

Foundational Concepts



Innovation

Key recommendations:

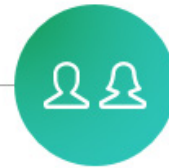
- Launching a Homelessness Innovation Lab
- Developing a local research agenda
- Securing flexible funds to support social innovations and housing development innovations
- Supporting innovative solutions such as a Community Court that addresses criminalization of homelessness



Reconciliation

Key recommendations:

- Recognizing accountability for Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Actions in that Indigenous homelessness is an ongoing form of colonialism
- Ensuring Indigenous leadership is embedded in Strategy governance.
- Embedding a cultural lens throughout support services including: working with Elders, through ceremony, staff training, supports and housing design



Lived Experience

Key recommendations:

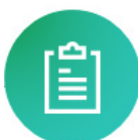
- Continuing the Lived Experience Circle (LEC) and Youth Advisory Committee (YAC)
- Formalizing LEC and YAC relationships to Backbone governance
- Ensuring a population focus is embedded in Strategy implementation: youth, Indigenous, women, families, newcomers, LGBTQ2S, seniors, men
- Introducing peer support models, including peer outreach to address community challenges in partnership with business and police

Pillar 1: Inclusion & Prevention



Inclusion:

- Work with Lived Experience Circle to launch a public awareness campaign to address stigma.
- Work with Lived Experience Circle to develop easy to access resource guides.
- Encourage municipal policy shifts to promote affordable housing through bylaw changes, zoning, and grants.



Prevention:

- Work with key ministries to enhance positive housing transitions.
- Launch Upstream for Youth pilot to identify/support youth at risk of becoming homeless.
- Enhance connections to healthy opportunities (community hubs, access to technology, recreation opportunities) to thrive in community.
- Develop formal links with aligning strategies to ensure integration.
- Launch Prevention programs to support people to stay in housing where possible. (Strategy calls for 100 new program spaces for prevention).

Pillar 2: New Housing Support Programs



Support People in Rental Market:

- Support people in the rental market through new programs grounded in the Housing First model and the right to housing including:
 - Rapid Rehousing – 225 program spaces
 - Intensive Case Management – 100 program spaces
 - Assertive Community Outreach – 100 program spaces
 - 20% of spaces will serve youth; this would be tailored to Housing First for Youth programs.
 - Programs serving those fleeing violence tailored to include safety planning.
- Create a Landlord Roundtable to encourage making units available for Housing First programs.



Supportive Housing Buildings:

- Support the addition of 300 units of long-term supportive housing in purpose-built buildings targeted to chronic & episodic homeless people with higher needs.
- Ensure supportive housing specific to youth is developed as part of this investment.
- Work with organizations dedicated to addressing interpersonal violence to ensure program and housing models appropriately serve those impacted by violence.



Wraparound Supports:

- Develop a sector-wide capacity building/training agenda to increase staff effectiveness.
- Support efforts to increase treatment beds, especially for young people.
- Develop a person-centred approach to harm reduction and sobriety on a continuum to meet people where they are at with appropriate supports.
- Apply a population focus to new programs to ensure youth, Indigenous people, women, families, men, couples, seniors, newcomers, LGBTQ2S and other subgroups' needs are effectively met through a person-centred approach.

Pillar 3: Backbone Coordination & Partnerships



Coordination:

- Rollout a Backbone Organization solely dedicated to implementing Journey Home Strategy.
- Coordinate a Homelessness Funders Table to maximize the impact of diverse investments in support of the Strategy.
- Formalize Backbone Organization relationships, including with A Way Home-Kelowna.
- Rollout Coordinated Access & Assessment to ensure consistent process to match clients' needs and choice to access services.



Partnerships:

- Support the creation of an Okanagan Regional Partnership Table to coordinate responses to homelessness.
- Work with the BC10 Community Entities to support a provincial agenda on ending homelessness using Housing First based in a system planning approach.
- Participate in regional, provincial and national learning communities to share and learn best practices and champion preventing and ending homelessness.