CAEH23
HALIFAX NOV.08-10
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENDING HOMELESSNESS
CONFÉRENCE NATIONALE POUR METTRE FIN À L'ITINERANCE

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

Call for Presentations

The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness is seeking presenters for the **2023 National Conference on Ending Homelessness taking place at the Halifax Convention Centre from November 8 to 10, 2023**.

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

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

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

We are outlining the changes and requirements for CAEH23 in this document. Please read this document carefully to understand how to give a successful presentation CAEH23.

General Presentation Information

The 2023 National Conference on Ending Homelessness will include **85, 90-minute sessions** organized into 16 topic areas. We are inviting presentation proposals on:

1. Realizing the Right to Housing – RTH (5 sessions)
2. A Way Home – Youth Homelessness Prevention – AWH (5 sessions)
3. New: Campaigning and Advocacy – CA (4 sessions)
4. Canadian Observatory on Homelessness – Research and Policy – COH (5 sessions)
5. Canadian Observatory on Homelessness - Prevention – PVN (4 sessions)
6. Accelerating Reductions in Chronic Homelessness – ARH (5 sessions)
7. Health Care and Homelessness – HCH (5 sessions)
8. Housing First – HF (6 sessions)
9. Indigenous Homelessness – IH (7 sessions)
10. Lived Experience – LE (6 sessions)
11. Leadership, Improvement and Change Management – LCM (6 sessions)
12. Responding to Unsheltered Homelessness - RUH (5 sessions)
13. Rural, Remote, and Northern Homelessness – RRH (4 sessions)
14. Women's Homelessness – WH (4 sessions)
15. New: Improving Equity in Homeless Systems - IEH (4 sessions)
16. New: Veterans Homelessness – VH (4 sessions)

Application Process & Deadlines

- The **deadline for submissions** is **Friday, April 28, 2023**
- Proposals for presentations need to be submitted through CAEH's X-CD platform by this date. Please submit your proposal here.
- If you have previously submitted to or attended a CAEH conference, you can login to X-CD using your previous login information. Otherwise, you will need to create a new account.
- Please note:
    - We are encouraging people to submit presentation proposals rather than proposals for complete sessions to ensure the greatest variety of content for attendees. We will allow complete session proposals, however, applicants should be aware there will be limited opportunities for full sessions and full sessions are less likely to be accepted.
    - There is a speaker cap in every session and the number of presentations in a session is limited to three and the number of presenters in a session to a maximum of four.
    - All presentations will need to be delivered in-person in Halifax and may be recorded.
- Following the close of the submission period, presentations will be assessed by stream leads.
- Successful presenters will be notified. We aim to notify successful presenters by the end of June 2023.

If you have any questions relating to the call for presentations, please contact matthew@caeh.ca.

Improvements and New Items for CAEH23

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

We have three new streams in 2023: Campaign and Advocacy, Improving Equity in Homeless Systems, and Veterans Homelessness.

In addition to this, we are making the following improvements:

- Improving the inclusion of French language at the conference with more content in French and in-person simultaneous interpreters.
- Improvements to food and beverage service at the conference to ensure timely delivery and sufficient dietary options.
- Self-service kiosk registration option, to speed up registration upon arrival at the conference.
- More support for presenters at the venue, including during the start of sessions to ensure that you have everything you need.

Pre-Conference Support for Presenters

- A pre-proposal webinar for people interested in submitting a presentation proposal. This webinar will go over the call for presentations process, the conference, and answer any questions.

- A webinar for presenters in advance of the conference that covers preparing for CAEH23, including tips for great presentations, how to submit your PowerPoint presentations, and a Q+A.

Presenter Registration

Registration costs are still being finalized and we hope to release these in mid-April before this call for presentations closes. Presenters for the conference receive a discounted early bird rate of 50% off regular registration when they register for the conference before August 11, 2023. After this date, the regular presenter rate will apply. Presenters must register for the conference by September 29, 2023. Failing to do so may result in the removal of your presentation.

Conference registration fees are increasing a small amount this year, the first increase since 2019. We want to assure attendees and presenters that we are doing our best to keep registration fees as low and accessible as possible. We've been forced to increase fees by the rising cost of conference expenses, in line with the inflation seen elsewhere in the economy. We are only aiming to break even and are actively seeking additional sponsorships and reducing expenses wherever possible to keep costs down. We encourage participants and presenters to take advantage of deeply discounted early bird rates. There are also scholarships and discounts for people with lived experience of homelessness. We remain committed to making this conference accessible and affordable as possible.

Note: The presenter rate is available to only one person per presentation (lead presenter). If your presentation has more than one presenter, they will need to purchase a regular registration for the conference. If you are submitting a proposal for an entire session, only three presenters for session are eligible for the presenter rate.

Integrating People with Lived Experience of Homelessness

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

TIP: *While including PWLE in your presentation is not mandatory, thoughtful inclusion of lived experience will increase your chances of selection.*

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

When submitting your proposal bear in mind that the conference is dedicated to providing voice to, and speaking to the needs of, a variety of perspectives and experiences. Please ensure your presentation proposals are sensitive to different individualized and intersectional qualities and social circumstances that may affect experiences of homelessness such as: lived experience of homelessness, 2SLGBTQIA+, youth, culture, age, familial status, gender, Indigeneity, ethnicity, and disability.

Our Safe Space Promise

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

All attendees of the National Conference on Ending Homelessness agree to our **Safe Space Promise** as part of the registration process. The Safe Space Promise is an agreement by all participants to treat fellow participants respectfully and to help ensure the National Conference on Ending Homelessness is a safe space for all participants. Participants also acknowledge that any form of discrimination, violence, bullying or abusive behaviour may result in removal from the conference.

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

Truth and Reconciliation

Following on the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Calls to Justice of the Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls Commission, the CAEH wants to continue to fulfil our role in Reconciliation with Indigenous peoples by providing a forum with an environment of mutual respect and understanding. We encourage presenters to consider how presentations can relate to any of the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and honour Residential School Survivors and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

We are especially interested in Indigenous content from Indigenous organizations and individuals. If you are presenting in the Indigenous stream or on Indigenous homelessness, presentations must include Indigenous presenters.

Bilingualism

CAEH23 is a national conference, and as such, we are working to improve accessibility in both official languages and encourage greater participation representing the linguistic diversity of our country. We encourage presentations in both official languages and will provide simultaneous interpretation for all sessions presented in French. Please indicate the language of your presentation, when you submit your proposal.

A number of English sessions will also be simultaneously interpreted into French, and we encourage all registrants to indicate their preferred language and register their interest in attending each session so we can prioritize the simultaneous interpretation services where there is the greatest need for translation.

Got a Better Idea?

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

No Guarantees

Given the overwhelming response to our previous calls for presentations, we expect considerable interest in this year's conference. Therefore, we cannot promise all proposals will be accepted. If you are not accepted for 2023, please consider re-submission for 2024.

Submission Guidelines

We invite presentations from academics, researchers, students, leaders and professionals.

Each presentation will be allotted 20 minutes of the 90-minute session, followed by 30 mins of questions and answers. At each stream lead's discretion, we will group presentations into sessions based on the presentation topic. A small number of full session proposals may be accepted.

Submissions must contain the following information to be considered:

- Which stream you are applying to present in
- Presentation title (please keep brief and ensure correct capitalization and punctuation)
- Primary topic: Please see each stream's description for the relevant topics and add this to the field on the submission field
- The name(s), contact details, affiliation(s) and biographies of the presenter(s), including identifying the lead presenter
- Indicate whether this proposal is a presentation or a full session.
- A short (300 words max) presentation summary
- A learning objective: description on how your presentation will help participants leave with actionable tools and tips to prevent and end homelessness
- A presentation description as you would like it to appear in the program to a max of 100 words
- Whether or not your presentation includes people with lived experience of homelessness
- The identification of any Indigenous presenters

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

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

Given the overwhelming response to our previous calls for presentations, we expect considerable interest in this year's conference. Therefore, we cannot promise all proposals will be accepted. If you are not accepted for 2023, please consider re-submission for 2024.

Call for Presentations by Stream

Realizing the Right to Housing Call for Presentations

In partnership with the **National Right to Housing Network**, we are offering a dedicated stream on realizing the right to housing in Canada with **five 90-minute sessions**.

Adequate housing (i.e., secure, affordable, accessible, habitable, culturally adequate, and well-located housing with necessary infrastructure) has long been recognized as a fundamental human right under international law—a right that is essential to human health, dignity, and well-being, and applies to all orders of government in Canada. In 2019, for the first time in legislation, Canada committed to realizing this fundamental right to adequate housing through its *National Housing Strategy Act.*

This conference stream will explore systemic barriers and solutions to housing (in)adequacy and homelessness in Canada using human rights-based principles and frameworks. There will be **five 90-minute** sessions, and we are inviting submission on themes including (but not limited to):

- Meaningful engagement and participation of people with lived experience
- New approaches to access to justice for people whose right to housing is being violated
- Evictions, renovictions, and security of tenure for tenants
- Rights-based approaches to emergency shelters and encampments
- Financialization of housing and its discriminatory causes and effects
- Gaps and opportunities in the existing National Housing Strategy
- Strengthening accountability among any/all orders of government and/or the private sector
- Advancing the right to housing within local contexts
- Cross-sectoral collaboration, including with private actors
- Intergovernmental agreements and cooperative approaches
- Fostering political will and/or a right to housing culture
- Transforming legal culture and/or advancing strategic litigation through the courts
- The right to housing and non-market housing (I.e., social, non-profit, and co-op housing)
- Intersections with other human rights (e.g., the rights of Indigenous Peoples, the rights of children, etc.)
- Systemic discrimination and/or inequities in accessing and securing housing for already-marginalized groups, including:
    o Indigenous peoples
    o Racialized people
    o Women and girls, including those fleeing violence
    o Gender-diverse, two-spirit, transgender, or non-binary people
    o Persons with disabilities
    o Criminalized people
    o Refugees, immigrants, or persons with precarious immigration status
    o Persons on fixed income
    o Rural, remote, and northern communities

- o Low-income people
- o People dealing with mental health and addiction issues
- o Seniors
- o Youth
- o Lone parents and caregivers
- o And more
- International examples and best practices related to implementing the right to housing

Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of themes. We invite any submission that elaborates on how Canada can practically and progressively realize the human right to adequate housing for all— particularly for those in greatest housing need.

We will prioritize submissions that integrate lived experience in a meaningful way, and which address the intersectional nature of housing inadequacy in Canada. We also seek submission which clearly draw on Canada's legal and moral obligations to the right to housing domestically and/or internationally.

A Way Home Youth Homelessness Prevention Homelessness Call for Presentations

In partnership with **A Way Home Canada** (a national coalition reimagining how we respond to youth homelessness through transformations in policy, planning and practice) we are hosting a stream of sessions on youth homelessness with **five 90-minute sessions**.

Avoiding an experience of homelessness or making sure that experience as brief as possible should be at the forefront of our strategic and operational response to youth homelessness. Through Housing First for Youth, we can support young people who have experienced homelessness to find and maintain housing. With that comes stabilizing health and well-being, enhancing attachment to education and employment and facilitating social inclusion. Preventative, early intervention approaches to prevention, when working upstream to provide young people with supports directly within communities, is essential for reducing the flow of young people into homelessness. When combined, a harmonized and integrated approach to youth homelessness prevention ensures the necessary systems and supports find themselves within the response.

When considering a submission to the 2023 CAEH Conference Youth Homelessness stream, ask yourself these questions:

- How does our housing and supports program align with the principles of HF4Y?
- Are our efforts focused on preventing and sustaining exits from youth homelessness?

In your submission, please draw alignment to either the <u>Housing First for Youth</u> or the <u>Family and Natural Supports</u> principles:

Housing First for Youth:

- A Right to Housing with No Preconditions
- Youth Choice, Youth Voice, and Self-determination

- Positive Youth Development and Wellness orientation

- Individualized, Client-driven Supports with no Time Limits

- Social Inclusion and Community Integration

Family and Natural Supports:

- Connection First

- Youth and Family at the Centre

- Autonomy and Accountability Go Hand in Hand

- Skill-Building that Leads to Growth

- Individualized, Flexible, Non-judgmental Practice

Priority will be placed on programs or initiatives that are:

- Existing HF4Y programs that have aligned or are working to align themselves with the core principles
- Early intervention programs that engage multiple system players within a harmonized response.
- Programs or initiatives demonstrating significant impacts in the lives of vulnerable youth aged 13-24 years old
- actively bringing an equity lens to all aspects of its work using the principle of 'nothing about us without us'

The **Youth Homelessness Prevention stream will have five 90-minute sessions.** In this year's call for presentations, we are asking that you submit individual presentation proposals (maximum 20 minutes) to ensure we can profile the greatest variety of content. We will allow complete session proposals, but proponents should be aware there will be limited opportunities for full sessions and full sessions are less likely to be accepted.

If you have any questions, please contact David French, Director General of Government Relations and Policy, A Way Home Canada – dfrench@awayhome.ca.

Campaigning and Advocacy Call for Presentations

Modern mass homelessness was created by policy. As a result, ending homelessness requires changing policy at the federal, provincial and municipal levels. Doing so, requires shifting public opinion through compelling storytelling, developing effective policy, creating space for politicians and governments to move, engaging in community organizing and lobbying politicians and government. This stream seeks to grow the advocacy movement within the homelessness sector and help engage communities, service providers, funders and advocacy organizations in campaigning.

This stream with **four 90-minute sessions** will focus on equipping participants with the fundamentals, tactics, and communication tools to advocate for system level improvements locally, provincially, and federally.

Topics

We invite submissions on a wide variety of topics within the campaigning and advocacy framework, including research, best practices and innovations that address:

- Campaign strategy & tactics
- Sharing campaign success stories
- Telling the stories of lived experience
- Making content that drives action
- Research and polling
- Government relations
- Field organizing & activist engagement
- Organic, earned and paid media
- Fundraising and philanthropy
- Policy development
- Other - You are also invited to submit an abstract on a theme not listed, so long as it is relevant to the overall theme.

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

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

There will be **four 90-minute sessions** in the Prevention stream and **five 90-minute sessions** in the Research and Policy stream.

Topics

We invite submissions on a wide variety of topics within the [Homelessness Prevention](#) framework, including research and interventions that address:

- Indigenous homelessness prevention
- Decolonizing research
- Youth homelessness prevention
- LGBTQ2S+ homelessness prevention
- Other priority populations: Black and people of colour, women, families, newcomers, veterans, etc. homelessness prevention
- Northern, rural and small-town homelessness prevention
- Data and measuring progress towards preventing and ending homelessness

- Knowledge mobilization practices regarding homelessness prevention research, policy and practice
- Other - You are also invited to submit an abstract on a theme not listed, so long as it is relevant to the overall prevention theme.

Presentation Formats

In line with the COH's mandate to make research more accessible, presenters must clearly identify the policy or practical applications of their research and encourage audience engagement opportunities.

Accelerating Reductions in Chronic Homelessness Call for Presentations

This stream presents an opportunity for communities, partners, and governments working to measurably reduce chronic homelessness to share strategies and practices for accelerating reductions in homelessness. There will be **five 90-minutes sessions** in this stream.

Building a local operating system to reduce and end homelessness includes:
1) Unflinching accountability to a shared measurable end state **of population-level functional zero** homelessness in a community for all program- and person-level investments and activities;
2) **Shared structures for action and accountability** that unite governments, service providers, philanthropy, business, civil society, and people with lived experience of homelessness in problem-solving; and
3) The use of real-time, **by-name data** to drive **continuous improvement** towards zero.

If you are applying one or more of these strategies, we invite you to submit a session to share your good practices, innovations and fail forward experiences. If selected, you may be asked to combine and/or adjust your presentation to ensure we are offering a comprehensive set of presentations that appeal to a variety of communities. Potential topics could include:
- Implementation and application of a By-Name List and Coordinated Access
- Data equity and justice
- Governance models
- Governance practices (e.g., policies/procedures, training, quality assurance)
- Engaging partners in the work to reduce and end homelessness
- Access models
- Rapid resolution (prevention, diversion and rapid-exit)
- Mapping and coordinating outreach efforts
- Using HIFIS for a By-Name List
- By-Name Lists and Coordinated Access in rural, remote, or northern settings
- Including peers and lived experience, Indigenous approaches, youth-specific approaches, and/or an equity lens into Coordinated Access
- Indigenous data sovereignty
- Collecting race and ethnicity data to understand and address disparity and disproportionality in your homelessness response system
- Using By-Name List data to drive improvement processes and system change
- Prioritization, matching and referral processes
- Action-oriented case conferencing

- Communicating and marketing Coordinated Access
- Engaging housing resources in Coordinated Access
- Process mapping/journey mapping
- Large-scale change initiatives
- Reducing and ending homelessness

Health Care and Homelessness Call for Presentations

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

The Health Care and Homelessness stream of CAEH23 will be facilitated in conjunction with the **Canadian Network for the Health and Housing of People Experiencing Homelessness (CNH3)**. CNH3 works collaboratively with the healthcare, homeless and housing sectors toward our shared goals of improving the quality of life of people experiencing homelessness and precarious housing and ending homelessness in Canada. The 'Health Care and Homelessness' stream provides a significant annual opportunity to build these important relationships and set a high standard of care among our community of practice. There will be **five 90-minute sessions** in this stream.

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

- Lessons from the pandemic and future pandemic preparedness
- Innovative models to deliver effective primary care, mental health care, substance use management, dental care and/or palliative care
- Harm reduction and harmful substance use management strategies
- HIV, Hepatitis C and STI screening, prevention and treatment programs for people experiencing homelessness
- Healthcare and support programs for youth experiencing homelessness
- Healthcare and support programs for youth living in and/or exiting the child welfare system
- Healthcare and support programs for 2SLGBTQQIA people experiencing homelessness
- Healthcare programs for refugees and other newcomers in the shelter system
- Geriatrics and care of the 'elderly' (>55) amongst the homeless
- Management of behavioural health challenges related to dementia, mental illness, developmental delay and neurocognitive disorders amongst people experiencing homelessness
- Palliative and hospice care for the homeless
- Mobile and outreach healthcare services
- Health care and advocacy for people involved with and/or transitioning to/from the criminal justice system

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

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

Housing First Call for Presentations

Housing First (HF), backed by thousands of valid and trusted academic articles and research projects, continues to be the best direct service model for working with the most complex people experiencing chronic homelessness. The HF model has widely adopted across Canada and the world and has been adapted to fit many different local contexts to serve a range of different populations and cultures. The core philosophy remains at the heart of almost every systemic approach to ending homelessness. The push for Coordinated Access approaches in the last few years has resulted in some loss of focus on the importance of HF projects. But systems are now showing a greater interest in ensuring that HF is maintained and strong within their communities.

The Housing First stream of sessions will be geared toward reinforcing the necessary role this model plays in ending homelessness as well as ways in which the model has adapted to meet shifting circumstances without losing the core elements which have made it successful. These sessions will be appropriate for senior leaders and front-line workers in organizations supporting people experiencing chronic homelessness across Canada and other parts of the world working in, or thinking about shifting to, a Housing First approach. It is designed to exchange practical and locally applicable learnings from a growing Canadian body of knowledge on Housing First to develop adaptable high performing Housing First programs. There will be **six 90-minute sessions** in this stream.

Topics

We invite submissions on a wide variety of topics related to Housing First but are hoping for submissions with a specific focus on areas such as:

- Program Adaptations: How your HF approach works to support various populations and other demographics or community specific factors.
- How Housing First is/should be embedded within your coordinated systems approach to ending homelessness.
- Effective onboarding and training regimens for high performing programs.
- How to embed Recovery Orientation into your program and what is it, really?
- The importance of Community and Social Integration in practice.
- How to maximize the principle of Choice when options for supports, services, and housing might be limited.
- Ensuring your program is offering an effective, appropriate, and equitable level of Service Array whether you are providing direct services, brokered services, or both.
- Assertive Community Treatment in Housing First. How to make it work and why it is important.
- What should Intensive Case Management look like?
- What Does it Mean to Separate Housing Support and Services and why is it important?
- Housing Procurement and Landlord Engagement.
- Using data to enhance and improve your Housing First approach.
- What does effective Trauma Informed Practice look like in Housing First?
- Person-Centred planning and practice in Housing First.
- Instilling Harm Reduction understanding and practice in your programs day-to-day.
- Home Visits: What should they look like (frequency, intensity, structure)?
- Peer Support within Housing First. Is it essential or a nice idea?

Presentation Format

The format of sessions can be in the form of a workshop, panel discussion, or presentation. It is essential that presentations are NOT simply descriptions of your program but serve to link practice to research (I.e., locating the work in relevant research on Housing First and/or presenting research that can inform practice). We are expecting that the audience can walk away from your presentations with tangible ideas, concrete examples, and an understanding of how what you are sharing could be implemented in

or benefit their program or community. Handouts are encouraged and details regarding the why and how must be present.

Indigenous Homelessness Call for Presentations

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

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

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

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

- Understanding and responding to the impacts of the Residential School Era or the 60s and 70s Scoop
- Unique considerations for ending homelessness for First Nations, Inuit, Métis and Non-Status peoples
- Decolonizing housing and homeless services
- The role of child welfare in ending homelessness for Indigenous peoples
- Understanding the unique needs of Indigenous 2SLGBTQQIA peoples
- The role of reconciliation in ending homelessness
- Addressing intergenerational trauma
- Considerations in Housing First for Indigenous peoples
- The intersection between homelessness and MMIWG
- Housing and Housing First in the North
- The role of ceremony and cultural reconnection in recovery
- The role of the loss of language in homelessness for Indigenous peoples
- Understanding the link between land dispossession and homelessness
- Homelessness prevention for Indigenous peoples
- Elder and senior homelessness in rural and urban settings
- Prevention of homelessness for Indigenous youth
- Voices of Indigenous peoples with Lived Experience of homelessness
- Strategies to reduce governmental, institutional and systemic barriers
- Innovative strategies in community development

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

Lived Experience Call for Presentations

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

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

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

There will be **six 90-minute sessions** in this stream. We are inviting submissions on, but not limited to:

- innovative and new lived experience-led initiatives that are helping to reduce homelessness from across the country
- breaking down barriers in the housing system
- Authentic and equitable engagement and Inclusion of PWLE
- How Lived Experts are transforming policy, leadership and power holding spaces

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

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

Leadership, Improvement and Change Management Call for Presentations

Effective leadership is one major common denominator that all communities who have had success in preventing, reducing, and ending homelessness all have in common. The shift from managing to ending homelessness in Canada, calls upon leaders to adapt in a dynamically evolving space, while remaining mission focused and data driven. Leadership in ending homelessness is more than a title, it is a process of influencing others to achieve homelessness reductions, while navigating complexity and ambiguity.

There will be **six 90-minute sessions** in this stream. If selected, you may be asked to combine and/or adjust your presentation to ensure we are offering a comprehensive set of presentations that appeal to a variety of attendees. We encourage you to take a leadership concept and translate that into how you lead a community or organization in ending homelessness. Potential topics could include:

- Leadership theories put into practice (e.g., Transformational, servant, adaptive leadership)
- Applying change management practices to end homelessness.
- Moving from management to leadership practices.
- Mobilizing ethics into action.
- Leading in a social movement.
- Effective decision making.
- Navigating change in a political environment.
- Indigenous leadership.
- Leadership and intersectional experiences related to homelessness (gender, lived experience, mental health etc.).
- Developing capacity building within your organization.
- Staff wellness, retention, engagement, and burnout prevention.
- Human rights centered organization internal processes.
- Data ethics and justice.

Responding to Unsheltered Homelessness Call for Presentations

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, communities are experiencing more and more unsheltered homelessness. This stream will focus on how to address this crisis with effective strategies and policies. Leaning on personal experience of helping people off the streets and into permanent and sustainable housing, we are looking for subject matter experts to share learnings and proven techniques for effective housing-focused approaches to addressing unsheltered homelessness that are consistent with the right to housing.

There are **five 90-minute sessions** in this stream. If selected, you may be asked to collaborate and/or adjust your presentation to ensure we are offering a comprehensive set of presentations that provide a variety of perspectives on the subject. Potential topics could include and are not limited to:

- Alternative approaches to law enforcement engagement with encampments
- Encampment health and safety challenges
- Effective service delivery in encampments
- From encampment to home, what we have learned about place-based strategies
- Investigating strategies to address vehicle homelessness
- Meeting the basic needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness during a public health crisis
- Meeting people where they are: developing an effective field-based program
- Multi-disciplinary street outreach teams
- Protecting unsheltered youth: confronting exploitation and lack of services

- Rapidly connecting people experiencing unsheltered homelessness with housing
- Removing barriers to emergency shelters
- Uncovering racial disparity in unsheltered homelessness

Rural, Remote, and Northern Homelessness Call for Presentations

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

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

- By Indigenous, for Indigenous, housing and homelessness interventions in rural, remote and northern communities
- Housing First in the rural, remote and nothern context
- Rural, remote and northern interventions for targeted populations such as youth, 2SLGBTQIA people, First Nations, Métis people, and Inuit, women, veterans, and people with disabilities
- Rural, remote and northern research and policy
- Enumeration and homelessness data collection processes for rural, remote and northern communities
- Prevention of rural, remote and northern Homelessness
- Migration and the connection between rural, remote, and urban homelessness
- Innovative housing projects in rural, remote and northern communities
- Rural, remote and northern-specific responses to emergency and transitional Housing
- Engaging municipal leaders in rural, remote and northen communities
- Addressing rural, remote and northern specific challenges such as transportation, sustainable funding, lack of housing options, etc.
- Overcoming the unique challenges rural, remote and northern workers face, such as burnout due to lack of supports, isolation, and the lack of local and regional resource integration
- International perspectives on rural, remote and northern homelessness

Women's Homelessness Call for Presentations

Women and gender-diverse people experiencing homelessness often face distinct challenges linked to their gender and other intersecting identities. Research consistently demonstrates that women and gender-diverse persons are at increased risk of experiencing hidden homelessness and living in overcrowded conditions, and Canadian data indicates they experience higher levels of poverty and core housing need. There is a severe lack of affordable and appropriate housing that meets the needs of diverse women and women-led families, exacerbated by systemic issues that keep this group trapped in poverty and struggling to obtain housing assistance. Violence against women and gender-based violence is a major cause of homelessness, and a feature of life on the streets. When women and gender-diverse

persons become homeless, they are at increased risk of violence and assault, sexual exploitation, and abuse. As a result, many will go to great lengths to avoid the shelter system, including by staying in dangerous and unhealthy relationships and/or deciding to move in with a partner (even when that situation is unsafe). Women and gender-diverse persons who lack adequate housing experience multiple, intersecting violations of their right to housing in Canada, requiring distinct policy and practice solutions.

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

- Realizing the right to housing for women, girls, and gender-diverse persons
- The role that public systems (e.g., child welfare, healthcare) can play in preventing and ending homelessness for women and gender-diverse persons
- The distinct housing challenges and rights violations experienced by Indigenous women, girls, gender-diverse, and Two Sprit persons
- Understanding the connection between colonization, land dispossession, climate change, and housing precarity for Indigenous women, girls, Two Spirit, and gender-diverse people
- Homelessness amongst multiply-marginalized women and gender-persons, including Black and racialized persons, persons with disabilities, newcomers and refugees, young persons, and older persons
- Policy failures and opportunities to provide adequate housing for all women and gender-diverse persons
- Mothering/parenting and homelessness
- Gender-based violence and homelessness
- Transwomen and gender-diverse persons' experiences of housing precarity and homelessness
- Trauma-informed and harm reduction models and approaches for women and gender-diverse persons
- Homelessness prevention for women and gender-diverse persons
- Integrating lived experts into research, practice, and policy solutions
- Models of Housing First and supportive housing for women and gender-diverse persons
- Lessons on successful advocacy and activism
- The interface between the VAW and homelessness sector
- Gendered experiences of eviction
- Transitions out of homelessness for women, girls, and gender-diverse people

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

Improving Equity in Homelessness Systems Call for Presentations

The CAEH is introducing a new Improving Equity in Homelessness Systems stream to the national conference program to equip conference participants to respond to the specific needs, challenges and opportunities of people from all walks of life experiencing homelessness. This new stream will explore

and address homelessness for equity seeking communities including (but not limited to): 2SLGBTQQIA+ peoples, people exiting incarceration, people with disabilities, visible minorities, new Canadians, immigrants, refugees, and seniors. There will be **four 90-minute sessions** in this stream.

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

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

Veterans Homelessness Call for Presentations

The CAEH is introducing a new Veterans Homelessness stream to the national conference program to equip conference participants to the specific needs, challenges, and opportunities of Veterans experiencing homelessness. There will be **four 90-minute sessions** in this stream.

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

- Models of housing and supports for veterans experiencing homelessness
- Improving recovery and community re-engagement for veterans
- Research, clinical implications, and best practices for caring for aging homeless veterans
- Addictions treatment for veterans
- Homelessness preventions for veterans
- Housing instability and housing services utilization by veterans
- Pathways into homelessness among recent veterans
- Experiences and challenges of veteran from equity seeking groups
- The intersection of mental health and veterans' homelessness