



CAEH23

HALIFAX NOV.08-10

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 all participants including people with lived experience of homelessness, Indigenous peoples, racialized people, marginalized groups and individuals, those living with disabilities, and those of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. Each year the CAEH strives to include a diverse range of presenters, organizations and presentations in the National Conference on Ending Homelessness.

We are committed to including and elevating the voice of people with lived experience of homelessness and we strive to facilitate and support their participation in the conference through bursaries, reduced registration rates, participation throughout the conference program and providing other supports for participation.

CAEH is committed to honouring Indigenous worldviews, spirituality and practices in all our conferences throughout the programming, in the conference venue and protocols. We incorporate the use of traditional knowledge and Elders from different communities and territories to respect diverse worldviews and the sacredness of protocol and prayer.

We recognize the intersectional inequalities that many conference participants continue to experience. CAEH has zero tolerance for any form of discrimination, violence, bullying or abusive behavior. We are committed to ensuring that the National Conference on Ending Homelessness is a safe and respectful event and space for all participants.

Discrimination, bullying, harassment or violence will not be tolerated. Ensuring the conference is a safe space is a shared responsibility of all participants. If any discrimination is witnessed or experienced during this conference, or if you feel unsafe, please notify a conference organizer, any staff member or a member of our Board of Directors.



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THE GOVERNOR GENERAL · LA GOUVERNEURE GÉNÉRALE

**Message from the Governor General on the occasion of the
2023 National Conference on Ending Homelessness**

I would like to extend warm greetings to the participants and organizers of the 2023 National Conference on Ending Homelessness (CAEH23).

Those working to combat homelessness in our communities have faced unprecedented challenges in recent years. The overlap of the COVID-19 pandemic, the opioid crisis and the housing crisis, coupled with the rising cost of living, has exacerbated the already precarious situation of many homeless people and highlighted certain social vulnerabilities. Fortunately, industry experts have learned from these experiences and are implementing solutions.

Since its founding in 2013, CAEH has been providing the inspiration, tools and training needed to reach zero homelessness in Canada. It brings together individuals from all walks of life who share a common commitment to ending homelessness, an issue that affects us all.

Congratulations on working together tirelessly and compassionately for the well-being of all members of our society.

I wish you a wonderful conference.


Mary Simon

WELCOME



Welcome to Nova Scotia!

As someone who was born and raised in the Province, I am so proud to welcome all of you to this important gathering of the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness right here in my backyard (YIMBY!)

I hope that the 2023 National Conference on Ending Homelessness offers you a chance to connect with like-minded professionals and to inspire one another, and to share your ideas and insights on how to achieve a Canada without an unhoused population. Perhaps more importantly, I hope that the conference offers you a chance to speak frankly with your colleagues about the challenges you are facing as frontline service providers today in Canada. You deserve to know that you are not alone, and you deserve the gratitude of your community and of the government. Speaking for the Government of Canada, I want you to know we value the work you do, and every region of the country is better for it.

Your work is not easy. In the past few years, burnout amongst staff in the sector has been incredibly high. We can't afford to lose the talents of those who have dedicated their careers to helping others who are vulnerable. I am immensely grateful for the compassion that you show our communities. There are days where the task at hand - ending homelessness - seems as vast as the Atlantic Ocean that rests just outside the venue. I cannot in good faith pretend to have all the answers on how to achieve this monumental task. But I am certain that no one person or organization can do it alone. I will use my time in the role I've been given to make a difference, and I will value your partnership as we seek to solve very big problems together.

In the months ahead, I will be working hard to address our national housing crisis. This will require measures that make the financial equation work for home builders, that we work with non-market housing providers to advance important affordable and supportive housing projects, that we make it easier to navigate the process of taking a project from an idea, to a building permit, to a new home for Canadian families, and that we enhance the capacity of the homebuilding sector to build the homes our communities need. Your advice and perspective are most welcome on how we can overcome these obstacles and others that may stand in our way.

I suspect that you, with many combined years of experience and a vast array of expertise, will have creative ideas on how we can best meet our shared goals. I look forward to connecting with you and to hearing some of the insights you will provide over the course of the conference. I plan to be in attendance, so if you see me, please don't hesitate to say hello, and introduce yourself.

Here's to a productive and rewarding few days ahead!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Fraser".

The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities

The word "Canada" in a bold, serif font, with a red maple leaf above the letter 'a'.



A message from Trevor Boudreau, Minister of Community Services of the Province of Nova Scotia

Welcome to Nova Scotia. We are proud to have people from across Canada gathered here in Halifax to work together to address homelessness.

Everyone deserves a safe, warm, and dignified place to call home.

The causes of homelessness are varied and complex, and often times people need extra supports for the challenges they are facing. Much of our work centres around working with community to find ways to meet people's unique needs and help them get on the path to being safely housed.

Homelessness is too big an issue for any one level of government or organization to take on. It will take all of us, looking out for our community members, coming together with new and innovative solutions and partnerships.

The National Conference on Ending Homelessness gives the opportunity for all of us to gather and talk about the experiences and knowledge of our communities. There is a lot of value in sharing the unique challenges we each face and in having the chance to learn from each other's successes.

I hope each and every person attending the conference leaves feeling empowered, knowing that we can collectively work to end homelessness. There is a lot more work to do, but events like this show me that people are doing incredible things for their communities.

The Honourable Trevor Boudreau
Minister of Community Services of the Province of Nova Scotia



Greetings from the Mayor



As Mayor of Halifax and on behalf of Regional Council it is my distinct pleasure to extend warm greetings and a special welcome to all attending the 2023 National Conference on Ending Homelessness (CAEH23). I am pleased we helped to support the event financially.

Halifax Regional Municipality is located on the ancestral and unceded grounds of the Mi'kmaq people in the district of Mi'kma'ki. We acknowledge the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognize we are all Treaty People.

Delegates of the *2023 National Conference on Ending Homelessness* will be provided a non-partisan platform to make meaningful connections and engage in important discussions with a national movement of individuals, organizations, and communities who work together to support efforts to end homelessness across the country. As a wealthy nation we can, and we must, meet the demand to dramatically increase the supply of housing across the broad spectrum of affordability. In doing so, we must not lose focus on addressing the housing needs of people who are currently unhoused or at risk of losing their housing, a need that continues to grow.

I want to acknowledge, with gratitude, the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness team, supporters, and sponsors for hosting this important and timely event here in Halifax.

I wish you much success and trust your visit will be a truly memorable experience.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Savage" with a horizontal line underneath.

Mike Savage
Mayor

A MESSAGE FROM THE HALIFAX HOST COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

Welcome to Halifax (Kjipuktuk to the Mi'kmaq people, meaning Great Harbour). We are located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. We are proud that Halifax/ Kjipuktuk was chosen as the host city for this year's National Conference on Ending Homelessness – we're glad you have gathered here for this most crucial of annual conversations.

Both of our respective organizations, the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre and United Way Halifax, are focused on structured, social-based programming and services to address growing needs across our city. These programs support children, youth, families, and seniors, and aim to improve social connection, employment & training, mental health and addictions, harm reduction, justice and, critically, housing and homelessness.

Every day, our teams are actively working to improve lives through community programs and supports, creating long-term solutions to poverty and the ways it impacts people in our communities, and advocating for policies, funding, or other changes to remove barriers to city where everyone can belong, feels safe and lives a life of their choosing.

Together with our partner agencies we are in a sea-change moment with respect to housing for people across the board. Just as reconciliation requires an all-hands-on-deck approach, so does housing as a basic human right for Indigenous and African Canadian people, as well as other marginalized communities.

Based on our organizations' shared commitment to equity and truth and reconciliation, we recognize the Conference to End Homelessness here in Halifax as an unprecedented opportunity. As co-chairs of the Local Host Committee, we hope this conference will create productive conversations, open minds and lead to true shared commitment from all sectors and orders of governments to make change together.

We look forward to discussions over the next several days, it provides us an opportunity to strategize and adopt best practices to expedite the availability of affordable housing. It is imperative that we work together to find solutions.



Sara Napier
President & CEO
United Way Halifax



Pam Glode-Desrochers
Executive Director,
Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre



PJILA'SI! WELCOME TO THE 2023 NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENDING HOMELESSNESS

We are grateful and honoured to be gathered here in Mi'kma'ki, the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, who are the past, present and future caretakers of this land. We also acknowledge that people of African descent have been in Nova Scotia for over 400 years, and we honour and offer gratitude to those ancestors of African descent who came before us to this land.

Pjila'si! Welcome to Halifax! I've been looking forward to this year's conference and being here with all of you since we first announced the destination last fall in Toronto. I hope you enjoy the famous East Coast hospitality over the next few days as we connect, share ideas and gather strength from one another.

I want to extend a warm welcome to the Elders, Knowledge Keepers and Traditional People and those of you with lived experience of homelessness who are joining us this week. We are honoured by your presence, and we look forward to learning from you and connecting with you over the next few days.

This year's conference begins on Indigenous Veterans Day and ends on the eve of Remembrance Day. This is an opportunity for us to reflect on the sacrifices of our veterans and their families and acknowledge the ongoing hardship too many of them face, especially those veterans who experience homelessness today.

I can't believe this is our 10th National Conference on Ending Homelessness! So much has happened since our first conference in 2013. We've grown as a movement, made important progress, grieved terrible losses, and through it all remained steadfast in our belief that a day will come when homelessness ends.

We're gathering again at a time of great hardship and challenge. A wave of new homelessness continues to crash down across the country, driven by record setting rent increases and the increasing cost of living. The drug poisoning crisis is claiming more and more innocent lives. And as the housing crisis rages and homelessness grows dark forces exploit public fear to advance regressive and harmful policy.

But in that darkness, there you are – a light of kindness, love, and grace. There you are, offering hope and a helping hand out of the darkness; despite your own grief, fatigue and fear.

I want you to know your work is seen and valued; and I want you to know you are not alone.

Together, we are making progress. Despite the brutal challenges we face, communities like St. Thomas Elgin and Fort McMurray have ended homelessness for veterans. Stratford-Perth-St. Marys, Dufferin, Wellington-Guelph, Fort McMurray, Medicine Hat, Kawartha Haliburton, and Renfrew County are making large-scale reductions in chronic homelessness. Together, you are proving it can be done.

Together, we're also attacking the root cause of homelessness



– the lack of affordable rental housing. I had the opportunity to meet with the federal Cabinet in August where I described what you're experiencing, conveyed the urgency of the crisis and shared solutions with them. The recent elimination of the GST on new purpose-built rental housing, shows that they are listening. But there is still much to do.

Together, we are not powerless to change the policies that cause homelessness.

Over the next few days, you'll hear from over 230 expert presenters in 92 concurrent sessions. We have five inspiring keynote speakers covering Indigenous homelessness and housing, developing resilience in leadership, political change and empowerment, and lessons from our colleagues south of the border. In each of these sessions you'll find inspiration and ideas you can take home and put to work to advance your efforts to end homelessness. In these sessions, in the plenaries and the spaces in between, you will find peers, allies, mentors and new friends. I hope you'll take the time to have meaningful conversations, lift one another up, and draw hope and inspiration from those around you.

I'd like to thank and acknowledge the many individuals, teams, and organizations who have made this conference possible. I'd like to start by saying what a privilege it is to work daily with the team at the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness. Your enthusiasm, sense of humour, and passion for the work of ending homelessness encourages me to push on every day. I especially want to thank the Halifax Host Committee led by Pam Glode Desrochers of the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre and Sara Napier of the United Way Halifax for their wonderful hospitality, insight, hard work and terrific local content.

Finally, I want to thank each of you. Thank you for joining us here. Thank you for being beacons of light and hope for those that suffer the indignity and injustice of homelessness. Thank you for believing in the dream of ending homelessness and working every day to make that dream a reality.

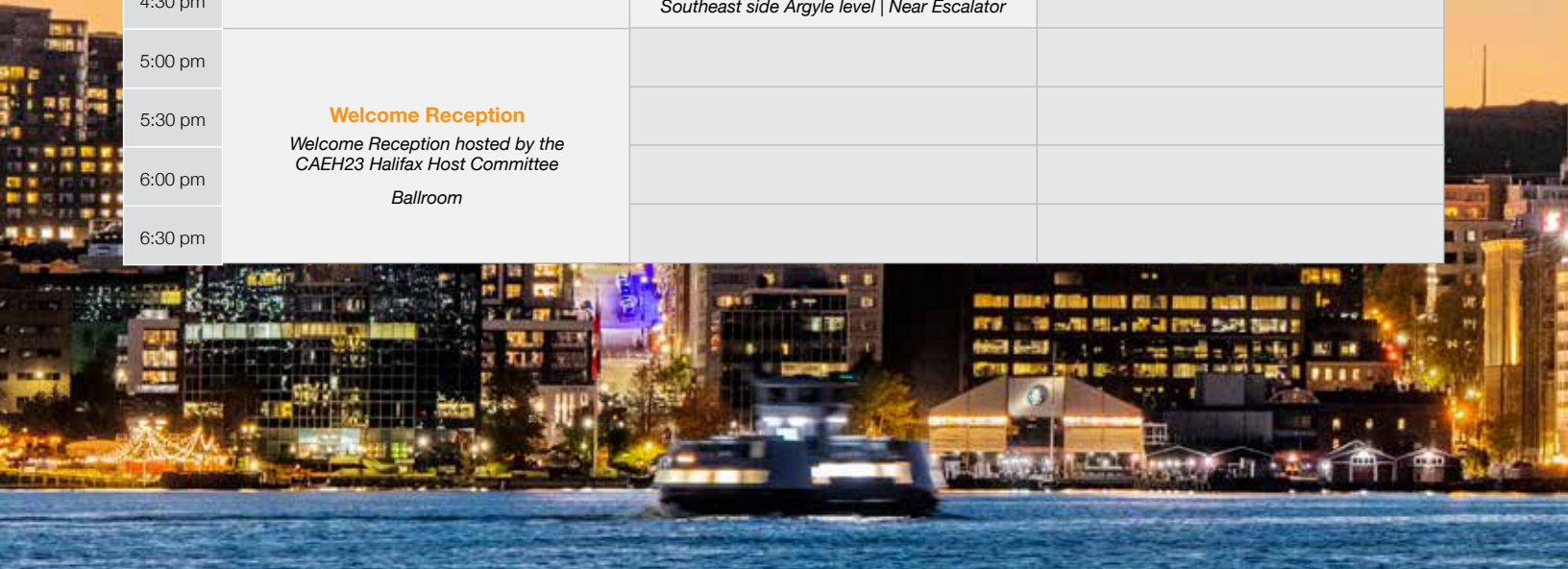
Wela'liq. Thank you. Together, we can end homelessness.

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

Tim Richter
President & CEO,
Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

TIME	DAY 1 - WEDNESDAY, NOV 8	DAY 2 - THURSDAY, NOV 9	DAY 3 - FRIDAY, NOV 10
7:30 am	Continental Breakfast		
8:00 am		Continental Breakfast	Continental Breakfast
8:30 am	Opening Plenary	Morning Plenary	Morning Plenary
9:00 am	<i>Ballroom</i>	Keynote - Dr. Marie-Hélène Pelletier <i>Ballroom</i>	Keynote - David Coletto <i>Ballroom</i>
9:30 am		Refreshment Break	Refreshment Break
10:00 am	Concurrent Sessions A	Concurrent Sessions D	Concurrent Sessions G
10:30 am	<i>Argyle Level: 202 + Argyle 1-3 Ballroom Level: 501, 503, 506-507 Summit Level: 603-606, 608-609, 611-614</i>	<i>Argyle Level: 202 + Argyle 1-3 Ballroom Level: 501, 503, 506-507 Summit Level: 603-606, 608-609, 611-614</i>	<i>Argyle Level: 202 + Argyle 1-3 Ballroom Level: 501, 503, 506-507 Summit Level: 603-606, 608-609, 611-614</i>
11:00 am			
11:30 am			
12:00 pm	Lunch Plenary	Lunch Plenary	Closing Plenary
12:30 pm	Keynotes - Margaret Pfoh and The Honourable Sean Fraser <i>Ballroom</i>	Keynote - Jeff Olivet <i>Ballroom</i>	Keynote - The Honourable Wanda Thomas Bernard, Senator <i>Ballroom</i>
1:00 pm			
1:30 pm	Concurrent Sessions B	Concurrent Sessions E	
2:00 pm	<i>Argyle Level: 202 + Argyle 1-3 Ballroom Level: 501, 503, 506-507 Summit Level: 603-606, 608-609, 611-614</i>	<i>Argyle Level: 202 + Argyle 1-3 Ballroom Level: 501, 503, 506-507 Summit Level: 603-606, 608-609, 611-614</i>	
2:30 pm			
3:00 pm	Refreshment Break	Refreshment Break	
3:30 pm		Concurrent Sessions F	
4:00 pm	Concurrent Sessions C	<i>Argyle Level: 202 + Argyle 1-3 Ballroom Level: 501, 503, 506-507 Summit Level: 603-606, 608-609, 611-614</i>	
4:30 pm	<i>Argyle Level: 202 + Argyle 1-3 Ballroom Level: 501, 503, 506-507 Summit Level: 603-606, 608-609, 611-614</i>	Local Artisan Market (3pm-5pm) <i>Southeast side Argyle level Near Escalator</i>	
5:00 pm			
5:30 pm	Welcome Reception		
6:00 pm	<i>Welcome Reception hosted by the CAEH23 Halifax Host Committee</i>		
6:30 pm	<i>Ballroom</i>		



PRESENTING CAEH23'S KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

The 2023 National Conference on Ending Homelessness has a stellar lineup of keynote speakers who are each luminaries in their field. They all bring an insightful perspective to today's most important topics.

OPENING PLENARY

Welcome and Indigenous Veterans Day Ceremony



WEDNESDAY

LUNCH KEYNOTE



Margaret Pfoh

Chief Executive Officer

Aboriginal Housing Management Association



The Honourable Sean Fraser

Minister of Housing, Infrastructure, and Communities

MORNING PLENARY

LUNCH KEYNOTE

THURSDAY



Dr. Marie-Hélène Pelletier,

PhD, Counselling Psychology and MBA, UBC

Leadership and Workplace Mental Health Expert, Psychologist & Advisor.



Jeff Olivet

Executive Director

U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

MORNING PLENARY

LUNCH KEYNOTE

FRIDAY



David Coletto

Founder, Chair, & CEO

Abacus Data



The Honourable Wanda Thomas Bernard, Senator

Deputy Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Human Rights

CAEH23 GENERAL INFORMATION

CAEH23 Mobile App

Download the CAEH23 Mobile App to view the searchable, digital detailed program, connect directly with other participants and receive important conference updates via push notification throughout the program.

To download CAEH23 app, scan QR code below or search in App Store or Google Play Store for "CAEH 23."

Login with the same username and password you used during registration.



Registration and Information

The Conference Registration and Information Desk will be in the Argyle Atrium on the Argyle (ground) level of the Halifax Convention Centre and open the following times:

Tuesday, November 7th:	4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Wednesday, November 8th:	7:00 am to 7:00 pm
Thursday, November 9th:	7:30 am to 5:00 pm
Friday, November 10th:	7:30 am to 11:30 am

Conference Badges should be worn at all times. If you lose your badge, please visit the Registration Desk to have a new one printed.

Free Wi-Fi Instructions




Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the Halifax Convention Centre. Select the Halifax Convention Centre network and use access code CAEH23.

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.

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 Ballroom Foyer and Salon area.

A valid piece of identification (e.g. drivers license) 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 may result in replacement charges.

Dietary Requirements

If you have any dietary requirements, please notify the server at your table during the lunch plenaries. If you identified your dietary requirements during registration, a code should also be displayed on your Conference Badge which you can show the server. For the breakfast and refreshments buffets, all items are labeled with common dietary concerns - gluten, dairy, soy, and nuts. If you are uncertain, please ask one of the servers stationed near the buffet.

Gender Neutral Washrooms

Gender neutral washrooms are available on every floor and are marked with the symbol on the right (except for the Ballroom level where the gender neutral washrooms are close by Room 501).



Drink ticket for Welcome Reception

Each participant receives a complimentary drink ticket for the CAEH23 Welcome Reception on November 8 at 5:00pm in the Ballroom. Please present it to the bartender at the time of ordering for validation. The ticket entitles you to one (1) complimentary alcoholic or non-alcoholic beverage of your choice. Additional drinks will be available for purchase.

Coat Check

There is a self-serve coat check available on the ballroom level outside the Ballroom, please look for the coat racks. Please do not leave any valuables on the coat racks as they are not monitored. CAEH is not responsible for any items that our left at the coat check.

Health and Safety

If you require first aid or see a participant who requires first aid, please notify to any CAEH staff member (identified by a red lanyard) or a Halifax Convention Centre staff member. There will be a paramedic onsite and the first aid room is located right behind registration on the Argyle level (ground level). For any emergencies, please call 9-1-1.

If you fall ill or develop flu like symptoms and are no longer able to attend the conference, please contact info@caeh.ca.

CAEH23 GENERAL INFORMATION

Security

For general assistance, please ask the conference staff at the CAEH23 Registration / Information Desk. Please do not leave laptop computers, cellphones, and other personal valuables unattended.

Designated Smoking Areas

The closest smoking areas are at the corner of Argyle and Prince St, or the corner of Argyle and Sackville St. As per local bylaws, smoking is only permitted in designated areas in Halifax.

Scent-free Conference

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.

Lost and Found

If you have misplaced an item while at the convention centre, please check with our Registration and Information Desk in the Argyle Atrium (ground level) to see if it was given to the desk team. If they do not have it, please ask a convention centre staff member to check with the Security Control Room who keep lost and found items for a short period of time.

Photo/Video Consent

Photographs and video may be taken by the conference organizers at CAEH23 and CAEH may use them in news or promotional materials, whether in print, electronic format or other media, including the conference website. By participating in CAEH23, you grant CAEH the right to use your name, photograph and/or video recording for such purposes. If you do not want to be photographed, please let the photographer know.

Conference Benefits

The Halifax Host Committee has arranged fantastic additional benefits for attendees of CAEH23.

Show Your Badge Program

Show Your Badge is Discover Halifax's conference delegate appreciation program. Simply show your badge at participating local businesses, and earn special offers. From local food tours to souvenirs, to local experiences, you'll save on the best the city has to offer! For the latest offers, please visit: DiscoverHalifaxNS.com/ShowYourBadge



Free YMCA Access

The YMCA of Greater Halifax/Dartmouth (5640 Sackville Street) is pleased to provide CAEH23 participants with free access to their facility while in town!

The Y is a five-minute walk from the Halifax Convention Centre and to gain free access, you just need to show your conference badge and an I.D.

CAEH23 Wellness Centre

The Local Host Committee is hosting a CAEH23 Wellness Centre in Room 602 on the Summit Level. The Wellness Centre will provide conference participants with a space for movement, meditation and quiet, amidst the intensity of the conference. The space will have programming for those who simply need to take a moment and regroup themselves, enjoying a movement or meditation class or signing up for a guided fun run! Programming and timing will be posted in the Wellness Centre. See page 28 for more information.



COMMUNITY & CONNECTION SPACES

Spiritual Room

For consultation, smudging, and reflection with an Elder or Knowledge Keeper, we invite you to visit the Spiritual Room located in Room 607 on the Summit Level.

The room will be open:

Wednesday, November 8th: 7:30 am to 5:30 pm
 Thursday, November 9th: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
 Friday, November 10th: 8:00 am to 1:30 pm

Lived Experience Lounge

We invite all Lived Experts or those looking to connect with Lived Experts to visit this lounge located in Room 201 on the Argyle Level. Peer support workers are available to support you, if needed. The lounge will be open:

Wednesday, November 8th: 7:30 am to 7:00 pm
 Thursday, November 9th: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
 Friday, November 10th: 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

Quiet Room

A Quiet Room is available for all participants if you need a quiet moment to reflect on what you've heard or to simply take a break in silence. The Quiet Room is located in Room 203 on the Argyle Level.

The room will be open:

Wednesday, November 8th: 7:30 am to 7:00 pm
 Thursday, November 9th: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
 Friday, November 10th: 8:00 am to 1:30 pm

Wellness Centre

The Halifax Local Host Committee is hosting a Wellness Centre in Room 602 on the Summit Level. Please see page 28 to find out what activities are taking place to support wellness during CAEH23.

Speaker Ready Room

The Speaker Ready Room is available to all speakers of concurrent sessions to prepare for their presentations. The Speaker Ready Room is in Room 505 on the Ballroom Level. This room is only for registered concurrent session speakers.

The Speaker Ready Room will be open:

Wednesday, November 8th: 7:00 am to 5:00 pm
 Thursday, November 9th: 7:30 am to 5:00 pm
 Friday, November 10th: 8:30 am to 11:30 am

Acknowledgements | Wela'liog

The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness would like to recognize the following individuals and organizations for their tremendous support of the the 2023 National Conference on Ending Homelessness:

We would like to acknowledge the incredible support of Halifax Host Committee including from the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre: Pam Glode-Desrochers, Debbie Eisan, and Corinne MacLellan, from United Way: Sara Napier, Deborah Page, Samantha Williams, Peter Ordinelli, and Kevin Hooper, from Destination Halifax: Jeff Nearing, from Conventions East: Renae Perry, and the City of Halifax team; from the Canadian Lived Experience Leadership Network: Pamela Spurvey.

The National Conference on Ending Homelessness is developed in partnership with many amazing organizations and individuals 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 Leadership 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 the Elders and 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.

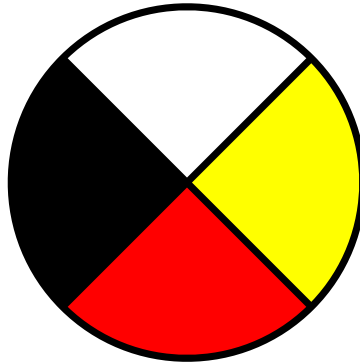
A special thanks to the small but mighty CAEH team for their hours of patient, professional and enthusiastic hard work behind the scenes on the thousand details that go into a conference like this, but most importantly for their passion, tenacity and brilliant work in service of our mission to end homelessness.

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

HONOURING INDIGENOUS CULTURE AND SPIRITUALITY

Kjipuktuk (Halifax) is situated in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. Throughout the conference, participants are invited to visit the Spiritual Room located in Room 607 on the Summit Level.

CAEH is committed to honouring Indigenous worldviews, spirituality and practices in all our conferences throughout the programming, in the conference venue and protocols. We incorporate the use of traditional knowledge and Elders from different communities and territories to respect diverse worldviews and the sacredness of protocol and prayer. Their teachings are offered as a gift to conference participants and as an invitation to seek out Elders, Traditional Teachers, and other Cultural Support people to learn more.



For Conference Cultural Support:

Debbie Eisan
Batchewana First Nation Elder

Jane Meader
Grandmother

Les Harper
Cree Knowledge Keeper

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

Geraldine LeBlanc
Keekoosé First Nation Elder

Anthony (Tony) Thomas
Cree Knowledge Keeper

Mike Ormsby
Traditional Teacher

Patsy Paul-Martin
Millbrook First Nation Elder

Dorothy Peters
Seine River Knowledge Keeper

Naulaq LeDrew
Inuit Knowledge Keeper

Clayton Shirt
Plains Cree/Anishinaabe
Traditional Knowledge
Practitioner

Jocelyne Pambrun
Métis Knowledge Keeper

Wil Campbell
Métis Elder

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. Participants are welcome to use the Spiritual Room at any time during the conference.

RECLAIMING POWER AND PLACE



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



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.



Helping Home Apparel Collection

Supporting CAEH's work.



In collaboration with Nova Scotia-based, My Home Mercantile, we're excited to launch the new Helping Home collection, with proceeds going to ending homelessness in Canada.

Available for purchase at Booth #2 in the Exhibition Hall on the Ballroom Level.

Looking for holiday gifts?

My Home Mercantile has home-inspired gifts available for online orders and shipment straight to your door.

Visit MyHomeMercantile.com.



OUR SPONSORS

Thank you to the generous sponsors who have made the 2023 National Conference on Ending Homelessness possible.

HOME PARTNERS



FOUNDATION PARTNER



ROOF PARTNER



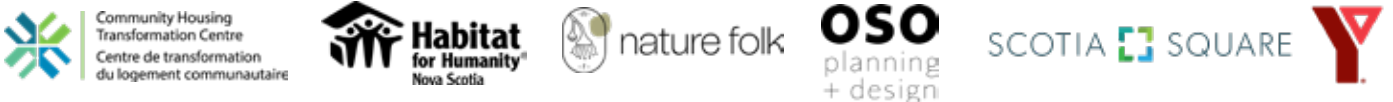
FRAMING PARTNERS



WINDOW PARTNERS



OTHER PARTNERS



The 2023 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; and through Veterans Affairs Canada.



OUR PARTNERS

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



THE HOME DEPOT CANADA FOUNDATION WELCOMES YOU TO HALIFAX AND CAEH23!



The Home Depot Canada Foundation is committed to preventing and ending youth homelessness in Canada. Through community partnership THDCF works to remove systemic barriers youth face to foster healthy pathways to exit homelessness. To create new paths for youth experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness, The Home Depot Canada Foundation is investing \$125 million by 2030. Visit us at THDCF booth to learn more about our Foundation’s work and Community Investment programs. We look forward to chatting with you!



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



Supporting Healthy Communities



medavie.ca



MEDAVIE

Rising to Housing Challenges

At CMHC, we are driven by one goal: **all Canadians have a place to call home**



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

OUR SPONSORS



**DIGNITY
SAFETY
STABILITY**
OF HOME

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

salvationarmy.ca/mission

Delivering bold housing solutions by collaborating, mobilizing, funding and investing.



**CATHERINE
DONNELLY
FOUNDATION**

Vancity Community Foundation

Welcome 2023 conference participants! Thank you all for your dedication to ending homelessness.

Discover more about our Affordable Community Housing Program + Accelerator Fund at vahaf.ca.

A Proud Sponsor of



CAEH23 EXHIBITION HALL

Over 20 exhibitors are featured in the Exhibition Hall, located in the Ballroom Salon on the Ballroom level. Explore a range of services, products and resources that support communities to end homelessness, or pick up a gift or token of your time in Halifax at one of the small-business vendors.



All My HOME Apparel garments and gifts are designed in their studio or by local artists, and cut, sewn, dyed, and printed in Truro, Nova Scotia! At their booth, My HOME Apparel will have CAEH23 swag, the Helping Home apparel collection in collaboration with CAEH, small Nova Scotia souvenir items as well as their HOME line of clothing. This is also where you would pick up your pre-ordered hoodies or t-shirts.

My HOME Apparel knows how important the word “home” is, which is they want to help give ALL Canadians a home. To help achieve this, a portion of all their profits are annually donated to homelessness initiatives across Canada.

Booth #2 | myhomemercantile.com



Visit the Halifax Host Committee and Discover Halifax booth to learn more about the local housing initiatives and programs taking place and to chat with a visitor advisor about all there is to do in and around the city. Pick-up a local map and visitor guide too.

Booth #4 | DiscoverHalifaxNS.com



Bookmark Halifax is a locally owned, independent bookstore. Since 1989, the Bookmark people have promoted the benefits of the written word, the beauty the book as physical object, and the value of sharing stories and ideas. They see independence as a virtue and are doing their part to keep our communities interesting and are strong supporters of the local literary community. At their booth, Bookmark will have a pop-up book shop with a selection of local, Canadian and international books pertaining to current events and conference themes.

Booth #26 | halifax.bookmarkreads.ca



Checkout the CAEH Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) booth to meet our team of personable and dynamic trainers. Learn about our training and consulting services including how you can get discounted rates on sustainable training packages including both live and self-paced onboarding module subscriptions. Discuss with us your specific training needs and interests and we can help you customize a training plan that is right for your team.

Booth #10 | training.caeh.ca



Built for Zero Canada, an initiative of CAEH, is an ambitious national change effort helping a core group of leading communities end Chronic and Veteran homelessness, as a first step on the path to eliminating all homelessness in Canada. Visit the booth to say “hi” to their team, learn more about BFZ-C, or pick up a Built for Zero Canada pin.

Booth #10 | bfzcanada.ca

CAEH23 EXHIBITION HALL



The Canadian Observatory on Homelessness is a global thought leader on homelessness prevention. We work in collaboration with our partners to conduct and mobilize research designed to have an impact on solutions to homelessness. Visit our booth to learn more about our research and knowledge mobilization activities, and how we can work together.

Booth #20 | Preventhomelessness.ca



CBU will be on site to provide CAEH23 attendees with information about our Affordable Housing Series of microcredentials and discuss opportunities for community learning, career development and capacity building for those working to end homelessness and secure dignified housing for all. We're here to support the sector through quality education and excited to meet with future learners and partners.

Booth #8 | cbu.ca/microcredentials



Founded in 1966, CARF's mission is to promote the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process and continuous improvement services that centre on enhancing the lives of persons served. Organizations that have participated in a CARF accreditation survey demonstrate a higher degree of internal quality, greater involvement of persons served in their services, increased cohesion among staff members at all levels within the organization, and enhanced status of the accredited programs/services within the community.

Booth #23 | carf.org



The Canadian Housing Evidence Collaborative is an research, strategy and intelligence hub created to help Canada achieve housing solutions that meet the needs of a growing, urbanizing and aging population, maximize well-being, minimize environmental impact, accommodate diversity, strengthen public institutions, and facilitate stable and productive economies in a globalizing world context. With academic, government, industry and NGO partners we: broker meaningful collaboration; amplify the impact of timely, relevant and rigorous research; quickly grow Canada's capacity to generate that research; and perform cutting edge, high reward research.

Booth #19 | chec-ccrl.ca



The Community Housing Transformation Centre supports the sustainability, development and accessibility of quality community housing across Canada. We provide financial assistance to community housing stakeholders and promote the sharing of resources and knowledge through partnerships.

Booth #18 | centre.support



Come visit the CMHC booth to learn about our Innovation Programs, our Expert Community on Housing and more! We look forward to chatting with you!

Booth #17 | placetocallhome.ca | cmhc.ca/ECoH



Eccovia is the leading data software provider for case management with 40 years of impactful service. Our ClientTrack platform serves HMIS, victim service providers, refugee resettlement, and many other case management needs, while our community intelligence platform, ClientInsight, uses machine learning to provide data cleansing, record deduplication, data analytics, and much more.

Booth #21 | eccovia.com

CAEH23 EXHIBITION HALL



Elections Canada will be on site to share information that will help reduce barriers to electoral participation. To learn about barriers faced by certain groups of Canadians, to access toolkits to understand the ways to participate in elections, and to join their network visit:

Booth #24 | inspirerlademocratie-inspiredemocracy.ca.



HelpSeeker empowers communities with precise tools and insights to tackle pressing social challenges. Our flagship product, Karto, seamlessly blends advanced data analytics with expert guidance. Complementing Karto, we offer tailored solutions such as the Social Needs and Housing Needs Assessments, Grant & Funding Generator, and Systems Mapping. Each solution is designed to provide leaders with comprehensive, AI-supported analyses tailored to their community's unique needs. Join us at our booth to discover how HelpSeeker can enhance your community strategies.

Booth #15 | helpseeker.org



The Home Depot Canada Foundation is the presenting sponsor of CAEH23. In keeping with their mission to prevent and end youth homelessness in Canada, they look forward to connecting with conference participants at their booth, discussing the work the foundation is doing, and seeking opportunities for collaboration and to support the efforts of likeminded organizations across the country through grants.

Booth #1 | homedepot.ca/foundation



Infrastructure Canada staff will be present at the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) booth to engage with communities that are implementing and using HIFIS, as well as with conference attendees interested in learning more about HIFIS. The booth will feature a HIFIS demo site for attendees to view the various features and functionalities in HIFIS, including the following modules: Coordinated Access, Admissions, Point-in-Time Count, and Reports. A variety of information sheets about HIFIS will be available for conference attendees to take to learn more about HIFIS' capabilities and how it can be used in their communities.

Booth #5 | infrastructure.gc.ca



We help you reduce barriers to healthcare and transportation with innovative vehicle designs. We manufacture mobile patient transfer, clinical, and outreach vehicles that allow you to reach your clients where they are, increase their access to primary care, and provide safe, dignified spaces.

Booth #13 | movemobility.ca



Pulse For Good provides feedback solutions for organizations serving vulnerable groups. Using a combination of software and hardware, we enable honest, anonymous feedback. This helps organizations understand needs, adapt services, and genuinely connect with the people they serve.

Booth #16 | pulseforgood.com



The Canadian Accreditation Council (CAC) is a recognized non-profit organization that specializes in accrediting community health and human services programs and organizations across Canada.

No matter how skilled or talented we are in our professions, we all rely on the strength of others to provide quality services to society's most vulnerable. The Canadian Accreditation Council (CAC) prides itself on being a reliable teammate to organizations striving to establish efficient governance structures, produce effective outcome reporting, and ensure practices are grounded in a strong policy framework.

CAC believes accreditation is more than a plaque you hang on your wall; it is a demonstration of the difference you make in the lives of those you serve. Over the past 49 years CAC has partnered with hundreds of organizations to guide and support their achievement of excellence.

Booth #22 | canadianaccreditation.ca

CAEH23 EXHIBITION HALL



For over 26 years Raising the Roof has been leading the way on long-term solutions to homelessness across Canada through the creation of affordable housing, employment opportunities for people at risk of homelessness, and fundraising through the annual Toque Campaign. Raising the Roof's long-term solution to affordable housing is called Reside. Reside renovates vacant or under-utilized spaces into energy efficient affordable housing through partnerships with social enterprise contractors and local housing providers. By creating employment opportunities and new units of deeply affordable housing with wraparound supports, Reside provides a tangible, targeted long-term solution to ending homelessness in Canada.

Booth #25 | raisingtheroof.org



At the Reaching Home Booth, Infrastructure Canada staff will be available to discuss federal homelessness programming and answer any questions you may have about Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy or the Veteran Homelessness Program.

Booth #3 | infrastructure.gc.ca



The Nova Scotia SPCA will be on site to discuss how Canada can create more pet-inclusive housing. They will be available to answer questions on the work they do in the community and how housing and animal welfare sectors can work together to support people and their pets.

Booth #6 | novascotiaspca.ca



Unique in concept and effective in implementation, Stepped Care Solutions is a not-for-profit mental health system consultancy group. They are dedicated to collaborating with organizations, communities and institutions to support their transformation in providing flexible and high-quality mental health and substance use health services.

Booth #11 | steppedcaresolutions.com



The Basic Income Nova Scotia Society will be providing printed information about Basic Income Guarantee for Canada—what it is, why it is needed, what it would do, and progress in advocating for its implementation. They will have petitions to sign, posters to put in windows, and recently published books to buy. The people at their booth will be very happy to answer any questions conference participants may have.

Booth #14 | big-ns.org



Veterans Affairs Canada will be exhibiting information about programs such as: health and disability benefits, financial supports and mental health supports, specifically as it relates to Veterans experiencing homelessness. There is will also be materials to commemorate Veterans. For more information on the programs and services offered by Veterans Affairs Canada, please visit their website or call them at 1-866-522-2122.

Booth #7 | veterans.gc.ca

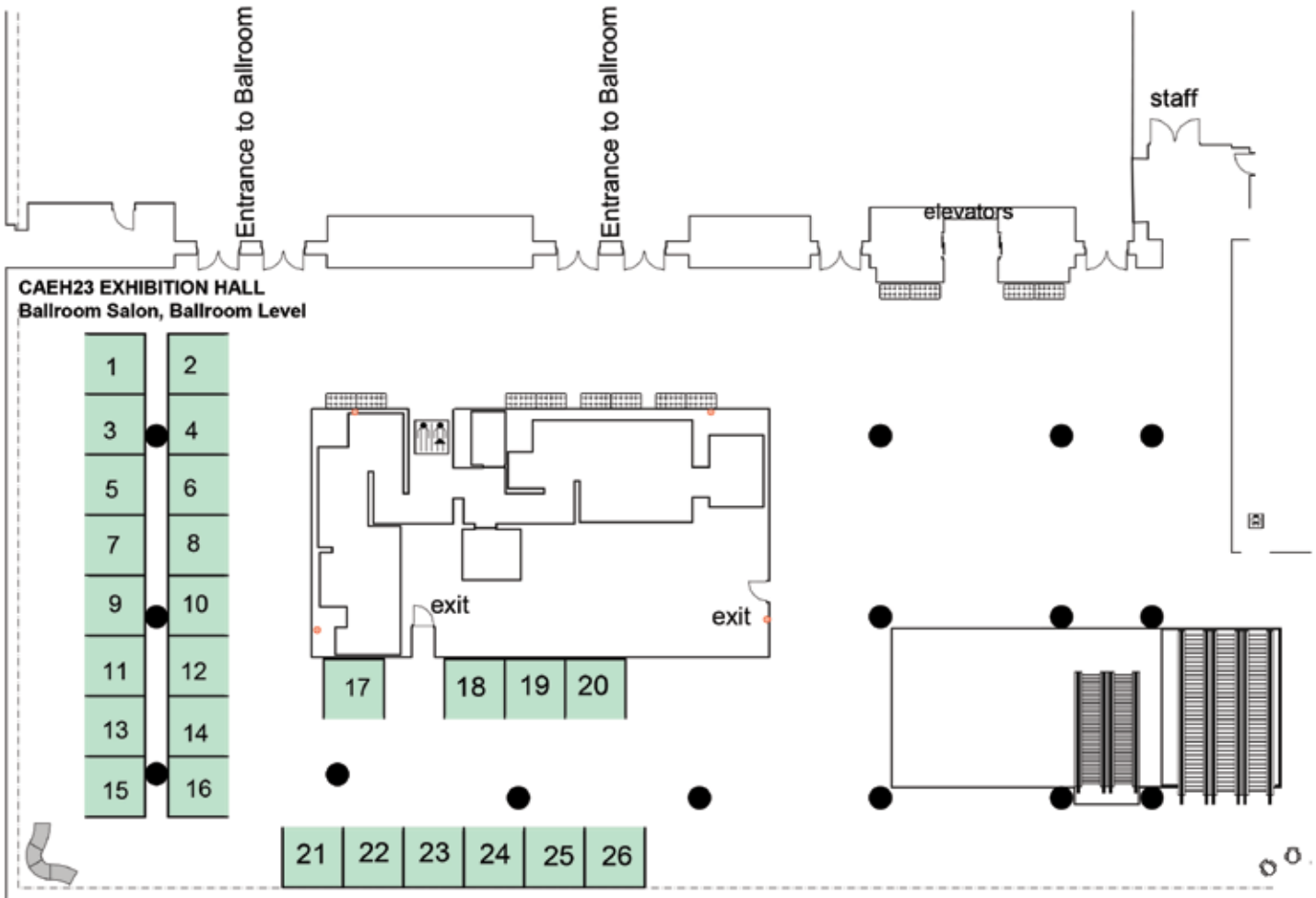


At VETS Canada we are committed to providing emergency/transitional support to homeless and at risk veterans. We match veterans with available resources to help them with a new start. Working within communities across Canada, we partner with housing/connect to a housing support worker, ensure they are connected to Veterans Affairs for benefits and support them to find suitable employment if they are able to work. VETS Canada Ground Support program covers eviction prevention, temporary emergency accommodation, food insecurity, clothing, transportation, household goods, medical supplies or devices and customized support to meet the needs of every unique individual and their family.

Booth #9 | vetscanada.org

CAEH23 EXHIBITION HALL

The 26 exhibitors in our Exhibition Hall are located in the Ballroom Salon on the Ballroom Level. Exhibitors will be showcasing their services, products, and resources to support your efforts in ending homelessness.



- | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Home Depot Canada Foundation | 7 Veteran Affairs Canada | 13 Move Mobility | 19 CHEC | 25 Raising the Roof |
| 2 My Home Apparel | 8 Cape Breton University | 14 Basic Income NS | 20 COH | 26 Bookmark Books |
| 3 Reaching Home | 9 Vets Canada | 15 Helpseekers | 21 Eccovia | |
| 4 Halifax/Host Committee | 10 TTA & BFZ-C | 16 Pulse for Good | 22 Canadian Accreditation Council | |
| 5 Infrastructure Canada | 11 Stepped Care | 17 CMHC | 23 CARF | |
| 6 Nova Scotia SPCA | 12 Local Artists | 18 CHTC | 24 Elections Canada | |



CAEH23 WELLNESS CENTRE

The Local Host Committee is hosting a **CAEH23 Wellness Centre in Room 602** on the Summit Level. The Wellness Centre will provide conference participants with a space for movement, meditation and quiet, amidst the intensity of the conference. The space will have programming for those who simply need to take a moment and regroup themselves, enjoying a movement or meditation class or signing up for a guided fun run! Programming and timing will be posted in the Wellness Centre.

Join us on the “Discover Halifax – City Run!”

Discover Halifax is pleased to offer delegates the opportunity to see the city through a leisurely 5km run through the downtown on Thursday, November 9th at 3:15 pm. Runners of all fitness abilities are welcome to this fun run which is aimed at blending some fitness with a Discover Halifax led tour of some of Halifax's sites. The run will start and finish from Rogers Square (Halifax Convention Centre - Market Street Level).

The run will be led by Jeff Nearing and Clare Tidby of Discover Halifax.

To sign up for the run and find out more information, please visit the CAEH23 Wellness Centre (Room 602) at the Halifax Convention Centre from 12 pm to 5 pm on Wednesday, November 8th.

NOTE: The weather in Halifax at this time of the year can be all over the map but it will likely be very cool. Runners are encouraged to bring appropriate gear including hats, gloves, and cold weather clothing.

YMCA opens its doors and brings programming to us!

The YMCA of Greater Halifax/Dartmouth (5640 Sackville Street) is pleased to provide CAEH23 participants with free access to their facility while in town! The Y is a five-minute walk from the Halifax Convention Centre and to gain free access, you just need to show your conference badge and an I.D.

In addition, YMCA staff will offer health and wellness programs at the CAEH23 Wellness Centre (Room 602). Whatever your age, stage or ability, there is a YMCA health and wellness program for you. Much of the Y's work directly responds to the most urgent needs our communities are facing, such as managing chronic illness and disease to creating youth resilience programs to help youth manage their mental health and remain academically engaged. You can check out YMCA programming at www.ymcahfx.ca, and look for details about CAEH Wellness Centre options that may interest you.

Meditation, and moments of calm

Local wellness business, Nature Folk Studio, is an open and relaxed nordic spa located across the harbour in Dartmouth. It focuses efforts, services and programming on health and care of nature and its folk. Join studio instructors in various relaxation, movement and breathing classes, all to be held for you in the CAEH Wellness Centre (Room 602).

Wellness through art and creativity

OSO planning & design, a dynamic team of Halifax-based community planners and designers, in collaboration with Every One, Every Day Kijipuktuk, will have a mural project on site that conference participants are encouraged to contribute to and help complete. Drop by the pop-up on the Ballroom level near the Exhibition Hall at the Ballroom Salon. and add to this collective project originally designed by a 16-year-old Mi'kmaw Artist. We hope everyone will find a moment to contribute their artistic talents in between sessions and events during CAEH23.



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:



Built for Zero Canada

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

www.bfzcanada.ca



Training & Technical Assistance

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

training.caeh.ca



National Conference on Ending Homelessness

Since its inception in 2013, the CAEH National Conference on Ending Homelessness has been equipping policymakers, funders, researchers, advocates, community leaders and front-line workers with the inspiration, information, tools and training they need to end homelessness in Canada.

conference.caeh.ca



Allied Networks

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



Advocacy & Campaigns

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

OUR TEAM



Tim Richter
President & CEO



Wally Czech
Director
Training & Technical Assistance Program



Chidom Otogwu
Data Specialist
Built for Zero Canada



Trish Muntain
Executive Assistant



Jody Yurkowsky Pace
National Training Consultant
Training & Technical Assistance Program



Lisa Bell
Improvement Advisor
Built for Zero Canada



Matthew Wu
Senior Administrative Assistant



Quinn C. Moerike
National Training Consultant
Training & Technical Assistance Program



Kat Riley
Improvement Advisor
Built for Zero Canada



Maria Lamas
Director of Finance



Marie Morrison
Director
Built for Zero Canada



Jonathan Alschech
Data Lead
Built for Zero Canada



Andrew Burns
Director of Marketing and Communications



Luca Palladino
Digital Organizer



Robyn Leblanc
Improvement Advisor
Built for Zero Canada



Amanda Difalco
Senior Director, Strategy and People



Ashley Van Der Mark
Coaching Lead
Built for Zero Canada



Sarah-Mae Rahal
Improvement Advisor
Built for Zero Canada



Elisabeth Noble
Philanthropy & Campaign Lead



Chantal Perry
Improvement Advisor
Built for Zero Canada



Floriane Ethier
Data Advisor,
Built for Zero Canada

Dawn Wheadon
Improvement Advisor
Built for Zero Canada

Lori Richer
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.



On behalf of the CAEH Board, we welcome you to the 2023 gathering of front line workers, researchers, leaders, and champions working towards our shared goal of ending homelessness in Canada. Our organization, and this movement, is making progress. It may not always feel like it on the streets of our communities where it seems more people are struggling than ever, but every day more communities are choosing Housing First and aligning their efforts to the best evidence out there to help people get housed. And nationally, the results add up: we helped end Veteran homelessness in several communities this year, offering hopeful results that can be scaled up.

Provinces are joining this movement too, including Ontario which recently contracted with us for Built for Zero coaching, and several more are close to allying with CAEH and bringing housing first to bear through more training and capacity building. We worked successfully to influence recent Federal interventions for affordable rental supply, from the GST rebate to new financing for apartment construction — though there is a lot more to do here on badly needed public housing supply.

Remember: every day hundreds of people get housing and thousands receive services to stay housed across our allied networks. Just imagine if our movement wasn't already delivering those results in community. Let this conference serve not only as a time to share knowledge and make friends, but also as a moment to reinvigorate our hope and resolve through feeling that each person here, and many more who couldn't make it, are part of a greater cause. Thank you for joining us in Halifax this week and for sharing your wisdom and commitment to this work. It's inspiring.

Don Iveson

Co-Chair | Former Mayor of Edmonton, Alberta

Reshmeena Lalani CPA, CA

*Co-Chair, Treasurer,
Chair – Audit & Finance
Committee*

Jasmine Beriault

*Senior Human Resources
Business Partner,
Public Service Commission,
Government of
Saskatchewan*

Chloe Halpenny

*Research Associate,
Social Research and
Demonstration Corporation*

Doug Pawson

*Executive Director,
End Homelessness
St. John's*

Kristen Desjarlais- Deklerk

*Assistant Professor,
Cape Breton University*

Bryany Denning M.Sc., MSW

*Board of Directors,
the Yellowknife Women's
Society in 2008*

Bisi Omojola MBA, CHRL

*Country HR Business
Partner, Citibank (Citigroup)*

Samuel Watts

*CEO of Welcome
Hall Mission*

Catherine Latimer

*Executive Director, The
John Howard Society of
Canada*

Robb Johannes

*Health Promotions
Program, Fred Victor.
Adjunct Lecturer,
University of Toronto*

Jason Whitford

*President and CEO of End
Homelessness Winnipeg*

Tim Richter

*President & CEO,
Canadian Alliance to
End Homelessness*

Madeleine Redfern

President, Ajungi Group

Ashish Shah CPA, CA, PMP,

*IASSC CGB (Six Sigma)
Senior Manager, Risk
Consulting (National
Managed Services / Risk as
a Service, KPMG)*



CAEH Training &
Technical Assistance

TRAINING AND CONSULTANCY EXPERTS



OUR SERVICES



**EXPERT AND
SKILLED TRAINERS**



**LIVE + VIRTUAL
TRAINING OPTIONS**



**ONLINE SELF
PACED COURSES**



**HOUSING SECTOR
BEST PRACTICES**

Check out our booth (#10) in the Exhibition Hall on Ballroom Level and join us at our Training is Essential in the Homeless Serving Sector session in Room 614 on the Summit Level on November 9 at 10am AT.

CONNECT WITH US

 403-360-2514

 wally@caeh.ca

 training.caeh.ca

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 2023 Paula Goering Memorial Scholarship Winners!

Housing First Student Recipients



Ayda Agha

*MSc. Community Health, Ph.D. Candidate
Experimental Psychology
University of Ottawa*

Housing First Practitioner Recipient



Madison Salmon

*Options Bytown
Ottawa, Ontario*



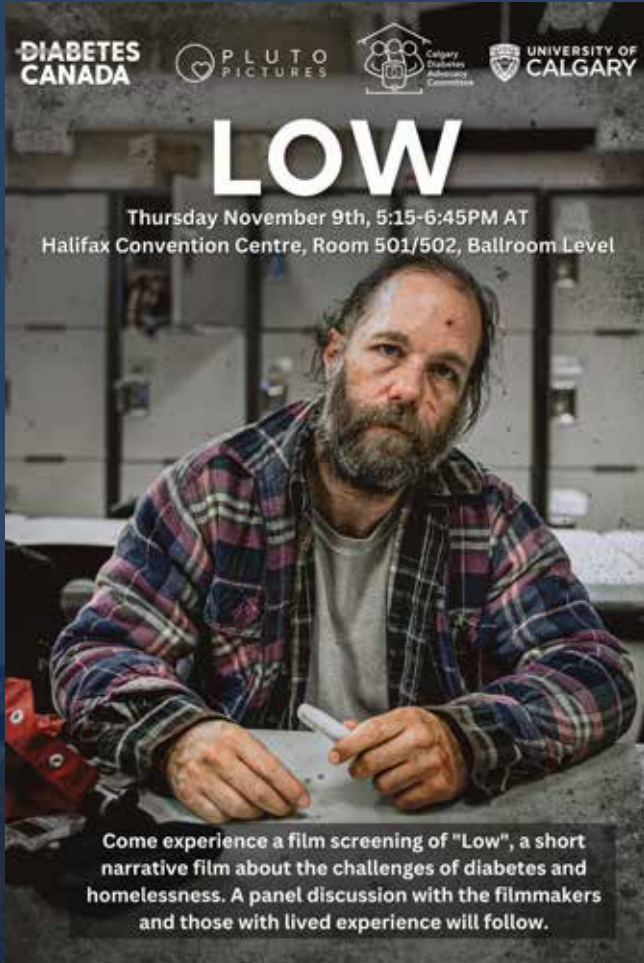
Matt Larsen

*Graduate Student (MSc), Campbell Lab
University of Calgary, Cumming School of Medicine
Department of Community Health Sciences*

The scholarship ceremony will take place at the lunch plenary on **Thursday, November 9** at 11:30am.

Don't miss the recipients' presentations of their Housing First initiatives on Thursday, November 9 at 1:30pm in Room 603 on the Summit Level!

BEYOND THE CONFERENCE AGENDA: OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING AND EXPLORATION



DIABETES CANADA **PLUTO PICTURES** **Calgary Diabetes Education Committee** **UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**

LOW

Thursday November 9th, 5:15-6:45PM AT
Halifax Convention Centre, Room 501/502, Ballroom Level

Come experience a film screening of "Low", a short narrative film about the challenges of diabetes and homelessness. A panel discussion with the filmmakers and those with lived experience will follow.



HAS PRESENTS: AFRICVILLE - STORIES OF COMMUNITY AND RESILIENCE

Join our two-part historical tour in Africville, Halifax, exploring Black community displacement during urban renewal. We've recently highlighted these parallels in Vancouver's Hogan's Alley. The CAEH conference in Halifax offers a unique opportunity to experience Africville's vibrant Black community history, confronting the concealment of Black stories. These shared tales of forced relocation deepen our understanding of oppressive policies contributing to high BIPOC homelessness.

Tour led by history experts. Enjoy a light meal (with vegetarian options) during the tour. Limited tickets available.

FRIDAY, 10 NOVEMBER, 2023 | 1:30 - 4:00PM

TICKETS: \$10-20 SLIDING SCALE/PERSON.

SPACE IS LIMITED

Scan this QR Code
to view the event

**HOGAN'S
ALLEY
SOCIETY**






DETAILED CONFERENCE PROGRAM

DETAILED CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Concurrent sessions are divided into seventeen streams:

AWH	A Way Home – Youth Homelessness Prevention	IH	Indigenous Homelessness
ARH	Accelerating Reductions in Chronic Homelessness	LCM	Leadership, Improvement and Change Management
CA	Campaigning and Advocacy	LE	Lived Experience
COH	Canadian Observatory on Homelessness – Research and Policy	NS	Nova Scotian Local Content
PVN	Canadian Observatory on Homelessness – Prevention	RUH	Responding to Unsheltered Homelessness
HCH	Health Care and Homelessness	RTH	Realizing the Right to Housing
HF	Housing First	RRH	Rural, Remote, and Northern Homelessness
IEH	Improving Equity in Homeless Systems	VH	Veterans Homelessness
		WH	Women’s Homelessness

 - Simultaneous interpretation available

DAY 1

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023

7:30 am

BALLROOM FOYER

Continental Breakfast

Registration and information desk open on November 8 from 7:30am to 7:00pm

8:00 – 9:30 am

BALLROOM



Opening Plenary

9:30 – 10:00 am

BALLROOM FOYER

Refreshment Break

CONCURRENT SESSIONS A

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 605

Caucus du Québec

Une occasion pour les délégués du Québec de se réunir et d'échanger les meilleures pratiques tout en discutant des problèmes auxquels ils sont actuellement confrontés. Particulièrement pertinent pour ceux et celles qui sont actifs dans l'accompagnement des personnes en situation d'itinérance dans un parcours vers le logement permanent. Le caucus est organisé par Sam Watts, membre du conseil d'administration de l'ACMFI, et animé par Julie Grenier du MMFIM. L'atelier se déroulera en français.

10:00 – 11:30 am

ARGYLE 1



ARH1: Responses Towards Ending Chronic Homelessness

A variety of program and system responses focussed on ending chronic homelessness from a Rapid Re-housing Initiative incorporating recovery perspectives from Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) and Indigenous organizations, to system-wide planning, to post-housing care conferencing.

Presenters: Reframing Recovery and Housing First: Collaborative Strategies for Holistic Homelessness Solutions
Jeff Walker, Homeward Trust Edmonton

System Enhancements: Responding to Increases in Chronic & Unsheltered Homelessness in Waterloo Region
Chris McEvoy, Region of Waterloo; Kelly-Anne Salerno, Region of Waterloo

Person-Centered Aftercare Planning for People Transitioning from Chronic Homelessness Into Housing:
Lessons Learned from the Beyond Housing Care Conference Table
John Ecker, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions; Chirsh Dupie, Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 612/613



Sponsored by

**AWH1: The Underpinnings of Dedicated Youth Strategies!**

Presenters will facilitate a discussion on systemic and structural approaches to preventing youth homelessness, by sharing examples of youth-driven collective actions and research focused on knowledge mobilization and collaborative solutions. Upstream prevention that promotes these transformations is difficult to achieve and can be disconnected from the youths' lived realities. It requires open conversation with a variety of actors to raise awareness and lived-experience expertise to reimagine solutions.

Presenters: York Region's Youth Strategy: Why it is Important to be Involved in Your Community
Kayla Vickery, York Region's Youth Strategy; Zachery Dickinson, York Region's Youth Strategy
Making the Prevention Shift in Québec: Prévention Itinérance Jeunesse (PIJ)
Sue-Ann MacDonald, Université de Montréal

Mobilizing youth expertise to rally actors, dismantle structural barriers and promote homelessness prevention
Cécile Arbaud, Quebec-wide Jeunes + Coalition; Sue-Ann MacDonald, University of Montreal; Clovis Grant, 360°kids Support Services

10:00 – 11:30 am

ARGYLE 3

COH1: The Role of Data in Measuring Progress and Adapting Solutions

The presentations in this session all deal with collecting and using data to tailor services to needs. The first will present key findings from the 2020-2022 nationally coordinated Point-in-Time (PIT) counts on the impact of COVID-19 on homelessness as well as an overview of the PIT counts and their role in advancing our understanding of homelessness. The second will describe how newly available national administrative shelter data show how the COVID-19 pandemic tested the flexibility and resiliency of Canada's emergency shelter system. It reveals how communities and service providers quickly adapted their service model to provide shelter to those who need it. Finally, presenters will summarize the methodology behind the 2022 Winnipeg Street Census as well as what it revealed about the experiences of homelessness in the city, with a focus on Indigenous homelessness.

Presenters: Results from the Third Nationally-Coordinated Point-In-Time Counts of Homelessness
Sajidul Quayum, Infrastructure Canada- Homelessness Policy Directorate, Community Policy and Programs Branch Group
National State of Homelessness
Annie Duchesne, Government of Canada
Better Data for Ending Homelessness: Lessons from the Winnipeg Street Census
Josh Brandon, Social Planning Council of Winnipeg; Elijah Osei-Yeboah, End Homelessness Winnipeg

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 608/609



Sponsored by

**HF1: Adapting Housing First to Address the Needs of Different Populations**

Housing First has been shown in the research literature, including through the At Home / Chez project in Canada, to be an adaptable evidence-based program. The session provides research findings on adaptations to Housing First programs to meet the unique needs of youth, women, and Indigenous and non-Indigenous individuals facing separation from their children.

Presenters: Examining harm reduction in Housing First for youth experiencing homelessness and concurrent mental health and substance use issues.
Victoria Rozycki, Wilfrid Laurier University; Maritt Kirst, Wilfrid Laurier University
Female Participants and Housing First: A Qualitative Analysis of Outcomes at 18-months in a Randomized Controlled Trial
Geoff Nelson, Wilfrid Laurier University
The Parent-Child Relationship: Exploring Housing First for Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Parents Experiencing Homelessness, Mental Illness, and th

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 604

IEH1: Realizing the Right to Housing for Gender Diverse-Peoples

This empowering session will focus on the housing rights and needs of gender diverse-peoples who are currently facing unique challenges and discrimination in the homelessness system. Grounded in pan-Canadian research and a case study of Toronto's first adult 2SLGBTQIA+ shelter, presenters will highlight the difficulties this underserved and overrepresented community faces, present possibilities for preventing and acting on rights violations for gender-diverse peoples, and equip participants with the strategies and resources they need to create inclusive and welcoming spaces.

Presenter: Ensuring Housing Justice for Two-Spirit, Trans, and Non-Binary People in Canada: Recommendations for Homelessness Prevention and Community Action
Alex Nelson, National Right to Housing Network; Jayne Malenfant, McGill University
Five Arguments for Trans Inclusion in the Homelessness Sector
C.L. Michel, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness
Partnerships for Success: Organizing for 2SLGBTQIA+ Safety and Possibility
Andrew Winchur, Homes First Society; Rebecca Hooton, The 519

10:00 – 11:30 am

ARGYLE 2

IH1: What's Working in Different Places? Change Rooted in Culture

Centered on Indigenous culture and values, this session will highlight both the challenges and successes communities are experiencing in very different places: the Arctic, Medicine Hat, Alberta, and Auckland, New Zealand. Presenters will discuss the importance of Indigenous culture and belonging to housing first principles, housing policy, and housing and support programs and interventions. Attendees will also learn about positive changes rooted in culture that are currently taking place and preparing a better path for future generations.

Presenters: Building up from Built For Zero
JoLynn Parenteau, Miywasin Friendship Centre
Housing First Collective Approach: Exploring Māori and Pasefika Indigenous ways to tackling Homelessness in New Zealand Aotearoa
Fred Astle, Visionwest Waka Whakakitenga

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 611

LCM1: System Transformation and Performance Management

System leaders are responsible for ensuring system oversight and system improvement. Hear from Edmonton's experience with system-level performance management and how Red Deer became more intentional in selecting key stakeholders for decision making roles, helping to create more impactful and sustainable solutions.

Presenters: Building Agile Foundations for Effective Systems-Level Performance Management in Addressing Homelessness
Jackie Liu, Homeward Trust
Empowering Change: Unleashing the Potential of Integrated Governance
Ryan Veldkamp, The City of Red Deer

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 506/507

Sponsored by



LE1: Strategic Perspectives on Building Lived Experience Advisories

Sharing learnings from three communities across Canada, this session offers practical approaches for those interested in building Lived Experience Advisories, and empowering individuals with lived experience to shape policies, services, and systems in the pursuit of ending homelessness. During this panel, you will gain valuable insights from three presentations that explore strategic perspectives on building Lived Experience Advisories.

Presenters: Highlights from Kitchener's Lived Expertise Working Group
David Alton, Social Development Centre of Waterloo Region; Charlene Lee, Unsheltered Campaign; Mauleek Bhatt, Social Development Centre of Waterloo Region; Julian Ichim
Collaborative and community-informed development: How to build an Advisory group with People who have Lived Experience
Teresa Caterini, Good Shepherd; Ally McGibbon, Good Shepherd Non-Profit Homes; Alan Scanlin, Good Shepherd Centres; Lori Hargraves, Good Shepherd; Sara Lillian Pourroostam, Good shepherd; Michael Weber, Good Shepherd non profit homes
The Thompson Model: Governance By and For PWLE
Andrea Hatley, City of Thompson; Leo Moose, Thompson Lived-Experience Circle; Melinda Weenusk, Lived Experience Circle; Quinn Moerike, CAEH

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 614

Sponsored by



NS1: The Unintended Consequences of Population and Economic Growth

According to a recent Environics Report, Halifax was the second fastest growing mid-size city in Canada in 21-22 at 4.5% (second only to Moncton at 5.4%). Join this panel of local experts to explore strategies related to social infrastructure, including housing, healthcare, transit, education, and other needs to support everyone in a time of boom. Balance the benefits of economic & population growth, while sharing thoughtful perspectives on housing, and the role of government, nonprofit, business, and others working together to solve the issue.

Presenters: Pam Glode-Desrochers, Executive Director of the MNFC
Stephan Richard, Community Housing Transformation Centre
Alex Halef, President and CEO, BANC Investments Ltd., Inverse Developments Ltd.
Building for Belonging
Stephan Richard, Community Housing Transformation Centre

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 501/502

RRH1: Housing Development Initiatives in Rural Communities

During this session we'll hear about innovative transitional housing and housing first projects that are supporting people and especially youth experiencing homelessness in rural and remote communities.

Presenters: From a Community Coalition to Housing First, Transitional Housing and Tiny Homes - Rural Solutions to Youth Homelessness
 Terrilee Kelford, Cornerstone Landing Youth Services / NAERRH
 Housing Innovation in Rural Ontario: Small Homes, Big Impacts
 Krista Rempel, The Bridge Youth Resource Centre; Fiona Coughlin, Habitat for Humanity Windsor-Essex
 Hope Haven - A Way Forward
 Robbie Donaldson, The Salvation Army; Jerry Brousseau,
 District of Timiskaming Social Services Administration Board

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 202



RTH1: Ending the Criminalization of Homelessness: A Human Rights Approach to Encampments, Homelessness, and the Crisis of Drug Poisoning

Canada's rising rate of homelessness is a symptom of deeply rooted systemic issues in the housing sector. Implementing a human rights approach can help shift the onus of responsibility of homelessness from the individual to the systems that exacerbate the problem. In this session, you will learn about the first ever formal review of encampments as a human rights crisis in Canada, an initiative led by the Federal Housing Advocate, and how prohibitionist drug policy interferes with housing justice, especially for those from marginalized communities. Participants will walk away with a better understanding of how a human rights approach to housing will help end the criminalization of homelessness in communities all across Canada.

Presenter: An Advocate-Led Review on Human right issues identified in encampments and informal dwellings
 Ian Hamilton, Office of the Federal housing Advocate; Jessica Losier, Office of the Federal Housing Advocate
 Prohibition must be abolished: Addressing the dual crises of drug poisoning and homelessness
 DJ Larkin, Canadian Drug Policy Coalition; Beeta Senedjani, CDPC; Nicole Luongo,
 Canadian Drug Policy Coalition

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 603

RUH1: Shifting Policy and Adapting By-Law Responses to Unsheltered Homelessness

This session provides examples of the roles of police and by-law in responding to unsheltered or other forms of homelessness in Montreal, Penticton, and Sudbury.

Presenter: Shifting Away from Police Interventions with Unsheltered Persons: evidence from Montreal
 Hannah Brais, Old Brewery Mission, McGill University; Ayobami Lanionu, University of Toronto
 Penticton's By-Law Response to Unsheltered Homelessness
 Jamie Lloyd-Smith, City of Penticton; Angie Williams, City of Penticton
 Mobilizing Enforcement for an Empathetic Approach
 Cindy Junkala, City of Greater Sudbury; Stefany Mussen, City of Greater Sudbury

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 503



Sponsored by

Canada

In cooperation with
 Veterans Affairs Canada

VH1: Veteran Housing and Support Models

An overview of Housing First for Veterans and best practice housing and support models will be followed by two community examples: Veterans' House in Ottawa (fixed-site purpose built self-contained units) and TAAMI in Montreal (a multi-disciplinary team approach).

Presenter: Housing First is a Fit for Veterans: Veteran specific application of an evidenced based and proven model.
 Wally Czech, CAEH
 Veterans' House: The Andy Carswell Building - A Case Study
 Alan Mulawyshyn, Veterans' House Canada
 Table d'Action Anciens Militaires Itinérance (TAAMI) Union fait la Force!
 Duane Mansveld, Maison du Père; Morgane Hugué, Mission Old Brewery; Emina Bajramovic, Anciens Combattant Canada

11:30 – 1:30 pm

BALLROOM



Lunch Plenary

Keynote: **Margaret Pfoh and The Honourable Sean Fraser**

CONCURRENT SESSIONS B

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 604

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BC Caucus Meeting

Join BC Housing and Lu'ma Native Housing Society for a panel discussion with BC delegates from across the sector for a discussion on understanding homelessness through Indigenous perspectives.

BC Caucus attendees will have the opportunity to view a 15 minute introductory video from the Where Are All My Relations: Stories of Indigenous Homelessness BC series. This video series centers Indigenous understandings of homelessness through eleven individual stories that bring nuance and context not captured in Point-in-Time data.

Hosted by BC Housing, the panel will include representatives from Lu'ma Native Housing Society, Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness, and other BC providers. Through a facilitated discussion, this session will provide a space for BC delegates to connect with each other through a focused conversation on advancing meaningful change in the province and beyond.

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 605

Sponsored by



AWH2: Tailoring Responses to the Diversity of Youth We are Serving

The innovations being shown, when working across systems and within communities, offer insight into how we can orient our work to best support youth in community. We need examples of how to do this in order to invest in innovative, evidence-based models and approaches that serve diverse youth at risk or experiencing homelessness.

- Presenters:** Unlocking Collaborative Pathways to End Rural Youth Homelessness
 Russ Sanche, Portal Youth Outreach Association
- Youth Homelessness and Sexual Exploitation: Interventions & Prevention
 Dani Mills, Our Place Peel
- Preventing and Ending Homelessness for Youth from Foster Care: Program Design Requirements to Meet the Needs of this Unique Population
 Alexi Manis, StepStones for Youth; Heather O'Keefe, StepStones for Youth

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 202



COH2: Learning from New Approaches to Homelessness and Housing Support

This session offers a look at three innovative approaches for addressing homelessness based on providing better housing supports. The first presentation will introduce the idea of rent banks as a model of eviction prevention based on an international comparison. Presenters will then tackle the question of how to prevent or rapidly resolve housing instability using the Housing Problem Solving (HPS) approach, which was launched in 2021. HPS is person-centred and aims to offer cost-effective, flexible, and creative solutions to help individuals identify immediate, safe housing arrangements. The last presentation will offer a framework for addressing anti-Black racism in housing and homelessness services based on the unique stories of Black people with lived experience and on the results of interviews with Black key informants who are experts in addressing anti-Black racism in their fields.

- Presenters:** Developing a Successful Canadian Rent Bank Model for Eviction Prevention: international lessons in promising practices
 Hannah Brais, Old Brewery Mission, McGill University; Georges Ohana, Mission Old Brewery; Alison Smith, University of Toronto
- Housing Problem Solving: A Transformative Person-Centered Approach to Preventing Homelessness
 Nikole Joseph Thomas, Homebase; Jazmine Wong, The County Office of Supportive Housing; Rachel Hart, Lived Experience Advisory Board
- Seeing in Colour: Towards a Framework to Address Anti-Black Racism in Housing and Homelessness.
 Marie Cecile Kotyk, University of Calgary (Doctoral Candidate/Consultant)

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ARGYLE 1



Sponsored by



HCH1: Finding a Better Way – A Harm Reduction Approach

During this focused session, we will hear from three presenters from diverse locations in Canada who have taken a harm reduction approach to supporting individuals actively using substances. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the innovative practices and programming that have been designed to both benefit the outcomes for the individuals and the service capabilities for the teams.

Presenters: Effectively Supporting Unhoused Individuals who use Crystal Meth
Sanda Kazacic, All Saints Church Community Centre

An Integrated Care Model Across A Community-Based Managed Alcohol Program And Hospital-Based Addiction Services

Matthew Biddle, Projets Autochtones du Québec; Stéphanie Marsan, Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal

Increasing Accessibility of Integrated Mental Health and Addictions Care for Youth
Kristen Cairney, Wyndham House; Renee Carpino, Wyndham House

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 603

Sponsored by



HF2: Challenges to Scaling Up and Innovation in Housing First Practice

Scaling up Housing First across Canada has proven challenging since the completion of the At Home / Chez Soi project, that demonstrated the superior effectiveness of the approach to end homelessness when compared to services as usual. The session will focus on challenges associated with scaling up Housing First and program innovations in Housing First programs for youth, from the perspective of researchers and practitioners in North America and Europe.

Presenters: At a Crossroads: Expert Perspectives on the Evidence, Implementation and Future of Housing First
John Sylvestre, University of Ottawa; Nick Kerman, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

The HF4Y Program Adoption & Practice Innovations Study

Ashley Ward, Making the Shift Youth Homelessness Social Innovation Lab; Stephen Gaetz, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness / York University; Sheryl Roy-Thomson, Making the Shift Inc.

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ARGYLE 2

IH2: Collaboration and Culture: Indigenous Assessment Tools

Indigenous communities from coast-to-coast-to-coast are leading the development of an Indigenous community-grown process for engaging people experiencing homelessness. In this session, participants will learn about PATH (Personalized Assistance to Housing) a process by-Indigenous-for-Indigenous alternative to common assessment tools under Coordinated Access.

Presenters: Collaboration and Culture: Indigenous Assessment Tools

Irene Gonneau, Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health & National Indigenous Homelessness Council;
Shane Pelletier, National Indigenous Homelessness Council

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 501/502

LCM2: Finding Housing Opportunities Through Community Housing

Communities are finding creative ways to access and utilize Community (social) Housing for ending homelessness. Hear from three communities who between them have implemented: alignment between their By-Name Lists and Community Housing Centralized Waiting List, a move from unit-based rent supplements to portable housing benefits, rapid re-housing, choice based letting, and partnerships for support for the activities of daily living.

Presenters: Testing Solutions in Testing Times

Trish Lenz, City of Toronto; Yolisa de Jager, City of Toronto; Jenn St Louis

Proactive Strategies and Collaborative Solutions: Transforming Approaches to Community Housing to Prevent and End Homelessness

Jessie Ford, The City of London

Homelessness to RGI with Enhanced Home Help Supports
Tiffany Dorman, Halton Region; Daryl Kaytor, Halton Region

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 608/609



Sponsored by



LE2: CLELN Presents: Seven Principles of Engagement and Inclusion of People With Lived Experience

Since November, 2021, a team of lived experts from the Canadian Lived Experience Leadership Network have been refining and mobilizing our Seven Principles of Engagement and inclusion of PWLE. Through this work, we sought to define what we want our rights to be when we come to decision-making and research tables, leading to the creation of our Lived Experience Declaration of Rights in 2022. Attendees will learn about the process of building these resources, and how decision-makers and those involved in program and service delivery can utilize these tools to meaningfully engage PWLE at all decision-making tables -- including government consultations, policy and program creation, service delivery, shaping oversight and accountability mechanisms, and across movements to end homelessness.

Presenters: Canadian Lived Experience Leadership Network Presents The Principles of Engagement and Inclusion of PWLE
Alex Nelson, National Right to Housing Network; Debbie McGraw, Canadian Lived Experience Leadership Network

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 614

Sponsored by



NS2: Downtowns and Main Streets: The Role of Business Improvement Districts in Addressing Homelessness

Visible homelessness is most often seen in our downtowns and main streets. The impacts of homelessness on those most vulnerable in our society are severe and often long lasting. Increasingly, Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are balancing the needs of those experiencing homelessness with the needs of business – while also collaborating with governments, non-profits, and social agencies to devise and employ solutions. Learn about how BIDs are addressing homelessness in Halifax, and throughout North America.

Presenters: Ása Kachan, Chief Librarian & CEO at the Halifax Public Libraries
William (Bill) Moore, Executive Director of Community Safety, Halifax Regional Municipality
Lucas Goltz, Navigator, Spring Garden Area Business Association / Downtown Halifax Business Commission

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 612/613



PVN1: Preventing Youth Homelessness

To develop a prevention-based response to homelessness, we need to focus on youth and their pathways into homelessness. The first presentation will share the results of an evaluation of the Family and Natural Supports program, which seeks to strengthen families in order to prevent youth homelessness. The second presentation will introduce the Aftercare prototype program, which was designed to assess youths' ongoing needs after leaving a Housing First for Youth (HF4Y) program in order to connect them with available community resources and ease the transition out of the program. Finally, the third presentation will look at specific steps that can strengthen Black families, with the goal of preventing Black youth homelessness, drawing on a study based on Black youths' stories that traces the paths that have led them to homelessness.

Presenters: Pathways to Black Youth Homelessness in Ontario: A Research Finding
Nathan Okonta, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness
Strengthening Family and Natural Supports to Prevent Youth Homelessness: An Evidence-Based Approach
Oluwaseyi Somefun, York University; Lauren Mar, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness; Ahmad Bonakdar, York University
Aftercare Support Pilot Program – Going Beyond Housing First for Youth
Athourina David, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness; Brianna Boucher

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ARGYLE 3

RTH2: Those Who Aren't Counted Don't Count: Improving Measurement of Inadequate Housing and Homelessness

To effectively address growing housing inadequacy and homelessness across the country, we need an accurate picture of housing need—particularly among the most marginalized populations. This session will dive into what core housing means and how quality disaggregated data can help improve and inform decision making in the housing sector. Participants will walk away with a better understanding of how data and monitoring mechanisms can help more accurately prioritize those in greatest need, which aligns with Canada's obligations under the federal government's right to housing legislation.

Presenters: Core Housing Need: What it is and why it matters
Samantha DiBellonia, Maytree; Kaitlin Schwan, Women's National Housing & Homelessness Network
Those Who Aren't Counted Don't Count: improving measurement of inadequate housing and homelessness
Carolyn Whitzman, Housing Assessment Resource Tools
Homelessness Counts: Accounting for homelessness when understanding housing need
Patrick Hunter, Infrastructure Canada

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 503



RUH2: Improving Responses to Unsheltered Homelessness

This session details the role of shelters and outreach teams in supporting unsheltered homelessness, as well as ways to provide shelter and outreach services differently to improve responses to unsheltered homelessness.

Presenters: Changing Law Enforcement Response to Homelessness
Shaundra Bruvall, Calgary Alpha House
Shelter Services... Without Walls!
Mila Alexova, Old Brewery Mission; Mélanie Richer, Mission Old Brewery; Guillaume Lessard Nadon, Accueil Bonneau
Violence and Restrictions in Emergency Shelter Systems: The Hidden Pathway into Unsheltered Homelessness
Nick Kerman, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 611

WH1: Gender-Sensitive Approaches to Housing and Supports – New Horizons & Promising Practices

Women and gender-diverse people experience unique causes, consequences, and pathways into homelessness. In this session attendees will learn about new and promising interventions that advance housing stability and wellness for women and gender-diverse people. Learn about new horizons and models for supporting women and gender-diverse people who are pregnant and homeless, as well as gender-sensitive harm reduction models and approaches to supporting women fleeing violence with pets.

Presenters: Responding to Pregnancy and Homelessness Through Temporary Housing and Wrap-Around Supports
Mary Vaccaro, McMaster University - School of Social Work & YWCA Hamilton; Amy Deschamps, YWCA Hamilton
Intersections Between Homelessness & Women with Animals Experiencing Gender-Based Violence: ACT (Awareness, Collaboration, Tools) To Keep Families Safe
Sue O'Neill, Humane Canada; Claire Dulude, Humane Canada; Andrea Ondrade, Humane Canada
Developing a Safer Drug Use Space in a Low-barrier Drop-in Program for Women, Trans and Non-Binary People at YWCA Hamilton
Stephanie Milliken, YWCA Hamilton; Mary Vaccaro, McMaster University - School of Social Work & YWCA Hamilton

3:00 – 3:30 pm

BALLROOM FOYER
AND SALON

Refreshment Break

CONCURRENT SESSIONS C

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 605

ARH2: Federal Action Research on Chronic Homelessness (ARCH)

To support the Government of Canada's ambitious goal of ending chronic homelessness, Budget 2022 invested \$18.1 million, beginning in 2022-23, to conduct action research into identifying further measures that can support communities in eliminating chronic homelessness. An overview of this initiative will be following by a sample of projects underway in participating communities.

Presenters: Action Research on Chronic Homelessness (ARCH) Initiative: Driving improvements through collaborative action research
Jacqueline Rivier, Government of Canada
Driving Innovation and Advancing Reconciliation through Governmental and Indigenous Collaboration – Federal, Municipal, and Indigenous perspectives on why and how to appropriately collaborate with Indigenous partners
Caylee Brydie, Infrastructure Canada; E. Victoria Bomberry, Coalition of Hamilton Indigenous Leadership; Vanessa Parlette, City Hamilton
The ARCH Project Action Research on Chronic Homelessness in Edmonton - Embedding R&D in systems change
Tracy Borrelli, Homeward Trust Edmonton

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ARGYLE 1



COH3: Innovative Solutions for Improving the Success of Local Homelessness Systems

The homelessness sector is a complex, interconnected system. This session will present three ways of improving coordination and getting better results within those systems. The first presenter will share the results of their review of the coordinated access system in Peterborough, Ontario. The goal of the research is to better understand how the system is designed to work compared to how it works in practice, how it helps or hinders efforts to realize residents' right to housing, and how the community can more effectively work to address homelessness. The second presentation seeks to understand homelessness as a field to understand the complexity of the issue, which involves mapping who is engaged, and to what degree, in addressing homelessness. This is used to identify potential changes at various levels with the goal of creating a less siloed and more coordinated approach to addressing homelessness. Finally, presenters will explain how the community hub model applied in Durham, Ontario, succeeded in providing clients with low-barrier access to supports, housing, and medical service in a single site. This presentation is based on a study of the program that was intended to help determine whether community hubs, introduced as a crisis response during the COVID-19 pandemic, should be maintained and possibly expanded to other regions.

Presenter: A Review of Coordinated Access with Community-level Experts
 Mary Anne Martin, Trent University; Naomi Nichols, Trent University; Sam Blondeau, Trent University

It's Complicated: Mapping the Field of Homelessness
 Kerry Rempel, Okanagan College

Evaluating Lessons Learned from Durham Region's Community Hub Model for Homeless and Vulnerable Populations
 Volletta Peters, Ontario Tech University

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 603

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HCH2: Probing the Pandemic to Save Lives

Touching upon research and key findings from the COVID-19 pandemic, this highly relevant session will deepen our understanding of the greater risks people experiencing homelessness encounter and the ongoing health challenges they face in supportive housing. We'll see the impact of preventative measures like strategies, tools, and partnerships in mitigating these risks and ultimately saving lives.

Presenters: Covid-19 and Related Adverse Outcomes Among People Experiencing Homelessness in Toronto: Understanding the factors that influence risk of infection
 Lucie Richard, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions

A Multi-Sector Response to Covid-19 For People Experiencing Homelessness in Fredericton, New Brunswick; lessons learned in harm reduction, safe supply, and coordinated partnerships
 Marchell Coulombe, Government of New Brunswick; Scott Earle, River Stone Recovery Centre

Dying Alone During the Covid-19 Pandemic: Mortality among permanent supportive housing residents in Toronto
 Parvin Merchan, Houselink and Mainstay Community Housing; Stephen Hwang, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions; Muhammad Shahid, University of Toronto

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 202



Sponsored by



HF3: Strategies for Sustaining Tenancies in Housing First Programs

This session will provide insight, recommendations, and strategies used within Housing First programs to strengthen the ability to maintain tenancy. This will be delivered through a mixture of research-based learning focused on person-centred planning and practice generally in Housing First and the success of the Housing First model rurally. Additionally attendees will benefit from the sharing of a new guidebook with activities and reflective exercises developed for front-line workers to support participants in their transition to more independent living environments.

Presenters: Managing Risky Behaviours and Challenges to Prevent Housing Loss in Permanent Supportive Housing
 Nick Kerman, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

Outcomes of Housing First Implemented in a Rural Canadian Community
 Christina Mutschler, University of Ottawa; Tim Aubry, University of Ottawa

The Next Step; supporting your client's self autonomy "Housing first and moving forward"
 Sheila Woodhouse, Communaute Nazareth Inc; Jennifer Willard, Communaute Nazareth Inc; Eric Feliciano, Nazareth Community

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 608/609



IEH2: Being Agents of Change for Equity Seeking Groups

During this highly relevant session for our current societal moment, we'll explore how to decolonize systems, policies, and practices in deliberate and effective ways. Presenters will walk us through the mechanisms of change and strategic planning for systems, educate us on Indigenizing data, and we'll hear from a flagship program that uses culturally sensitive and Afro-centric perspectives to design and manage affordable housing.

Presenters: Equity in Action: Innovative Solutions for BIPOC Youth Homelessness
Ben Bempah, Restoration Empowerment and Social Transition (R.E.S.T); Dagma Koyi, Restoration and Empowerment for Social Transition Centre; Clovis Grant, 360°kids Support Services

Indigenizing Knowledge Gathering and Data Collection
Taylor Sparklingeyes, Rural Development Network

Breaking Broken Systems: How to change systems that are causing homelessness
Megan McKenzie, Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation; Rebecca Anhalt, Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ARGYLE 2

IH3: Prevention and Resurgence: Indigenous Service Delivery

This session includes stories and experiences of people with lived experience, the importance of harm reduction and culturally safe supportive housing through the lens and successes of Indigenous service delivery. All presentations provide an understanding of cultural safety and the prevention of Indigenous homelessness across different communities.

Presenters: Zaasaakwe (war cry): Indigenous resistance and resurgence in homelessness services
Andrea Jibb, Atlohosa Family Healing Services; Terri King, Atlohosa Family Healing Services

Creating a Continuum of Care for Unhoused Indigenous Peoples Through Relationship Building and Indigenous Ways of Knowing
Keri Cardinal, Niginan Housing Ventures

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ARGYLE 3

LCM3: Governance Approaches Towards Ending Homelessness

This session explores the role of municipalities working together with communities and system planning organizations and the evolving role of system planning organizations in ending homelessness.

Presenter: Making Multi-Governance Models Work
Rebecca Visscher, City of Edmonton; Liam Thompson, Homeward Trust; Rachael Putt, City of Edmonton

Evolution of Systems Planner Organizations in a Complex, Accelerated, and Disrupted World: The new core competencies
Susan McGee, Homeward Trust Edmonton; Alina Turner, HelpSeeker Technologies

Building Stronger Communities: How Municipalities Can Drive Systems Planning and Integration to End Homelessness
Jamie Lloyd-Smith, City of Penticton; Alina Turner, HelpSeeker Technologies

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 506/507

Sponsored by



LE3: From Insights to Action: Lived Experience at the Forefront of Housing Solutions

This session invites you to be part of a collective movement towards inclusive housing solutions, where lived experience is at the forefront. Join panelists to gain new tools and strategies to proactively and equitably engage people with lived experience. Presenters will highlight valuable learnings from their work, including providing a culturally appropriate living environment as part of establishing pathways to stable, permanent housing, and occupying leadership roles as lived experts within the homelessness sector.

Presenters: Astum Api Niikinaahk – It Takes a Village
Melissa Stone, Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre

The Importance Of Lived Experienced Leadership Within the Housing Sector and How to Provide Leadership to PWLE (People with lived experience).
Christine Davies, Lionsheart Wholeness Center

From Recovery to Transformation- PWLEs becoming sector leaders
Alana Jones, Borden Place; Keisha Scott, Borden PLace

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 604

Sponsored by



LE4: Sharing peer knowledge for systems change: Across the education and housing systems

Public systems have a significant impact on experiences of homelessness. In this session, presenters will explore overlapping themes in lived experience engagement related to housing, homelessness, and education. Presentations will consider equitable knowledge sharing, collaboration, and the influence of lived experience on decision-making, grounding discussion in hope and action.

Presenter: Homeless by Degrees: (In)visibilizing Social Condition
Elaine Laberge, Shoestring Initiative; Jessica Annan, University of Calgary; Brittany Cormier, Graduate Student/LivEx

Living Experiences of Post-secondary Student Homelessness: Mobilizing despair and hope from post-secondary students across Canada

Eric Weissman, University of New Brunswick Saint John

PeerConnectTO – A pilot program with Tenants changing the landscape in Canadian Supportive Housing.
Elizabeth Tremblay, Mentor/Mentee Canada

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 612/613



PVN2: Advising Policy and Mapping Progress

Ending homelessness will require significant policy changes as well as a roadmap and tools for measuring progress. The first presentation will discuss ways of defining and measuring housing stability by looking at the leading methods before introducing the Housing Stability Scale. The second presentation will share the results of a study that sought to create a framework for how to prevent and end homelessness if there were no constraints related to timeline, budget, or politics. The third presentation will make ten recommendations for policy transformation that seek to target structural factors involved in preventing homelessness and improving housing outcomes for justice-involved people.

Presenters: Strategies for Conceptualizing and Measuring Housing Stability
Tyler Frederick, Ontario Tech University

Removing the Constraints on Preventing and Ending Homelessness
Abe Oudshoorn, Western University; Sibel Kusdemir, Western University

Preventing Homelessness for Justice-Involved Individuals: A Stepwise Policy Transformation Approach
Laurence Roy, McGill University; Isabel Gervais, Les YMCA du Québec - Réintégration et inclusion sociale; Art Campbell, The YMCAs of Quebec

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 611

RRH4: Initiating Dialogues About Rural Homelessness

This session explores the issue of rural homelessness from the view of a community with one of the highest per capita homelessness rates in the country. It presents the realities of homelessness on Salt Spring Island, BC through the video In From the Cold, and explores the contrasts between rural and urban homelessness. It proposes the idea that there needs to be a deepening of the understanding of rural communities and their homelessness issues by the greater system, including urban partners and funders whom through most planning and resource allocations occur.

Presenters: Initiating Dialogues About Rural Homelessness: Who Should be Talking About What?
Robert Grant, Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 501/502

RUH3: Community Responses to Unsheltered Homelessness

During this session, we'll learn about the innovative and collaborative approaches diverse communities from across the country are adopting to respond to and to reduce encampment homelessness in their local area.

Presenters: Community Responses to Homeless Encampments in Canada
Michelle Roberts, Infrastructure Canada

Learnings from Vancouver: The Tiny Shelter 'Village' at Klahowya Tillicum Lalum Shelter

Mary Ellen Glover, City of Vancouver, Homelessness Services; Kevin Eaton, Lu'ma Native Housing Society; Bruk Melles, City of Vancouver, Homelessness Services

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 503



Sponsored by



In cooperation with
Veterans Affairs Canada

VH2: Federal Veteran Homelessness Programs and Policy

Join this session to learn about existing, new, and recommended federal government programs and policies for ending veteran homelessness in Canada.

Presenters: VAC Homelessness Response
Christine Mallett, Veterans Affairs Canada
The Government of Canada's Veteran Homelessness Program
Shawn Boyle, Infrastructure Canada; Simon Todd, INFC
Federal Policies to Address Veteran Homelessness at a National Level
Sandrine Desforges, Max Bell School of Public Policy



CAEH23 WELCOME RECEPTION

Join us at the CAEH23 Welcome Reception, hosted by the Halifax Local Host Committee.

Wednesday, November 8th
5:00 pm to 6:30 pm
Ballroom

Network with fellow conference participants, enjoy delicious local Nova Scotian food and drinks, and see local entertainment.

A complimentary welcome drink is included with your registration. Show your badge to the bartender to claim your drink. Additional drinks are available to purchase.

DAY 2

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023

8:00 – 8:30 am
BALLROOM FOYER

Continental Breakfast

Registration and information desk open on November 9 from 7:30am to 5:00pm

8:30 – 9:30 am
BALLROOM

Morning Plenary

Keynote: **Dr. Marie-Hélène Pelletier**



9:30 – 10:00 am
BALLROOM FOYER

Refreshment Break

CONCURRENT SESSIONS D

10:00 – 11:30 am
ROOM 503



Sponsored by



AWH3: EDI approaches within our work and what we can learn

Bold and inclusive approaches and strategies that work to support the diversity of youth we engage with are key to our continued growth and innovation in the sector. Presenters will share how they co-create and implement organizational inclusion in their work to ensure youth with diverse experiences can be best supported.

Presenter: Affirming Acceptance: Effective practices for FNS work with 2SLGBTQIA+ Identifying Young People
Justin Sage-Passant, Covenant House Toronto; Andrew Crawford, Covenant House Toronto
Evaluation of the Blue Door INNclusion Supportive Housing Program for 2SLGBTQ+ Youth
Alex Abramovich, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH); Nicole Elkington, CAMH
Infusing Indigenous Ceremony and Culture Into Homelessness/Homelessness Programming in Canada: Using Endaayaang as a case study for preventing Indigenous youth homelessness
Cathy Fournier, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness; Sabina Mirza, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness; Karen Naidoo, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness

10:00 – 11:30 am
ROOM 608/609



CA2: Government Relations and Policy

In this session, participants will learn how to advocate for political and systems change through public policy and government relations. The session includes a presentation that covers an introduction to public policy, its process and how to use it to engage in every part of the political process; and two presentations on government relations tactics and strategy, including examples of successes and failures.

Presenter: The Power of Public Policy as a Catalyst for Systemic Change
Chelsea Minhas, Covenant House Vancouver
Whose House? Our House! Lobbying 101 - Demystifying government relations
Aditya Rao, CUPE
Government Relations Tools & Tactics
Amanda Arella, YWCA Canada

10:00 – 11:30 am

ARGYLE 2

COH4: Lessons from Homelessness Responses in Rural Areas and Small and Medium-Sized Cities

Big cities receive a lot of attention when it comes to homelessness, but there are important innovations occurring in smaller communities as well. The first presenter will share their analysis of the progress of multi-year plans to end homelessness in three small Canadian cities: Kelowna, BC, Lethbridge, AB, and Sherbrooke, QC. The second presentation will describe how medium-sized communities have adapted their responses to preventing and ending homelessness. Presenters will draw on their research project “Where Does Nanaimo Stand,” which compared homelessness rates in ten Canadian cities and found that medium-sized communities have unique strengths that enable them to intervene in homelessness in unique ways. The third presentation will seek to address the way that quantitative data often reduces people to numbers, leaving out the humanizing component of individual stories, based on countless research studies carried out across Nova Scotia over the past eight years with a focus on rural regions.

Presenters: Homelessness Prevention Plans in Small Canadian Cities: An analysis of problems, prospects, and insight into comparative analysis across small Canadian cities
John Graham, School of Social Work, UBC, Okanagan; Katie Coleman, UBCO - Kelowna Homelessness Research Centre; H  l  ne B. Laram  e, Kelowna Homelessness Research Centre

Medium Sized Communities Transformative Interventions in Homelessness: Initiating a national dialogue
Andrew Thornton, Nanaimo Systems Planning Organization Society; John McCormick, Nanaimo Systems Planning Organization Society

Humanizing the Data through Service-based Counts and Vulnerable Sector Advocacy
Alisha Christie, Homeless No More; Kimm Kent, Peer Outreach Support Services & Education (POSSE) Project; Peggy Vassallo, Nova Scotia Public Health

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 612/613



Sponsored by



HCH3: Empowering Communities: Integrated Health Care Partnerships

This session brings together three inspiring stories of collaborative community-driven initiatives that are improving health care services for people experiencing homelessness. The   quipe itin  rance (Homeless team) in downtown Montreal demonstrates the successful application of Design Thinking as a user-focused problem-solving process, alongside change management strategies, to ensure accessible and tailored services for marginalized individuals. In Sioux Lookout, unique partnerships and cultural supports are driving progress towards improved outcomes while engaging the community. Lastly, the Region of Peel showcases their pioneering approach to developing an integrated, community-based health care model led by municipal housing, emphasizing collaboration, equity, and inclusivity.

Presenters: Sioux Lookout - Our Journey Towards Ending Homelessness
Josee Mantle, Kenora District Services Board; Tana Troniak, Nahnahda Wee ee Waywin

How Municipal Government Can Be A Leader in Homeless Health Care: An account from Peel Region
Erin Mifflin, Region of Peel

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 611

Sponsored by



HF4: Innovative Practices in Housing First Programs

Canadian Housing First programs have demonstrated a range of innovative practices that can be replicated in communities across the country. Presentations in this session will provide an opportunity to hear about innovative Housing First practices that include using dashboards in shelters to help coordinate the intake process of Housing First programs, assisting Housing First tenants through the use of furniture banks, and developing a Team Lead role in Housing First programs that facilitate the delivery of effective services.

Presenters: Measuring for Success: Creating your own housing first data dashboard
Michael Potvin, Homes First

Furniture Banks – Choice, Growth, and Sustainability
Janine Tremblay, Homeward Trust

Utilizing the Team Lead to Optimize Housing First Services: A how to guide!
Trish Roy, Options Bytown; Kelly Howson, Options Bytown

10:00 – 11:30 am

ARGYLE 1



IH4: For Us - By Us: Indigenous Supportive Housing Programs

Cultural safety and Indigenous ways of being and knowing are all centred in this session that focuses on Indigenous led and owned supportive housing programs in British Columbia and Alberta.

Presenters: Influencing Policy Change and Addressing Structural Barriers - Culturally supportive housing for indigenous people.
Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi, Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness Society; Julia O’Quinn, Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness Society

Taw  w: an Indigenous-led and owned permanent supportive housing project in Fort McMurray
Celina Vipond, MacEwan University

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 202



LCM4: Leaders - Supporting Yourself & Your Workforce

This riveting and hopeful session is designed to help people maximize their resilience in turbulent times. It offers insights for people involved in the movement on how to cut through the noise, prioritize, recharge and refocus. As an employer, this session will also help you understand how to mitigate and minimize staff's exposure to traumatic situations and showcase how leaders can build upon ten central themes evidenced in current research and best practices that create the foundation for an employee centred culture.

Presenters: Is It Normal to Want to Quit Sometimes?
Iain De Jong, OrgCode Consulting Inc.
Actionable Solutions for Improving Trauma - Informed Supports for Homeless Service Community Leaders
Monica Melanson, PARC
Rediscovering the Workplace - Creating a person-centred culture
Penny Gagnon, CARF Canada

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 605

Sponsored by



LE5: Designing for Equity in Homelessness Solutions: Tools for transformation

How can your community develop lived experience circles and allocate resources for community-wide benefit? During this session, presentations will highlight the importance of centering humanity and equity in designing programs and policies, and re-designing processes for engaging people with lived experience. You will gain new tools to demystify the homelessness system and tips for monitoring local efforts to realize the right to housing.

Presenters: Designing for Equity: Centering Lived Experience in Coordinated Entry System Transformation
Nikole Joseph Thomas, Homebase; Sasha Caine, Homebase; Debra Townley, N/A
Coordinated Access: A grassroots investigation of a municipal response to homelessness in Ontario
Thamer Linklater, Trent University; Sam Blondeau, Trent University
Community Engagement Matrix for Lived/Living Experience Circles
Kerry Rempel, Okanagan College; Shawn Kelly, Lived Experience; Annika Kirk, Okanagan College

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 603

Sponsored by



NS3: Animal Welfare and the Impacts of Housing

Join the Nova Scotia SPCA for a discussion around the impacts of the housing crisis in animal welfare. Sarah Lyon, Director of Marketing and Communications, will moderate a discussion to highlight how companion animals and their owners are being impacted by the housing crisis across Canada.

The discussion will cover:

- The importance of companion animals to the mental health and welfare of Nova Scotians.
- The impact of the housing crisis on people and their pets.
- Potential solutions for keeping people and their pets together (legislation, support services, housing requirements).

Presenters: Kathleen Dunbar, MSW, SCW, RVT, Veterinary Social Worker, Tender Tails, Carnegy Animal Hospital
Special Constable Jo-Anne Landsberg, Chief Provincial Inspector, Nova Scotia SPCA
Heather Woodin, Director of Administration & Programs, Nova Scotia SPCA

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 604

PVN3: Models and Obstacles: Promising Directions for Preventing and Ending Homelessness

In this session, we will consider programs that have been successful in interrupting the cycle of homelessness as well as barriers encountered in this work. The first presentation will highlight the results of a study on permanent supportive housing, which is a form of housing used to provide long-term stability for those facing moderate to high support needs. The second presentation will seek to provide a deeper understanding of the barriers faced by Black communities in Vancouver and across Canada in accessing equitable housing, presenting innovative solutions for creating accessible and affordable housing for Black communities across Canada. Finally, a team from the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness will present emerging 24-month results of a study on the effectiveness of Housing First for Youth programs.

Presenters: Making Supported Housing Work for Canada's Most Vulnerable
Steven Rolfe, Indwell; Abe Oudshoorn, Western University
Mitigating Barriers to Safe and Affordable Housing Among Black Communities in British Columbia
Modupe Bankole-Longe, Hogan's Alley Society; Marie Cecile Kotyk, University of Calgary (Doctoral Candidate/Consultant); Nemoy Lewis, Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson)
Housing First for Youth Demonstration Project: Emerging 24-month Findings
Ahmad Bonakdar, York University; Cora MacDonald, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness (COH), York University; Stephen Gaetz, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness / York University

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 506/507

RTH3: Advancing the Right to Housing for Women and Gender-Diverse Persons

This session will explore design charrettes developed in a deeply collaborative process led by the Women's National Housing and Homelessness Network, Canadian Centre for Housing Rights, and National Right to Housing Network. These charrettes are part of a larger project that endeavours to bring together some of the key violence against women (VAW) and homelessness stakeholders from across the country to develop and prototype National Rights-Based, GBA+ Shelter Standards to transform emergency shelter service delivery so that it better meets the needs of women and gender-diverse people. This work will help inform the team in this project, which is part of a Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation's Solutions Lab grant.

Presenters: Grassroots Organizing to Advance the Right to Housing for Women and Gender-Diverse People
Khulud Baig, Women's National Housing and Homelessness Network & Keepers of the Circle; Kaitlin Schwan, Women's National Housing & Homelessness Network; Alex Nelson, National Right to Housing Network

10:00 – 11:30 am

ARGYLE 3

RUH4: Coordinated Community Responses to Ending Homelessness for People in Encampments

Ending unsheltered homelessness and responding to encampments requires a great deal of coordination, formally or informally. Learn from London, Chilliwack, and Edmonton about how stakeholders came together to respond to unsheltered homelessness in their communities.

Presenters: Building Bridges: How to coordinate an informed response
Debbie Kramers, The City of London
Creating a Continuum of Community Integration, Collaboration & Practice
Holly Ferris, City of Chilliwack; Jodi Higgs, Pacific Community Resources Society
Encampments as Catalysts for Innovative Partnerships and Accelerated Housing Solutions
Ashley Eddy, Homeward Trust Edmonton; Candace Noble, Bissell Centre; D. Aidan Inglis, Boyle Street Community Services

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 614



TT1: Training is Essential in the Homeless Serving Sector

In this session attendees will be provided insight into a new Edmonton Lived Experience driven and developed training targeted toward front-line workers and/or team leads to better understand Housing First principles from participants perspectives. Additionally, the CAEH Training and Technical Assistance program will outline the necessity of training in general to be successful in supporting an end to homelessness and introduce their new subscription based online self-paced onboarding module program, yearly sustainable training packages, and their three phased approach to training designed to drive deeper outcomes and impact post-training.

Presenters: Training to End Homelessness: Literally at Your Fingertips
Wally Czech, CAEH
Kawegehanowak/Together, We Will House Them: Lived and living expert-led housing first training
Salma Osman, Youth advisory group; Rosemary Fayant, Homeward Trust Edmonton

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 501/502

WH2: Gender-Based Violence and Homelessness – Where do we go from here?

Violence is an enduring feature of homelessness for women and gender-diverse people, especially for those experiencing multiple marginalizations. In this session we will explore how and why gender-based analysis is critical to preventing and ending both violence and homelessness for women and gender-diverse people. Join colleagues from ACTO, WomanACT, BC Society of Transition Houses, and the Canadian Women's Foundation as we map new horizons and approaches for addressing the intersection between gender-based violence and homelessness.

Presenters: Supporting Tenants Experiencing Gender-Based Violence
Michelle Choe, Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario (ACTO); Dicle Han, Woman Abuse Council of Toronto; Keren Harvey, ACTO
Breaking the Connections: Emergency planning, gender-based violence and women's homelessness
Ann Decter, Canadian Women's Foundation; Karen Campbell, Canadian Women's Foundation

11:30 – 1:30 pm

BALLROOM



Lunch Plenary

Keynote: **Jeff Olivet**

CONCURRENT SESSIONS E

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ARGYLE 1

**ARH3: Preventing Chronic Homelessness**

A short overview of opportunities to prevent chronic homelessness for those on the By-Name List will be followed by descriptions from two communities of their Supported Referral programs where St. John's adapted the Edmonton Homeward Trust model for a smaller community. This will then be followed by a presentation on the evolving role of Rent Banks in BC.

Presenters: Supported Referral: An Upstream Housing Intervention to Reduce Chronic Homelessness
Andrea Ness, Homeward Trust Edmonton

Financial Footholds in Changing Landscapes: Evolution of the Supported Referrals program in St. John's, NL
Abigail Sheppard, End Homelessness St. John's; Matthew Kenny, End Homelessness St. John's

Eviction Prevention and Housing Stability: A Case Study of Rent Banks in BC
Melissa Giles, Vancity Community Foundation

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 612/613

**CA3: Philanthropy, Data and Storytelling**

Ending homelessness requires investment from a range of different sources - both private and public - and getting that money requires fundraisers to tell stories using data. This session covers how small organizations can raise big dollars, with a successful major gift strategy, and will give participants the skills and knowledge to make the big ask. It will also cover how to use data to tell the story of homelessness effectively, critical for your communications, grant writing and reporting to funders.

Presenters: How To Effectively Communicate Data About Homelessness
Ali Ryder, ACRE Consulting

Unlocking the Grantmaking Code: Strategies for Successful Homelessness Sector Funding
Amy Bilodeau, The Home Depot Canada; Michelle LeDonne, Pathy Family Foundation

Big Gifts, Small Shops: Introduction to major gifts
Elisabeth Noble, Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness; Floriane Ethier, CAEH

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ARGYLE 3

Sponsored by

**HCH4: Youth At the Crossroad of Substance Use, Health Care, and Homelessness**

This session will explore the direct correlation between youth experiencing homelessness, and using substances, and needing health care and demonstrate how shelters and services are addressing this link. Learn about the emergent pathways to coordinated health care that are making a difference for youth by adopting systems thinking, organizational change, and cross-sector partnerships.

Presenters: Addressing Youth Homelessness and Recovery through a Harm Reduction Lens
Kacie Stirrett, Threshold Housing Society; Angela McNulty-Buell, Threshold Housing Society

Where's The Disconnect? Exploring Pathways to Healthcare Coordinated for Youth Experiencing Homelessness in Toronto, Canada
Alzahra Hudani, University of Ottawa

Youth Substance Use Program Provides Dignity to Young People Who Use Substances
Kaitlin Perkons, Good Shepherd Notre Dame House; Norma Joaquim, Good Shepherd Youth Services

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 604

Sponsored by

**HF5: Using Fidelity Assessment to Improve the Outcomes of Housing First Programs: A Mini-Workshop**

Achieving a high level of fidelity to the Pathways model of Housing First has been shown to be related to better housing and psychosocial outcomes. The current session will present findings from a pilot international study on fidelity in which two programs located in Toronto, Canada and Galway Ireland assessed each other's fidelity and provided suggestions for improving each other's program. The second part of the session will offer an interactive discussion that examines with attendees their programs in relation to select fidelity standards and strategies for improving their programs' fidelity.

Presenters: Using Fidelity Assessment to Improve the Outcomes of Housing First Programs: A Mini-Workshop
Kathryn Gibb, Services and Housing in the Province; Wally Czech, CAEH; Tim Aubry, University of Ottawa

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 605

IEH3: Data for Increased Equity and Impact

While it is widely understood that data is key to solving the homelessness crisis, how we collect, share, display, and use that data requires thoughtful consideration. During this data focused session, we will explore various ideas on how to engage homelessness data in a way that is informed by lived expertise and data justice, that respects the privacy of individuals, and informs action towards a measurable and equitable end to homelessness.

Presenters: Mapping Services
 Anna Kopec, Carleton University; Monica Weber, Carleton University; Carter Tongs, Carleton University
 How to Link Agency Client Records and Protect Privacy
 Geoffrey Messier, University of Calgary, Department of Electrical & Software Engineering

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 202



LCM5: From NIMBY to YIMBY (Yes, In My Back Yard!)

When deploying new affordable or supportive housing programs in communities, many providers are challenged by community fear, misinformation, misconception, or even outright discrimination against the populations served. In this session, presenters will share three examples of strategies and approaches to overcome these challenges.

Presenters: Building Momentum for Action: Guelph-Wellington's journey to create supportive housing and shift NIMBY to YIMBY
 Dominica McPherson, Guelph & Wellington Task Force for Poverty Elimination; Leisha Burley, Kindle Communities Organization; Gail Hoekstra, Stepping Stone
 Supportive Housing Design for Community Acceptance
 Rebecca Siggner, BC Housing
 From NIMBY to YIMBY: A Case Study on Effective Community Engagement
 Dana Granofsky, BGM Strategy Group; Naureen Choudhry, WoodGreen Community Services

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 503



Sponsored by



LE6: From Extractive to Empowering: Redefining Storytelling and Narrative in the Housing Landscape

Join us for an engaging conference session that revolves around the power of stories and narratives in making change within the context of housing and homelessness. In this panel, three presentations will offer unique perspectives on the transformative potential of lived experience and storytelling.

Presentations include topics like reframing personal story sharing as a tool for empowerment and transformation, and sharing experience to disrupt colonial power hierarchies. Lastly, you will hear about the impact of an arts-based participatory project on homelessness.

Presenters: Stories for Transformation: Self-determination in Sharing Lived and Living Experiences and Expertise
 Sharlene Alook; Candace Thomas, Homeward Trust Edmonton
 'Wow, we got that one!': LECO, a Lived Experience-led initiative participating in grassroots advocacy that your community can model to accelerate ending homelessness.
 Shery Landry, LECO; John Graham, School of Social Work, UBC, Okanagan; Dorothy Goodeye, Lived Experience Circle on Homelessness (LECoH)
 From Roots to Home: Visualizing the journey from homelessness to housing in mid-size cities
 Erin Dej, Wilfrid Laurier University; Barbara McPhee, Wilfrid Laurier University; Deborah Hill, BSUN

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 603

PG1: Paula Goering Memorial Scholarship Recipient Presentations

During this session, the recipients of the 2023 Paula Goering Memorial Scholarship will present their Housing First initiatives that they have put into practice as a Housing First practitioner or student. Come hear about innovations from the frontlines.

Presenters: HBCM's Perspective: The benefits of incorporating peer support and community engagement into practice
Madison Salmon, Options Bytown

Housing Stability & Social Capital: A Mixed-Method Analysis of the Relationship between Housing Stability, Psychological Integration and Social Capital among Individuals with Histories of Homelessness
Ayda Agha, University of Ottawa

We can persist - Exploring the phenomena of stigma and shame as experienced by people with lived experience of homelessness and diabetes through the lens of Shame Resilience Theory.
Matt Larsen, University of Calgary

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 506/507

RRH3: Definitions & Data in Rural and Remote Homelessness

You can't end a problem you can't see. The first presentation in this session will speak to the importance of defining rural and remote homelessness in order to properly address it, while the second presentation explores using survey data to inform responses to rural homelessness. We'll then hear from a local initiative that incorporates data into a shared leadership process of community development and inclusive engagement of local organizations.

Presenters: Making Homelessness Visible Through Definitions: Strategies towards a Remote, Rural and Small Town Definition of Homelessness
Aiden Kivisto, YMCA of Cumberland; Dr. Julia Woodall-Melnik, University of New Brunswick; Kristen Desjarlais-deKlerk, Cape Breton University

Housing on the Homeland: Our story
Brenda Mishak, University of Victoria

Homeless No More: A Community Development Process for Ending Rural Homelessness
Nancy Stewart, Nova Scotia Health; Rachel Bedingfield, Town of Kentville

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 501/502

RTH4: Claiming the Right to Housing: Case Studies from Affected Communities

Meaningfully engaging with those with lived experience of homelessness and inadequate housing is a critical part of the rights-based approach to housing, and results in more appropriate solutions for affected communities facing systemic housing issues on a daily basis. This session will explore several case studies from the frontlines of the housing crisis for Indigenous peoples in the Northwest Territories, newcomers and refugees, and women and gender-diverse people across Canada. Participants will learn about the barriers and solutions that lived experts and frontline workers have identified in these sectors, and will walk away with the tools to advocate for change through policy and human rights-claiming mechanisms.

Presenters: Stark Truths: Advancing Indigenous-Led Housing Solutions in Northern, Remote Communities
Janine Harvey, Independent

Successful Models for Diverting Refugee Claimants From Homelessness: Examples from community organizations in Montreal and Ottawa
Allan Reesor-McDowell, Matthew House Ottawa; Joseph Achille Tiedjou, Maison du Pere

Denied Renting – Lived Experiences of Rental Discrimination
Scott McCullough, University of Winnipeg, Institute of Urban Studies

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 611

RUH5: The Power of Public Libraries in Ending Homelessness

Learn about the initiatives public libraries from coast to coast are taking to respond to, to reduce, and to end homelessness. From supporting vulnerable populations and serving as a day shelter to serving as a low barrier ID clinic, libraries are playing an instrumental role in the response to unsheltered homelessness in Canada.

Presenter: Supporting Vulnerable Populations in Public Libraries
Kelly Nielsen, Brantford Public Library

Hfx ID Project: Low-barrier ID clinic model
Sheena Jamieson, Halifax Public Libraries

The de Facto Day Shelter: Public library services for customers experiencing homelessness
Sarah Tarcea, North Vancouver City Library

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 614

Sponsored by

Canada

In cooperation with
Veterans Affairs Canada

VH4: State of Veteran Homelessness in Canada and National Veteran Organizations Working to End Veteran Homelessness

What do we know about veteran homelessness in Canada? Hear about the latest available information and how two key national Veteran Service Organizations are responding to homelessness: VETS Canada and the Royal Canadian Legion.

Presenters: Picture of Veteran Homelessness in Canada and Built for Zero Canada Ending Veteran Homelessness
Marie Morrison, CAEH
The View from the Street (Veterans Homelessness Across Canada)
Debbie Lowther, Vets Canada
The Royal Canadian Legion and Ending Veteran Homelessness
Dave Gordon, Legion

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ROOM 608/609



WH3: Exits from Homelessness & Homelessness Prevention for Women & Gender-Diverse People

Critical to ending homelessness for women and gender-diverse people is both prevention and rapid exits from homelessness. Gender and other identities shape both entries into homelessness and exits from homelessness, including at the intersection of violence and exploitation. In this session we will explore models for quickly transitioning women and gender-diverse people out of homelessness, and approaches to keeping women and gender-diverse people housed when they face violence and exploitation.

Presenters: Transforming Post-Shelter Transitions for Women Leaving Homelessness: From theory to actions
Laurence Roy, McGill University; Aline Nadro, Project Lotus/Logifem
Safe at Home: A Gender Transformative Homelessness Prevention Intervention for Women and Families
Patricia O'Campo, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions; Melissa Perri, University of Toronto
Decreasing Barriers to Support for Women Experiencing Gender Based Violence to Prevent Homelessness and Improve Outcomes
Margaret Bilson, Nellie's; Dionne Rose, Nellies - Women's Hostels

3:00 – 3:30 pm

BALLROOM FOYER

Refreshment Break

CONCURRENT SESSIONS F

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ARGYLE 1

**ARH4: Evolving Practices in Coordinated Access Systems**

Since 2018, the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness has been supporting communities to implement Coordinated Access systems as just one of the key components in local efforts towards reducing and ending homelessness. Since 2019, the federal government has required that Reaching Home Designated Communities implement Coordinated Access. This session will highlight the importance and value of Coordinated Access, its benefits and limitations, and implementation realities and evolution (given local Coordinated Access systems are constantly evolving and improving). Presenters will cover coordinated systems that need a reset as staff turnover, systems that have matured and engaged additional system partners, system performance management, and consideration for Coordinated Access implementation in rural, remote, or smaller communities. Resources to support the continuous improvement of a Coordinated Access system will be shared.

Presenters: Coordinated Access: Where Would We Be Without It & the Need for Continuous Improvement
Marie Morrison, CAEH

Coordinated Access: Resilience in a Changing System
Ashley Saunders, City of Grande Prairie

Implementing Coordinated Access in Smaller Communities Across Canada
Diahann Polege-Aulotte, Rural Development Network; Sydney Stenekes, Rural Development Network

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 501/502

Sponsored by

**AWH4: Re-thinking shelter and housing for youth**

Diversion from shelter, systems engagement and homelessness in general is at the core of any preventative homelessness response. But how do we think about shifting the status quo of how youth shelters function within a system of care? Conversely, how do we ensure we transition from shelter and housing for youth are done with a focus towards success, and diminish the rise of homeless youth populations in Canada.

Presenters: Shelter Diversion in Five Canadian Communities: A Paradigm Shift for Youth Homelessness Prevention
Katrina Milaney, University of Calgary; Claire Feasby, University of Calgary; Meagan Mah, Trellis Society; Robyn Feraday, The Raft; Alyjah Ermine Neil, p̓isimoyâpiy wellness services; Kristen Brick, Wyndham House Concurrent Youth Hub

An Innovative Support to Emergency Shelter for Youth.
Crystal Scott, Trellis Society for Community Impact; Melissa Morrison, Trellis Society for Community Impact; Kat Main, Trellis Society for Community Impact

Preventing Discharge to No Fixed Address – Youth (NFA-Y)
Cheryl Forchuk, Lawson Health Research Institute

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 611

CA4: Engaging Lived Experts in Advocacy and Campaigns

Centering the voices of lived experts is critical to shifting the needle in homelessness campaigns. This session includes presentations that focus on shifting the narrative around homelessness, engaging vulnerable people and how we can engage and persuade by transforming our research findings.

Presenters: See The Person: Changing the Narrative on Homelessness Through Public Education
Tawnia Healy, North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit; Bryan Eade, North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit

Shifting Public Opinion - Engaging vulnerable persons
Shaundra Bruvall, Calgary Alpha House

Knowledge mobilization, scholarship translation and adapting to your audience: Transforming your research to engage and persuade
Ashley Camarero, U of A

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 605

Sponsored by

**HCH5: Resurfacing an Uneven Path – Solutions to Transitions in Care**

From shelters to permanent housing, a hospital bed to discharge, and incarceration to re-entry into the community, transitions are critical periods of risk and destabilization. During this session, we'll hear from 3 presenters about the whole person interventions that are being taken across the country to better address the complex array of needs of people experiencing homelessness as they go through a time of transition. We'll see how programs are empowering people to meaningful activity, functional living, and community integration.

Presenters: A Functional Whole-person Care Approach in Homeless Women's Post-Shelter Transitions
Vanessa Seto, McGill University; Myrna Rose, None

An Innovative Patient Navigation Program for People Experiencing Homelessness in an Acute Care Hospital
Jesse Jenkinson, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions; Kate Francombe Pridham, Unity Health Toronto; Stephen Hwang, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 608/609



Sponsored by



HF6: The Canadian Housing First Network, Community of Interest

Launched in June 2022, the Canadian Housing First Network - Community of Interest (CHFNCOI) was developed as a community of practice of CAMH in Ontario and allied network of CAEH. The goal of the CHFNCOI is to build capacity and assist with program development and improvement of Housing First programs across Canada. The first part of the session will introduce the CHFNCOI and present the results of a survey conducted earlier in 2023 on Canadian Housing First programs, including information on their location, population served, size, and program characteristics. The second part of the session will be interactive and focus on soliciting feedback from participants how the CHFNCOI can assist in improving and growing Housing First in Canada.

Presenters: The Canadian Housing First Network, Community of Interest : Description, Findings from a Survey of Canadian Housing First Programs, and Assessment of Needs
Tim Aubry, University of Ottawa; Geoff Nelson, Wilfrid Laurier University

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 202



LCM6: Housing Focused Shelter, Bridge Housing, and Hybrid Transition-in-Place Supportive Housing

Hear from the Calgary Drop-In about the 6-part Shelter Trauma Informed Practices Guide which includes a self-assessment tool and outlines practical considerations to support housing-focused trauma-informed operations. Hear from Niagara Region's experience in implementing Bridge Housing to support expedited and housing-focused exits from shelter. Finally, hear from Kawartha-Haliburton's experience in implementing and then redesigning supportive housing to a hybrid Transition in Place model.

Presenters: Housing Focused Shelter Integrating Trauma-Informed Care
Kevin Webb, The Calgary Drop In Centre; Iain De Jong, OrgCode Consulting Inc.
Bridge Housing - An Innovative Approach to Ending Homelessness
Nicole Cortese, Niagara Region; Iain De Jong, OrgCode Consulting Inc.
Increasing Resident Engagement in Supportive Housing
Michelle Corley, City of Kawartha Lakes; Carla Cooper, John Howard Society of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 503



Sponsored by



LE7: Power and place: amplifying voices for housing justice

This session offers a thought-provoking exploration of the intertwined issues of homelessness, housing justice, and incarceration, encouraging attendees to take action, challenge norms, and foster inclusivity in their respective fields. Join us for powerful conversations centering a range of lived experiences.

Presenters: Provider Stigma: The Culture of Nondisclosure and Professionalism
Jupi Bowen, Chicago House and Social Services
Prison: A Homelessness Factory
C.L. Michel, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 604

Sponsored by



NS4: African Nova Scotian Experiences with Homelessness

This session will focus on housing challenges for African Nova Scotian people. Each panelist will present on their experiences drawing on the work they are doing in their organizations to combat the root of the issue, racism, and identify effective strategies that make a difference. Community leaders will provide perspectives on what's needed to understand the issues and talk about the local innovations that are creating a new path forward with everyone's eyes wide open.

Presenters: Rochelle Butterfield, Adsum for Women and Children
Shawn Parker, Navigator Street Outreach Support Worker for North End Halifax and Downtown Dartmouth
Bernadette Hamilton-Reid, DPAD
Marcus James, 902ManUp

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ARGYLE 2

PVN4: Shelter Diversion and Eviction Prevention

Panel presenters include:

1. Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi, Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness Society (Victoria, BC)
2. Laura Coakley, Argus Residence for Young People (Waterloo, ON)
3. Katrina John-West, Bissell Centre (Edmonton, AB)
4. Syrena Huggins, HELP USA (New York, USA)
5. Chris Clay, Native Council of Prince Edward Island (PEI)
6. Nikima Leslie, REST Centres (Peel Region, ON)
7. Cathy Fournier, Indigenous Homelessness, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness

Shelter diversion and eviction prevention are crucial interventions for preventing homelessness, and this session will seek to highlight emerging best practices. A panel presentation will offer a semi-guided, reflective discussion with six community organizations on the topic of developing and implementing homelessness prevention programs and practices. The discussion will delve into the experiences and insights of each organization as they endeavour to deliver shelter diversion and eviction prevention programs in their community to identify factors that should be considered when starting or strengthening similar programs. The panel will specifically focus on how the organizations have integrated equity, diversity, inclusivity, and decolonial practices into their work to create more equitable outcomes and experiences. The panel will also zoom in on providing specific shelter diversion and eviction prevention services to Indigenous people using knowledge gained from an extensive literature review. Presenters will highlight contributing factors to Indigenous homelessness, major themes in the literature, and recommendations for best practice, and will also offer a wholistic, Indigenous-specific framework for shelter diversion and eviction prevention.

Presenters: Making Progress in Homelessness Prevention: Insights on Implementing Shelter Diversion & Eviction Prevention Programs From Five Community-based Organizations
Erika Morton, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness
Indigenous Eviction Prevention and Shelter Diversion
Cathy Fournier, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness; Averi Labancz-Vye, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness

3:30 – 5:00 pm

ROOM 612/613

**RRH4: Collaboration and Innovation in Addressing Rural Homelessness**

This bilingual and multimedia session will feature three presentations that speak to the importance of lived experience expert engagement and service coordination across organizations and regions. We'll hear about how creative problem-solving and pilot programs are making a way forward in ending homelessness in rural communities.

Presenters: Can Lived Experience Stories Shape Policy in Small Urban and Rural Canadian Communities?
Leigh Zachary Bursey, Mount Pearl Streetfriends
Pratiques innovantes de collaboration en région éloignée
Christine Francoeur, CISSS-AT; Krystina Sawyer, CISSS de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue;
Antoine St-Germain, CISSS-AT

1:30 – 3:00 pm

ARGYLE 3

RTH5: Preventing Evictions: Rent Banks, Activism, and Access to Justice

A key part of addressing and ending homelessness involves preventing evictions. Access to justice mechanisms can be a powerful human rights-based tools to prevent evictions, but only when they are equally accessible to all people. Legal aid and financial assistance can make a huge difference in whether or not a tenant can make a claim or defend their housing in tenancy hearings. Meanwhile, tenant unions and rent banks offer other important avenues for supporting tenants, building community power, and preventing evictions. This session will explore different avenues for preventing evictions and leave participants with an understanding of tools they can use to improve security of tenure in their own communities, to prevent harmful evictions and the flow into homelessness.

Presenters: Perceived Barriers and Facilitators Towards a Real-Time Data Sharing System: An environmental scan
Michelle Leong, University of Calgary; David Campbell, University of Calgary
Action to Activism- How to form a community and make positive change
Joan Frame, Mary st Tenant's Association; Lyndon George; Brendan Jowett; David Pearson; Debb Elmes
Rent Banks in Canada: Promising Practices for Homelessness Prevention
Tobin LeBlanc Haley, University of New Brunswick Saint John; Melissa Giles, Vancity Community Foundation;
Cheryl Krostewitz, Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association

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
Sandrine Desforges, Max Bell School of Public Policy

DAY 3

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2023

8:00 – 8:30 am
BALLROOM FOYER

Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 9:30 am
BALLROOM

Morning Plenary

Keynote: **Keynote - David Coletto**



9:30 – 10:00 am
BALLROOM FOYER

Refreshment Break

CONCURRENT SESSIONS G

10:00 – 11:30 am
ROOM 604
Sponsored by



CMHC - Building a Toolbox to Address Housing Need Across Canada

CMHC representatives will explore a toolbox of solutions used to address housing need in communities across Canada. We will discuss funding opportunities and innovative solutions that are advancing our collective objective to create more affordable housing in Canada.

You will hear presentations and have an opportunity to meet with staff from both Innovation and Outreach in a breakout discussion.

10:00 – 11:30 am
ARGYLE 2

ARH5: Using Data to End Homelessness

From agency level to system level examples of how data is being used for action towards ending homelessness.

Presenters: Housing Advocacy Tool- Using Data to Improve Programs for Chronic Shelter Users
Kate Duggan, The Calgary Drop In Centre; Emily Gunn, The Calgary Drop In Centre
Collecting the Right Data
Ali Ryder, ACRE Consulting; Laura Stanford, City of Hamilton
From Data Pipelines to Actionable Insights: Future-Proofing Your Homelessness Data Strategy
Alain Ndayishimiye, Homeward Trust

10:00 – 11:30 am
ROOM 611

Sponsored by



AWH5: Choice, Voice and Ceremony in housing for youth

Young people need to feel connected to community, have access to cultural and spiritual guidance, rent supplements, assistance with employment, and ongoing clinical support. Providing these services in combination with safe, appropriate, and affordable housing is key to meaningfully preventing and ending youth homelessness. Understand the dynamics and unique examples of how communities are aligning with Housing First for Youth and focusing on ensuring homeless experiences are brief and non-recurring.

Presenters: Preventing Youth Homelessness in a Rental Crisis – How to Implement Master Leasing
Greg Quinn, Choices for Youth; David Banfield, Choices for Youth
“Be Angry”: By-Youth-For-Youth Peer Leadership as a participatory intervention for youth exiting homelessness.
Symanthia Osman, LOFT Community Services; Mardi Daley, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
Nightstop: Preventing Homelessness through Community Hosting
Tally Fahmy, 360kids; Owen Daly, 360°kids

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 605

CA5: Advocacy Across Communities

This session explores different advocacy efforts across different communities - from geographic to interest-based. Hear from experts about how the community campaigned to make Hamilton, ON, adopt ambitious goals to end homelessness; how healthcare researchers and workers can get engaged in advocacy and policy; and how faith communities are stepping up and becoming advocates for homefulness across the country.

Presenters: Maximizing the Impact of Policy Advocacy Efforts in the Homeless Serving Sector
Olivia Mancini, Canadian Drug Policy Coalition; Kim Ritchie, Canadian Drug Policy Coalition

The Role of Healthcare Researchers and Workers in Advocacy and Policy Engagement
Jesse Jenkinson, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions; Kate Francombe Pridham, Unity Health Toronto;
Lucie Richard, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions

From Homelessness to Homefulness: Engaging faith communities in home-making
Michael Shapcott, Sorrento Centre; Brian Walsh, A Place Called Home, Lindsay

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 506/507

COH5: Guided by Research: Promising Innovations and Neglected Areas

Research plays a critical role in the overall response to homelessness by shedding light on promising innovations and revealing areas that are being neglected. A group of researchers from the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness will draw on data from the 2019 Without a Home national youth homelessness survey to examine the relationship between Black youth experiencing homelessness and the criminal justice system. The second presentation will introduce Upstream Canada, a social innovation that seeks to prevent youth homelessness through partnerships between schools and social services. They will spotlight Upstream Kelowna and the ways it has significantly expanded access to supports for students facing a risk of homelessness by aligning with the priorities of the education sector. Finally, the third presentation will explore the ways existing vulnerabilities faced by people at risk of or experiencing homelessness were made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic based on a study of the experiences of service providers.

Presenters: Bringing Schools on Board: Upstream Kelowna's research-informed approach to preventing youth homelessness through cross-sector collaboration
Jacqueline Sohn, COH; Stephen Gaetz, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness / York University; Philippa Putlitz, BGC-Okanagan

The Canada-Wide Impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic on Homelessness: a Stakeholders' Perspective
Cheryl Forchuk, Lawson Health Research Institute

Black Youth Experiencing Homelessness: Interaction with the Criminal Justice System
Oluwaseyi Somefun, York University; Ahmad Bonakdar, York University; Emmanuel Banchani, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, York University; Karen Naidoo, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness

10:00 – 11:30 am

ARGYLE 3

LCM7: Successful Landlord Engagement

Effectively addressing homelessness by unlocking private market housing opportunities requires fostering unique partnerships, and a deep understanding of landlord and tenancy needs. Tailored engagement and retention strategies are necessary. Hear an overview from OrgCode followed by two community examples.

Presenters: Landlord Partnership Program
Kelly Erb, Empower Simcoe; Jon Peters, Empower Simcoe

Unpacking the Key Ingredients for Successful Landlord Partnerships in a Close-Knit Community: Strategies for Engagement and Retention
Simone Lilly, End Homelessness St. John's; Nicole Aylward, End Homelessness St. John's

Unlocking the Private Market - A Strategy for Landlord Participation
Alicia Martinez, Operation Come Home/HousingWorks; Miia Suokonautio, YWCA Halifax

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 503

**LCM8: Seeing homelessness differently: innovative initiatives in Quebec**

Discover two Quebec initiatives that are transforming the way we approach homelessness. We'll discuss the 3 not more vision and the results of mobilizing around it with Émilie Fortier (Old Brewery Mission), Emmanuel Lafontant (Mission Bon Accueil), Julie Grenier (MMFIM) and several members of the Synergie group. Afterwards, we'll discuss the need for an intersectoral approach to homelessness. Marie-Andrée Gourde, representing the Ministry of Health and Social Services, and Marie-Michèle Rancourt, representing homeless community groups, will discuss the Quebec government's National Policy to End Homelessness.

Presenters: 3 pas de plus, une vision concertée pour mettre fin à l'itinérance à Montréal
Julie Grenier, MMFIM; Émilie Fortier, Old Brewery Mission; Emmanuel Lafontant, Mission Bon Accueil; Michèle Chappaz, Mouvement pour mettre fin à l'itinérance à Montréal

Dialogue sur le modèle québécois : la nécessaire collaboration intersectorielle
Marie-Michèle Rancourt, Réseau SOLIDARITÉ itinérance du Québec; Marie-Andrée Gourde, MSSS

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 501/502

Sponsored by:



LE8: Beyond a seat at the table: Making engagement meaningful

Nothing about us, without us: this session celebrates the power of lived experience and its pivotal role in reimagining housing solutions. Join panelists to gain insights, inspiration, and practical strategies for creating inclusive and culturally safe spaces, amplifying voices, and driving meaningful change in the homelessness sector.

Presenters: Suswin Village - An Inclusive Community
 Becky Mathies, North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre
 Engagement Approaches Used in the Collaborative Development of Lived Expert-led Training
 Maria Zuluaga, Homeward Trust; Lori McDermott, Homeward Trust
 Engaging the Expertise of Shelter Stayers for Hamilton's Emergency Shelter Standards
 Kelly Coxson, The City of Hamilton; Marcie McIlveen, Keeping Six and Hamilton Social
 Medicine Response Team

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 614

Sponsored by:



HALIFAX

NS5: Climate Change, Poverty and Homelessness

Extreme weather and climate-related disasters are increasing here in Nova Scotia and across Canada, bringing with them financial and human costs that disproportionately impact people living in or on the edge of poverty. We know that Indigenous, Black, and other marginalized communities will be and have been hit first and worst by the impacts of climate change. How do the impacts of climate change and related disaster events affect people experiencing poverty and other marginalized communities? And what can we do to respond—as individuals, as organizations, and as a community?

Presenters: Rob Harris, Vice-President Programs, Clean Foundation
 Dawn-Marie Matheson, Program Development Coordinator & Facilitator (Agriculture, Food Security & Food Sovereignty), Ulnooweg Education Centre
 Dr. Gaynor Watson-Creed, Associate Dean, Serving & Engaging Society, Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 202



RRH5: Thinking Outside the Box - Redefining Emergency Shelters in Rural and Remote Communities

This action packed session features rural communities from across the country who have successfully addressed unsheltered homelessness in their local area. Often times underserved and without housing stock, they each thought outside the box and developed creative solutions to provide emergency shelters to the most vulnerable members of their communities. Come learn and be inspired.

Presenters: Use of Motels as Emergency Shelters in Rural Ontario
 Ellen Buck-McFadyen, Trent University; Nneoma Okoye, Trent University
 A Rapid Housing Rollercoaster: Learnings from a Whitehorse NGO
 Kate Mechan, Safe at Home Society; Anthony Boisvert, Safe at Home Society
 Addressing Rural Homelessness in One of Canada's Tourism Hot-Spots
 Jessica Klaric, Homelessness Society of the Bow Valley

10:00 – 11:30 am

ARGYLE 1



RTH6: Aligning the National Housing Strategy with the right to adequate housing and a human rights-based framework

In 2019, the National Housing Strategy Act cemented Canada's commitment to implement housing as a fundamental human right throughout its programs, policies, and budgetary decisions. Yet in the 4 years this Act has been in place, the Canadian government has not revised its National Housing Strategy—which holds all its housing policies—to comply with these human rights obligations and has been failing to uphold housing as a human right for far too many people. It is time to re-examine the National Housing Strategy and refocus efforts on meeting the needs of Indigenous people, disadvantaged groups, and those experiencing homelessness, in alignment with the human rights framework. This session will present the Federal Housing Advocate's recommendations and key findings gathered from the research conducted with experts on the most critical areas for improvement in the National Housing Strategy. The National Right to Housing Network will also offer participants opportunities to get involved in advocacy to advance the right to housing through the Strategy and beyond.

Presenters: Aligning the National Housing Strategy With the Right to Adequate Housing and a Human Rights-Based Framework
 Emily Paradis, Office of the Federal Housing Advocate, Canadian Human Rights Commission; Ruby Bissett, Canadian Human Rights Commission

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 612/613



RUH6: Hidden Homelessness from Coast to Coast

During this session we will explore initiatives on both the East Coast and West Coast of Canada that are addressing hidden homelessness. We will hear about qualitative research findings from Charlottetown that share concrete actionables for addressing hidden and at-risk homelessness from the perspective of PWLE and service providers. We'll then get a sneak-peak at data from BC's Point-in-Time Count and learn about innovations the Homelessness Association of BC have taken to include underrepresented communities.

Presenters: Evolving Approaches in BC's 2023 Point-in-Time Homeless Counts
Stephen D'Souza, Homelessness Services Association of BC; James Caspersen, Mindskills Education Ltd.

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 603

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In cooperation with
Veterans Affairs Canada

VH3: Communities That Have Ended Veteran Homelessness

Hear from a panel of communities that have been confirmed though CAEH for reaching Functional Zero Veteran Homelessness on how they reached this milestone and successes and challenges in sustaining.

Presenters: Craig Cooper with City of London
Danielle Neilson with City of St. Thomas
Janelle Fleury with Fort McMurray
Cait Kimball with Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
Josee Cormier with John Howard Society Moncton

10:00 – 11:30 am

ROOM 608/609



WH4: Gender & Homelessness – Unique Approaches to Enduring Challenges

There are many enduring challenges to ending homelessness for women and gender-diverse people, including lack of deeply affordable housing, the feminization of poverty, gender-based violence, and failure to invest in and advance the solutions that lived experts and affected communities identify would work. In this session we will consider some unique approaches to enduring these enduring challenges, mapping a path better path forward.

Presenters: How to Create and Maintain a Lived Advisory Framework That Leads the Way
Jaclyn Seeler, Street Level Women at Risk
Policy and Practice Approaches: Developing Gender-Based Low Barrier Housing to Address Complex Homelessness
Mary Vaccaro, McMaster University - School of Social Work & YWCA Hamilton; Jennie Vengris, McMaster University; Valerie Sadler, Mission Services of Hamilton
Sex Trafficking: We Can't Ask Them to Leave If We Don't Offer a Safe Place to Stay
Samantha MacNeill, Region of Peel; Arlene Coventry-Bauer, Region of Peel

11:30 – 1:30 pm

BALLROOM



Closing Plenary Lunch

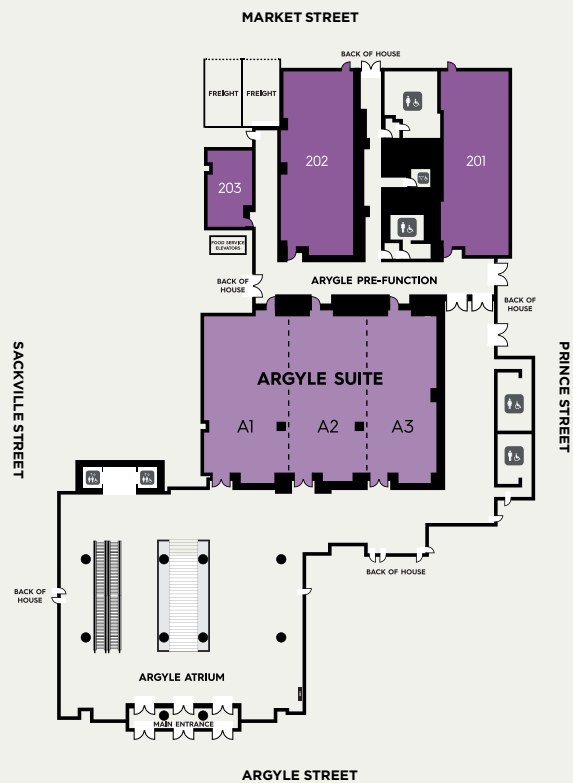
Keynote: **The Honourable Wanda Thomas Bernard, Senator**

FLOOR PLANS

CONVENTION HALL LEVEL



ARGYLE LEVEL & ATRIUM



FLOOR PLANS

BALLROOM LEVEL



SUMMIT LEVEL



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