significant impacts in the lives of vulnerable youth aged 13-24 years old

This year's conference will have a [smaller program, with shorter sessions](#) and will include **56, 60-minute sessions** organized into 14 topic areas. The **Youth Homelessness Prevention stream will have four sessions featuring 12 presentations**. In this year's call for presentations, we are asking that you submit individual presentation proposals (15 minutes) versus complete sessions (60 minutes) to ensure we can



profile the greatest variety of content. We will allow complete session proposals, but proponents should be aware there will be limited opportunities for full sessions and full sessions are less likely to be accepted.

If you have any questions, please contact David French, Managing Director, A Way Home Canada – dfrench@awayhome.ca.

Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Research & Policy and Prevention Call for Presentations

The COH's two, **Research and Policy** and **Prevention**, streams provide an opportunity for academics, researchers, policy makers and practitioners to present their most promising and innovative research. Applicants should highlight how their research is relevant and accessible to a predominantly non-academic audience. Due to the high volume of submissions, we are prioritizing presentations that explicitly identify the policy or practical applications of their research on the homeless-serving sector. In other words, tell us how your work can make a positive impact on those experiencing or working to prevent homelessness! There will be **four 60-minute** sessions in each stream.

Topics We invite submissions on a wide variety of topics within the [Homelessness Prevention](#) framework, including:

1. Indigenous homelessness prevention
2. Decolonizing research
3. Youth homelessness prevention
4. 2SLGBTQQIA + homelessness prevention
5. Other priority populations: women, families, newcomers, veterans, racialized, etc. homelessness prevention
6. Northern, rural and small-town homelessness prevention
7. Data and measuring progress towards preventing and ending homelessness
8. Knowledge mobilization practices regarding homelessness prevention research, policy and practice
9. 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

In line with the COH's mandate to make research more accessible, we encourage presenters to submit presentations that identify the policy or practical applications of their research, and allow for audience engagement opportunities.

Submission Guidelines

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

- Presentation title
- Presentation format
 - Single presentation (15 mins)
- Primary topic (select one)
 - Indigenous homelessness prevention

- Decolonizing research
 - Youth homelessness prevention
 - 2SLGBTQQIA + homelessness prevention
 - Other priority populations: women, families, newcomers, veterans, racialized, etc. homelessness prevention
 - Northern, 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.
 - 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?

Coordinated Access Call for Presentations

Coordinated Access is a way for communities to bring consistency to the process by which people experiencing or at risk of homelessness access housing and related services within a geographic area. Core components of a strong Coordinated Access system include a Housing First approach; real-time data about the supply of and demand for housing resources; and a streamlined service delivery approach with access points to service, a standardized workflow for triage and assessment; prioritization; and vacancy matching and referral.

We are calling on communities to share their good practices, innovations, and/or fail forward experiences with their peers. We are seeking up to nine **12 15 minute** presentations from communities in aspect(s) of the:

- implementation and application of a [By-Name List](#); and/or
- implementation and continuous improvement of [Coordinated Access](#)

If selected, you may be asked to combine and/or adjust your presentation to ensure we are offering a comprehensive set of presentations that appeal to a variety of communities. Potential topics could include:

- Getting started with a By-Name List
- Engaging partners in By-Name List and Coordinate Access
- Mapping and coordinating outreach efforts
- Using HIFIS for a By-Name List
- Indigenous data sovereignty
- Collecting race and ethnicity data to understand and address disparity and disproportionality in your homelessness response system
- Using BNL data to drive system change
- Coordinated Access governance models
- Governance practices (e.g., policies/procedures, training, quality assurance)
- Prioritization, matching and referral processes
- Action-oriented case conferencing
- Including peers and lived experience, Indigenous approaches, youth-specific approaches, and/or an equity lens into Coordinated Access
- Coordinated Access in rural settings
- Communicating and marketing Coordinated Access
- Engaging housing resources in Coordinated Access
- Documenting housing resource eligibility requirements
- Diversion and rapid exit
- Process mapping

Health Care 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 health care. 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. Healthcare 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 Health Care and Homelessness stream of CAEH21 will be facilitated in conjunction with the **Canadian Network for the Health and Housing of People Experiencing Homelessness (CNH3)**. CNH3 works collaboratively with the healthcare, homeless and housing sectors toward our shared goals of improving the quality of life of people experiencing homelessness and precarious housing, and ending homelessness in Canada. The 'Health Care and Homelessness' stream provides a significant annual opportunity to build these important relationships and set a high standard of care among our community of practice. There will be **four 60-minute** sessions in this stream.

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

- Lessons from the pandemic
- Innovative 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 2SLGBTQQIA 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
- Health care 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 health care
- 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 health care 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 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 initially introduced into Canada just over 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 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 to develop adaptable high performing Housing First programs.

We are primarily looking for creative and informative presentations that give participants actionable and replicable ideas, skills, and tools to take with them and improve their own practice in their own communities. Therefore, Housing First presentations should not be primarily a description of your own Housing First program. Rather, interested presenters should ask themselves how what they are presenting can be replicated or what skills and tools an attendee would be able to take with them? So, if a presenter wishes to present about their Housing First program, they should focus on how this program, or the unique aspects of this program can be integrated into other communities. If there is nothing in the presentation that gives attendees a tangible “take away” they may not be considered.

There will be **four 60-minute** sessions in this stream. We are seeking presentations on the following topics, below which are examples that the applicants are by no means limited to, but are meant to be descriptive:

- Housing First Management and Operations (Team Leadership)
 - Supervision of the program day-to-day
 - Team roles and Expectations
 - Outcomes Focused Team Management
 - Participant Centric Team Approaches
 - Keeping Your Team Motivated
- Housing First in Coordinated Access
 - What are the specific Challenges and Opportunities for Housing First within Coordinated Access?
 - Creating Buy-In Amongst Housing First Providers
- Housing First Team Core Skills, Training, and Onboarding
 - How do you get Staff up to Speed in a High Turnover Sector?
 - Effective Ways to Track and Prioritize Training
- How to Integrate the Recovery Orientation
 - How to Take the Principle of Recovery in Housing First to the Next Level?
 - What is Recovery Orientation, Really?
- How to Integrate Community and Social Integration
 - Overcoming NIMBY at a Community Level and in the Lives of Participants

- Identifying and Overcoming Barriers to Meaningful Daily Activity
- Inspiring Community Participation Amongst Participants
- How to Integrate Choice
 - Keeping to the Principle of Choice When Choice Appears Limited
 - How to Maximize Housing Choices in a Community Where Housing is Hard to Come By
- What Does it Mean to Separate Housing Support and Services?
- Housing Procurement and Landlord Engagement in Housing First
 - Can a Systems Level Approach Work?
 - How can Data and Technology Help?
- Monitoring Outcomes and the Effectiveness of your Housing First Practice
 - How to Manage to Outcomes While Being Participant Centred?
 - Ensuring that a Systems Level Approach is in Service to the Participant Rather than the System

Indigenous Homelessness Call for Presentations

First Nations, Inuit and Métis people 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 and 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 to fulfil its 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 First Nations, Inuit and Métis 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 **four 60-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 and 70s Scoop
- Unique considerations for ending homelessness for First Nations, Inuit, Métis 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 2SLGBTQIA 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 – This is not an exclusive list of topics, please feel free to propose a concurrent session or presentation topic

Lived Experience Call for Presentations

The Canadian Lived Experience Leadership Network (CLELN) is accepting submissions for the Lived Experience stream. CLELN is a collective of diverse people with lived experience of homelessness and expertise in grassroots organizing, advocacy, mentorship and peer support. CLELN works to ensure that the voices of people with lived experience are in the forefront of all matters regarding homelessness—and to eliminate homelessness and housing insecurity through research, policy, advocacy, training, and collaboration.

There are seven guiding principles to consider for any submission that align with CLELN: nothing about us without us; we believe that ending homelessness is possible; we work for those who are at risk of or are experiencing homelessness; we believe in the right to housing; we are committed to equity and inclusivity; we are committed to being a safe space; and we commit to advancing the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action and the Calls for Justice from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

The goal of this stream is to bring the perspectives of lived experience to the forefront regarding solutions to homelessness, housing precarity and injustice. All presentations must be either led by or include lived experience voices.

There will be **four 60-minute** concurrent sessions in this stream. We are inviting submissions on, but not limited to:

- innovative and new lived experience-led initiatives that are helping to reduce homelessness from across the country
- breaking down barriers in the housing system

Have a better idea? Please submit any presentation ideas you think are missing from the list above but would be an asset to the stream.

Please ensure your presentation includes tangible actions or learnings that will support the work of lived experience advocates and experts.

Leadership, Improvement and Change Management Call for Presentations

Leadership is the ‘secret sauce’ of ending homelessness – high quality and effective leadership is one major common denominator that all communities who have had success in preventing, reducing and ending homelessness all have in common.

Leadership in ending homelessness is more than a position or title, it is a process of mobilizing values into actions. Leaders today must work in a dynamically evolving space where learning, innovation, and adaption emerge grounded in a mission focused, data driven continuous improvement approach.

The shift from managing to ending homelessness in Canada, calls upon leaders to change their approach. Leaders are tasked with re-imagining outside the boundaries of existing structures.

Leaders in ending homelessness can see the ‘big picture’ and bring people together as a collective, inspired and motivated to do the work differently. They are skilled at moving beyond reactive problems, to find solutions. They are skilled at leading through complexity and ambiguity. They create space for change through adaption, innovation, and iteration. They encourage a growth mindset, leaning into to curiosity, and failing forward.

There are **four sessions** in this stream. If selected, you may be asked to combine and/or adjust your presentation to ensure we are offering a comprehensive set of presentations that appeal to a variety of attendees. We encourage you to take a leadership concept and translate that into how you lead a community or organization in ending homelessness. Potential topics could include:

- Leading through change
- Applying change management practices to end homelessness
- Embracing and leading with data driven continuous improvement
- Moving from silos to coalitions on ending homelessness
- Adaptive leadership strategies for system change
- Using data to build alignment across complex systems
- Moving from management to leadership
- Leading in a social movement
- Effective decision making
- Conscious leadership
- Building the will
- Transformational leadership strategies to support people through change
- Indigenous leadership
- Leadership and intersectional experiences related to homelessness (gender, lived experience, mental health etc.)
- Building in growth mindset practices

Pandemic Response and Recovery Call for Presentations

In early 2020 as the global COVID-19 pandemic arrived in Canada, the homeless serving system scrambled to provide protection, care, and housing to people experiencing homelessness.

Prior to the pandemic, people experiencing homelessness were already suffering through multiple and compounding public health crises including the health effects of a lack of housing and poverty, and the overdose crisis. Experience with previous epidemics, including SARS and H1N1, as well as recurrent outbreaks of influenza, meningococcal disease, tuberculosis and Hepatitis A, showed that COVID-19 would be a significant threat for people experiencing homelessness in Canada. By the end of the first wave of the pandemic it became clear this was true as people experiencing homelessness suffered dramatically higher rates of infection, hospitalization and death from COVID-19.

At the same time, the sector itself was struggling to respond to the crisis and frontline workers and organizations carried the burden of the response resulting in increased trauma, mental health crises, stress and burnout.

In this stream we want to begin to capture the lessons of the pandemic, share ideas for pandemic recovery and seek ways to use the lessons of the pandemic experience to accelerate efforts to end homelessness. This stream will have **four 60-minute** sessions.

Presentations may include (but are not limited to) the following topics:

- Response & recovery frameworks
- Screening, testing, referrals and vaccination
- Shelter/motels and isolation sites – lessons for ending homelessness
- Responding to COVID-19 for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness
- Indigenous homelessness and COVID-19
- Youth and family homelessness and COVID-19
- Equity in COVID-19 response and recovery
- Harm reduction & drug supply
- Domestic violence and COVID-19
- Making strategic investment decisions
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in shelter isolation & quarantine settings
- Promoting healthy practices
- Resources to promote healthy practices including hand-washing, social distancing, and disinfecting public spaces.
- Requesting leadership & support from local public health authorities
- Preventing eviction
- Finding & securing housing in a pandemic
- Home visits during a pandemic

- Meaningful activities that respect physical distancing and support isolation
- Staff recruitment in a pandemic
- Maintaining staff morale
- Self-care in a crisis

Rural and Remote Homelessness Call for Presentations

Due to the mounting evidence of the important role that rural, remote and northern 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 **four 60-minute** sessions. Special consideration will be given to presentations that address:

- By Indigenous, for Indigenous, housing and homelessness interventions in rural and remote communities
- Housing First in the rural and remote context
- Rural and remote interventions for targeted populations such as youth, 2SLGBTQIA people, First Nations, Métis people, and Inuit, 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
- International perspectives on rural, remote and northern homelessness

Submissions are welcome on topics not listed above.

Women's Homelessness Call for Presentations

Women and gender diverse people experiencing homelessness often face distinct challenges linked to their gender. Research consistently demonstrates women are at increased risk of experiencing hidden homelessness and living in overcrowded conditions, and Canadian data indicates they experience higher levels of poverty and core housing need. Violence against women is a major cause of homelessness, and a feature of life on the streets. While some women may be able to access Violence Against Women shelters, others may 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 great lengths to avoid the shelter system, including by staying in dangerous and unhealthy relationships and/or deciding to move in with a partner (even when that situation is unsafe) rather than to risk experiencing violence and exploitation on the streets. This violence is experienced intersectionally, certain groups of women, especially Indigenous women, experience higher rates of homelessness and violence.

This stream of sessions is designed as an opportunity to explore the causes of, and solutions to, homelessness for women. There will be **four 60-minute** sessions in this stream. We are seeking presentations with the following themes:

- The intersection between homelessness, housing precarity, and Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
- The role of the child welfare system in preventing and ending homelessness for women
- Understanding and responding to the impacts of the Residential School Era on women, girls, and two spirit persons
- Addressing intergenerational trauma through a gendered lens
- The role of ceremony and cultural reconnection in recovery for Indigenous women and two spirit persons
- The role of the loss of language in homelessness for Indigenous women and gender diverse people
- Understanding the connection between land dispossession, climate change, and housing precarity for Indigenous women, girls, and gender diverse people
- Homelessness prevention for Indigenous women, girls, and gender diverse people
- Supporting women and gender diverse staff in homelessness work
- Transgender/gender diverse people experiencing homelessness
- Sex work and housing precarity
- Women and gender diverse people living with disabilities and experiencing homelessness
- Trans/gender/non-binary people experiencing violence
- Women/trans/gender diverse peoples and harm reduction
- Homelessness among racialized women, girls, and gender diverse people
- Newcomer and refugee women's experiences of housing precarity

- Peer support and advocacy
- The experiences of lesbian, queer, bisexual, and Two Spirit people in VAW system and women's homelessness shelters
- Addressing gaps in shelter and housing for vulnerable women
- Mothering and homelessness
- Responses to the trafficking of women and gender diverse people
- Ending homelessness for older women
- Trauma-informed and harm reduction models and approaches
- Considerations in homelessness prevention for women and gender diverse people
- 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 systemic barriers to preventing and ending homelessness for women and gender diverse people
- Lessons on successful policy advocacy
- The criminal justice system & women experiencing homelessness
- The interface between the VAW and homelessness sector
- Gender & sexual diversity amongst women-identified people experiencing homelessness
- Gendered experiences of eviction
- Transitions out of homelessness for women, girls, and gender diverse people

We will also welcome submissions on themes not included on this list that are in keeping with a focus on ending homelessness for women, girls, and gender diverse people.

Unique Populations Call for Presentations

The CAEH is introducing a new Unique populations stream to the national conference program to equip conference participants to respond to the specific needs, challenges and opportunities of unique populations of people experiencing homelessness. This new stream will explore and address homelessness for unique populations including (but not limited to): 2SLGBTQQIA peoples, new Canadians, migrants, veterans and seniors. There will be **four 60-minute** sessions in this stream.

We are inviting submissions on the following topics including (but not limited to):

- Models of housing and supports for veterans experiencing homelessness
- Understanding homelessness for 2SLGBTQQIA individuals
- Key considerations in ending homelessness for 2SLGBTQQIA individuals
- Housing First and the 2SLGBTQQIA population
- Housing First for families
- Housing First for veterans
- Models of housing and support for seniors
- Responding to homelessness for new Canadians, migrants and refugees
- Rights-based approaches to encampments and unsheltered homelessness
- Understanding and responding to homelessness for students
- Other – This is not an exclusive list of topics, please feel free to propose a presentation topic