

# CAEH22

## TORONTO NOV 02-04

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENDING HOMELESSNESS  
CONFÉRENCE NATIONALE POUR METTRE FIN À L'ITINERANCE



## **THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENDING HOMELESSNESS IS A DIVERSE, INCLUSIVE, ACCEPTING AND SAFE SPACE FOR EVERYONE.**

We welcome participants from all backgrounds, including people of colour, marginalized groups, and those of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. We have taken steps to ensure the inclusion of 2SLGBTQQIA+ people by adding space on all conference name badges to include pronouns, designating gender-neutral bathrooms and featuring diverse presenters, organizers and presentations. We recognize that our valued 2SLGBTQQIA+ and non-binary community members regularly experience discrimination and violence in their daily lives simply for existing, and such behaviour will not be tolerated. 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 our Board of Directors. If you have suggestions on how we can better make the National Conference on Ending Homelessness a more inclusive space, please let us know by visiting us at the registration info desk or inform any CAEH staff or board member, as identified by their name badge.



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# MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR GENERAL



THE GOVERNOR GENERAL • LA GOUVERNEURE GÉNÉRALE

## Message from the Governor General on the occasion of the National Conference on Ending Homelessness (CAEH22)

I am pleased to extend warm greetings to all those taking part in CAEH22.

Over the past two years, we have all had to adjust to the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic. This has been particularly challenging for people experiencing homelessness, but also for the frontline workers and those who support them. Their resilience and caring in what is already a very demanding job are remarkable and deserve to be recognized.

Your participation in this event is also admirable, because it demonstrates a shared commitment to helping those who need it most. It is a source of hope and inspiration to me, as a proud Inuk, knowing that people experiencing homelessness are tragically over-represented by Inuit, Métis and First Nations people. I am confident that by working together, you will be able to develop solutions.

In Inuktitut, we use the word *ajuinnata*, which conveys an important concept for the Inuit. It means to never give up, to commit yourself to action, no matter how daunting the cause may be. I commend you on working tirelessly and compassionately for the betterment of all members of our communities.

I wish you a rewarding conference.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary Simon'.

Mary Simon

# WELCOME TO THE 2022 NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENDING HOMELESSNESS

We are grateful and honoured to be gathered on Treaty 13 Territory, a traditional gathering place for Indigenous peoples including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, the Wendat and many others whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence this vibrant community.

After three years, it is fantastic to be able to meet in person again and see so many old (and new!) friends. I'm thrilled to be here with all of you, doing this important work.

It's hard to put into words how challenging the last few years have been. Since we last gathered in person, homelessness has become more lethal with an increasingly toxic drug supply and a global pandemic that continues to batter our homeless neighbours.

Through it all, service providers have scrambled to provide life-saving assistance in austere conditions, worried about their own families while they provide loving care to others as well. Many of our colleagues now struggle with the impact of moral injury from feeling helpless in the face of overwhelming challenges, the trauma and grief caused by loss of people they care so deeply about and burnout from the sheer enormity of these crises.

Further compounding these challenges, we are now seeing a wave of new homelessness brought on by the cost-of-living crisis. This is heaping more pressure on homelessness systems already stretched thin and even further exacerbated by politicians in some parts of the country seeking quick and easy solutions to homelessness for a public growing increasingly alarmed by the scale of the crisis.

But in the face of all this hardship, there is resilience, hope and progress.

Communities like Medicine Hat and London have seen their success in ending chronic and veteran homelessness rolled back, but they are rallying their communities and will get back to functional zero, benefitting from well-coordinated homeless systems, designed to be responsive to changing conditions.

Despite enormous headwinds, Guelph-Wellington has sustained a 30 percent reduction in chronic homelessness since 2019.

Other communities have made new gains. Ottawa has achieved a 15 percent reduction in chronic homelessness, Sault St. Marie reduced chronic homelessness 31 percent, while St. Thomas-Elgin has seen a 19 percent reduction.

And there is a small but growing group of communities on the verge of ending homelessness for at least one population. Dufferin County is on track to reach functional zero, having reduced chronic homelessness by a whopping 74 percent and there are other communities on the verge of functional zero for veterans.

These bright spots are not limited to gains at a community level. Our program this week is crammed with some great innovations on everything from responding to unsheltered homelessness to transforming emergency shelters, achieving the right to housing, responding to homelessness for women, advancing Reconciliation, responding to homelessness in rural communities, integrating health care and homeless systems and much more.

As a movement, we have also shaped national homelessness and housing policy through Recovery for All and Vote Housing campaigns. Together, we have successfully pushed for hundreds of millions of dollars in emergency funding for homeless services to respond to the pandemic, increased funding for Reaching Home as well as increased federal investment



in housing through the Rapid Housing Initiative and other National Housing Strategy programs. There have also been hopeful signs of progress on urban, rural and northern Indigenous housing and veteran homelessness.

While this conference is happening in one of the most brutal and challenging times in recent memory, we are clearly not powerless to change the trajectory of homelessness. It won't be easy, but I know we can do it - together.

I want to take a minute to thank everyone who has made this conference possible. The National Conference on Ending Homelessness would not be possible without the ongoing support of our sponsors. With their support, we have been able to keep the registration costs almost the same as they were in 2019 and add a new hybrid component so people who can't be here in person can tune in online. I want to extend a special thank you to our partners who have helped build an incredible program and a special thanks to our Toronto hosts and the many local volunteers for extending a such warm welcome to all of us. We feel very fortunate to have such fantastic partners.

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank each of you for making the time and effort to attend CAEH22. I want to thank you especially for supporting the involvement of people with lived experience of homelessness through the Inclusion Fee that was a part of your registration. As a result of your contributions, we are honoured to welcome over 100 people as part of our lived experience scholarship program and through discounted lived experience registration fees. Thank you to everyone with lived experience of homelessness who has joined us. Your presence and perspectives enrich the conference for all of us.

To those friends who have or are experiencing homelessness, you are doing the hardest work in ending homelessness yourselves and we see that. Know that you are surrounded by a national community of love and support who shares your urgency to end homelessness and is working day and night to get there. I wish we had homes for everyone who needs one today, but we don't - yet. But what this community has is the resolve to end homelessness as fast as possible. And we will not stop trying until we do.

For those of you working in the sector, you know that ending homelessness can be hard, lonely and isolating work. I hope you will take a few minutes this week to look around the room and notice you are not alone - you are with a growing community of friends, peers and colleagues who are here to support you and share the burden.

Let's use this conference to lift each other up, to be inspired and share what works. Together, we will face the challenges ahead with focus and resolve and together, we will end homelessness in Canada.

Best wishes for a great conference!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Richter', written over a set of horizontal lines that serve as a guide.

**Tim Richter**  
President & CEO,  
Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness

## DEAR CAEH22 ATTENDEES



Welcome to the 2022 National Conference on Ending Homelessness, and welcome to Toronto. It's great to be together again.

The Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness is proud to be a host city participant of this year's National Conference on Ending Homelessness. As a community-based collective impact initiative that recognizes the critical importance of working in a new way towards our common vision of making homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring, we strive to engage and collaborate and learn from all the brilliant minds that are convening this week to share their work towards this common goal across the country. This conference is an opportunity to connect and to build towards a future that we know is possible: a future without homelessness.

The past couple of years have presented so many unique and difficult challenges to our sector, and we are still feeling the impacts that the Covid-19 pandemic has had on us all. While we've faced these challenges, we've seen the worsening of the housing and homelessness crisis. In Toronto, we've seen this crisis getting worse and we recognize and acknowledge the disproportionate impact that the pandemic has had on unhoused individuals.

It has been a difficult journey, but also an inspiring one.

At the TAEH, we've been inspired by the countless creative adaptations and responses to the pandemic resulting from innovative collaboration and commitment of community members, people with lived experience, frontline workers, and leaders across the sector.

We've been inspired by the ongoing dedication to problem solving and to doing whatever it takes to address homelessness head on. We've been inspired by the community champions who have amplified the needs of those most marginalized and worked together to build grassroots networks of mutual aid and support. It is through community that we all made it possible to be together at this Conference again.

Over the next few days, all that we've learned since we last gathered at this conference will come together to strengthen our work across the country to create a future where homelessness is truly rare, brief, and non-recurring. We are happy to welcome you here and join you in this collective work.

With warm regards and solidarity,

**Kira Heineck**  
Executive Director

**Mark Aston**  
Chair

## COVID-19 GUIDELINES AT CAEH22

To promote the health and wellbeing of all participants we ask that you follow these COVID-19 guidelines.



We are asking all participants be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Proof not required. Please remember that many of your fellow participants may have health conditions that put them at increased risk from COVID-19.



Monitor yourself for symptoms of COVID-19 and influenza. If you feel ill, do not enter the conference centre and follow the advice of public health.



The conference is a mask friendly event and will follow current provincial guidelines. Masks are available at the info desk on the main floor. Hand sanitizer is available on site.



Practice physical distancing where possible and respect other's personal space and individual preferences indicated by a red, yellow, or green dot on their conference badge.

- No Contact
- I'm willing to elbow bump
- I'm willing to shake hands and hug



CAEH is a registered charity leading a national movement of individuals, organizations and communities working together to end homelessness in Canada. We are catalysts and conveners bringing people together around a shared vision while supporting them to apply proven approaches to transform homelessness systems, programs and policies toward the goal of ending homelessness.

OUR WORK INCLUDES:



**Advocacy**

The CAEH advocates for the federal and provincial policy changes needed to end homelessness.



**Allied Networks**

The CAEH supports several allied networks working toward our shared mission of ending homelessness.



**Built for Zero Canada**

Helping a core group of leading communities end chronic and veteran homelessness.

[www.bfzcanada.ca](http://www.bfzcanada.ca)



**National Conference on Ending Homelessness**

Join us for the 2022 National Conference on Ending Homelessness, Nov 2-4, 2022.

[conference.caeh.ca](http://conference.caeh.ca)



**Training & Technical Assistance**

Helping communities and organizations end homelessness with expert training and technical assistance.

[training.caeh.ca](http://training.caeh.ca)



# CAEH Training & Technical Assistance

**CAEH's Training and Technical Assistance Program provides expert training, coaching, consultation and support for ending homelessness in communities across Canada**

**WE OFFER:**

- In-person or virtual trainings and consultation, customized to your needs.
- Online self-paced courses and modules, including Onboarding Module subscriptions.
- Live training related to Coordinated Access, Housing First, and other best and emerging practices associated with ending homelessness.
- Program and System Evaluation including external Housing First Fidelity Reviews.

**To find out more about how we can help your community end homelessness, visit:**

**[training.caeh.ca](https://training.caeh.ca)**

Contact: **Wally Czech**, *Director of Training*    403-894-5565    [wally@caeh.ca](mailto:wally@caeh.ca)

# OUR TEAM



**Tim Richter**  
*President & CEO*



**Michelle Bilek**  
*National Field Organizer*



**Chantal Perry**  
*Improvement Advisor*  
Built for Zero Canada



**Trish Muntain**  
*Executive Assistant*



**Wally Czech**  
*Director*  
Training & Technical Assistance Program



**Chidom Otogwu**  
*Data Specialist, Data Impact and Policy*  
Built for Zero Canada



**Matthew Wu**  
*Senior Administrative Assistant*



**Jody Yurkowsky Pace**  
*Coordinated Access Trainer*  
Training & Technical Assistance Program



**Lisa Bell**  
*Improvement Advisor*  
Built for Zero Canada



**Lyudmila Valderrama**  
*Accountant*



**Quinn C. Moerike**  
*Housing First Trainer*  
Training & Technical Assistance Program



**Kat Riley**  
*Improvement Advisor*  
Built for Zero Canada



**Andrew Burns**  
*Director of Marketing and Communications*



**Marie Morrison**  
*Director*  
Built for Zero Canada



**Melinda Bain**  
*Improvement Advisor*  
Built for Zero Canada



**Misha Khan**  
*Communications Coordinator*



**Amanda Difalco**  
*Deputy Director*  
Built for Zero Canada



**Robyn Leblanc**  
*Improvement Advisor*  
Built for Zero Canada



**Elisabeth Noble**  
*Philanthropy & Campaign Lead*



**Ashley Van Der Mark**  
*Improvement Advisor*  
Built for Zero Canada



**Sarah-Mae Rahal**  
*Improvement Advisor*  
Built for Zero Canada

## OUR BOARD



Our volunteer Board of Directors brings a rich diversity of experience and worldviews to our organization, guiding our work and ensuring a high standard of governance and accountability.

### Meet Don Iveson, our new CAEH Board of Director's Co-Chair

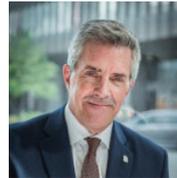
"After my time at Edmonton City Hall and chairing Canada's Big City Mayors during the pandemic, I feel a profound sense of unfinished business when it comes to housing our most vulnerable neighbours. Edmonton agencies housed over 14,000 people using Housing First since 2009 with the overwhelming majority remaining housed, but there is more work to do—especially after COVID. We know where the gaps still are, especially around permanent supportive housing for Canadians with more complex needs. I remain fully committed to helping end chronic homelessness in Canada and am humbled to work with Reshmeena Lalani as Co-Chair of the CAEH Board."



"I feel a profound sense of unfinished business when it comes to housing our most vulnerable neighbours."

### A heartfelt thanks to Matthew Pearce, our retired board co-chair.

Here's what Matthew had to say about his time with CAEH:



"Over my time on the Board of The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, I have watched the organization grow to become Canada's most significant voice, the most powerful advocate and the most inspiring and hopeful agent in our country's effort to bring an end to homelessness. If I have made some small contribution to that development, I retire with great contentment and pride from the position of Board Co-Chair."

### Current Board

Don Iveson  
Reshmeena Lalani  
Jasmine Beriault  
Kristen Desjarlais-Deklerk  
Bryany Denning  
Chloe Halpenny  
Robb Johannes  
Catherine Latimer

Bisi Omojola  
Doug Pawson  
Madeleine Redfern  
Tim Richter  
Samuel Watts  
Jason Whitford

### Thank you to our departing Board members for their service.

Matthew Pearce  
Henry Wall

# OUR SPONSORS

Thank you to the generous sponsors who have made the 2022 National Conference on Ending Homelessness possible.

HOME PARTNERS



ROOF PARTNERS



FRAMING PARTNERS



WINDOW PARTNERS



OTHER PARTNERS



## OUR PARTNERS

Our partners are key organizations who work closely with CAEH both at the National Conference on Ending Homelessness and throughout the year in our shared mission to prevent and end homelessness in Canada.



The 2022 National Conference on Ending Homelessness is funded in part by the Government of Canada through the Community Capacity and Innovation funding stream of Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy.

# THE HOME DEPOT CANADA FOUNDATION WELCOMES YOU BACK TO CAEH22!



The Home Depot Canada Foundation is committed to preventing and ending youth homelessness. Together with community partners across the country, we work to break cycles of inequity and enable at-risk youth facing homelessness achieve positive development outcomes and realize their full potential.





The Salvation Army in Canada is proud to join the CAEH and partner with its members in **building just communities** where everyone has the **dignity, safety and stability of home.**

[salvationarmy.ca/mission](https://salvationarmy.ca/mission)

## Vancity Community Foundation

Welcome conference delegates! Thank you all for your dedication to ending homelessness.

Proud to support



[www.vancitycommunityfoundation.ca](https://www.vancitycommunityfoundation.ca)



## Thank you

frontline staff and housing and homelessness partners, for tirelessly supporting vulnerable people in Toronto.



## BC HOUSING

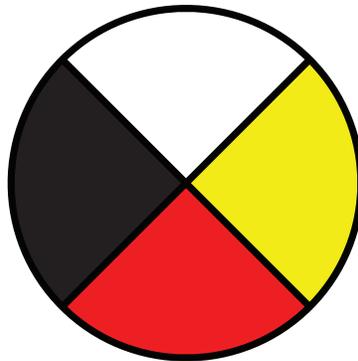
*Making a positive difference in people's lives and communities in B.C. through safe, affordable, and quality housing*



## HONOURING INDIGENOUS CULTURE AND SPIRITUALITY

CAEH has made a commitment to honour Indigenous worldviews, spirituality and practices at CAEH22 throughout the program, in the conference venue and protocols. The CAEH has incorporated the use of traditional knowledge and Elders from different communities and territories to respect diverse worldviews and the sacredness of protocol and prayer.

The City of Toronto is located on Treaty 13 Territory, a traditional gathering place for Indigenous peoples the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, the Wendat, and many others whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence this vibrant community. These teachings are offered as a gift to conference participants and as an invitation to seek out the Elders, Traditional Teachers, and other Cultural Support persons present to learn more.



### For Conference Cultural Support:

**Clayton Shirt**

Plains Cree/Anishinaabe  
Traditional Knowledge  
Practitioner

**Mike Ormsby**

Traditional Teacher

**Naulaq LeDrew**

Inuit Knowledge Keeper

**Jocelyn Pambrun**

Métis Knowledge  
Keeper

**Wil Campbell**

Métis Elder

**Mark Sault**

(Gikinoo'amaagew  
inini), Mississaugas of  
the Credit Knowledge  
Keeper

**Rob Lackie**

Inuit Community  
Person

**Les Harper**

Cree Knowledge Keeper

**Dorothy Peters**

Seine River Knowledge  
Keeper

Elders, Knowledge Keepers and Traditional Teachers are part of the conference to provide spiritual support and counsel and to support our participants learning of Indigenous history, culture and teachings. They can be identified by their name badges. Attendees are welcome to use the Spiritual Room at any time during the conference.

# PAULA GOERING MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Dr. Paula Goering, RN, PhD was a distinguished clinician, educator and researcher who made a tremendous contribution to research, services, and policies targeting homelessness in Canada for over 30 years. Most recently, Dr. Goering served as the Lead Investigator of the Mental Health Commission of Canada's At Home / Chez Soi Demonstration Project, the largest study conducted on Housing First in the world. Sadly, Dr. Goering passed away on May 24, 2016.



The Paula Goering Memorial Scholarship recognizes Paula's exceptional role as a mentor to innumerable students, as a practitioner and a pioneering researcher who focused on translating research knowledge into practice. The scholarships will be awarded each year to two students and two Housing First practitioners who share Paula's passion for ending homelessness and her commitment to research and evidence-based practice.

## CONGRATULATIONS

to the 2022 Paula Goering Memorial Scholarship Winners!



### Rachelle Patille

*Vancouver Regional Coordinator on the Aging in the Right Place (AIRP) Project*

Rachelle Patille is a third-year Gerontology Graduate Student at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia who works as the Vancouver Regional Coordinator on

the Aging in the Right Place Project. She has experience in public and community health with a specific focus on older adults' social health and well-being. She is proud to be a part of a community-engaged project that works to identify and evaluate promising practices within Vancouver, Montreal, and Calgary that support older persons with lived experience of homelessness and contribute to the limited research on what aging in the "right" place means for older persons experiencing homelessness.



### Jason Weinburg

*Executive Director, Windsor Residence for Young Men*

Jason acquired a Bachelor of Human Services in Police Studies in 2013 and began working with children and youth at Cushions Inc, a Group Home in Barrie, Ontario. After moving to Red

Deer, he became the Team Leader of a Protecting Children Abusing Drugs Detoxification Safehouse where he assisted youth experiencing drug and alcohol addiction through withdrawal management.

In 2016, Jason became the Program Director of the Windsor Residence for Young Men, where they assist self-identified male youth to exit homelessness and build new lives. In 2020, Jason was promoted to the Executive Director, where he oversees all Transitional Housing, Aftercare, Outreach, Life Skill programming and administration. Since that time, he and his team have overseen the case management of over 200 youth and achieved a 90% housing rate over the past 3 years.

The award ceremony will take place at our lunch plenary on **Wednesday, November 2nd**. Don't miss the recipients' presentations on **Thursday, November 3rd at 1:30pm**.

## PRESENTING CAEH22'S KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

For the 2022 National Conference on Ending Homelessness, we are excited to have a stellar lineup of keynote speakers who are each luminaries in their field. They will bring an insightful perspective to today's most relevant topics.

WEDNESDAY	MORNING PLENARY		LUNCH KEYNOTE	
				<b>Marie-Josée Houle</b> Federal Housing Advocate
THURSDAY	MORNING PLENARY		LUNCH KEYNOTE	
		<b>Angela Robertson</b> Executive Director, Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre		<b>Vivek Shraya</b> Artist & Educator on Self-Expression, Identity and Inclusivity
FRIDAY	MORNING PLENARY		LUNCH KEYNOTE	
		<b>Loretta Ross</b> Associate Professor, Smith College (Northampton, MA, USA), Scholar and Activist (virtual)		<b>Armine Yalnizyan</b> Economist & Atkinson Fellow on the Future of Workers

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Registration and Information

The Conference Registration and Information Desk will be open on the Main Floor (Pre-Function B) of the Beanfield Centre at the following times:

Tuesday, November 1st:	4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Wednesday, November 2nd:	7:00 am to 7:00 pm
Thursday, November 3rd:	7:30 am to 5:00 pm
Friday, November 4th:	7:30 am to 11:30 am

When participants check in at the Registration and Information Desk, they will receive their Conference Badge, which should be worn at all times, and a Conference Program.

If you misplace your badge, please come to the Conference Registration and Information Desk to have a replacement issued. For sustainability purposes, we only have one program per registrant printed. If you misplace your printed program, please access the program online at [conference.caeh.ca](http://conference.caeh.ca).

## Creating a welcoming space for all

We encourage all participants to identify their pronouns on their name badge. If you indicated your pronouns during registration, they will be printed on your badge. If you did not, we encourage you to write them in the space provided. Doing so creates a welcoming space for all delegates, regardless of their gender identity. There will be a table close to registration with a selection of markers to write your pronouns on your name badge.

We also encourage participants to share their pronouns when they introduce themselves, including during presentations and sessions.

## Simultaneous Interpretation

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English and French for all plenary sessions and a selection of concurrent sessions (identified by a  in the detailed program).

Simultaneous interpretation receivers and headphones for plenaries and selected concurrent sessions may be obtained from the distribution desk in the Pre-function B area outside Ballroom B. **A valid piece of identification (driver's license or passport) will be required as a security deposit.**

To avoid unnecessary delays in obtaining receivers, it is highly recommended that receivers and headphones be obtained well in advance of each session. Receivers should be returned at the end of each day. Identification will be returned upon presentation of the receiver and headphones. Loss or damage to equipment will result in replacement charges.

## Speaker Ready Room / Green Room

The Speaker Ready Room will be available to all speakers of plenary and concurrent sessions. The Speaker Ready Room is located at Room 205C on the Second Level. The room will be equipped with a laptop computer. Only registered speakers will be permitted entry to this area.

The Speaker Ready Room will be open:

Wednesday, November 2nd:	7:00 am to 5:00 pm
Thursday, November 3rd:	7:30 am to 5:00 pm
Friday, November 4th:	8:30 am to 11:30 am

## Lived Experience Lounge

A lounge will be available for the use of all conference participants with lived experience. The lounge is in Room 201C on the second level and will be equipped with a laptop computer and printer. The lounge will be open:

Wednesday, November 2nd:	7:30 am to 7:00 pm
Thursday, November 3rd:	8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Friday, November 4th:	8:00 am to 2:00 pm

## Quiet Room

Room 112 on the main level has been designated as a Quiet Room. The room is for those that seek a quiet space.

The room will be open:

Wednesday, November 2nd:	7:30 am to 7:00 pm
Thursday, November 3rd:	8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Friday, November 4th:	8:00 am to 1:30 pm

## Spiritual Room

Room 201A on the second level has been designated as a Spiritual Room. The room is for those that seek a peaceful space for prayer, quiet reflection or consultation with a spiritual advisor or Elder.

The room will be open:

Wednesday, November 2nd:	7:30 am to 7:00 pm
Thursday, November 3rd:	8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Friday, November 4th:	8:00 am to 1:30 pm

## Photo/Video Consent

The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH) will be taking photographs and recording video during the conference. By attending the conference, you acknowledge and agree that CAEH may photograph and/or videotape you at this event, as well as use these photographs and/or videos in any publication or media for future educational and promotional activities/materials without further notification of or any compensation to you. Selected images will assist in the promotion of future CAEH events and may be used in professional displays, advertisements, printed publications, and/or on the CAEH web site. By attending the conference, you also acknowledge and agree to waive any right to inspect or approve any future educational and promotional activities/materials that may include photographs and/or videotapes of you.

If you do not wish your image to be used please email Trish Muntain at trish@caeh.ca to withdraw consent and identify yourself at registration. Those who do not wish to be photographed will be given a red lanyard.

## Internet

Wi-Fi is an open public network available for free to all conference participants while in the Beanfield Centre.

## Plenary and Workshop Attendance

Only registered participants are permitted to attend plenary or concurrent sessions. Seating is on a first-come first-served basis. If a concurrent session is full when you arrive, please select another one to attend.

## Scent-free Conference

The CAEH recognizes that some people are sensitive to scented products and perfumes and strong odours which can precipitate severe reactions. We ask that delegates limit the use of perfumes, scented hair spray, cologne, aftershave and any other highly scented product out of respect for attendees with serious allergies. Thank you for your cooperation.

## On Site First Aid

In the event of an emergency requiring immediate help from police, fire or ambulance services call 9-1-1, before notifying staff or the paramedic. Emergency services will liaise with Beanfield Centre security and the on-site paramedic to provide treatment. Should you require the attention of first aid personnel at the conference, a paramedic will be on site. For non-emergency first aid help, please visit the registration and information desk or ask any member of the CAEH staff or Board, identifiable by their name badges.

## Security

For general assistance, please ask the conference staff at the CAEH22 Registration / Information Desk. Please do not leave laptop computers, cellular phones, and other personal valuables unattended.

## Acknowledgements

The 2022 National Conference on Ending Homelessness would like to acknowledge the support of the City of Toronto: Abigail Bond, Christopher Webb, Diala Homaidan, Gordon Tanner, Joseph Stalteri, Linda Wood, Lyne Kyle, Mercedeh Madani, and Valesa Faria and the Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness: Kira Heineck, Savannah Wilson, Veronica Snooks, Bee Lee Soh, Mardi Daley, Star (Ingrid Milford), Daniela Mergarten, and Madonna Broderick.

The National Conference on Ending Homelessness is developed in partnership with many amazing organizations who provide fantastic insights and subject matter expertise. They ensure the most relevant and impactful content is included in the program, provide guidance on the lived experience conference components, and much more.

We would like to thank Away Home Canada, the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, the Canadian Lived Experience Learning Network, the Canadian Network for the Health and Housing of People Experiencing Homelessness, the National Alliance to End Rural and Remote Homelessness, the National Right to Housing Network and the Women's National Housing & Homelessness Network.

Thank you to our volunteers, presenters and session moderators who have come from all over Canada and around the world to support the conference and share their knowledge in the pursuit of our shared mission of ending homelessness.

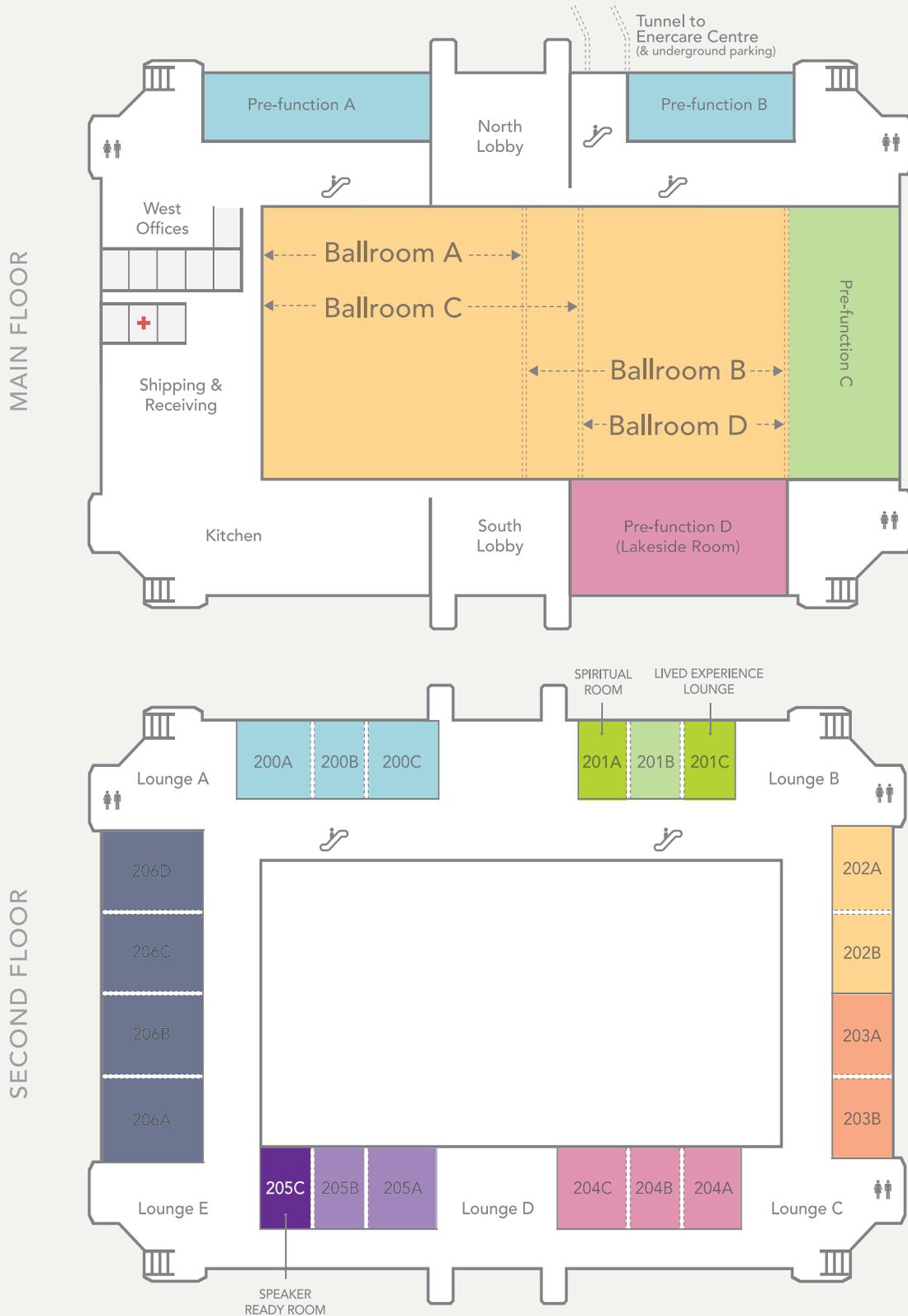
Special thanks to the small but mighty CAEH team for their hours of patient, professional and enthusiastic hard work behind the scenes on the thousand details that go into a conference like this, but most importantly for their passion, tenacity and brilliant work in service of our mission to end homelessness.

We would also like to recognize the outstanding professional event management services provided by Golden Planners Inc.

# PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

TIME	DAY 1 - WEDNESDAY, NOV 2	DAY 2 - THURSDAY, NOV 3	DAY 3 - FRIDAY, NOV 4
7:30 am			
8:00 am	<b>Continental Breakfast</b>	<b>Continental Breakfast</b>	<b>Continental Breakfast</b>
8:30 am	<b>Opening Plenary</b>	<b>Morning Plenary</b>	<b>Morning Plenary</b>
9:00 am	<i>Ballroom B</i>	Keynote - <b>Angela Robertson</b> <i>Ballroom B</i>	Keynote - <b>Loretta Ross</b> <i>Ballroom B</i>
9:30 am	<b>Refreshment Break</b>	<b>Refreshment Break</b>	<b>Refreshment Break</b>
10:00 am	<b>Concurrent Sessions A</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions D</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions G</b>
10:30 am	<i>Second Floor</i>	<i>Second Floor</i>	<i>Second Floor</i>
11:00 am	<i>Rooms 200 A - 206 D</i>	<i>Rooms 200 A - 206 D</i>	<i>Rooms 200 A - 206 D</i>
11:30 am			
12:00 am	<b>Lunch Plenary</b>	<b>Lunch Plenary</b>	<b>Closing Plenary</b>
12:30 pm	Keynote - <b>Marie-Josée Houle</b> <i>Ballroom B</i>	Keynote - <b>Vivek Shraya</b> <i>Ballroom B</i>	Keynote - <b>Armine Yalnizyan</b> 2023 Conference Announcement <i>Ballroom B</i>
1:00 pm			
1:30 pm	<b>Concurrent Sessions B</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions E</b>	
2:00 pm	<i>Second Floor</i>	<i>Second Floor</i>	
2:30 pm	<i>Rooms 200 A - 206 D</i>	<i>Rooms 200 A - 206 D</i>	
3:00 pm	<b>Refreshment Break</b>	<b>Refreshment Break</b>	
3:30 pm	<b>Concurrent Sessions C</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions F</b>	
4:00 pm	<i>Second Floor</i>	<i>Second Floor</i>	
4:30 pm	<i>Rooms 200 A - 206 D</i>	<i>Rooms 200 A - 206 D</i>	
5:00 pm	<b>Welcome Reception</b>		
5:30 pm	Hosted by the CAEH22 Toronto Host Committee		
6:00 pm	<i>Ballroom B</i>		
6:30 pm			

# FLOORPLANS



# DETAILED CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Concurrent sessions are divided into ten streams:

- |            |   |            |   |
|------------|---|------------|---|
| <b>AWH</b> | A Way Home – Youth Homelessness Prevention                  | <b>LCM</b> | Leadership, Improvement and Change Management     |
| <b>ACV</b> | Accelerating reductions in chronic and veteran homelessness | <b>LE</b>  | Lived Experience                                  |
| <b>COH</b> | Canadian Observatory on Homelessness – Research and Policy  | <b>PVN</b> | Canadian Observatory on Homelessness – Prevention |
| <b>HCH</b> | Health Care and Homelessness                                | <b>RRH</b> | Rural and Remote Homelessness                     |
| <b>HF</b>  | Housing First   | <b>RTH</b> | Realizing the Right to Housing                    |
| <b>IH</b>  | Indigenous Homelessness                                     | <b>RUH</b> | Responding to Unsheltered Homelessness            |
|            |   | <b>UP</b>  | Unique Populations                                |
|            |   | <b>WH</b>  | Women’s Homelessness                              |

 - Live streaming  - Simultaneous interpretation available

**DAY 1** WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2022

**8:00 am** **Continental Breakfast**  
PRE-FUNCTION B

**8:30 – 9:30 am** **Opening Plenary**  
BALLROOM B  




**9:30 – 10:00 am** **Refreshment Break**  
PRE-FUNCTION B

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS A**

**10:00 – 11:30 am** **ACV3: Ending Veteran Homelessness**  
ROOM 201 B

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Ending Veteran Homelessness is within reach in Canada. A growing number of communities across Canada are committing to a Functional End to Veteran Homelessness. Learn from communities across Canada who are leading the way in building political will, leadership, collaboration, innovative strategies, and coordination across the homeless response system and Veteran organizations. While this session is focused on veterans, lessons learned can be applied to other population groups, particularly those that require coordinated efforts across multiple sectors.

Presenters: Collaborative Solutions to Ending Veteran Homelessness, Andrea Ness, Homeward Trust Edmonton  
London, Ontario - Elle Lane, City of London, Laura Cornish, The City of London  
New Brunswick - Jason Green, Human Development Council

**10:00 – 11:30 am** **AWH1: Investing in Early and Upstream Efforts to Prevent Youth Homelessness**  
ROOM 206 D



Sponsored by  

Hear from diverse and complementary voices as they share the social innovations that are driving positive changes for youth facing housing instability and the justice system in their communities. Discover transformation practices like resourcing existing networks and wrap-around family supports and learn more about the connection between housing instability and the justice system for youth.

Presenters: Early Intervention with Youth Connected to the Justice System, Nick Blouin, Homeward Trust Edmonton, Andrea Kocken, YMCA of Northern Alberta  
Chosen Family Hosting: Investing in the Adults Already in Young People’s Lives, Mallory VanMeeter, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
‘Implementing Innovation’: Transformational Practices in Youth Homelessness Prevention, Amanda Buchnea, Making the Shift Inc.

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 204 C

### COH1: Spotlight on Race and Racism in Housing and Homelessness

Racialized people are overrepresented in the homeless population largely due to long-standing historical and structural racism. This session aims to bring awareness to past and present anti-Black racism in Canada and its role in creating housing hardships and homelessness among Black communities. Attendees will learn about emerging research on the pathways into homelessness for Black youth, and the distinct roles of the youth justice and child protection systems. This session will also discuss the significant cohort of racialized staff working in organizations serving this population, their mental health stressors, and their needs. Attendees will learn how supervisors can promote positive mental health outcomes for racialized staff.

**Presenters:** The Strengths and Resilience of Racialized People with Lived Experience who are also Frontline Workers, Ashley Wilkinson, School of Health Sciences, University of Northern British Columbia, Rebecca Schiff, Faculty of Human and Health Sciences – UNBC, Alana Jones, Director Housing Access and Support Services, Fred Victor Housing

Seeing in Colour: A Framework to Address Anti-Black Racism in Housing and Homelessness, Marie Cecile Kotyk, University of Calgary

Mapping the Pathways to Black Youth Homelessness, Nathan Okonta, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, Emmanuel Banchani, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 204 A

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Giving Hope Today

### HCH1: How to Prepare for a Future Pandemic and its Impact on People Experiencing Homelessness

This session will cover three key learnings from a longitudinal COVID-19 cohort study of people experiencing homelessness that was conducted in Toronto with 700 participants. It'll provide compelling evidence of how making peer researchers with lived experiences of homelessness active and integral members of a research team can generate impactful insights and dismantle harmful institutional practices. It will illustrate ways to leverage data and social network models to forecast the probability, size, and severity of potential outbreaks at shelters. And it'll review some of the factors involved in vaccine decision-making and the risk of infection for people experiencing homelessness.

**Presenters:** The COVENANT Study: Lessons Learned from Conducting a Cohort Study Measuring Incidence and Prevalence of COVID-19 Among People Experiencing Homelessness in Toronto, Olivia Spandier, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions at St. Michael's Hospital

The COVENANT Study: Findings from a COVID-19 Cohort Study of People Experiencing Homelessness in Toronto, Jesse Jenkinson, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 200 B

Sponsored by



Giving Hope Today

### HCH7: Service Adaptations During Large-Scale Emergencies

Including Presenters from New York City and Victoria, this session will offer a well-rounded perspective from both community-based research and an implemented frontline program on how we can adapt and lead with compassion, to ensure ongoing critical service delivery for persons experiencing homelessness during large-scale emergencies like a pandemic.

**Presenters:** HELP USA's New York City Transitional Housing Covid-19 Vaccine Peer Support Group Program: Evidenced-based responses to client vaccine hesitancy, Ashwin Parulkar, HELP USA

A Transdisciplinary Model for Crisis Planning and Response: the impact of COVID-19 isolation practices on service delivery to persons experiencing homelessness and concurrent disorders, Michael Young, Royal Roads University ; Rana Van Tuyl, associée de recherche, Université Royal Roads.

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 203 B



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### HF1: New Directions in Fidelity Assessment of Housing First Programs

As Housing First continues to be a best practice housing intervention for people experiencing chronic homelessness with complex needs, adaptations to Housing First also occur. But with adaptations, you run the risk of creating challenges in maintaining fidelity to the model. It has been proven conclusively that the higher the fidelity, the better the outcomes. In this interactive workshop-style session, experts in Housing First fidelity will discuss what fidelity means and share different approaches to assessing the fidelity of Housing First programs.

**Presenters:** Tim Aubry, University of Ottawa

Wally Czech, Director of Training and Technical Assistance Program CAEH

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 206 B

### IH1: Creating For Indigenous, By Indigenous Housing Solutions

Hear from two diverse and complementary narratives as Presenters share about how endorsed leadership and the empowerment of Indigenous leaders and Indigenous strategies are resulting in emerging solutions and positive impacts in British Columbia and Wellington, New Zealand.

**Presenter:** Developing Innovative Indigenous-Led Solutions to Address Homelessness, Celeste Hayward, Aboriginal Housing Management Association, Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi, Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness

When you are no longer Tangata Whenua on your own Whenua, Ali Hamlin-Paenga, Kahungunu Whanau Services

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 200 C



### LCM1: Leadership Amidst a Pandemic: What We Are Learning

Amid a global pandemic, leaders in the housing and homelessness sector are facing the difficult task of being adaptable while keeping their organization's operations running. At the same time, we have witnessed outstanding examples of adaptability, rapid innovation, and collaborations that exceed pre-pandemic experiences. In this session, leaders from the housing, homelessness and health sectors in Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom will share lessons learned and key insights on the future of housing and healthcare services for people experiencing homelessness.

Presenters: Dr. Andrew Bond, Inner City Health Associates (Canada)  
 Dr. Monty Gosh, Alberta Health Services (Canada)  
 David Pearson, Australia Alliance to End Homelessness (Australia)  
 Rick Henderson, Homeless Link (U.K.)  
 Matt Downie, Crisis (U.K.)

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 206 C



### LE1: Revisioning the Principles of Engagement and Inclusion of People with Lived Experience of Homelessness - Session One

The Canadian Lived Experience Leadership Network will outline the history of the creation of the 7 Principles. These Principles were created and published over eight years ago, but don't fully reflect a diverse voice, and the depth of necessary involvement of lived experience individuals. The Taskforce of Lived Experts discuss why this work is important to them as the evolution towards an inclusive and comprehensive toolkit for policymakers, funders, programs and services is created.

Presenters: Michelle Bilek, Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness and Peel Alliance to End Homelessness

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 202 A/B



### PVN1: Thinking Beyond the Homelessness Sector

Preventing homelessness requires many sectors and all levels of government to take responsibility and work together. The session will share an example of bringing researchers and community leaders together to find the intersections of their work to create real policy-oriented solutions to homelessness. Attendees will also learn about new research on preventing homelessness among people released from prison and the policies and best practices needed so youth discharged from child welfare services can successfully transition to adulthood.

Presenters: The Québec Homelessness Prevention Policy Coalition (Q-HPPC): working together towards new frontiers in prevention policy, James Hughes, Old Brewery Mission  
 Preventing Homelessness Following Prison Release: What does the literature point us towards?, Eric Latimer, Douglas Research Centre/McGill University  
 Child Protection Services and Youth Homelessness: Findings of the 2019 National Youth Homelessness Survey in Canada, Ahmad Bonakdar, York University

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 203 A



### RRH1: Transforming Supportive Housing to Address the Needs of Rural Communities: A Catalyst for Change

This session will explore new research findings on the housing experiences of individuals living in rural and remote communities. Presenters will also provide examples of innovative, people-centred housing and support models created in response to evolving community needs, geared to address the specific challenges of rural and remote tenants.

Presenters: Three Models of Rural Emergency Shelters: Exploring the Participant Experience and Lessons Learned, Ellen Buck-McFadyen, Trent University  
 Making It Work: Embracing Unique Social Enterprise Opportunities to Address Experiences of Trauma, Precarious Housing, and Homelessness in a Multi-use Facility, Sachiko Miller, YWCA Banff, Reave MacLeod, YWCA Banff, Ellen Thuringer, YWCA Banff

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 206 A



### UP1: Ending Post-Custody Homelessness

Far too many people are released from prison into homelessness and face blatant discrimination in the housing market. The John Howard Society of Canada will share some of the lessons learned from its CMHC-funded solution lab on this complex housing challenge. It will describe an approach that would use the strengths of this disenfranchised group to increase housing stock and promote the right to housing for all.

Presenters: Ending Post-Custody Homelessness, Catherine Latimer, John Howard Society of Canada

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 200 A



## WH1: It Ends with Us – Advancing the Right to Housing for Women and Gender-Diverse People in Canada

This session will provide the groundwork for building an intersectional feminist agenda for the right to housing in Canada. Drawing on two human rights claims developed by the Women's National Housing and Homelessness Network and the National Indigenous Feminist Housing Working Group, this participatory session will identify gendered violations of the right to housing in Canada, explore what a rights-based approach to housing means, discuss how we can use the National Housing Strategy Act to advance housing justice for women, and map out where we go from here.

Presenter: Khulud Baig, Women's National Housing and Homelessness Network & Keepers of the Circle  
Marie McGregor Pitawanakwat, Szhibeegen Training Services  
Dr. Kaitiin Schwan, Women's National Housing and Homelessness Network

11:30 – 1:30 pm

BALLROOM B



## Lunch Plenary

Keynote: **Marie-Josée Houle**, Federal Housing Advocate



### CONCURRENT SESSIONS B

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 201 B

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Canada

## ACV1: Government of Canada's Approach Towards Ending Chronic and Veteran Homelessness

The Government of Canada has committed to working towards an end to homelessness and is developing a new program for veterans experiencing homelessness that will provide rent supplements and Housing First supports. This session will discuss key themes learned from recent stakeholder engagement and roundtables to inform the next steps in eliminating chronic and veteran homelessness. Participants will have the opportunity to directly engage with Infrastructure Canada officials to provide input on these findings, as well ask questions on the federal government's approach to addressing chronic and veteran homelessness.

Presenters: The Impact of the Shift to a Broader Understanding of Chronic Homelessness, Patrick Hunter, Infrastructure Canada  
Helping Inform the Government of Canada's Approach to Ending Chronic Homelessness, Jacqueline Rivier, Government of Canada, Jonathan Rivard, ESDC  
The Government of Canada's Veteran Homelessness Program, Noah Turner, Infrastructure Canada, Manuela Duque, Infrastructure Canada

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 206 C



Sponsored by



## AWH2: The Dynamics Around "Home" for Youth Experiencing Homelessness

This engaging and interactive session will use mixed mediums including videos co-designed by youth, to convey learnings from young people about topics like socio-economic inclusion and commonly encountered elements like shared amenities and privacy rights. You'll also discover an innovative pilot program called the Boreal, which was conceptualized with unified data points and frontline knowledge.

Presenters: "Home is not really a place": Young adults post-homelessness experiences of (dis)connection, identity, and belonging., Naomi Thulien, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions, St. Michael's Hospital  
By Youth For Youth - Youth Breaking Barriers Project, Samantha Saige Lobb, Youth Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stabilization Strategy, Bonnie Harkness, 360kids Support Services  
Data-Driven Innovation: A Pilot Housing Program for High-Needs Youth under 18, Nicole Jackson, Trellis, Jen Hosie, Trellis

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 200 B

## COH2: Reconciliation in Research and Practice

In this session, we will learn from the Indigenous-led initiatives, programs, and organizations that are working to keep Indigenous Peoples housed. We'll explore The Victoria Declaration, a tangible tool for dialogue on the ways governance works that supports diverse communities in collaborative decision-making. Attendees will also learn about the By Youth For Youth project, where Indigenous youth who had previously experienced homelessness led a peer-driven project designed to support other Indigenous youth experiencing homelessness in Northwestern Ontario.

Presenters: Relational Ripple Effects: Transforming relationships and systems through The Victoria Declaration, Renee Beausoleil, University of Alberta  
Journey to Reconciliation: Indigenous Perspectives on Homelessness Prevention, Betty Edel, End Homelessness Winnipeg, Cathy Fournier, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness  
How Indigenous Youth Peer Mentorship Can Act as a Path Forward, Hugette Carty, Dilico Anishinabek Family Care

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 203 A



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Giving  
Hope  
Today

## HCH8: Improving Specialised Healthcare Access and Outcomes for People Experiencing Homelessness

51.2 percent of people experiencing homelessness have suffered from head injuries. A disproportionate number have also experienced inequities in accessing and receiving quality of care services for the treatment of conditions like cardiovascular disease and diabetes. In this session, we will explore the research and data behind these concerning facts and consider novel solutions to both prevention and treatment.

**Presenters:** Cardiovascular Care Experiences of People Experiencing Homelessness and the Future Co-Design of a New Cardiac Care Program: Community-Based Research in Toronto, Jillian Macklin, University of Toronto  
Improving Diabetes Care for People Experiencing Homelessness: using data linkage to identify existing disparities in service use and opportunities for intervention, Kathryn Wiens, University of Toronto  
Exploring Health Inequities: Head Injuries in People Experiencing Homelessness, Emily Angus, Western University

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 203 B



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## HF2: Research on Housing First

With over 1,000 academic articles and studies already done on the effectiveness of Housing First, the models success continues to drive even more research. This session will highlight three different research projects on Housing First, including a study on the impact of COVID on Housing First delivery, one on the level of service engagement related to financial incentives, and a study on predictors of housing instability. Hear important data and conclusions drawn from this research that may assist you in improving your Housing First delivery.

**Presenters:** The Impact of COVID-19 and the Associated Public Health Responses on the Health, Social Well-Being and Food Security of Users of Housing First Services in Toronto, Cilia Mejia-Lancheros, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions  
The impact of Financial Incentives on Service Engagement of Homeless Adults, Vicky Stergiopoulos, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health  
Predictors of Housing Instability Among People Who Have Received 24 Months of Housing First Services, Ayda Agha, University of Ottawa; Maryann Roebuck, University of Ottawa

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 206 B

## IH2: Core Strengths, Barriers and Emergent Needs of Indigenous Persons Experiencing Homelessness

Pre-pandemic, Indigenous Peoples were already overrepresented amongst the homeless population in Canada. They then experienced housing loss, vaccination hesitancy, movement and service barriers during the COVID-19 pandemic. This session will highlight informed perspectives, research and teachings on promoting security in life transitions and offer recommendations on the value of Indigenous cultural safety and data management in healthcare practices.

**Presenters:** Ethical Considerations & Reflections on Community-Based Research with Indigenous Youth Experiencing Homelessness, Mikaela Gabriel, Waakebiness Institute for Indigenous Health; Sabina Mirza, Waakebiness Institute for Indigenous Health, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto.  
The Covenant Study: COVID-19 and Indigenous Vaccination Hesitancy, Experiences from the Streets, Suzanne Stewart, Waakebiness-Bryce Institute for Indigenous Health/U of T; Sarah Ponton, Student, University of Toronto.

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 204 A

## IH3: Cultivating an Ecology of Cultural Safety as a Path to Alleviating Indigenous Homelessness

In this session, participants will learn about tangible examples of how organizations can develop Indigenous-led capacity building and land-based healing strategies as key drivers toward ending Indigenous homelessness.

**Presenters:** Cultivating an Indigenous Learning Ecology Towards Culturally Safe Homelessness Services, Andrea Jibb, Atlohsa Family Healing Services  
Wiigiwaaminaan - Our Lodge: Land Based healing to Alleviate Indigenous Homelessness, Terri King, Atlohsa Family Healing Services

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 206 D



## LCM3: How to Create an Organizational Culture of Mental Health and Well Being

Frontline staff working with people at risk of or experiencing homelessness face challenging situations daily. These experiences can lead to trauma, fatigue, and burnout. Learn about the importance of mental health and wellness for staff providing frontline service to people experiencing homelessness. Presenters will offer practical strategies and experiences that leaders can implement in their own organizations.

**Presenters:** Jessica Day, Youth Empowerment & Support Services  
Wally Czech, Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 204 C

## LE2: Revisioning the Principles of Engagement and Inclusion of People with Lived Experience of Homelessness - Session Two

In Session Two, participants will have an opportunity to review, discuss and engage with the revised Principles of Engagement and Inclusion of People with Lived Experience of Homelessness. The Principles Taskforce will invite lived experts and others to discuss and provide feedback on the Principles and other tools created.

Presenters: Michelle Bilek, Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness and Peel Alliance to End Homelessness

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 200 C



## RRH2: Collecting Meaningful Data to Leverage Change in Rural and Remote Communities

Rural and remote communities in Canada have disproportionately high rates of homelessness, with individuals experiencing greater difficulty in securing adequate and affordable housing. This session outlines the importance of collecting meaningful data to get an accurate snapshot of the scope and extent of homelessness in rural and remote communities, as well as how that data can be leveraged to create change.

Presenters: Counting the Undercounted: Enumerating Rural Homelessness in Canada, Rebecca Schiff, Ashley Wilkinson  
Faculty of Human and Health Sciences - UNBC

Bridging Theory and Practice: Intersectional Approaches to Rural and Remote Homelessness, Emma Wallace,  
Rural Development Network; Hayley Cressall, Rural Development Network

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 200 A



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## RTH1: Advancing Culturally Safe Housing: An Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy

What does culturally safe and adequate housing look like for Indigenous peoples living in urban, rural, and northern spaces? This session discusses the Aboriginal Housing Management Association's (AHMA) strategic approach to advancing the right to housing for Indigenous peoples living off-reserve through the development and implementation of their Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy (URNIS). They will discuss why culturally safe housing for Indigenous peoples living off-reserve is a core aspect of the right to housing. Participants will leave this session with tools and solutions to advance a rights-based approach to housing for urban, rural, and northern Indigenous communities, and support stakeholders interested in funding, developing, and delivering culturally safe housing models.

Presenters: Margaret Pfoh, Aboriginal Housing Management Association  
Celeste Hayward, Assistant Director, Aboriginal Housing Management Assoc.

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 202 A/B



## RUH1: Ending Homelessness for People Living in Encampments in Canada

What are the necessary measures for responding to an encampment that values solutions to homelessness over enforcement? This session outlines how to end homelessness for people living in encampments in such a way that the housing and support needs of people living in encampments are front and center in all considerations and provides case study examples of how the process and approach work.

Presenters: Iain De Jong, President & CEO of OrgCode Consulting Inc.

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 206 A



## WH2: Centering Women's Lived Experience to Address Housing Need and Design

The disparate housing needs and preferences based on gender and intersectional lived experiences is becoming recognized and supported in emerging research. This session is comprised of two presentations. The presentation, Suitability and Culture: Considerations for Women-Centered Housing Design, will identify the considerations that define women-centered housing from multiple angles to ensure safe, accessible, and appropriate housing for women who have experienced violence. The speakers will present key lessons from their work, specifically, design considerations for women-centered housing that is: culturally appropriate, based on consultation with housing experts, architects, and developers, and grounds the lived experiences of Black, Indigenous, and Women of Colour who have experienced violence. The other presentation, Centering Women's Housing Needs in British Columbia, is an overview of the housing-focused research and projects currently being undertaken by the BC Society of Transition Houses. A key theme among all of the projects is the identified need for housing that is appropriate, safe, and accessible for women who have experienced violence.

Presenters: Suitability and Culture: Considerations for Women-Centered Housing Design, Victoria Barclay, The University of British Columbia

Centering Women's Housing Needs in British Columbia, Kaayla Ashlie, BC Society of Transition Houses

3:00 – 3:30 pm

PRE-FUNCTION B

## Refreshment Break

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS C**

**3:30 – 5:00 pm**

ROOM 206 D



Sponsored by



**ACV2: Toronto’s Rapid Rehousing Initiative, STARS Assessment Tool, and Use of Data to Drive Change**

This session will showcase three of Toronto’s recent initiatives in their work to continually improve their local system to accelerate reductions in homelessness. Learn about their Service Triage Assessment and Referral Support (STARS) tool, which takes a person-centred, holistic, and relationship-building approach to assessment. Hear about how their shelter system flow data is making a significant impact in areas from strategic planning to client-level success. Gain insights into how innovation and partnerships amongst the public sector and the community can drive rapid rehousing.

**Presenters:** Innovative Partnerships Drive the Successful Outcomes of Toronto’s Rapid Rehousing Initiative, Renee Lavallee, City of Toronto, Dan Kershaw, Furniture Bank, Ashley Fontaine, Toronto Community Housing  
Toronto’s STARS Common Assessment Tool, Alison Kooistra, City of Toronto, Stephanie Doucett, Aboriginal Labour Force Development Circle  
How Toronto’s Shelter System Flow Data is Driving Change, Stephanie Malcher, City of Toronto, Wondu Amenu, City of Toronto

**3:30 – 5:00 pm**

ROOM 204 A

Sponsored by



**AWH3: The Intersectional Realities of Youth Homelessness Interventions**

Drawing from primary data collection, interview results, and a preventative strategy, this session, co-presented by survivors of sex trafficking, will confront difficult realities for homeless youth. This emerging vulnerable population is susceptible to exploitation. Respectful structural support for the rights and dignity of young people trying to escape homelessness is a necessary part of meaningful prevention. We’ll examine policy alternatives and key interventions for making spaces safe for youth and assisting them along the housing journey.

**Presenter:** Youth Homelessness and Sex Trafficking in Canada, Amanda Noble, Covenant House Toronto  
Soft Landing & Rapid Re-Housing Initiative, Greg Quinn, Choices for Youth  
Get it Right: Transitional Housing Occupancy Agreements to Support the Legal and Human Rights of Young People, Clare Millgate, Justice for Children and Youth

**3:30 – 5:00 pm**

ROOM 201 B

Sponsored by



**HCH2: Finding Common Ground: Leveraging Hospital Data to Support the Health of People Experiencing Homelessness**

At the intersection of homelessness and healthcare, we’ll investigate reliable standardized data to consider the potential common ground for patients identified as homeless and the impact of service restrictions on their physical, mental, and social health. We will then explore opportunities for interventions through an interactive discussion.

**Presenters:** Identifying People Experiencing Homelessness in Canadian Administrative Health Data: A National Perspective, Kinsey Beck, Canadian Institute for Health Information, Diana Ridgeway, Canadian Institute for Health Information  
Nowhere To Go: Shelter Restrictions and their Health Effects on Individuals Deprived of Housing, Avital Pitkis, McMaster University  
Social Isolation and Loneliness Among Individuals with Lived Homelessness Experience: A Review of the Literature, Ayan Yusuf, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions

**3:30 – 5:00 pm**

ROOM 200 B

Sponsored by



**HCH9: Creating Safe Spaces in Unprecedented Circumstances - Extreme Heat and the Pandemic**

When abnormal circumstances take place both locally and globally, it can impact us all. Often the most affected are those experiencing homelessness. Learn how two of the most populated provinces dealt with unprecedented situations and developed systems to safeguard the well being of their most marginalized community members. We’ll explore how BC housing and health service providers recognized the need for reliable systems during the recent extreme heat wave and wildfires and how you can prepare and protect your communities in similar situations. We will also discover how a newly opened shelter hotel and urban hospital in Ontario collaborated to create a de facto recovery space during the pandemic, how you can implement this approach in your community, and why permanent recovery spaces are essential to health care systems moving forward.

**Presenters:** Extreme Heat Response: Protection and Preparation for Marginalized Communities, Magdalena Szpala, BC Housing, Michael Schwandt, Vancouver Coastal Health  
Care and Collaboration – the Possibilities of Shelter Hotel and Hospital Partnership, Kate Francombe Pridham, Unity Health Toronto ; David Reycraft, Director, Director of Housing, Homelessness Services, Dixon Hall Neighbourhood Services

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 206 A



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### HF3: Variations in Housing First Programs

To address the variations in communities where Housing First is being implemented, there has been the need to develop adaptations in the model without distorting the core principles. This session highlights three variations in Housing First program delivery including a condominium project, incorporating natural supports in a youth program, and an ACT model specific to the justice environment. They will provide lessons learned and tangible ideas and strategies participants can take and implement in their own projects if applicable.

**Presenters:** CMHA Ottawa's Condominium Program: Building Success in Housing First, Stéphanie Manoni-Millar, University of Ottawa, Leif Harris, Making the Shift, Lisa Medd, CMHA Ottawa  
Housing First / Act Team Model Applied to the Criminal Justice System: the lessons we learned, Jason Medford, Cota  
Youth Housing First and the Natural Supports Framework, Sarah Ali Sanchez, Trellis Society for Community Impact

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 206 B

### IH5: Holistic perspectives on addressing and preventing First Nations homelessness

The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) will present on how its work across policy sectors aims to better understand and prevent First Nations homelessness using a holistic approach, while supporting First Nations self-determination.

Participants will hear how research and engagement on First Nation's priorities related to homelessness within and away from First Nations communities is informing the development of a National First Nations Action Plan. This work is being done in support of the National First Nations Housing & Related Infrastructure Strategy, and participants will also hear about how this strategy supports the transition of First Nations housing to First Nations care and control.

To instill a sense of hope, belonging, meaning, and purpose in those who are affected by both homelessness and mental wellness, First Nations perspectives need to be at the centre of any actions towards ending homelessness. Using the First Nations Mental Wellness Continuum Framework and Honouring Our Strengths framework on substance misuse as a starting point and guide to support those at this intersection can help shed light on the importance of culture as an intervention.

The underfunding of First Nations Child and Family Services in Canada has had a devastating effect on First Nations children, families, and communities. The effects of underfunding have put First Nations former youth in care at disproportionate risk of experiencing homelessness. In response to this noted risk and calls from First Nations, the AFN has long advocated for reform of the First Nations Child and Family Service Program. This session will highlight new opportunities that reform to the FNCFS program brings to mitigate the risk that First Nations former youth in care experience homelessness.

**Presenters:** Jordan Fischer, AFN, Daniel Gaspe, AFN, Nelson Alisappi, AFN, Jordan Bates-Wright, AFN

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 204 C

### LCM4: Leading System Change through Governance Models to End Homelessness

Governance plays an important role in determining how local homeless systems function. It guides vision, decision-making, resources, collaboration, and performance measures. There is not a "one size fits all" local governance model for ending homelessness. This session will highlight different governance models in Australia and Canada. Each local governance model will highlight opportunities and challenges within their models for other communities to consider in their efforts to end homelessness.

**Presenter:** Iain De Jong, OrgCode  
Leanne Mitchell, Brimbank City Council (Australia)

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 200 A



### LCM5: Rising to the Challenge: A Panel Discussion on Re-imagining Leadership in Ending Homelessness

During these uncertain times, local efforts to end homelessness require a different leadership style and approach. Leaders must re-examine strategic direction while managing ambiguity. The panel discussion is designed to take an in-depth look at the experiences, behaviours, and strategies needed to be effective. The insights gained will encourage you to challenge yourself to discover your leadership identity and how you choose to 'show up' in your work each day. Together, let's re-imagine the kind of leaders it will take to end homelessness.

**Presenters:** Anna McGregor, County of Dufferin  
Jamie Rogers, Medicine Hat Community Housing Society  
Susan McGee, Homeward Trust Edmonton  
Dawn Wheadon, Greater Moncton Homelessness Steering Committee

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 203 B



### LE3: Pathways Forward: Integrating People with Lived Experience of Homelessness in Program Development

People with lived experience of homelessness can be invaluable in providing sensitive and appropriate interventions and supports. This session provides concrete, actionable knowledge that will aid organizations who wish to engage people with lived experience of homelessness in all phases of program development. Helping frontline workers and sector leaders build stronger programs and accelerate progress towards ending homelessness.

Presenter: 3 Challenges & 10 Recommendations to Integrate PWLE in Program Development, Katie Price, Operation Come Home

Mentor/Mentee Canada and Peer House Toronto's Template for PWLE to Become Leaders, Elizabeth Tremblay, Mentor/Mentee Canada

Multiple Different Ways in which PLWEs Can be Enlisted to Provide their Expertise, Alana Jones, Fred Victor Housing ; Jeannette Waegemakers Schiff, Professor University of Calgary.

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 200 C



### PVN2: Politics of Prevention

This session will highlight how communities are relying on data, brokering dialogues and developing community engagement strategies to reimagine and bolster prevention efforts across Canada. The first presentation will share early results of an Ontario youth systems' data audit, which analyzed whether existing data-driven strategies are leading to timely, equitable, and appropriate government actions. The second presentation will explore community perceptions of, and responses to, homelessness in three midsize Ontario cities and how they've worked to counter NIMBY discourses. The final presentation will share a case study series of supportive housing sites in British Columbia that overcame community opposition and developed positive relationships with neighbours.

Presenters: Staying Put: Reimagining our response to preventing homelessness in mid-size cities, Erin Dej, Wilfrid Laurier University, Jason Webb, Wilfrid Laurier University, Jessica Braimoh, York University

Coordinated Access and the Politics of Prevention, Naomi Nichols, Trent University ; Sarah Cullingham, Doctoral Student, Trent University

Ideas and Tools for Community Acceptance of Supportive Housing, Violet Hayes, Island Crisis Care Society, Rebecca Siggner, Manager, Research, BC Housing

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 202 A/B



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### RTH2: More than Four Walls and a Roof: Ensuring Adequate Housing

Housing adequacy is about more than just four walls and a roof: it is about having access to safe and stable housing in which residents can feel at home. This session will explore and offer best practices for various tangible and intangible elements of housing adequacy within the shelter and supportive housing spaces. Participants will gain access to a set of practical standards which could be implemented to ensure adequate, safe, and stable supportive housing, and will also learn about the role of relationships and belonging in securing and maintaining a "home." Participants will also walk away with tangible strategies for fostering this sense of belonging and home for people across the housing spectrum.

Presenters: How Standards of Excellence and Quality Assurance Systems are essential in realizing the right to adequate, safe, and stable Supportive Housing, Noora Badr, Homeward Trust Edmonton

Journeys to Home, Georgia Mackenzie-MacPherson, Homeless Connect Toronto, Alexander Zsager, Community Researcher, Homeless Connect Toronto

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 203 A



### RUH2: Resilience and Resistance: An Encampment Counter-Narrative

Drawing from in-depth resources including community-engaged studies, policy frameworks, and literature reviews, the Presenters of this session will explore the realities and tensions of homeless encampments with a people-first perspective, discuss how to mobilize a human rights framework, and offer interventions based on the unique strengths and needs of this population.

Presenters: 'We Are Not the Virus' - Evaluation of Encampment Outreach Supports in Toronto during the COVID-19 pandemic, Zoë Dodd, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions, St. Michael's Hospital, Unity Health; South Riverdale Community Health Centre

The Encampment Paradox: Claiming and Violating the Right to Housing, Sue-Ann MacDonald, Université de Montréal

Une recherche participative et ethnographique sur la réalité des personnes qui habitent la rue: leurs besoins, leurs forces et leurs capacités, Caroline Leblanc, Making the Shift

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 206 C



### UP2: Disrupting Discrimination of People Experiencing Homelessness through Community-Based Arts Initiatives

Discrimination towards people with experiences of homelessness remains a significant barrier to accessing housing, healthcare, and other critical resources. This session will directly address this discrimination, the ways in which it perpetuates homelessness, and how dismantling the discrimination is a key step in ending homelessness. It'll begin with an overview of emerging research in this area, and then feature presentations from three community & arts-based projects that are working to disrupt discrimination against people with experiences of homelessness in Vancouver, Calgary, and Montreal.

Presenters: Rachel Weldrick, Simon Fraser University  
 Eduardo Della Foresta, Atelier Mobile Montreal  
 Alison Grittner, University of Calgary  
 Lin Chen, Simon Fraser University

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 204 B

### CSTN - Canadian Shelter Transformation Network Session

An Invitation for all Shelter Management and Shelter Workers to join Co-Chairs Sandra Clarkson from the Calgary Drop In and James Hughes from Mission Old Brewery in a conversation with Iain Dejong from OrgCode on the latest Shelter Transformation Guidelines, and possible Policy Advocacy and Community of Practice sessions for the Network in 2023. Also joining this session will be Kevin Web from The Calgary Drop In.

5:00 – 6:30 pm

BALLROOM B

### Welcome Reception

Hosted in partnership with the CAEH22 Toronto Host City. Light refreshments will be served. Cash bar available.

**DAY 2**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2022

8:00 – 8:30 am

**Continental Breakfast**

PRE-FUNCTION B

8:30 – 9:30 am

**Morning Plenary**

Keynote: **Angela Robertson**  
Executive Director Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre



BALLROOM B



9:30 – 10:00 am

**Refreshment Break**

PRE-FUNCTION B

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS D**

10:00 – 11:30 am

**AWH4: At the Ground Level - Communities Investing in Youth Homelessness Prevention**

ROOM 203 B



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Be inspired by the collective impact approach communities in BC and Québec have taken to engage a variety of stakeholders, including youth, in understanding the scope of youth homelessness and mobilizing prevention activities including the development of a coalition and an agency.

Presenter: The Edmonton Youth Agency Collaboration (YAC): Building a Collaborative, Strategic, System of Complex Care for Youth with Multiple Agencies, Margo Long, YES

No Where to Go: Learnings from the Peer-Led Youth Homelessness Report in Penticton, B.C., Jamie Lloyd-Smith, City of Penticton, Melisa Edgerly, City of Penticton

The Jeunes+ Coalition, Cécile Arbaud, Dans la rue

10:00 – 11:30 am

**COH3: The State of Homelessness in Canada: Using Federal Data**

ROOM 200 A



How many people are homeless in Canada? In this session, attendees will learn how different community and national data sources can work together to give a clearer picture of the state of homelessness. Attendees will also learn how the federal government is working toward filling gaps in the national picture of homelessness, and the essential role data collection plays in homelessness prevention efforts.

Presenter: Working with Homelessness Data Sources: Community and National-Level Data, Annie Duchesne, Government of Canada, Sajidul Quayum, Infrastructure Canada

How Many People Experience Homelessness in Canada? A New National Estimate, Annie Duchesne, Government of Canada

Homelessness Prevention and First-Time Emergency Shelter Users in Canada, Ian Cooper, Infrastructure Canada

10:00 – 11:30 am

**HCH3: Innovations in Action: Peer Support in the Emergency Department and Healthcare on the Streets**

ROOM 204 A

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Hear from trailblazers across the country who are piloting new programs to improve the healthcare access and experience for people experiencing homelessness. We'll delve into how the Peer Support workers with lived experience program at Toronto's University Health Network has transformed care practices, patient experience, and staff in the emergency department. We'll then learn how the regions of the Fraser Valley in BC and York in Ontario are navigating their medical systems to bring healthcare out of the hospital and onto the streets to better prioritize and address the needs of vulnerable populations.

Presenters: Peers in the Emergency Department: A Community-Hospital Collaboration to Improve the Healthcare of People Experiencing Homelessness, Jennifer Hulme, University Health Network

Integrated Homelessness Action Response Teams (IHART): Building Meaningful Community Connections for Improved Health Outcomes, Tabitha McLaughlin, Fraser Health, Dana Ryane, Fraser Health Authority

Integration of Health Services in Emergency Housing Services: Examination of How Providers can Build and Leverage Partnerships to Support Health Care Needs of Clients Experiencing Homelessness, Amalee Lavigne, Blue Door; Jessica Bondy, House of Friendship

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 203 A



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### HF4: Housing First Principles in Practice

Join us for two great presentations focusing on a couple of the key Housing First principles essential in maintaining and promoting positive outcomes. You will learn about housing navigation and choice within a coordinated entry system, as well as how a service array in programs of the At Home/Chez Soi study paved the way for success in ending homelessness for participants.

Presenters: Using Qualitative Analysis and the Housing First Theory of Change to Assess housing Stability, Healthcare Services, and Social Support: Gender-Based Analysis of Data from the At Home/Chez Soi Study, Samira Alfayumi-Zeadna, MAP Centre for UrbanHealth Solutions

Clinically Focused Housing Navigation: Supporting Consumer Choice in a Coordinated Entry System, Andrea Dakin, AIDS Foundation Chicago

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 206 B

### IH6: Indigenous Resurgence: Engaging Traditional Concepts and Frameworks to Address Indigenous Homelessness

Centered on Indigenous Resurgence, this session will introduce the nêhiyaw concepts of wâhkôhtowin and wikiwin in the context of housing policy and provide a practical framework for addressing Indigenous Homelessness. It will also draw the correlation between housing and cultural revitalization and demonstrate how empowering women's traditional roles in communities through engagement, training and resources can lead to sustainable housing self-determination.

Presenters: wâhkôhtowin, wikiwin and LandBack: Practical Applications, Celina Vipond, Cheyenne Greyeyes, MacEwan University

Indigenizing Housing: Self-Determination, Land Restitution and Environmentally Sustainable Futures, Alexandra Bridges, Keepers of the Circle, Khulud Baig, Women's National Housing and Homelessness Network & Keepers of the Circle

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 204 C

### LCM2: Leadership in Landlord Relations

Canada is experiencing an unprecedented housing crisis that calls for leaders to embrace change and work collaboratively towards creating more inclusive and equitable communities. This session will highlight two unique perspectives on landlord relations. You'll learn about a commercial landlords' formative experiences that can be replicated to find innovative housing solutions, avoid evictions, and gain key insights from an experienced landlord relations worker on how to gain buy-in to support an end homelessness among private sector landlords in communities.

Presenters: Real Estate Matters: Leadership from the Edge of Housing Insecurity, Darcy White, Ydenberg Properties Ltd. Building Will Amongst Landlords, Sherwin Flight, End Homelessness St. John's

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 206 D



### LCM6: Change Leadership: Preparing your organization to respond more effectively in rapidly changing environments

Change is the only thing that is constant in the housing and homelessness sector. Change can be felt individually, within organizations and across the sector. It can be perceived as negative or positive, invigorating or demoralizing, essential or excessive. While change comes with practical steps and processes, the undercurrent of successful change is how leaders work through the human side of change.

Leading expert in organizational change, Dr. Jamie Gruman, will facilitate an interactive workshop designed to help leaders create a more change-resilient organizations. Participants will learn effective change practices to help leaders at all levels face the complexity of change, adapt to roadblocks, and improve outcomes for the people being served.

Presenters: Dr. Jamie Gruman, University of Guelph

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 200 B

### LE4: Building Zero Barrier Supports: Navigating Peer Mentorship as a Person with Lived Experience of Homelessness

Trust is built when real connections between people are made, and these connections are ones that can heal and facilitate change. The importance of including people with lived experience in providing supports to those who are without housing is vital to understanding the needs of those experiencing homelessness and housing precarity. This session outlines examples of robust peer support programs that guide and support people with lived experience working in the housing and homelessness sector.

Presenters: Working Towards Zero Barriers - How Peer Support Staff Builds Connections, Penny Siles, The Alex Community Health Centre, David Fraser, The Alex Community Health Centre

Peer Shelter Support Workers: An Implementable Model that was Successful, Maria Doumanas, PARC Navigating the Journey from Lack of Housing to Becoming a Peer Mentor and a Staff who is also a PWLE, Alana Jones, Fred Victor Housing

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 201 B

### Québec Caucus Meeting

This breakout session is designed for our Québec delegation who are part of a very unique ecosystem working on housing-oriented solutions to respond to a variety of needs for people experiencing homelessness in our cities and towns. We will identify best practices, gaps and review key learnings that we can apply from the conference.

Hosted by Sam Watts, CAEH board member and member of the National Housing Council of Canada

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 200 C



### RRH3: Success Stories and Learnings from Rural and Indigenous-led projects aimed at Preventing and Ending Homelessness

Rural, remote and Indigenous communities require meaningful and collaborative responses to address the unique challenges and barriers they experience. This session aims to provide government, policymakers, service providers and others in the homelessness sector with practical examples of successful rural-based and Indigenous-led projects to address and prevent homelessness.

Presenters: Unique Community Driven Responses to Rural, Remote and Indigenous Homelessness, Sydney Stenekes, Rural Development Network, Diahann Polege-Aulotte, Program Manager, Rural Development Network  
Building a Regional Rural and Collaborative Municipal Task Force to Solve Lack of Rural Supports, marc boychuk, ICare

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 202 A/B



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### RTH3: Housing is a Human Right, Not a Commodity: The Impacts of “Financialization”

Canada’s current housing system treats housing as a profit-making commodity rather than a human right. In this session, you will hear about how financial actors and investors extract value from already-marginalized renters (like seniors, low-income tenants, and Black communities), resulting in worsening housing conditions, diminished affordability, threats to health and safety, and increased evictions. You will then hear about ACORN Canada’s local campaigns to address the “financialization” of housing and have the opportunity to discuss what issues and solutions you’re seeing in your own community. You will leave this session with an understanding of how housing is being commodified at the expense of people’s human right to housing, and how you can mobilize your community to help make secure, adequate, and affordable housing a reality.

Presenters: Impacts of Financialization on the Right to Adequate Housing, Martine August, University of Waterloo  
Nemoy Lewis, Professor, Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson)

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 206 A



### RUH3: A Tale of Two Cities: The Rise of and Response to Unsheltered Homelessness

Fueled by the combined forces of the pandemic, the housing crisis, and inflation, unsheltered homelessness has been on an unprecedented rise. From east to west, Greater Sudbury and Edmonton both took a coordinated and collaborative Housing First approach to effectively support unsheltered people into housing. Learn how they did it, what resources they used, and how you can adapt and implement their strategy in your communities.

Presenters: Edmonton’s Coordinated Approach to Encampment, Caitlin Beaton, City of Edmonton, Aidan Inglis, Boyle Street Community Services  
Community Engagement- A Collaborative Approach to Addressing Encampments, Christina Leader, City of Greater Sudbury, Stefany Mussen, Manager, Corporate Security and By-law, City of Greater Sudbury  
Housing-Focused Response to Encampments, Mo Amin, Homeward Trust Edmonton, Kendra Good, Bissell Centre

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 206 C



### WH3: Lessons Learned: Addressing Women and Gender-Diverse People’s Experiences of Homelessness, Violence or Sex Work through Intuitive Program Design

These three presentations are about building programming through research, meaningful input and outreach. The first presentation by Street Level Women at Risk (SLWAR) representatives, including a founding member of the Women’s Advisory Group, will share a new Program Manual that was developed to document SLWAR’s experience and lessons learned from implementing a successful Housing First program for individuals who identify as women engaged in survival sex work. The second presentation is from the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness. By honouring and centering the voices of women with lived experiences of homelessness and violence, they listened, learned, co-developed, and prototyped five new solutions that address health, well-being, and housing challenges. The third presentation is from The Maple, a place-based supportive housing program for women. They will share their journey through the developmental evaluation; what they learned and what they had to unlearn based on the feedback from residents with lived experience.

Presenters: Street Level Women at Risk Collaborative Program Manual, Cathy Nolan, Street Level Women at Risk  
 Surfacing Our Strengths: Developing Prototypes to Address Health, Well-Being, and Housing Challenges for Women+, Michelle Vanchu-Orosco, Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness ; Janine Theobald, Director of Collaborative Engagement, Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness  
 The Maple's Learning Journey: Incorporating Feedback and Expertise from Women Exiting Homelessness into a New Program Design, Crystal Scott, Trellis Society for Community Impact, Kim Ledene, Trellis Society for Community Impact, Victoria Maldonado, Trellis Society for Community Impact

11:30 – 1:30 pm

BALLROOM B



### Lunch Plenary

Keynote: **Vivek Shraya**

Artist & Educator on Self-Expression, Identity and Inclusivity



## CONCURRENT SESSIONS E

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 206 C



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### ACV4: Care Conferencing – Examples of Person-Centred and Data Driven Service Coordination Approaches Towards Ending Homelessness

Developing person-centered and data-driven approaches within coordinated access systems is essential for effective implementation. In the first presentation, lessons learned and recommendations for practice from the Toronto Beyond Housing project, a Care Conference Table was developed to test strategies focused on prioritizing participant housing and support needs. Using assertive outreach and a common assessment tool, participant needs are identified and brought forward to the Care Conference Table. The Table then convenes a group of service providers connected to the participant to create a care plan, which is subsequently presented to the participant for feedback and approval. The second presentation from Community Solutions will introduce the Buckets framework, an approach to using BNL data to inform and support action-oriented service coordination tables, explain its origins in the US Built for Zero movement, and equip participants to make use of shareable tools coming out of the session.

Presenters: Supporting Person-Centered Care Planning for People Experiencing Chronic Homelessness: Lessons Learned from the Beyond Housing Care Conference Table, Savhanna Wilson, Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness, Tadios Tibebu, Research Coordinator, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions

Service Coordination Deep Dive: Buckets, Rian Watt, Community Solutions, Emma Beers, Homebase

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 200 A



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### ACV5: Co-creating and Collaborating: Indigenous Coordinated Access Approaches

Winnipeg shares their experiences in co-creation and collaboration in developing their local coordinated access approaches. Naatamooskakowin - a Cree word meaning "a place to come to for help, shelter or resources" - was co-created as defined through lived experience experts and service providers through inclusion, collaboration, respect, and a focus on the importance of relationships.

Presenters: Co-creating an Indigenous Approach to Coordinated Access, Betty Edel, End Homelessness Winnipeg  
 Amy Reinink, End Homelessness Winnipeg

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 204 A

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CANADA FOUNDATION

Housing and hope for homeless youth

### AWH5: Research Underpinning Making the Shift

This interactive workshop will equip you with practical, on the job skills, whether you're a service provider, researcher or in another youth serving role. The tangible strategies we'll explore include reflective practices, youth-friendly language, different contact methods, and capacity building through knowledge sharing.

Presenters: Reflective Practice in Homelessness Research and Practice: Firsthand Experiences of Researchers and Practitioners When Working with Youth with Lived/Living Experience of Homelessness, Cas Star, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, Melanie Lusted, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, Ahmad Bonakdar, York University, Karen Naidoo, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness

Participant Retention in Housing First for Youth Demonstration Project: Successes and Challenges, Athourina David, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness

Communities of Practice: How Consistent Opportunities for Engagement have Allowed Organizations to Capitalize on Knowledge, Orpah Cundangan, A Way Home Canada

1:30 – 3:00 pm

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### HCH4: One Fell Swoop: Addressing the Opioid Crisis and Homelessness for Older People Through Harm Reduction

This session will explore how two organizations used a harm-reduction model, system integration, and advocacy for structural change to address two challenging scenarios – the opioid crisis in Canada’s largest shelter system and the growing number of older Canadians with ill health experiencing homelessness.

Presenters: Integrated Harm-Reduction Health Services for Older People Experiencing Homelessness in 3 Canadian Contexts, Lara Nixon, Department of Family Medicine, University of Calgary

Expanding an Integrated Harm Reduction Approach across Canada’s Largest Shelter System, Meredith Kratzmann, City of Toronto - Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, Kris Guthrie, Toronto Public Health, Tanya Grocholsky, Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 201 B

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### HF5: The Essential Role of Training in Ending Homelessness

Training is an essential element when it comes to the ability of systems and programs to effectively reduce and end homelessness. Yet training is often a secondary or tertiary thought. This is partly due to real or perceived lack of capacity or resources. At the same time, research has shown how effective and continual training can improve morale, minimize staff turnover, and even save money in the long run. During this session, we will connect with Homeward Trust (Edmonton), who has been using the Housing First model since it entered Canada, and the CAEH Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) program, who has been developing and conducting training across Canada since 2015. The presenters will both share valuable insights into the importance of training, what training is essential for Housing First and ending homelessness success, and unique ideas about training modalities that make training feasible for any community, system or program.

Presenters: Training that Saves Time, Staff, and the Homeless, Wally Czech, Director of Training, CAEH; Jody Yurkowsky Pace, Training Specialist, CAEH; Quinn Moerike, Housing First Training Specialist, CAEH

Leading the Change in Training, Katie Thomas, Training Coordinator, Homeward Trust Edmonton

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 206 B

### IH7: Uplifting Indigenous Identity and Voices and thereby, Indigenous Health and Housing

The themes we will explore in this session include reconciliation, meaningful engagement, Indigenous economic development, and innovative approaches to program ideation, delivery, and outcomes based on standards of Indigenous care. We’ll see these ideas in action as we discover the Victoria-based Indigenized Alcohol Harm Reduction Program, which harnessed the power of culture for treatment, and the Round Prairie Elder’s Lodge, the culturally appropriate 26-unit affordable housing complex in Saskatoon.

Presenters: All in the Family: The Dual Model of Housing Care and the Development of an Indigenized Alcohol Harm Reduction Program, Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi, Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness, Bernie Pauly

Professor, Nursing and Scientist, Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research, University of Victoria  
Round Prairie Elders’ Lodge - Uplifting Indigenous Voices to Create Culturally Appropriate Housing, Nick Sackville, Big Block Construction

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 202 A/B



### LCM7: Communicate Complex Ideas Simply

Learn how to cultivate your leadership presence by honing your communication skills. Author of the book “End Boring”, Ivan Wanis Ruiz will offer a variety of creative tools and tactics that you can practice instantly to become a more compelling and effective speaker. This workshop is interactive, fun, full of discussion and laughter-#EndBoring.

Presenter: Ivan Wanis Ruiz, Public Speaking Lab

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 204 C

### LE5: Youth Voices: Turning Listening into Meaningful Action

Peer-led initiatives are key to reducing barriers faced by youth when accessing housing supports. In order to successfully end homelessness, people with lived experience must have meaningful and purposeful opportunities, especially young adults. This session outlines innovative responses to the increased challenges faced by homeless youth during the COVID-19 pandemic and how provinces across Canada mobilized and engaged community youth in program development and implementation.

Presenters: The “Queer Agenda” As A Means Of Peer Programming To Reduce 2SLGBTQ+ Homelessness, Jesse Vacarciuc, 360Kids

Rethinking Expertise: Young People and the Power of Lived Experience, Antoine Lovell, University of Pennsylvania

Using Youth Voice and Expertise to Build a Program for Peer Housing in a Pandemic, Tessa Mulcair, YESS; Alice Mwemera, YESS; Delalie Mortotsi, YESS

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 206 D



### PVN3: The Role of Education in Homelessness Prevention

Education plays a key role in preventing and overcoming homelessness. This session will share learnings from Upstream Kelowna, a school-based youth homelessness prevention initiative, and provide attendees with an understanding of the educational pathways of diverse youth experiencing homelessness. Tying together two national conversations seeking to address the disparities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples – housing and higher education – attendees will learn why developing Indigenous student housing is necessary to advancing reconciliation on university campuses and in our communities.

**Presenters:** Participatory Research for Developing Prevention Capacity across Schools and the Homelessness Sector: Lessons from Youth for Pedagogy, Practice and Policy Shifts, Jayne Malenfant, Concordia University  
 Considerations for Youth Homelessness Prevention Interventions: Findings from an Evaluation of Upstream Kelowna, Melissa Perri, University of Toronto

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 200 C



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### RTH4: Claiming the Right to Housing in Canada

Canada's new Federal Housing Advocate is a unique human rights accountability mechanism established to advance the right to adequate housing in Canada and monitor the National Housing Strategy. Located within the Canadian Human Rights Commission, the Advocate works to amplify the voices of people experiencing inadequate housing and homelessness and hold governments to account on their human rights obligations. The workshop will introduce the right to housing and the Advocate's mandate and powers. It will include a hands-on demonstration of the online tool through which individuals and organizations can make a submission to the Advocate. It will then explore how communities can mobilize to bring forward systemic cases. The National Right to Housing Network will join this conversation to offer examples of the systemic cases they are helping to bring forward across Canada.

**Presenter:** Emily Paradis, Office of the Federal Housing Advocate, Canadian Human Rights Commission

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 206 A



### RUH4: How to Respond with Compassion and Collaboration to the Complexities of Encampments

How do we respond to the inherent complexities of unsanctioned encampments? The Presenters will explore this challenging question and viable solutions while drawing from their real-life experiences in Calgary. Using a person-centered approach, these teams were able to provide those living in encampments with more immediate connections to services, reduce overall displacement, and enhance their real-time responses to community stakeholders. Listen in as evidence is shared and gain useful insights and resources for the adoption of this proven model.

**Presenters:** A Person-Centred, Collaborative Approach to Encampment-Response, Kevin Webb, The Calgary Drop In Centre  
 Reducing Displacement and Supporting Rough Sleepers towards Stability, Jessy Pisony-Koci, Calgary Alpha House Society

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 200 B

### UP3: Investigating Impacts of COVID-19 on 2SLGBTQ+ Youth and Young Adults Experiencing Homelessness

This session will share the findings of a mixed-methods study investigating the impacts of COVID-19 on 2SLGBTQ+ youth experiencing homelessness in the Greater Toronto Area and surrounding areas. Ninety-two 2SLGBTQ+ youth completed virtual surveys throughout the pandemic to assess mental health, health service use, alcohol and substance use, housing situation, and vaccine attitudes and uptake. Thirty-two of these youth and 15 key informants participated in interviews to understand the challenges and barriers among 2SLGBTQ+ youth experiencing homelessness and service providers during the pandemic. Recommendations for appropriate measures to support 2SLGBTQ+ youth and promote mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic will be shared.

**Presenters:** Alex Abramovich, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) (Primary Presenter)  
 Clare Nobbs, YMCA GTA, Sprott House

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 203 A

### WH4: The Power of Storytelling for Advocacy, Research and Creating Safe Spaces for Women and Gender-Diverse People

These two presentations talk about the powerful role storytelling can play in advocacy and research and share insights for others to utilize storytelling in their work. The first presentation is about Making Visible, which is a four-year community-based participatory research project led by Sistering that aims to discuss the housing and homelessness crisis in Canada experienced by marginalized women and gender-diverse people. The presentation will highlight the strengths of creating projects centered around women's homelessness, guided by women with lived experiences, and the power of digital storytelling as an advocacy and research tool. In the second presentation, join YWCA Banff as they share how re-writing their story was an essential part of integrating their services to effectively address women's homelessness in their unique rural context.

**Presenters:** Making Visible: Utilizing Digital Storytelling as a Mechanism to Share Experiences of Homelessness Experienced by Women and Gender-Diverse People, Aoife Mallon, Sistering, Lobsang Dolkar, Sistering  
 Re-defining & Re-aligning: How Telling our Story Differently was the Key to Integrating our Service Delivery and Building Safer, Sustainable Spaces for Women, Reave MacLeod, YWCA Banff

3:00 – 3:30 pm

**Refreshment Break**

PRE-FUNCTION B

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS F**

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 200 A



Sponsored by



**AWH6: Housing First for Youth: Where Adaptations have Galvanized Efforts**

From research to preparation and implementation, this session will deep dive into the Housing First approach designed explicitly for youth (H4FY). We'll review the interim evidence and potential outcomes from a multi-year HF4Y trial, check in on our current practices connecting youth with social inclusion and community integration and take a road trip to the Arctic to witness how the model has been adapted to the unique needs of a local community.

**Presenters:** Promising Findings from HF4Y Youth Homelessness Prevention Interventions, Cora MacDonald, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness (COH), York University  
 HF4Y in the Arctic, Tammy Roberts, The Side Door Ministries (Operating as Home Base Yellowknife)  
 You Can't do HF4Y without FNS, Heidi Walter, A Way Home Canada, Kim Kakakaway, A Way Home Canada

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 202 A/B



**COH4: Role of Data and Planning in Homelessness Prevention**

High-quality data provides professionals working in the sector with the information they need to identify people at risk of homelessness and support those exiting homelessness to remain housed. In this session, attendees will learn how data can be used to identify service gaps and help community leaders and governments anticipate community needs to plan more effective strategies to prevent and end homelessness.

**Presenters:** Comparing the Homelessness Plan Experiences of Small Canadian Cities: Insights for Policy and Practice, John Graham, School of Social Work, UBC, Okanagan  
 Is Artificial Intelligence the Right Tool for Preventing Homelessness?, Geoffrey Messier, University of Calgary, Department of Electrical & Software Engineering  
 What Analyzing Canada's Largest Qualitative Dataset on Social Services can Teach us About Prevention, Alina Turner, HelpSeeker Technologies, Travis Turner, Co-President, HelpSeeker Inc ; Jesse Donaldson, EVP, HelpSeeker

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 206 D



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Giving Hope Today

**HCH5: The Next Step After Reaching Home: Moving Towards Health and Stability**

How can we support people transitioning out of homelessness as they experience residual trauma? Focused on emancipatory adult education, this session will consider new models of providing recovery support including dedicated Recovery Education Centres (REC), a scalable low-barrier, outreach program, and the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) approach of holistic, multidisciplinary care.

**Presenters:** Housing First, What Next? Recovery Education for Adults Transitioning to Housing, Vicky Stergiopoulos, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Sam Gruszecki, coordinator, CAMH  
 Assertive Community Treatment: Key Ingredients for Engagement with Treatment, Elizabeth Morgan, The Alexandra Community Health Centre, Faustyna Zietara, The Alexandra Community Health Centre

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 206 C



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**HF6: Landlord Engagement**

A key element of a successful Housing First program is the ability to procure and effectively work with private market landlords. Quality relationships with landlords can often make the difference between a successful and unsuccessful tenancy. In this session, you will hear from three different organizations from three diverse regions in Canada as they share their insights into effective landlord relationships.

**Presenters:** Going Beyond Landlord Engagement: Increasing Opportunities and Outcomes in a Housing First Context, Sherwin Flight, End Homelessness St. John's  
 Supporting Relationships between Landlords and Housing First Agencies, Vanessa Stewart, Homeward Trust Edmonton

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 206 B

**IH8: We the North: Addressing Homelessness in the Yukon**

This session highlights the need for partnerships and programs that are made for Indigenous peoples to be led by Indigenous peoples. Presenters will share innovative and informative practices that put Indigenous communities at the centre of the efforts to create opportunities for better services that are culturally safe and appropriate. We will explore the collaborative housing work taking place in the Yukon including the operations of a shelter to support Indigenous women & children fleeing violence.

**Presenters:** Mark Miller, Connective  
 Shadelle Chambers, Council of Yukon First Nations

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 204 C

### LE7: Navigating Front-Line Work as a Person with Lived Experience of Homelessness

While the housing and homelessness sector has made progress in recognizing the contributions of frontline workers with lived experience, it's important that we understand how their expertise can best be used to help people secure housing. At the same time, we also want to be vigilant that their work does not place them at risk for additional challenges to their well-being. This session explores the range of roles occupied by people with lived experience, the challenges that they face, and vital supports that could be offered.

Presenters: Frontline Workers with Lived Experience: Strengths and Challenges Helping Others, Jeannette Waegemakers Schiff, University of Calgary  
 What Do We Know About the Challenges to Well-Being as PWLE Embrace Staff Roles?, Jeannette Waegemakers Schiff, University of Calgary

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 201 B

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### PG2: Paula Goering Memorial Scholarship Presentations

During this session we will hear from the 2 scholarship recipients of the 2022 Paula Goering Memorial Scholarship. Attendees will learn about photovoice as a participatory action research method among older adults with lived experience of homelessness or housing insecurity. Participants will then get to explore how formal curriculum-based life skill teaching can be utilized to enhance service delivery and foster relationships with others sectors including municipal education providers.

Presenters: Key Aspects of Aging in the Right Place for Older Adults with Lived Experience of Homelessness: A Photovoice Exploration, Rachele Patille, Simon Fraser University  
 Homelessness Prevention Through Life Skills  
 Jason Weinberg, The Windsor Residence for Young Men (WRYM)

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 200 B

### RRH4: Improving Access to Justice and Employment Opportunities for Rural and Remote Communities

This session will outline the innovative solutions provinces across Canada have implemented to address barriers in accessing justice and employment opportunities for individuals living in rural and remote communities. Examples from British Columbia and Ontario will be provided.

Presenters: The Impacts of Peer Employment for People Experiencing Homelessness in Rural and Remote Communities, Malorie Moore, Kootenay Career Development Society, Geanine Gerrow, Kootenay Career Development Society  
 Virtual Landlord and Tenant Board Hearings in Ontario Risk Increasing Homelessness for Rural and Remote Tenants, Amy Scholten, Renfrew County Legal Clinic

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 206 A



Sponsored by



### RTH5: Dismantling Inequity and Reclaiming Human Rights

Realizing the right to adequate housing for all will require a major paradigm shift in housing laws and policies—a shift that centres the knowledge and dignity of people with lived/living experience of homelessness and housing precarity. This session will explore what a human rights-based lens in law and policy would look like in practice, particularly for people with disabilities, criminalized women, gender-diverse people, and other marginalized groups. Participants will walk away with an understanding of how systemic barriers to adequate, accessible, and affordable housing can be dismantled and addressed through a human rights-based lens—and how they can advocate for systemic and policy change in support of marginalized groups.

Presenters: Systemic Barriers to Housing with a Disability Lens: Shifting from Bureaucratic to Human Rights-Based Policies, Cas Star, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness  
 A National Housing Strategy by and for Whom? Linking Lived Expertise to the Progressive Realization of the Right to Housing, Laura Pin, Wilfrid Laurier University  
 Jessica Annan, University of Calgary  
 Realizing the Right to Housing for Criminalized Women and Gender-Diverse People, Sarah Gelbard, CAEFS

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 203 A

### UP5: The Journey from Prison to a Place to Call Home

People released from prison are faced with harsh realities including housing and employment gaps, credit history issues, and higher incidences of mental and physical health challenges. Hear from the firsthand experience of both a prison chaplain and a Montreal-based service on how providing pre- and post-release support and engaging justice specialists and social service agencies, can lead to community reintegration and reduced recidivism.

Presenters: Unique Populations: Persons Exiting Prison, Dennis Chadwick, The Salvation Army  
 Planned Prison Release: Innovating to Promote Residential Stabilization for Prisoners with Chronic Homelessness Trajectories, Isabel Gervais, Les YMCA du Québec - Secteur Réintégration et inclusion sociale

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 204 A

### WH5: Research into the Gendered Experiences of Homelessness, the Impact of COVID-19 and Violence Against Women

Today, more women, girls, and gender-diverse people are experiencing homelessness than in the past, and their experiences are different from those of other genders. The presentation, A National Survey of Gender-Based Approaches to Women's Homelessness, shares results from a national survey exploring the current state of communities taking or not taking a gender-based approach to ending homelessness. The next presentation is a mixed-methods study in Canada's largest city that will bring to light experiences of violence against women survivors and staff in support services during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in relation to women's homelessness. The third presentation outlines the intersection of domestic violence and women's homelessness, and the unique role women's shelters play in addressing homelessness, provides information on promising practices that have contributed to survivors' success in securing stable housing, and offers suggestions for how to build on these practices to increase the impact of sheltering services for domestic violence survivors.

Presenters: A National Survey of Gender-Based Approaches to Women's Homelessness, Abe Oudshoorn, Western University

Addressing the Intersections Between Violence Against Women and Women's Homelessness During the COVID-19 Pandemic: a mixed-methods study in Canada's largest city, Priya Shastri, Woman Abuse Council of Toronto

Domestic Violence and Women's Homelessness: Promising Practices, Lessons Learned, and Sheltering Futures, Miranda Pilipchuk, Alberta Council of Women's Shelters

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 200 C



### WH6: Leading with Experience: How Survivors' Experiences can Drive Research and Identify Barriers

With their strengths-based transformative research as a guide, the first set of Presenters will address gender-based violence, explore the ripple effects that it produces, and give key insights into how restorative justice and bridging gaps in our systems of support can lead to healing and systematic change. We'll then hear about compelling findings on survivors' experiences with rental housing in Toronto from a survey of 150 women and gender-diverse people and a 10-week diary study.

Presenters: 'Don't Tell People You're Homeless': Experiences of Safety, Violence and Justice among Women's Emergency Shelter Users, Jennifer Gordon, YW Kitchener-Waterloo

Successful Tenancies: Survivors' Experiences with Rental Housing and Hidden Homelessness in Toronto, Alissa Klingbaum, Woman Abuse Council of Toronto

**DAY 3**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2022

8:00 – 8:30 am

**Continental Breakfast**

PRE-FUNCTION B

8:30 – 9:30 am

**Morning Plenary**

BALLROOM B

Keynote: **Loretta Ross**  
Associate Professor, Smith College (Northampton, MA, USA),  
Scholar and Activist (virtual)



9:30 – 10:00 am

**Refreshment Break**

PRE-FUNCTION B

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS G**

10:00 – 11:30 am

**AWH7: How Data and Trends can Help Us Change the Conversation!**

ROOM 206 B

In this interactive session, we'll explore how organizations are diving into housing system data from wait times to age, gender, and ethnicity to develop strategies and solutions in light of illuminated opportunities and challenges for at-risk youth. We will also learn how ongoing program evaluation can set us up for success in future years and increase capacity for community support.

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Presenters: Preventing Discharge to No Fixed Address - Youth (NFA Y), Cheryl Forchuk, Lawson Health Research Institute  
Exploring Housing Wait Times Relevant to the Prevention and Exit from Youth Homelessness, Ann De Shalit, Ontario Tech University, Tyler Frederick, Ontario Tech University  
Harnessing Current Trends and Youth Voices for Strategic Program Development, Robyn Holmes, Connect Youth Inc.

10:00 – 11:30 am

**AWH8: Demonstrating the Flexibility of Youth Homelessness Prevention**

ROOM 203 A

Innovation is happening across the country and in this highly engaging session, we will hear from 3 organizations that are taking unique preventative and empowering approaches to enhance positive outcomes for youth in need. We'll discover a trades-based employment social enterprise model that provides career opportunities and resources to young people, a Family and Natural Supports prevention program, and an Edmonton program that has taken a decolonized, multi-generational housing approach to help Indigenous youth reconnect with their culture and land.



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Presenters: Implementing Prevention Programs - Successes, Challenges and Lessons Learned, Justin Sage-Passant, Covenant House Toronto  
Homelessness Prevention through a Trades-Based Enterprise, Emmy Kelly, Blue Door  
Omamoo Wango Gamik - Preventing Indigenous youth homelessness during a global pandemic, Cynthia Puddu, MacEwan University

10:00 – 11:30 am

**COH5: Research Roundup**

ROOM 204 C

This session will bring together new research focused on ways of responding to homelessness. The first presentation will highlight findings from two studies examining the impacts of service restrictions, which can be used to improve service experiences and prevent further harms associated with homelessness. The second presentation will give attendees a deeper understanding of the impacts of climate change on homelessness. The final presentation will identify how to involve participants and lived experts in creating housing models with supports and services that go beyond housing.

Presenters: Service Restrictions from Homeless Shelters, Nick Kerman, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health  
Climate Change and Homelessness: A call to action and emerging evidence on responding, Mariya Bezgrebelna, York University  
Creating Home Together: Supporting Women and Gender-Diverse People Through Housing Transitions, Aoife Mallon, Sistering, Adrienne Pacini, SHS Consulting

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 200 C



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Giving  
Hope  
Today

## HCH6: It's Not One Size Fits All: Customizing Healthcare for Unique Populations

This session will consider the current pathways to healthcare for diverse persons experiencing homelessness, explore low-barrier accessible services that can be offered to those who may not access traditional models of care, and examine how a dynamic multi-disciplinary outreach team can make a positive impact for socially and mentally complex patients.

**Presenters:** Implementation of Women's Health Drop-in Days with Local Health and Social Service Partners for Homeless Individuals, Megan Lynch, Greater Hamilton Health Network  
 Pathways to Coordinated Care: Exploring the Journeys of Young People experiencing homelessness in Toronto, Canada using Grounded Theory Methodology, Alzahra Hudani, University of Ottawa  
 Connect 2 Care: Addressing the barriers between acute care and community, through case management, integration and advocacy, Elaine Wilson, CUPS, Halle Ross, CUPS, Eric Lopatinsky, CUPS

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 200 A

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## HF7: Facilitating Housing Retention

Dr. Sam Tsemberis, the inventor of Housing First, has been quoted as saying, "Housing First is not a housing program. It is a recovery program where housing is a foundational component." It is not enough just to house people. We must also support people in maintaining that housing while achieving a desired level of recovery. Harm reduction and other approaches are instrumental in making this recovery possible. In this session, participants will learn about how these elements improve housing retention which in turn results in improved recovery.

**Presenters:** How Harm Reduction and Housing First led to Long-Term Stability, Jessy Pisony-Koci, Calgary Alpha House Society  
 Housing UP! Expanding the Effectiveness of 'Housing Retention', Shawn MacKeigan, Mission Services of Hamilton

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 202 A/B



## LE6: Transformative Shelter Models: Centring First Voice Experiences of Homelessness in Shelter Operations

The session centers the voices of Indigenous peoples with lived experience of homelessness, homeless shelter service users and frontline workers, outlining the long-term impacts that policy decisions have on the life course of already marginalized groups. Presenters offer actionable recommendations including the need for shelter management and policymakers to adopt a human rights-based approach in their work to improve current living conditions.

**Presenters:** What Must Change? Centring a Lived Experience Perspective, Leo Moose, Northern Social Work Program, University of Manitoba  
 Squeegie Punks Reunite: Safe Streets for All, Sam Blondeau, Ontario Tech University  
 Life in Homeless Shelters in Toronto: From the Perspectives of Former Shelter Service Users and Shelter Frontline Workers, Rubina Karyar, York University

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 206 A



## LE8: Cultivating a Culture that Promotes Lived Experience Leadership

This session explores programs and partnerships where people with lived experience were engaged and provided critical roles to achieving project goals. Presenters will discuss both the process of engagement and outcomes, helping participants leave with practical knowledge of who, how, and when to engage. Come, listen, be inspired, and learn about the importance of creating a trauma-informed community that thrives.

**Presenters:** Service User Engagement in System Planning in Toronto, Tarik Bacchus, City of Toronto, Sonja Nerad  
 Executive Director, Toronto Shelter Network  
 WOW! Stories That Inspire Change, Jodi Greenstreet, Executive Director, WOW Living, Nathan Harris, WOW Living

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 206 D



## PVN4: Future Considerations for Housing

This session will bring together research on innovative housing solutions to prevent homelessness. Attendees will learn about a homelessness eviction prevention program that has successfully prevented thousands of families from becoming homeless and how policy and research can work together to create more efficient supportive housing. Finally, attendees will learn about the potential of house-sharing as an alternative housing model for individuals who are at risk or experiencing homelessness.

**Presenters:** Eviction and Homelessness Prevention: to avoid a mass wave of evictions and homelessness post-pandemic, Daniel Farrell, HELP USA, Tina Goodrich, HELP USA  
 The Home for Good program: A policy and research collaboration to assess and improve supportive housing during the COVID-19 pandemic, Parvin Merchant, Houselink and Mainstay Community Housing, Ayan Yusuf  
 Research Coordinator, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions  
 House Sharing: Exploring the Potential for the City of St. John's, Simone Lilly, End Homelessness St. John's, Anika Shama, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 206 C



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**Vancity**  
Community  
Foundation

### RTH6: From Rentals to Tent Cities: Preventing Evictions

A key step to preventing homelessness is preventing people from losing their homes in the first place. In this session, you will hear about rights-based tenant protections which could be implemented to prevent evictions into homelessness. You will then hear about how the right to shelter for encampment residents is treated in legal spaces and how this ties into the broader right to housing. You will leave this session with an understanding of how the federal government can work with provinces to ensure security of tenure for tenants, and how legal precedents in the right to shelter space could be used by communities to mobilize toward progressive change for encampment residents.

Presenters: Minimum National Standards for Tenant Protections: a Preventative Approach to Addressing Homelessness, Aditya Rao, CUPE  
The Right to Shelter & Encampments in Canada, David DesBaillets, Human Rights Research Educations Centre Sarah Hamill, Assistant Professor of Law, Trinity College Dublin

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 203 B



### UP4: Promising Practices for Supporting Older Adults Experiencing Homelessness

Recognizing housing as a fundamental right amidst increasing rates of homelessness in later life, this session will focus on the unique vulnerabilities of homeless-experienced older adults and models of housing and services that support this unique population. This session will begin with a co-presentation of a framework of indicators on place-based supports and be followed by two community-based organizations that support different populations of homeless-experienced older adults. Attendees will learn actionable ways in which older adults experiencing homelessness can be supported as we work to close the gap between housing research, practice, and policy and advocate for housing justice.

Presenters: Sarah Canham, University of Utah  
Chris Danielsen, Power N Knowledge  
Jenny Konkin, Whole Way House  
Karen Whiteman, Kerby Centre

11:30 – 1:30 pm

BALLROOM B



### Closing Plenary Lunch

Keynote: **Armine Yalnizyan**, Economist & Atkinson Fellow on the Future of Workers  
Announcement of 2023 Conference Destination



## Vote Housing Campaign School

We're bringing together people working in the housing and homelessness sector and other aligned organizations to share campaign and advocacy insights as we fight to end homelessness, housing insecurity and the housing crisis.

At the **campaign school**, we'll focus on developing a shared campaign strategy across our sector and sharing valuable skills and best practices in strategic communications, digital campaigning, field organizing and advertising.

**Details are still being finalized, but the campaign school will be in May in Ottawa.**

**To express interest and sign up for more information,  
visit [action.caeh.ca/campaignschool](https://action.caeh.ca/campaignschool)**

CONTACT:

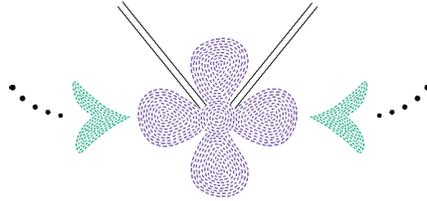
**Andrew Burns**

Vote Housing Campaign Director & CAEH Director of Marketing & Communications

**[andrew@caeh.ca](mailto:andrew@caeh.ca)**



## RECLAIMING POWER AND PLACE



National Inquiry into  
**Missing and Murdered**  
Indigenous Women and Girls

*Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls* calls for transformative legal and social changes to resolve the crisis that has devastated Indigenous communities across the country. The Final Report is comprised of the truths of more than 2,380 family members, survivors of violence, experts and Knowledge Keepers shared over two years of cross-country public hearings and evidence gathering and 231 calls to action.

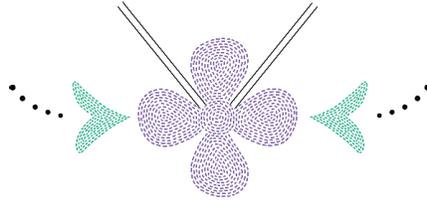
The following are a number of core principles, values, and practices that can increase accessibility, cultural safety and effectiveness of support services.

### Wellness as Wholeness

A holistic and culturally safe approach to program and service delivery across several different areas, including cultural services as well as those services that are culturally safe in areas like health, security, and justice, is one that:

-  Supports the well-being of whole families and communities, including men and boys, instead of focusing on the individual or services for women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people;
-  Strengthens family and community ties, and fosters trusting relationships of care between clients and service providers;
-  Recognizes the primacy of cultural and spiritual needs, the fulfilment of which may be necessary for the attainment of other wellness goals;
-  Addresses the root causes of behaviours that serve to place people at risk, and ensure that needs related to healing and recovery are being met;
-  Takes a preventative approach to increasing the safety and well-being of women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people; and,
-  Sees the wholeness of people beyond labels such as mental health diagnoses, convictions, adverse experiences, ethnicity, gender, etc.

## RECLAIMING POWER AND PLACE



National Inquiry into  
**Missing and Murdered**  
Indigenous Women and Girls

The report includes 231 imperative calls to action. Below are the Calls for Justice for All Canadians. As the report shows, within every encounter, each person has a role to play in order to combat violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people.

- 1** Denounce and speak out against violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people.
- 2** Decolonize by learning the true history of Canada and Indigenous history in your local area. Learn about and celebrate Indigenous Peoples' history, cultures, pride, and diversity, acknowledging the land you live on and its importance to local Indigenous communities, both historically and today.
- 3** Develop knowledge and read the Final Report. Listen to the truths shared, and acknowledge the burden of these human and Indigenous rights violations, and how they impact Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people today.
- 4** Using what you have learned and some of the resources suggested, become a strong ally. Being a strong ally involves more than just tolerance; it means actively working to break down barriers and to support others in every relationship and encounter in which you participate.
- 5** Confront and speak out against racism, sexism, ignorance, homophobia, and transphobia, and teach or encourage others to do the same, wherever it occurs: in your home, in your workplace, or in social settings.
- 6** Protect, support, and promote the safety of women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people by acknowledging and respecting the value of every person and every community, as well as the right of Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people to generate their own, self-determined solutions.
- 7** Create time and space for relationships based on respect as human beings, supporting and embracing differences with kindness, love, and respect. Learn about Indigenous principles of relationships specific to those Nations or communities in your local area and work, and put them into practice in all of your relationships with Indigenous Peoples.
- 8** Help hold all governments accountable to act on the Calls for Justice, and to implement them according to the important principles we set out.

# PRINCIPLES OF RECONCILIATION



Truth and  
Reconciliation  
Commission of Canada

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada believes that in order for Canada to flourish in the twenty-first century, reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canada must be based on the following principles.

- 1** The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is the framework for reconciliation at all levels and across all sectors of Canadian society.
- 2** First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples, as the original peoples of this country and as self-determining peoples, have Treaty, constitutional, and human rights that must be recognized and respected.
- 3** Reconciliation is a process of healing of relationships that requires public truth sharing, apology, and commemoration that acknowledge and redress past harms.
- 4** Reconciliation requires constructive action on addressing the ongoing legacies of colonialism that have had destructive impacts on Aboriginal peoples' education, cultures and languages, health, child welfare, the administration of justice, and economic opportunities and prosperity.
- 5** Reconciliation must create a more equitable and inclusive society by closing the gaps in social, health, and economic outcomes that exist between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians.
- 6** All Canadians, as Treaty peoples, share responsibility for establishing and maintaining mutually respectful relationships.
- 7** The perspectives and understandings of Aboriginal Elders and Traditional Knowledge Keepers of the ethics, concepts, and practices of reconciliation are vital to long-term reconciliation.
- 8** Supporting Aboriginal peoples' cultural revitalization and integrating Indigenous knowledge systems, oral histories, laws, protocols, and connections to the land into the reconciliation process are essential.
- 9** Reconciliation requires political will, joint leadership, trust building, accountability, and transparency, as well as a substantial investment of resources.
- 10** Reconciliation requires sustained public education and dialogue, including youth engagement, about the history and legacy of residential schools, Treaties, and Aboriginal rights, as well as the historical and contemporary contributions of Aboriginal peoples to Canadian society.

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