

# AGENDA

Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 6:30 PM

*Board Meeting Via Zoom Video Conference*



- 
- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER.**
  - 2. TRADITIONAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT.**
  - 3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST.**
  - 4. ELECTIONS:**
    - 4.1 Election of Vice-Chair
  - 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
    - 5.1 February 9, 2023
  - 6. DEPUTATIONS & PRESENTATIONS.**
  - 7. REPORTS:**
    - 7.1 Chair
    - 7.2 Chief Administrative Officer
    - 7.3 Chief Financial Officer
  - 8. OUTSTANDING ISSUES.**
  - 9. NEW BUSINESS:**
    - 9.1 Partnership with the WPSHC – Mental Health & Addictions Worker
    - 9.2 AMO's 2023 Pre-Budget Submission
    - 9.3 Child Care Workforce Shortage
    - 9.4 Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH) – Homelessness Prevention and Housing Benefit
    - 9.5 Further Appointments to LHC Board for 2023
  - 10. IN-CAMERA.**
  - 11. CORRESPONDENCE:**
    - 11.1 The Labour Market Group January 2023 Jobs Report
    - 11.2 The Labour Market Group February 2023 Newsletter
    - 11.3 North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit Overdose Report
    - 11.4 Ministry of Education's 2022 Early Years and Child Care Annual Report
    - 11.5 Letter from NOSDA to MCCSS re: DSSAB Borrowing
    - 11.6 Housing & Homelessness Prevention Program Funding Allocations Letter
    - 11.7 West Parry Sound OPP Domestic Report for February 2023
  - 12. ADJOURNMENT.**

# MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 6:30 PM

*Board Meeting via Zoom Video Conference*



---

## Board Members Present:

Jerry Brandt  
Teri Brandt  
Ted Collins  
Gail Finnsen  
Teresa Hunt

Ted Knight  
Tom Lundy  
Jamie McGarvey  
Sharon Smith  
Rick Zanussi

## Board Members Absent:

Joel Constable  
Mike Dell

## Staff:

Jennifer Harris, Administrative Officer  
Shannon Johnson, CFO  
Tammy MacKenzie, CAO

## Guests:

Sarah Bissonette

### **1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by the Board Chair, Rick Zanussi at 6:31 PM.

### **2. TRADITIONAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT.**

### **3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST.**

### **4. ELECTIONS:**

4.1 Election of Vice-Chair **DEFERRED**

### **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

5.1 January 12, 2023

***Resolution 23 02 01***

**CARRIED**

*Moved by Teresa Hunt*

*Seconded by Sharon Smith*

"THAT the Board meeting minutes of Thursday, January 12, 2023 be approved as presented.

### **6. DEPUTATIONS & PRESENTATIONS.**

### **7. REPORTS:**

7.1 Chair

Welcomed returning members back to the Board.

Spoke about the DSSAB Act and due to our DSSAB being the only one within NOSDA dealing with member appointment issues, there isn't an appetite to take this matter further.

### 7.2 Chief Administrative Officer

Report was presented and reviewed by Ms. MacKenzie.

Ms. MacKenzie will be reaching out to new members in the coming weeks.

Our Board Orientation will be different this year, it will be done virtually with presentations being posted to SharePoint.

Mr. Collins joined the meeting at 6:42 PM.

Please reach out to Ms. MacKenzie with any questions or if something is happening in local communities that we should know about.

### 7.3 Chief Financial Officer

Will provide financial reports at our March meeting.

## **8. OUTSTANDING ISSUES.**

## **9. NEW BUSINESS:**

### 9.1 Board Honoraria and Expenses

A written report was presented and reviewed by Ms. Johnson.

Discussion ensued around milage; it is being kept at the staff rate.

Ms. Finnson joined the meeting at 6:48 PM.

#### ***Resolution 23 02 02***

#### **CARRIED**

*Moved by Teri Brandt*

*Seconded by Ted Knight*

“THAT the Board approves the attached Board Honoraria and Expenses.”

### 9.2 Borrowing Resolution for 2023

A written report was presented and discussed by Ms. Johnson.

#### ***Resolution 23 02 03***

#### **CARRIED**

*Moved by Teresa Hunt*

*Seconded by Jerry Brandt*

“THAT the CAO and/or the CFO are authorized to arrange with the Corporation’s Bank by way of promissory notes, to borrow up to a maximum amount of \$1,000,000 that may be required to meet expenditures;

AND THAT the CAO and/or the CFO are authorized to arrange with the Corporation’s Bank by way of the issuance of corporate credit cards, to borrow up to a corporate maximum limit of \$200,000 and that Finance Credit Card Policy 2.12 and Appendices attached be enacted;

AND THAT this borrowing arrangement shall stay in effect until February 8, 2024.”

## **10. IN-CAMERA: 2**

***Resolution 23 02 04***

**CARRIED**

*Moved by Sharon Smith*

*Seconded by Tom Lundy*

“THAT pursuant to Section 38 of the District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board’s *Procedural Rules*, the Board moves to an In-Camera session in order to address matters pertaining to:

- i) the security of the property and services of the Board;
- v) an opinion of the Board’s solicitor, disclosure of which would not be in the public interest;”

***Resolution 23 02 05***

**CARRIED**

*Moved by Ted Knight*

*Seconded by Teri Brandt*

“THAT the Board now rises out of In-Camera without report.”

***Resolution 23 02 06***

**CARRIED**

*Moved by Tom Lundy*

*Seconded by Jamie McGarvey*

“THAT the Board receive and adopt the District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board 2023 Draft Operating and Capital Budgets.”

***Resolution 23 02 07***

**CARRIED**

*Moved by Ted Collins*

*Seconded by Gail Finnson*

“THAT the District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board agrees to transfer an easement for the purpose of vehicular and pedestrian traffic over our 66 Waubeek Street property to the relevant property owners on Prospect Street, provided there is no cost to the District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board to transfer said easement.”

**11. ADJOURNMENT.**

The meeting was adjourned to the next regular meeting to be held Thursday, March 9, 2023 via Zoom Video Conference.

***Resolution 23 02 08***

**CARRIED**

*Moved by Gail Finnson*

*Seconded by Teresa Hunt*

“THAT the Board meeting now be adjourned to the next regular meeting to be held Thursday, March 9, 2023 at the hour of 6:30 PM via Zoom Video Conference.”





District of Parry Sound



Social Services  
Administration Board

# **Chief Administrative Officer's Report**

**March 2023**

## **Mission Statement**

**To foster healthier communities by economically providing caring human services that empower and enable the people we serve to improve their quality of life.**



## 2023 Budget

We were very pleased to have our proposed budget passed in our February Board meeting. Over the past month we have been working diligently to implement the budget and its directions.

## 66 Waubeek Street, Parry Sound

We are pleased to share that we were successful in obtaining an Official Plan Amendment No.5 as well as a Zoning Amendment for this piece of property. The DSSAB has been working on this for several years and are satisfied with the outcome. This certainly was an endeavor that required effort from various staff, consultants, and our Board Chair. Thank you to all involved and we look forward to further discussion about the future of this property.

## Facebook Pages



A friendly reminder to follow our Facebook pages!

- ◆ [District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board](#)
- ◆ [Esprit Place Family Resource Centre](#)
- ◆ [EarlyON Child and Family Centres in the District of Parry Sound](#)
- ◆ [The Meadow View](#)

## Social Media

### Facebook Stats

<b>District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board</b>	<b>SEPT 2022</b>	<b>OCT 2022</b>	<b>NOV 2022</b>	<b>DEC 2022</b>	<b>JAN 2023</b>	<b>FEB 2023</b>
Total Page Followers	393	400	409	410	428	446
Post Reach this Period (# of people who saw post)	3,847	3,827	6,431	4,180	8,907	4,645
Post Engagement this Period (# of reactions, comments, shares)	446	406	437	59	234	565

<b>Esprit Place Family Resource Centre</b>	<b>SEPT 2022</b>	<b>OCT 2022</b>	<b>NOV 2022</b>	<b>DEC 2022</b>	<b>JAN 2023</b>	<b>FEB 2023</b>
Total Page Followers	121	121	127	127	128	128
Post Reach this Period (# of people who saw post)	49	32	1,155	353	103	75
Post Engagement this Period (# of reactions, comments, shares)	6	1	46	36	1	3

<b>The Meadow View</b>	<b>SEPT 2022</b>	<b>OCT 2022</b>	<b>NOV 2022</b>	<b>DEC 2022</b>	<b>JAN 2023</b>	<b>FEB 2023</b>
Total Page Followers	409	479	487	488	493	496
Post Reach this Period (# of people who saw post)	3,041	260	8,588	750	480	251
Post Engagement this Period (# of reactions, comments, shares)	39	31	101	70	4	36

### Twitter Stats

Link to DSSAB's Twitter page - <https://twitter.com/psdssab>

	<b>SEPT 2022</b>	<b>OCT 2022</b>	<b>NOV 2022</b>	<b>DEC 2022</b>	<b>JAN 2023</b>	<b>FEB 2023</b>
Total Tweets	5	3	8	1	3	7
Total Impressions	146	63	50	13	178	158
Total Profile Visits	16	11	18	24	66	57
Total Followers	23	23	25	26	27	28

### Linkedin Stats - used primarily for HR recruitment & RFP/Tender postings

Link to DSSAB's Linkedin page - <https://bit.ly/2YyFHIE>

	<b>SEPT 2022</b>	<b>OCT 2022</b>	<b>NOV 2022</b>	<b>DEC 2022</b>	<b>JAN 2023</b>	<b>FEB 2023</b>
Total Followers	274	297	377	377	382	395
Search Appearances (in last 7 days)	307	338	225	176	239	318
Total Page Views	132	150	73	45	46	31
Post Impressions	571	397	767	374	266	828
Total Unique Visitors	37	47	29	15	15	16

## Out and About in the Community

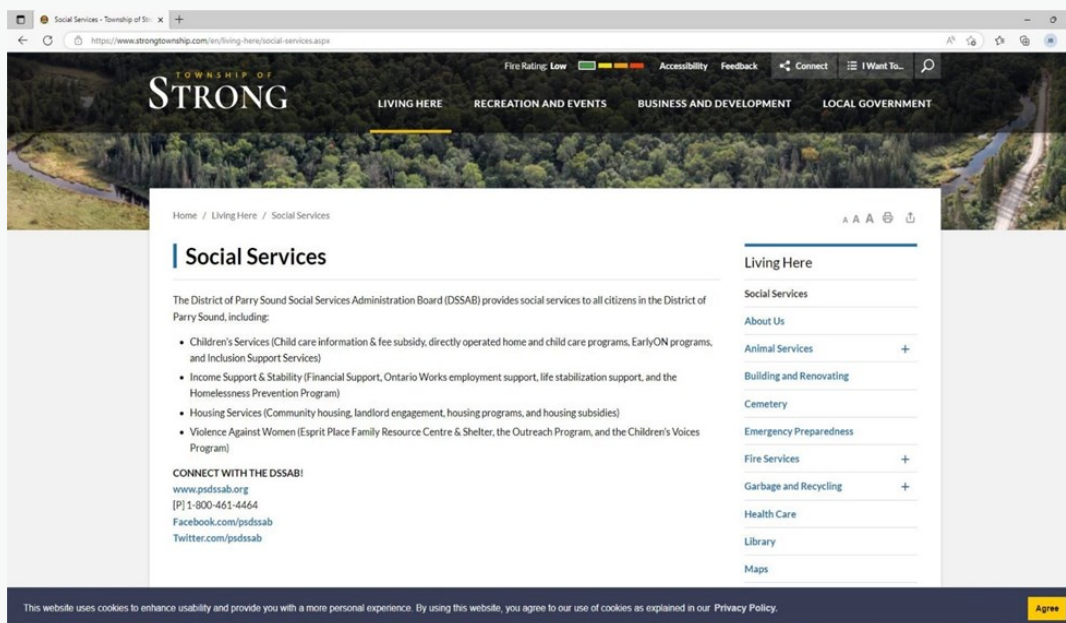
On March 2, 2023 we attended the YMCA Job Fair at the Bobby Orr Community Centre to promote the DSSAB as an employer of choice, and to promote the Become An ECE Campaign. This event was attended by our Quality Assurance Supervisor and members of our Human Resources team.



On March 4, 2023 we attended the Pointe au Baril Health Fair at the Community Centre. This event was attended by our Supervisor of Housing Stability.

## Municipal Outreach

We have reached out to all Municipalities with requests to add DSSAB info to their websites. All were provided with verbiage to make this a simple task, and were provided with appropriate links to direct viewers back to the DSSAB website. We have also reached out to all municipalities with an offer to provide a presentation of DSSAB services at a future council meeting, upon request.



## Licensed Child Care Programs

### Total Children Utilizing Directly Operated Child Care in the District January 2023

Age Group	Fairview ELCC	First Steps ELCC	Highlands ELCC	Waubeeek ELCC	HCCP	Total
Infant (0-18M)	0	0	3	1	12	16
Toddler (18-30M)	16	9	13	18	37	93
Preschool (30M-4Y)	20	15	19	41	44	139
# of Active Children	36	24	35	60	93	248

Most child care programs are nearing or are at their enrollment capacity.

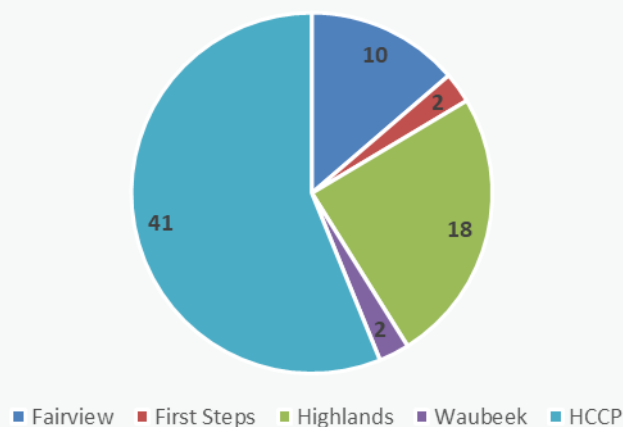
## School Age Programs

### January 2023

Location	Enrollment	Waitlist
Mapleridge After School	21	5
Mapleridge Before School	6	
St. Gregory's After School	13	1
St. Gregory's Before School	2	
Sundridge Centennial After School	16	4
Sundridge Centennial Before School	2	
Land of Lakes After School	15	4
Home Child Care	34	5
# of Active Children	109	19

Magnetawan Central After School Program has now closed. St. Gregory's Before School Program has been moved to Mapleridge to ensure family's needs can be met. Sundridge Centennial Before School Program has closed. All After School Programs are at operating capacity and the School Age Program is attempting to secure a second staff member for the Mapleridge After School Program to accommodate the increase in enrollment and waitlist.

### Directly Operated Child Care Waitlist by Program January 2023



There has not been a significant increase in program waitlists this past month. The Ministry of Education has requested that licensed child care programs collect and report waitlist data as those children in need of immediate care that cannot be accommodated in program. Licensed programs now house a secondary waitlist of children that may need care in the coming months as parents are scheduling to return to work or attend school.

## Total Children by Funding Source January 2023

Active	# of Children	# of Families
CWELCC*	132	128
CWELCC Full Fee	188	186
Afterschool Fee Subsidy	6	6
Fee Subsidy	34	30
Full Fee	27	22
Ontario Works	8	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>380</b>

Funding Source - New	# of Children	# of Families
CWELCC	6	6
CWELCC Full Fee	3	3
Afterschool Full Subsidy	2	2
Fee Subsidy	4	4
Full Fee	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>

Funding Source - Exits	# of Children	# of Families
Full Fee	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

\* CWELCC – Canada-Wide Early Learning Child Care; eligible for children 0 - 6

## Inclusion Support Services

### January 2023

Age Group	EarlyON	Licensed ELCC's	Monthly Total	YTD Total	Waitlist	New Referrals	Discharges
Infant (0-18M)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Toddler (18-30M)	2	4	6	6	3	0	0
Preschool (30M-4Y)	5	39	44	44	2	2	0
School Age (4Y+)	2	12	14	14	0	0	1
Monthly Total	9	55	64	-	6	2	1
YTD Total	9	55	-	69	6	2	1



Preschool children continue to make up the majority of the Resource Consultants caseloads, specifically children in licensed child care programs. Social/Emotional development remains the consistent reason for referrals with speech and language development a close second.

## EarlyON Child and Family Programs

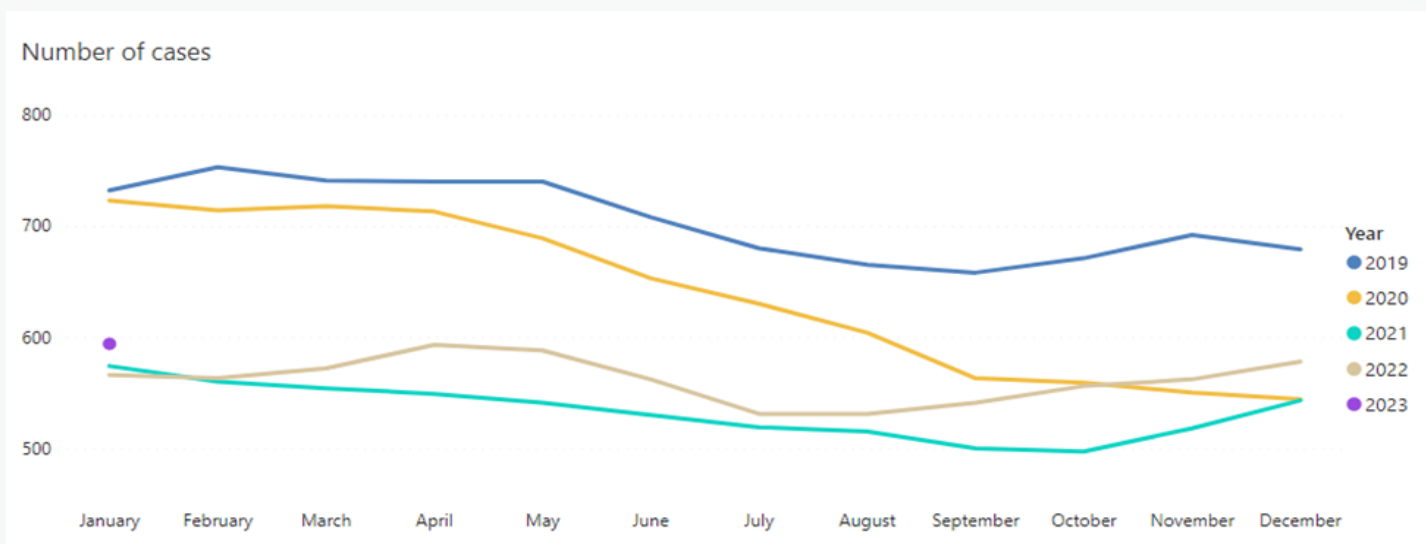
### January 2023

Activity	January	YTD
Number of Children Attending	890	890
Number of New Children Attending	42	42
Number of Families Visiting	809	809
Number of New Families Visiting	42	42
Number of Virtual Programming Events	4	4
Number of Family Engagements with Virtual Events	74	74

There were a lot of new families attending the EarlyON programs in January and numbers are returning to pre-pandemic levels.

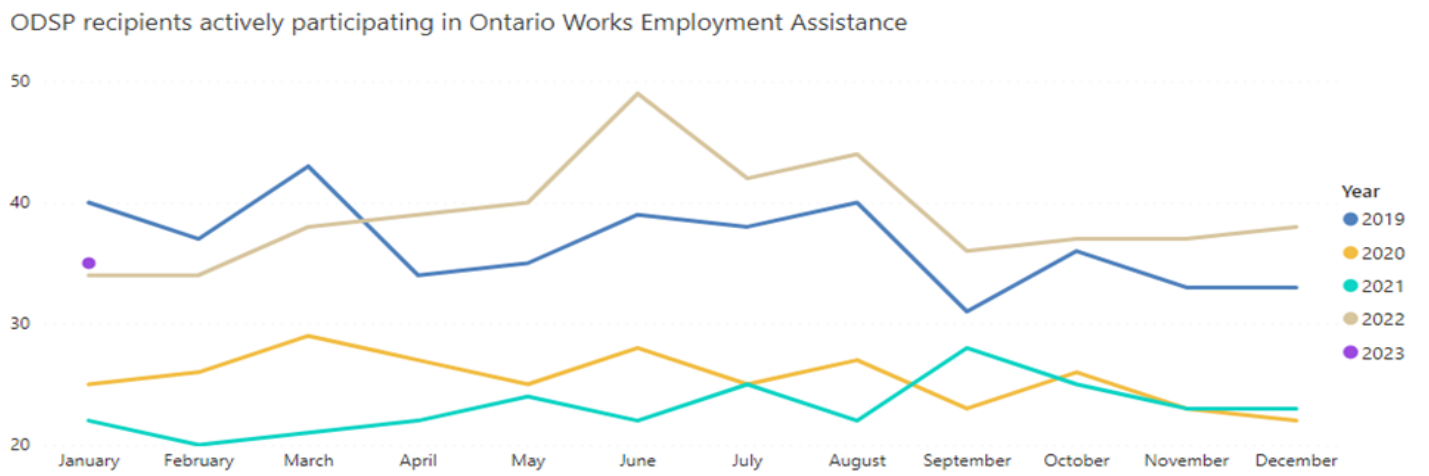
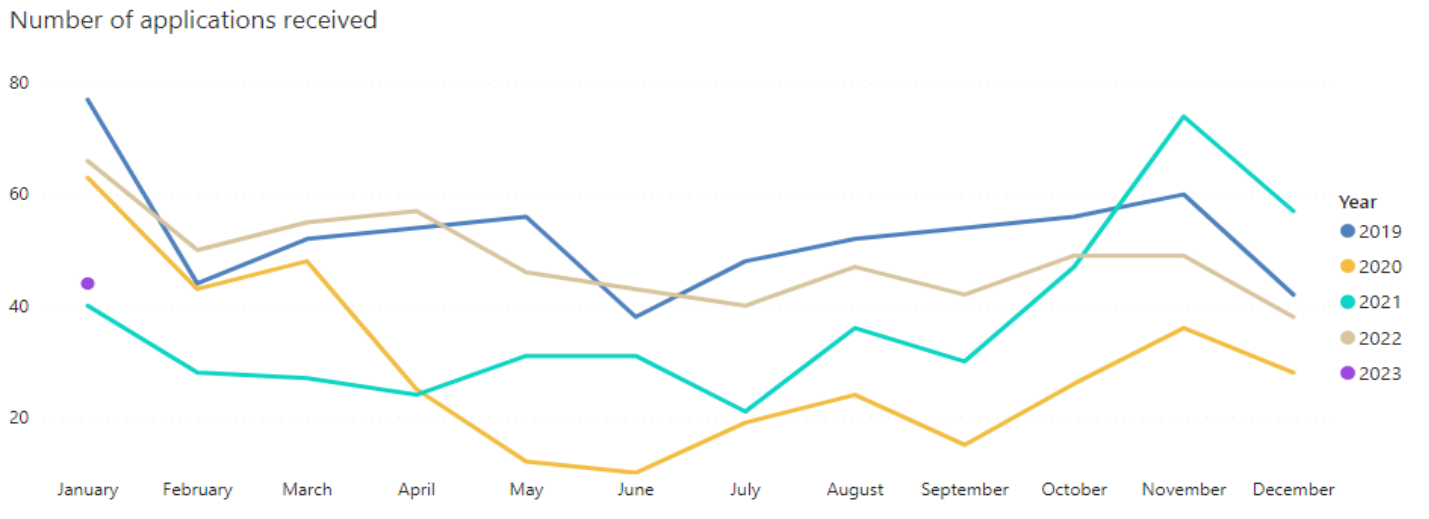
## Ontario Works Caseload

### January 2023





# Ontario Works Intake - Social Assistance Digital Application (SADA) & Local Office January 2023



Ontario Works applications

2 ▲

Average received per business day

45

Received Jan 2023

Emergency Assistance applications

1 ▼

Average received per business day

23

Received Jan 2023

Average number of business days from screening to grant

1.6 ▼

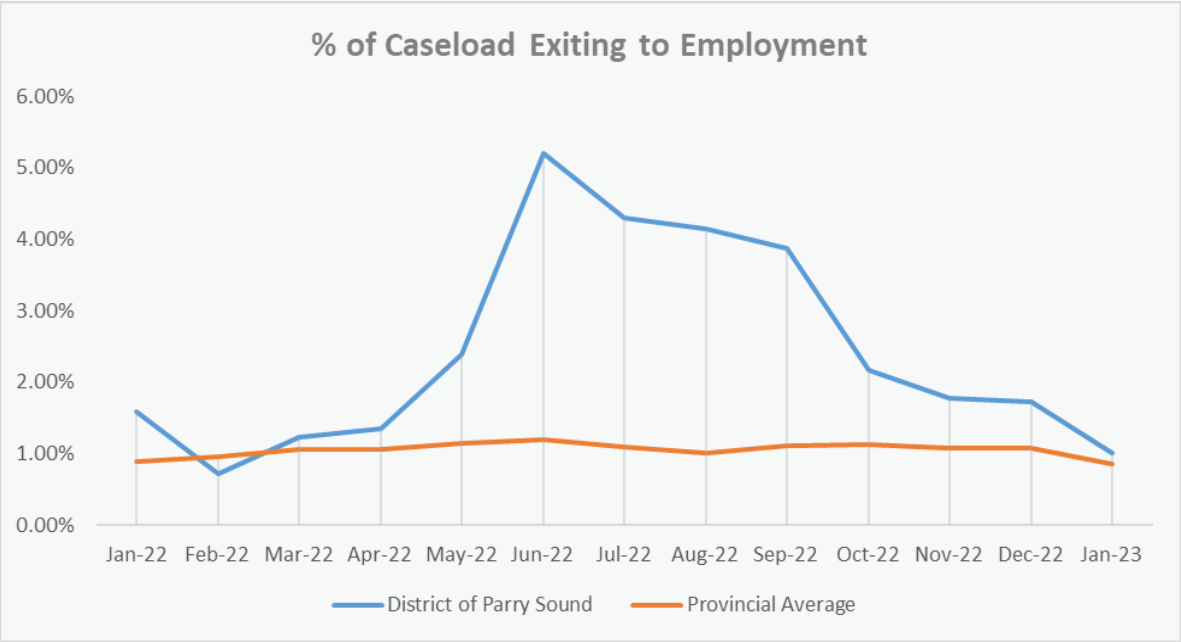
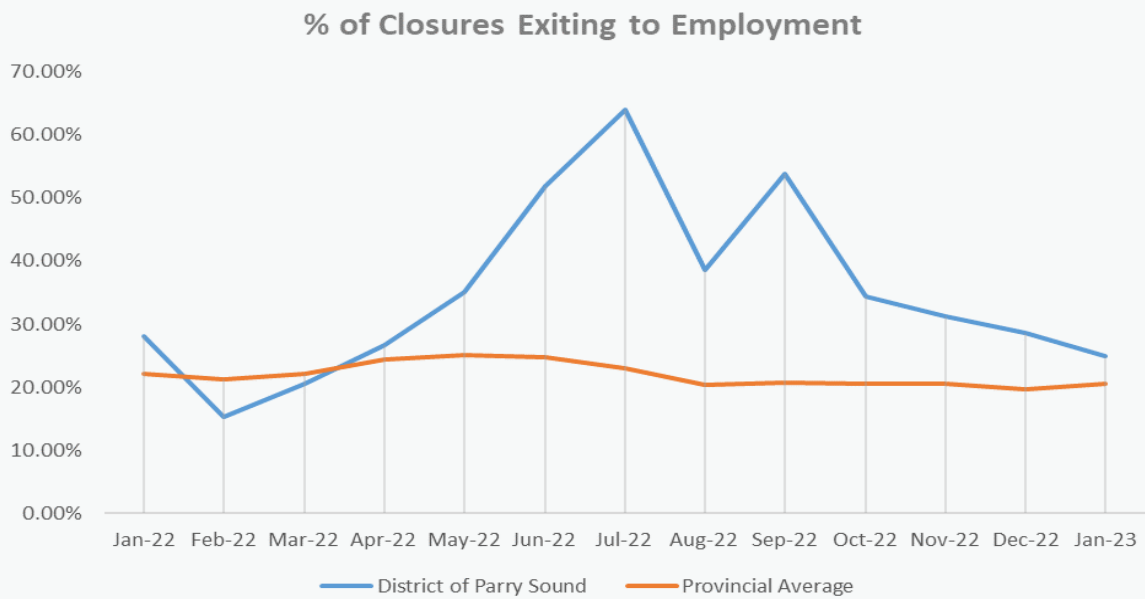
Ontario Works

0.8 ▼

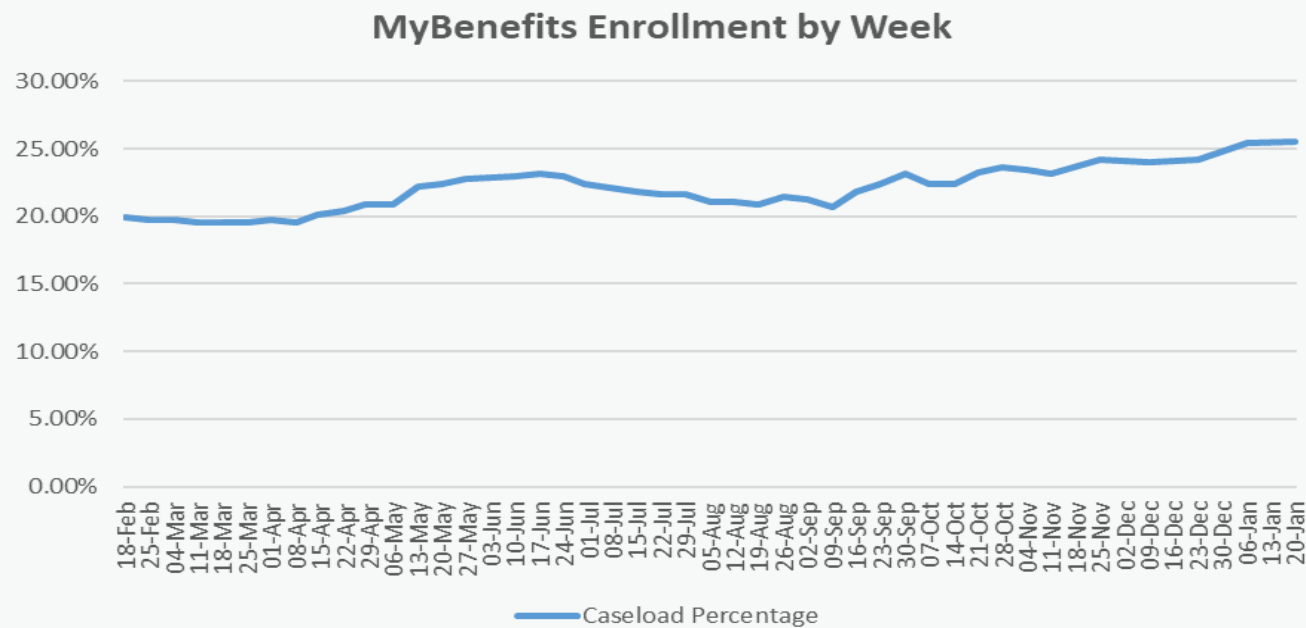
Emergency Assistance

The OW Caseload continues to edge up to **594** (up from 578). This is the highest the caseload has been since the beginning of the pandemic in Spring 2020. We are supporting 35 ODSP participants in our Employment Assistance program. We also have 52 Temporary Care Assistance cases. We also had 45 Ontario Works Applications and 23 applications for Emergency Assistance in January.

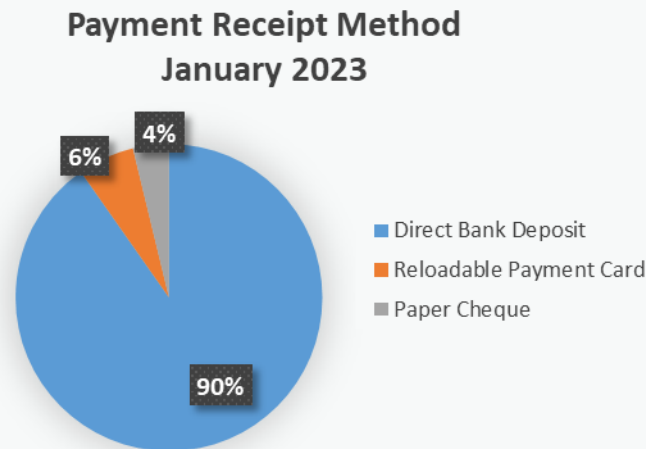
**Employment Assistance & Performance Outcomes**



MyBenefits Enrollment 2022/2023

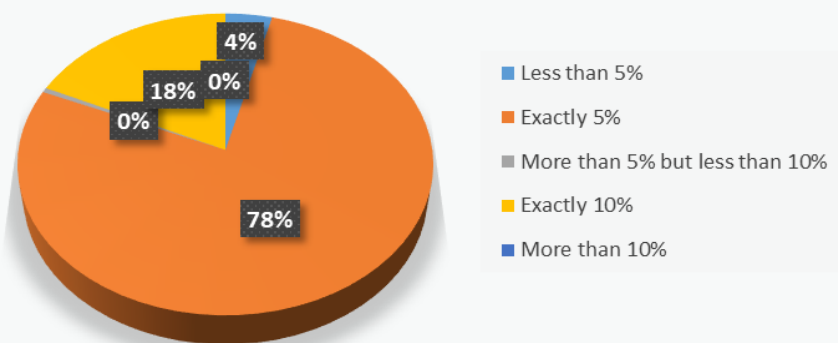


DBD Enrollment



## Overpayment Recovery Rate

January 2023



## Housing Stability Program - Community Relations Workers

### Support

All services performed, provided, or arranged by the Homelessness Stability Program staff to promote, improve, sustain, or restore appropriate housing for individuals active with the Homelessness Stability Program, periodically within the month, not requiring intense case management.

January 2022 Income Source	East	West
Senior	4	5
ODSP	7	22
Ontario Works	3	9
Low Income	8	16

January 2023 Income Source	East	West
Senior	6	16
ODSP	13	36
Ontario Works	4	12
Low Income	17	22

### Intense Case Management

Intense Case Management involves the coordination of appropriate services and the provision of consistent and on-going weekly supports, required by the individual to obtain, and sustain housing stability.

January 2022 Income Source	East	West
Senior	10	5
ODSP	7	20
Ontario Works	3	6
Low Income	4	9

January 2023 Income Source	East	West
Senior	13	19
ODSP	11	25
Ontario Works	9	14
Low Income	10	37

### Contact/Referrals

January 2022	East	West	YTD
Homeless	2	6	8
At Risk	0	9	9
Esprit Outreach	1	0	1
Program Total			18

January 2023	East	West	YTD
Homeless	5	4	9
At Risk	5	7	12
Esprit Outreach Homeless	-	-	-
Esprit Outreach at Risk	3	-	3
Esprit in Shelter		2	2
Program Total			26

### Short Term Housing Allowance

	Active	YTD
January 2022	6	6

	Active	YTD
January 2023	15	15

### Housing Stability: Household Income Sources and Issuance from HPP & CHPI:

January 2022 Income Source	Total	CHPI
Senior	3	\$1,198.99
ODSP	13	\$9,612.90

January 2022 Reason for Issue	Total
Rental Arrears	\$1,000.00
Utilities/Firewood	\$6,614.94
Transportation	\$24.00
Food/Household/Misc.	\$7,392.82
Emergency Housing	\$451.96
Total	\$15,483.72

January 2023 Income Source	Total	HPP
Senior	3	\$1,900
ODSP	6	\$3,611.19
Ontario Works	4	\$336.16
Low Income	11	\$5,256.65
No Income	0	\$0

January 2023 Reason for Issue	Total
Rental Arrears	\$4,676.88
Utilities/Firewood	\$688.01
Transportation	\$148.80
Food/Household/Misc.	\$4,559.80
Emergency Housing	\$1,030.51
Total	\$11,104.00

## Ontario Works: Household Income Sources and Issuance from HPP

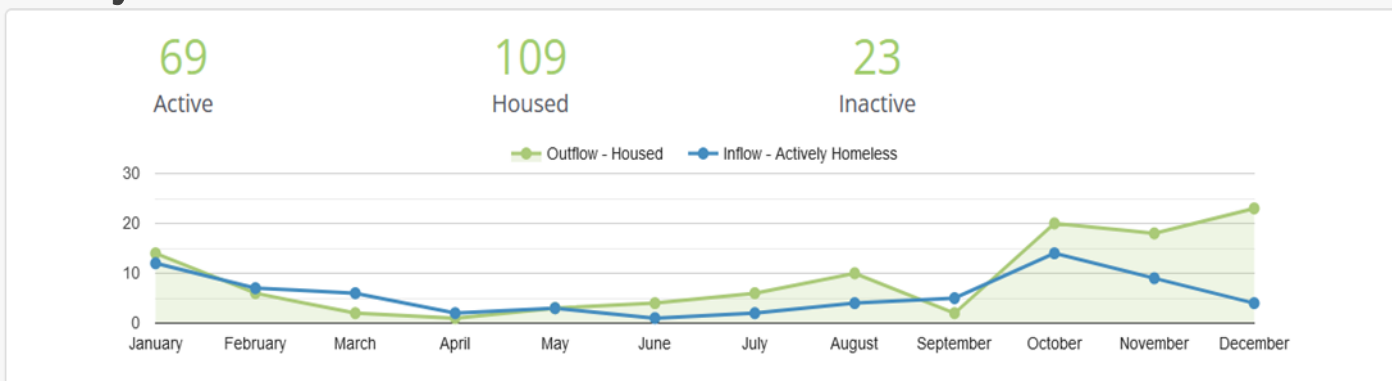
January 2023 Income Source	Total	HPP
Senior	1	\$1,050.00
ODSP	10	\$5,643.73
Ontario Works	13	\$8,143.70
Low Income	8	\$2,872.23
No Income	0	\$0

January 2023 Reason for Issue	Total
Rental Arrears	\$3,581.00
Utilities/Firewood	\$4,822.46
Transportation	\$50.17
Food/Household/Misc.	\$8,439.20
Emergency Housing	\$816.23
Total	\$17,709.06

## By-Name List January 2022



## January 2023



A By-Name List is a real time list of all people experiencing homelessness in our community who would like to receive assistance to access housing services and supports. This is an ongoing process with people being added to the list as they connect or re-connect.

A people-centered approach to the By-Name List process will consider individual needs and promote safety, including cultural safety and cultural appropriate responses and practices. People and their experiences and stories are vital to conducting both enumeration (Point-in Time Count) and the By-Name Lists.

## Housing Programs

### Social Housing Centralized Waitlist Report January 2023

	East Parry Sound	West Parry Sound	Total
Seniors	39	108	147
Families	127	439	566
Individuals	492	214	706
Total	658	761	1,419
Total Waitlist Unduplicated			439

### Social Housing Centralized Waitlist (CWL) 2022 - 2023 Comparison Applications and Households Housing from the CWL

Month 2022	New App.	New SPP	Cancelled	Housed	SPP Housing	Month 2023	New App.	New SPP	Cancelled	Housed	SPP Housing
Jan	5			1		Jan	5	1	13		
Feb	9	1	2			Feb					
Mar	12		5	2	1	Mar					
Apr	12	1	1			Apr					
May	11	1		3		May					
June	15		3	2		June					
July	13	2	10	1		July					
Aug	5		17	2	1	Aug					
Sept	16		10	1	1	Sept					
Oct	14		12	6		Oct					
Nov	12	1	8	3		Nov					
Dec	1			5		Dec					
Total	125	6	68	26	3	Total	5	1	13		

SPP = Special Priority Applicant

- Housing Programs had 5 new applications in the month of January, one was approved Special Priority Program
- There were 13 applicants removed from the CWL in January – 12 were eligible for Canada Ontario Housing Benefit, and 1 was deceased

**Parry Sound District Housing Corporation**  
**January 2022**

Activity for Tenant and Maintenance Services

	Current	YTD
Move outs	3	3
Move in	1	0
L1/L2 forms	0	0
N4 - notice of eviction for non payment of rent	1	1
N5 - notice of eviction disturbing the quiet enjoyment of the other occupants	1	1
N6 - notice of eviction for illegal acts or misrepresenting income for RGI housing	0	0
N7 - notice of eviction for willful damage to unit	0	0
Repayment agreements	7	7
No trespass order	0	0



**Parry Sound District Housing Corporation**  
**January 2023**

Activity for Tenant and Maintenance Services

	Current	YTD
Move outs	2	2
Move in	3	3
L1/L2 forms	0	0
N4 - notice of eviction for non payment of rent	0	0
N5 - notice of eviction disturbing the quiet enjoyment of the other occupants	1	1
N6 - notice of eviction for illegal acts or misrepresenting income for RGI housing	0	0
N7 - notice of eviction for willful damage to unit	0	0
Repayment agreements	2	20 (18 carried from 2022)
Tenant home visits	19	19
Mediation/negotiation/referrals	8	8
No trespass order	0	0
Tenant engagement/education	9	9

### Maintenance for January 2022

Pest Control	8	8 buildings monitored monthly
Vacant Units	10	family (6); single (4)
After Hours Calls	8	Alarm reset due to outage, leaking hot water tanks, heater repair, flooding, smoke detector battery replacement
Fire Inspections	8	Monthly fire checks at 8 of 8 buildings and 1 fire drill
Incident Reports	0	

### Maintenance for January 2023

Pest Control	8	8 buildings monitored monthly
Vacant Units	15	one-bedroom (10); multiple bedroom (5) (not inclusive of The Meadow View)
Vacant Units - The Meadow View	7	one-bedroom market units (7)
After Hours Calls	17	Smoke detector maintenance, leak from window, gas leak, no heat, odd smell from refrigerator, no hot water, toilet overflowing, sink leaking sink plugged, Bell tech needed access, carbon monoxide poisoning, well-being check, fire panel reset
Work Orders	163	Created for maintenance work, and related materials for the month of January
Fire Inspections		A total of 24 units were inspected for fire safety in the month of January
Incident Reports	3	

## **Property Maintenance and Capital Projects**

### **February 2023**

#### Local Housing Corporation and DSSAB Buildings

- Belvedere retaining wall - waiting on a phase 2 quote from CDCD Engineering (creation of the spec and management bid process, oversight of the contractor)
- Belvedere windows - in the process of organizing a specification and the tendering process
- Beechwood plumbing repair - received a quote from Bernard Rochefort that is above our tendering threshold; in the process of contacting another plumber; potential need to have Suppa engineering manage the tendering process, repair work
- Waubeek HVAC replacement - received 2 quotes and waiting on a third
- BCA's for all buildings - in the process of receiving 3 quotes
- Broadway/Queen renovations - ready for tender; tendering process to begin next month
- Esprit Renovation - waiting on town approval; applying for permit next month
- Investigation report has been completed on a town home; currently in the process of hiring a consultant to manage the remediation process for mould
- 66 Church Street - repair work for fire damage remediation has been awarded

#### *Challenges:*

Difficulty securing contractors/labourers as well as materials are often backordered. Obtaining quotes, as per our Procurement Policy, from contractors is presenting a challenge.

**Esprit Place Family Resource Centre**  
**January 2022**

<b>Emergency Shelter Services</b>	<b>January 2022</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Number of women who stayed in shelter this month	7	7
Number of children who stayed in the shelter this month	1	1
Number of hours of direct service to women (shelter and counselling)	58	58
Resident bed nights (women & children)	192	192
Occupancy rate	31%	31%
Days at capacity	0 (COVID capacity)	12
Days over-capacity	0	0
Phone interactions (crisis/support)	42	42

<b>Outreach Services</b>	<b>January 2022</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Number of women served this month	12	12
Number of women registered in the program	14	14

<b>Transitional Support</b>	<b>January 2022</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Number of women served this month	2	2
Number of women registered in the program	2	2

<b>Child Witness Program</b>	<b>January 2022</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Number of children/women served this month	16	16
Number of children registered in the program	17	17
Number of public ed/groups offered	0	0

**Esprit Place Family Resource Centre****January 2023**

<b>Emergency Shelter Services</b>	<b>January 2023</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Number of women who stayed in shelter this month	9	9
Number of children who stayed in the shelter this month	10	10
Number of hours of direct service to women (shelter and counselling)	107	107
Number of days at capacity	10	10
Number of days over capacity	7	7
Overall capacity %	75%	75%
Resident bed nights (women & children)	231	231
Phone interactions (crisis/support)	34	34

<b>Outreach Services</b>	<b>January 2023</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Number of women served this month	5	5
Number of NEW women registered in the program	0	0
Number of public ed/groups offered	0	0

<b>Transitional Support</b>	<b>January 2023</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Number of women served this month	6	6
Number of NEW women registered in the program	0	0
Number of public ed/groups offered	0	0

<b>Child Witness Program</b>	<b>January 2023</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Number of children/women served this month	14	14
Number of NEW clients (mothers and children) registered in the program	1	1
Number of public ed/groups offered	0	0

**Report #:** 9.1

**Subject:** Partnership with the West Parry Sound Health Centre – Mental Health and Addictions Worker

**To:** Board Members

**Presented By:** Tammy MacKenzie, CAO

**Prepared By:** Jeff Degagne, Director of Income Support & Stability

**Date:** March 9, 2023

---

For Information

**Report:**

Beginning in April 2022, a partnership was formed between the DSSAB and the West Parry Sound Health Centre (WPSHC) for WPSHC to provide a Mental Health and Addictions Worker (MH&A Worker) to support participants initially in our ‘Hotel Projects.’ This was run by our Housing Stability program which eventually expanded to provide support to our Ontario Works, Esprit and Tenant Services programs. This position is funded through Homelessness Prevention Program funding through MMAH.

The role of the Mental Health and Addictions Worker is to provide clinical support and system navigation to mental health and general health care services to DSSAB participants that face multiple and complex challenges accessing these supports that would support their Housing and Life Stabilization goals. The MH&A Worker also attends Case Conferences when required.

The MH&A Worker works alongside DSSAB staff to form a multi-disciplinary team approach to address the many significant barriers some of the most vulnerable in our communities face. The MH&A Worker will see referrals at our DSSAB offices or in a variety of community settings throughout the district.

The MH&A Worker carries an average caseload of 45 and had 267 Client Encounters from May to December 2022. The average age was 45.4.

The MH&A Worker has supported referrals and linkages to a variety of community supports and services, a few of which are CMHA, Home and Community Care, The Safe Justice Bed program and RAAM.

Below are 2 examples of success stories that have taken place since the start of the program:

**Scenario 1**

Patient X was initially referred to the WPSHC Mental Health Program by Housing Stability. At time of referral, patient X was residing at the Midtown Hotel. Patient X presented with significant mental health, substance use, legal, housing, financial and family dynamic issues. Patient X was immediately referred

to the RAAM clinic by the Mental Health and Addictions Worker. Patient X worked closely with the RAAM clinic, and met frequently (at minimum, weekly) with the Mental Health and Addictions Worker. Unfortunately, despite the referral to RAAM and intensive case management with the Mental Health and Addictions Worker, Patient X's substance use continued to worsen. In early fall 2022, Patient X overdosed multiple times. The Mental Health and Addictions Worker liaised with community partners, with consent from Patient X, to determine eligibility for more intensive services. Patient X was ultimately offered a space in WPSHC's Safe Justice Bed initiative. Patient X worked extensively with the Safe Justice Bed Nurse Navigator throughout admission to WPSHC. The Nurse Navigator supported Patient X in submitting an application for residential treatment. Upon discharge from WPSHC (to residential treatment), the Nurse Navigator re-engaged both the Mental Health and Addictions Worker and the DSSAB, who supported Patient X's transportation to residential treatment. Both the Mental Health and Addictions Worker and the DSSAB continue to be involved in preparing for Patient X's return to Parry Sound. Patient X has been abstinent from alcohol and synthetic drugs for 112 days.

## Scenario 2

Patient XY was referred to the WPSHC Mental Health Program by Ontario Works. At time of referral, Patient XY had recently moved from North Bay to a small, rural community without transportation. Patient XY presented with symptoms consistent with anxiety and depression, chronic suicidal thoughts, heart issues, and alopecia. Due to haphazard housing, Patient XY was forced to relocate. Unfortunately, this resulted in Patient XY being removed from a waitlist for a GP and intensive case management in North Bay. Given Patient XY's suicide risk and readiness to engage in clinical services, the Mental Health and Addictions Worker liaised with the NPLCs. The NPLCs agreed to provide primary care and psychotherapy for Patient XY. Furthermore, the Mental Health and Addictions Worker, DSSAB and NPLC worked closely to identify solutions for travel to and from the NPLC given the lack of access to public transportation. When this was not possible, all worked together to ensure Patient XY continued to receive face-to-face services (i.e., NPLC staff attended the DSSAB EPS office to meet with Patient XY). When Patient XY initially presented to the NPLC, his PHQ score (for depression) was 27 (the highest possible chart score). After six psychotherapy sessions at the NPLC, and meeting regularly with the nurse practitioner, Patient XY's score fell from 27 to 19. Patient XY has expressed benefit from services (reduced suicidal thoughts and improvements in sleep/mood) and commitment to continue.

We are pleased to say that the partnership with the WPSHC for the MH&A Worker has been extended into 2023.



# Mental Health & Addictions Worker Partnership



45

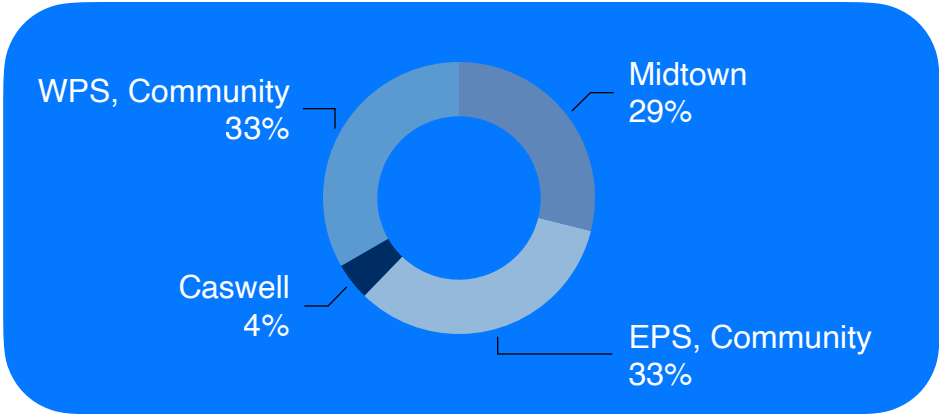
Clients



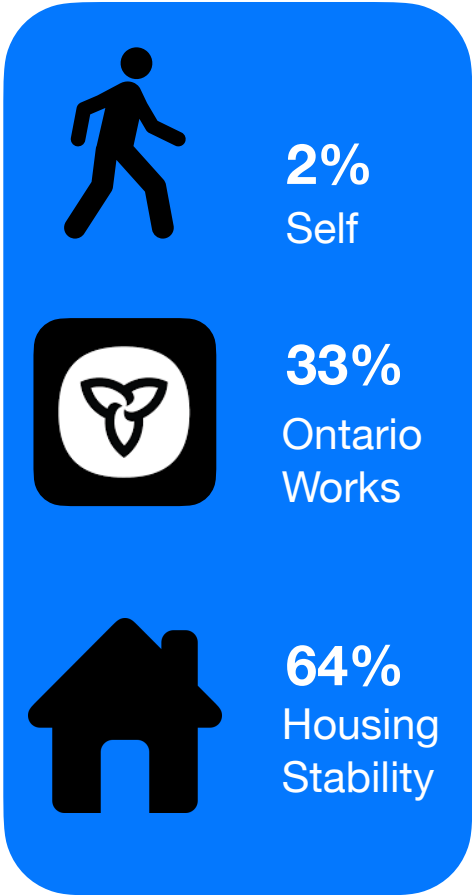
45.4

Average Age

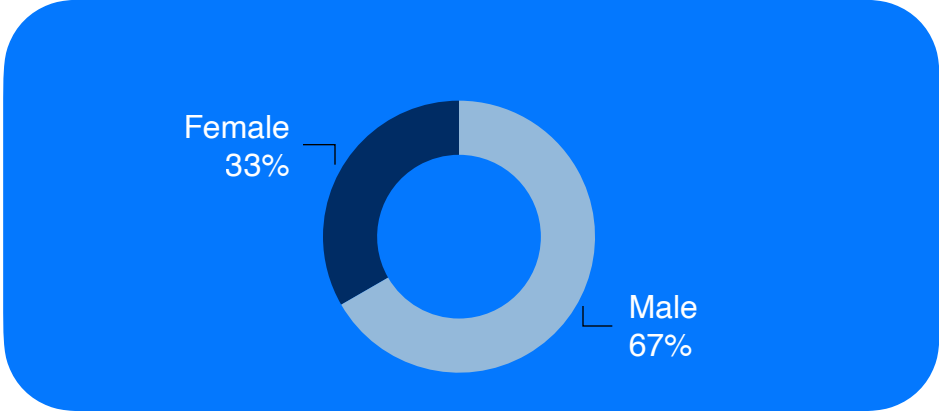
Location of Client Encounter



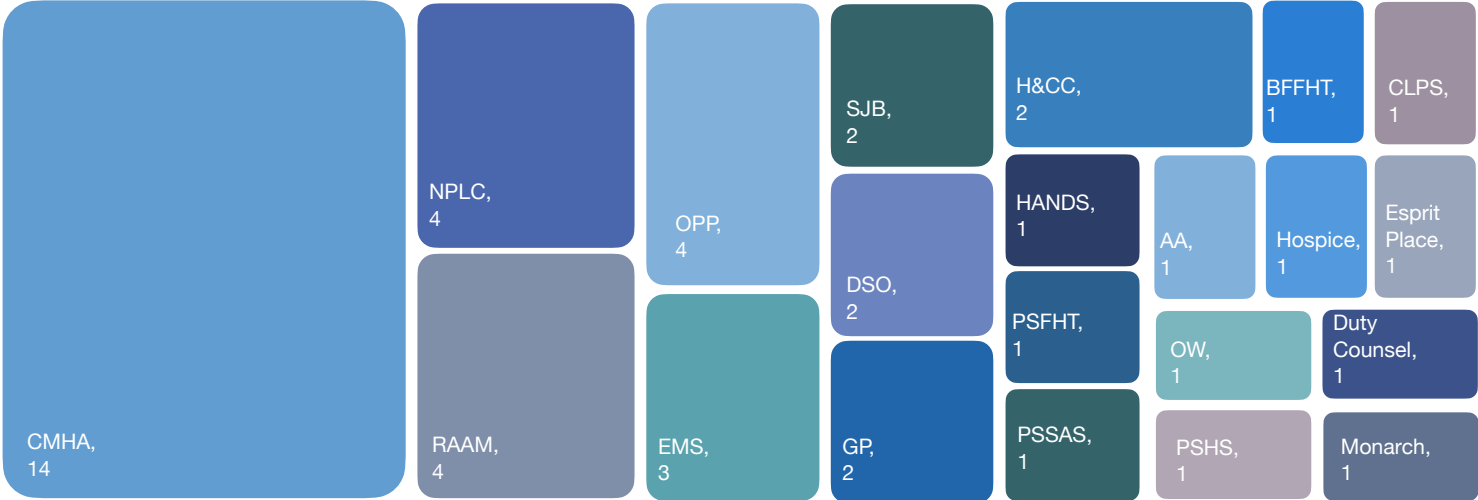
Referral Source



Client Gender



Referral Out



**Report #:** 9.2  
**Subject:** AMO's 2023 Pre-Budget Submission  
**To:** Board Members  
**Presented By:** Tammy MacKenzie, CAO  
**Prepared By:** Tammy MacKenzie, CAO  
**Date:** March 9, 2023

---

**Resolution:**

WHEREAS the homeless crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario;

WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is the result of the underinvestment and poor policy choices of successive provincial governments;

WHEREAS homelessness is felt most at the level of local government and the residents that they serve;

WHEREAS municipalities and District Social Services Administration Boards are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity or tools to address this complex challenge; and

WHEREAS leadership and urgent action is needed from the provincial government on an emergency basis to develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to prevent, reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Ontario.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board calls on the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a) Acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic, and health crisis;
- b) Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario;
- c) Work with AMO, NOSDA, FONOM, NOMA and a broad range of community, health, Indigenous and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services and the Minister of Health.

**Report:**

The Association of the Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) represents the interests of the 444 municipalities in Ontario.

Housing and Homelessness are provincewide issues of the highest priority for all municipalities.

AMO released a pre-budget submission (attached) that calls attention to the housing and homelessness crisis.



# Building Ontario Together

2023 Pre-Budget Submission

**AMO** Association of  
Municipalities Ontario

## Executive Summary

AMO continues to advance important work on housing supply and homelessness.

AMO will continue to shine a bright light on what is wrong with legislative changes that are based on a false premise. The provincial government's assertion that the housing supply crisis can be solved by limiting municipal access to infrastructure financing, eliminating environmental protections or changes to municipal governance is unsound.

Municipalities also understand that these laws are now in place and must be implemented as effectively as possible.

AMO continues to call on the province for a commitment to work with municipalities on the implementation of legislative changes; clarity about the province's commitment to fully offset financial losses associated with Bill 23; and openness to reversing legislative changes that have unintended consequences.

Increased housing supply is a top priority for municipalities in every part of Ontario. Despite recent legislative changes, municipalities are working with the industry to find ways of getting more homes built as quickly as possible.

At the same time that COVID-19 created an unanticipated spike in demand for houses in Ontario, it laid bare the failure of Ontario's public policy approach to homelessness.

The homelessness crisis in your community is a made-in-Ontario crisis brought about by the policy decisions and choices of successive provincial governments over the past three decades.

Inadequate investment in the health and mental health systems, and outdated approaches to addictions have failed people and families. Provincial policies on financial assistance contribute substantially to growing income disparity and poverty. Failures in provincial child welfare, social services, justice and corrections systems compound barriers to economic participation and contribute directly to homelessness.

The downloading of social housing and homelessness to municipalities in the 1990s hides the fact that our homelessness crisis is a product of provincial choices and policy levers entirely within the provincial sphere of authority, financial responsibility and accountability.

Ontario's homelessness crisis harms people and families. It undermines the social fabric and economic prospects of our communities. It imposes unnecessary costs on our institutions, community agencies and government.

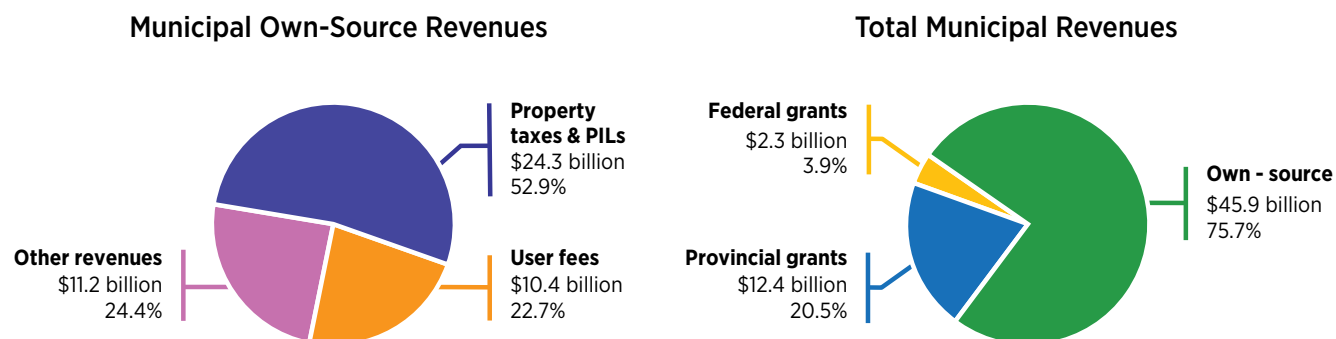
The Government of Ontario has the tools and resources to end the homelessness crisis it has created over decades. It must surely possess the leadership, capability and political will to get the job done. AMO is calling on the Government of Ontario to take integrated and collaborative action to end homelessness in Ontario. Municipalities and partners in all social and economic sectors stand ready to assist with the task.



## Key Partner in a Resilient Economy

A strong relationship between the Government of Ontario and its 444 municipal governments is the foundation for our collective prosperity. Municipal governments are a key partner in a resilient economy, investing revenues of \$61 billion annually in important public services and infrastructure.

Annual municipal own-source revenues were approximately \$46 billion in 2021, raised primarily through property taxes and payments-in-lieu of taxes. The other half was raised through user fees, and other revenues, such as development charges, licenses, and permits. Our federal and provincial partners provided an additional \$15 billion, bringing total municipal revenues to \$61 billion in 2021. In 2021, Ontario's provincial government had a revenue of around \$187.4 billion, meaning that Ontario's municipalities are equal to one third of total provincial revenue.



Municipalities are also doing their part to build key infrastructure, investing \$5.5 billion in own-source revenues annually since 2014 towards infrastructure projects across Ontario.

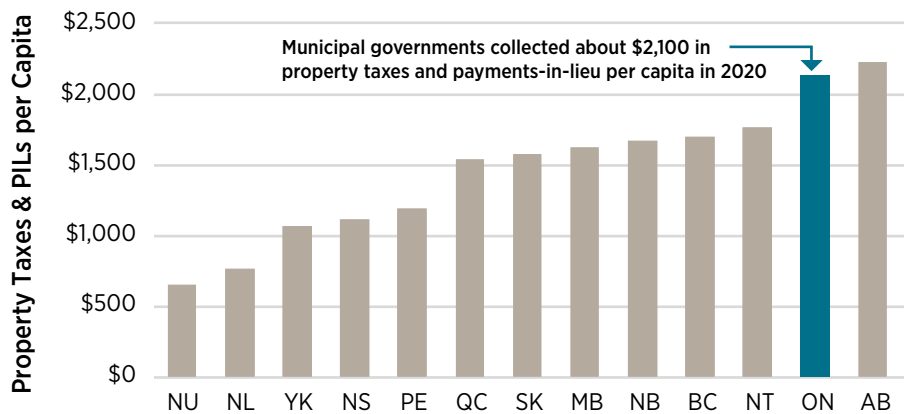
In addition to robust ongoing investment and service delivery, municipalities are engaging in ongoing and long-term processes for asset management planning. Municipalities use this to make the best possible investment decisions for their infrastructure assets – assets used every day by people across Ontario.

Not surprisingly, municipal reserves have grown over the past decade as municipalities have been required by the province to better coordinate decisions regarding the building, operating, maintaining, renewing, replacing and disposing of infrastructure assets. Municipal reserves are a good thing – a sign that we're in good hands and are ready to face new economic uncertainties facing us in 2023 and beyond. And while the overall state of municipal financial health is stable, being left solely responsible for many of the services and infrastructure that make Ontario a good place to live, work and raise a family is an ongoing concern.

## Respecting the Single and Shared Taxpayer

Ontario and its 444 municipalities must work together and respect our single and shared taxpayer. Increased property taxes because of increased downloading of costs onto municipalities are passed directly on to current homeowners, including those on fixed incomes. Ontario already has the second highest property taxes and payments-in-lieu of taxes amongst all provinces and territories at \$2,100 per capita.

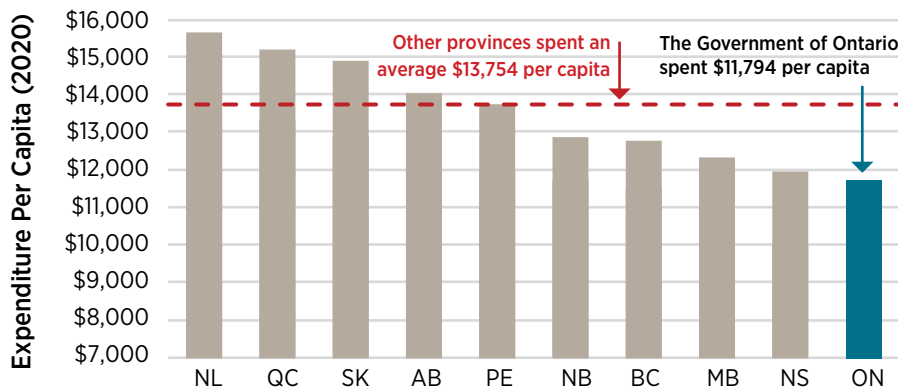
### Per Capita Property Taxes & Payments-in-Lieu across Canada



## The Cost of Chronic Provincial Underspending

While property taxes in Ontario continue to be amongst the highest in the country, provincial program spending is the lowest in Canada at \$11,794 per capita. If Ontario's program spending was equal to the average expenditures of the other provinces and territories, the Ontario budget would reflect an additional \$28 billion in expenditures annually.

### Provincial Spending Per Capita across Canada



Municipalities in Ontario delivered \$61 billion in services and infrastructure in 2021, funded primarily through property tax and payments-in-lieu. Municipal governments provide the services that Ontarians rely on most on a day-to-day basis and at all stages of life, including garbage collection and recycling, public transit, water and sewage, parks and recreation, police and fire services, and electric utilities, amongst many others. In addition to these, Ontario’s municipalities spent 28.5% of their program spending on services that typically fall under provincial jurisdiction in other provinces in 2021.

As it prepares for the year ahead, AMO encourages the Government of Ontario to consider how provincial and municipal governments can work together to find the fiscal and policy solutions that support economic growth and prosperity.





# Provincial Policy Changes Impacting Municipalities

AMO acknowledges and appreciates that many of the government's policy priorities seek to have a positive impact on municipalities.



## Safe Restart Agreement

Over the past couple of years, historic investments in municipalities through the federal-provincial Safe Restart Agreement assisted municipalities in delivering important services to their residents and proceeding with capital projects that help drive economic growth across Ontario.



## Social Services Relief Funding

The Social Services Relief Funding program helped municipalities in their frontline efforts to keep communities safe, deliver critical social services, support vulnerable individuals, and unlock supportive housing opportunities at the local level. This funding program has ended and there has been no clear commitment for future investment in Ontarians for 2023 despite the ongoing need.

The service needs supported through these programs still exist and are even growing as the pandemic has exacerbated complex policy challenges, including mental health and addictions. As a result, municipalities are struggling to meet these service needs in an economic environment that presents increased costs due to inflation, supply chain pressures and the highest cost of borrowing in over 10 years.



## Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund

The Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) provides \$500 million in unconditional operating support from the province to 389 municipal governments. It uses an equalization approach to address challenges in rural and northern communities, with funding based on various community fiscal health indicators. As the main, unconditional transfer payment to municipalities, OMPF provides communities with access to predictable, formula-based funding that helps address enduring operational challenges.

While municipal governments continue to innovate and do more with less, they need more tools to help address increasingly complex policy challenges. Working together, we can find a better path to find solutions to complex problems felt on the ground first, including housing and homelessness.

# Ontario's Housing Affordability and Supply Crisis

Municipalities agree that there are not enough homes being built to support population growth across Ontario, and what's more – that housing is becoming less affordable. We need to get homes built faster, but the provincial government's current approach jeopardizes our collective ability to meet this shared goal.

Simply put, the province's assertion that the housing supply crisis can be solved by limiting municipal access to infrastructure financing, eliminating environmental protections, and changing municipal governance is unsound.

Legislative changes in the fall of 2022 fundamentally altered the policy framework for land-use planning, environmental protection, growth and development, infrastructure financing, and municipal governance – all without any real collaboration with municipalities.

While AMO continues to identify significant challenges associated with recent legislative changes around housing, municipalities know that these laws are now in place and must be implemented as effectively as possible.

In 2023, AMO is calling on the province to commit to working with municipalities – on both a sound approach to implementation and on any new changes that will impact municipalities. An openness to course correcting recent legislative changes will be critical to successfully achieve effective change for Ontarians.

## Investing in Municipal Infrastructure

Housing cannot be built without the critical water, wastewater, roads and transportation systems that that service development – regardless of whether it is built on new lands or as part of intensification efforts.

Municipalities have been clear that changes to the Development Charges Act significantly limit their ability to support growth. In many cases, these funding reductions will make it more difficult for municipalities to meet Ontario's ambitious housing supply goals. Suggesting that spending municipal reserves is the solution to making housing more affordable is a mistake. That is because most reserves are already allocated and restricted to specific infrastructure projects. Much of the remainder is fundamental to responsible asset management practices supported by all three orders of government.

Municipalities have estimated that additional funding of approximately \$1 billion annually will be needed to address this shortfall. The provincial government has committed to keeping municipalities' whole from the impacts of Bill 23 when it comes to delivering on the infrastructure to support growth. Details on when, where and how this funding will flow is urgently needed to enable the necessary planning, financing, and decision-making to build the public infrastructure required to support development.

In addition to sufficient funding, an efficient and effective system for planning and coordinating infrastructure across municipal boundaries will be a critical part of supporting growth. Bill 23's changes to the role of regional government raise serious concerns about how this will be accomplished going forward.

## **Working Together to Find Solutions**

Legislative changes in the fall of 2022 fundamentally altered the policy framework for land-use planning, environmental protection, growth and development, infrastructure financing, and municipal governance. These are significant changes that will take time and money to effectively implement.

Building a better Ontario together requires housing targets that are realistic and achievable, and legislative and regulatory changes that support municipalities' ability to mitigate environmental risk and create livable communities. We need to take the time to get it right and be open to course corrections in the face of unintended consequences.

### **AMO Recommendations on Housing**

The Government of Ontario should:

- Fully offset the costs of implementing the Housing Supply Action Plans – estimated at approximately \$1 billion annually until 2031.
- Work with municipalities to ensure that Ontario's land use planning system supports coordinated growth, responsible environmental management and liveable communities.
- Take a phased and practical approach to implementation that recognizes the scale of operational changes, includes transition funding, and builds sufficient capacity in the right places.
- Invite the municipal sector to the table as a full partner in future housing initiatives.

# Ontario's Homelessness Crisis

On any given night, at least 16,000 Ontarians experience homelessness, with disproportionate impacts on Indigenous populations.<sup>1</sup> Homelessness has reached disastrous proportions in Ontario, with the COVID pandemic exacerbating underlying issues and making challenges much more visible. It is having a devastating impact on people, communities, and businesses across the province and will likely worsen with evolving economic conditions.

Homelessness is a challenge felt most by local governments but that has been fed by the policy choices of successive provincial governments over the past three decades. It is a systemic crisis that calls for an economic, social and health policy response. Factors that create and perpetuate homelessness are complex and varied. Solutions do not fit neatly into the responsibility of one order of government or any one ministry. While municipalities and District Social Service Administration Boards are doing their part, homelessness can only be solved through provincial commitment, resources and leadership.

## Growing Income Insecurity

Across the province, a growing number of Ontarians can no longer afford the basic necessities of life. In Ontario, 45% of tenant households spend 30% or more of their total income on shelter. This is the highest rate across the country. By 2025, about 160,000 households will spend greater than 50% of their income on rent, putting their housing at risk and potentially becoming homeless. Food bank use in Ontario has skyrocketed, increasing 42% over the past 3 years alone. One-third of these visitors were using food banks for the first time, including growing numbers of workers.<sup>2</sup>

When people can't afford to pay rent and feed themselves and their families, they aren't able to work, take care of their kids, or contribute to the community. Despite recent increases to the Ontario Disability Support Program rates, in real terms ODSP and Ontario Works rates have never been lower, having not kept up with inflation for decades. Outdated and overly complicated rules keep people in poverty. Increasing social assistance rates and transforming social assistance to better help people to get back on their feet and fully participate in the economy will be a critical part of ending homelessness.

<sup>1</sup> Financial Accountability Office of Ontario – Housing and Homelessness Programs in Ontario (2021).

<sup>2</sup> Feed Ontario – The Hunger Report (2022).

## **Insufficient Supply of Deeply Affordable Housing**

Deeply affordable housing includes a range of approaches – from government-owned buildings, to rent subsidies, to non-profit housing and co-operative developments — to provide housing for individuals who are unable to afford market rents. It is a smart way to invest tax dollars in community well-being and economic prosperity by providing people with dignity, opportunity, and a better quality of life.

Canada – including Ontario – lags significantly behind other OECD countries when it comes to the supply of social housing. A recent report from Scotiabank calls for Canada to double its social housing to begin to close this gap.<sup>3</sup> Most social housing stock in Ontario has been made possible by past significant federal and provincial investments, primarily between the 1960s and 1990s. Provincial commitment has been limited since downloading responsibility for social housing to municipalities in the 1990s. Ontario remains the only jurisdiction in Canada where social housing is a municipal responsibility.

Each year, municipalities spend approximately \$1 billion in connection with provincial housing programs.<sup>4</sup> During the pandemic, many municipalities invested in additional deeply affordable housing assistance to meet demand. Property taxpayers, including people on fixed incomes, cannot support the kinds of investments needed to keep up with demand. Bill 23 compounds this pressure by eliminating municipalities' ability to fund housing services with the help of development charges. Additional provincial investment is required to expand supply in a meaningful and sustainable way.

## **Inadequate Approach to Mental Health and Addictions**

Ontario is currently experiencing a mental health and addictions crisis that intersects with and contributes to homelessness. People with poor mental health are more vulnerable; homelessness exacerbates mental illness – a tragic and costly cycle. Approximately 30-35% of those experiencing homelessness and up to 75% of women experiencing homelessness have mental illnesses.<sup>5</sup>

Ontario's Roadmap to Wellness program represents a step forward in addressing mental health and addictions challenges in Ontario. But progress has been slow and has not focused enough on people with complex social needs and the importance of integrating health and social supports. Inconsistent access to mental health and addictions services across the province results in gaps for many rural and northern communities that prevent progress on homelessness.

<sup>3</sup> [Young, R. \(2023\). Canadian Housing Affordability Hurts: A Doubling of Social Housing Stock Could Help Those in Greatest Need. Scotiabank.](#)

<sup>4</sup> Financial Accountability Office of Ontario – Ontario's Housing and Homelessness Programs (2021)

<sup>5</sup> Homeless Hub. [Mental Health](#) (2023)

We know what works. Community-based mental health and addictions service providers work effectively with Ontario's most vulnerable, but decades of underfunding compounded by increased complexity of needs and health human resources challenges mean that demand is outpacing capacity.<sup>6</sup> Supportive housing services are key to keeping many people with moderate to severe mental health and addictions challenges properly housed, yet estimates of the shortfall of units range from between 30,000 to 90,000.<sup>7</sup> Municipal governments and District Social Administration Boards have stepped in to fill gaps in both capital and ongoing operating costs. This is not sustainable; the municipal property tax was never intended to fund health services like supportive housing.

## **An Emergency Response System Under Strain**

The inter-related challenges of income, lack of deeply affordable housing supply, and mental health and addictions combine to put increasing strain on municipal tools and systems aimed at responding to the most acute needs. On most nights, demand far outpaces available spaces in emergency shelters in most Ontario municipalities. People are forced to relocate from small or rural communities where no emergency shelter is available. Highly visible informal encampments in public places create safety and fire risks. Outreach workers are reaching their breaking point, and more are needed to provide the services that can quite literally mean the difference between life and death.

During the pandemic, the provincial government responded with the Social Services Relief Fund (SSRF) – a significant and critical investment that went to services like emergency shelters and outreach workers. This program funding has ended despite an ongoing need. To adequately fund local homelessness prevention activities – including shelter beds, outreach, rent supplements, housing allowances and support to people to both find and maintain their housing – a significant and ongoing increase to base funding for the Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) is required while we tackle system solutions.

<sup>6</sup> [Ontario's CMHAs call for significant funding increase to community mental health and addictions this Bell Let's Talk Day \(2023\)](#)

<sup>7</sup> Wellesley Institute – Supportive Housing in Ontario: Estimating the Need (2017)

## AMO Recommendations on Homelessness

The Government of Ontario needs to demonstrate leadership on this critical issue where decades of provincial indifference have led to widespread failures in our social systems. The Government must demonstrate a commitment to action and bring together a broad range of partners to develop a plan to end homelessness.

As a foundation for ending homelessness, the Government of Ontario should take immediate action to:

- Increase provincial social assistance rates and make good on promises to transform the social assistance system;
- Increase the supply of deeply affordable housing by supporting a broad range of approaches – from acquisitions to conversions to renovations to rent subsidies;
- Invest in community-based mental health and addictions services including supportive housing; and,
- Increase base funding for the Homelessness Prevention Program to enable municipalities to reflect ongoing urgent need while we work to fix root causes.

## Conclusion

AMO continues to advance important work on the affordability and supply of housing and ending homelessness. The province has the tools and resources to end the homelessness crisis it has created over decades and is why AMO is calling on the Government of Ontario to take integrated and collaborative action with municipal governments to these address complex policy challenges. It will take leadership, capability and political will from all orders of government to get the job done. Municipalities stand ready to assist with the task.

We all share a vision of a making Ontario the best place to live, work and raise a family. We are responsible to the same single and shared taxpayer in where we allocate our funds and what services we provide. AMO's vision for 2023 and beyond is to build on the strong municipal-provincial partnership fostered during the COVID-19 pandemic. Working together, we can build a better Ontario.



Remarks by:  
Brian Rosborough, AMO Executive Director  
Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs  
February 13, 2023.

*(Check Against Delivery)*

---

Good morning, everyone. My name is Brian Rosborough, and I am the Executive Director of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Joining me virtually is AMO President, Councillor Colin Best.

Thank you for the invitation to appear before the Committee today.

In January 2020, AMO came to this committee and painted a picture of the provincial-municipal fiscal relationship that highlighted provincial underspending on programs that meet the needs of Ontarians.

We showed that Ontario had the lowest per capita spending on programs in this country.

We showed that property taxpayers were paying part of the difference through downloaded provincial programs.

It illustrated a multi-billion-dollar property taxpayer subsidy to the provincial treasury designed to underwrite low provincial income taxes and provincial budget surpluses.

Some things have changed since then.

COVID-19 forced all of us to take stock, to work together to protect Ontarians and to safeguard our economies.

Municipalities played an important role as a partner to the province, institutions and businesses in our communities.

Today, I will address three key areas:

- The housing supply crisis
- What the provincial fiscal situation truly reflects, and
- The homelessness crisis.

Municipalities are attempting to make sense of the government's response to the housing supply crisis brought about by the COVID-19 demand spike.

AMO will continue to shine a light on what is wrong with legislative changes that are based on a false premise.

The provincial government's assertion that the housing supply crisis can be solved by limiting municipal access to infrastructure financing, eliminating environmental protections or changes to municipal governance is unsound.

Unless the costs of Bill 23 are fully offset by the province, it will amount to a transfer of \$1 billion a year from the pockets of property taxpayers - including low-income property taxpayers - into the pockets of developers with little prospect of improved affordability.

Municipalities also understand that these laws are now in place and must be implemented as effectively as possible.

AMO continues to call on the province for a commitment to:

- work with municipalities on the implementation of legislative changes;
- to provide clarity about the province's commitment to fully offset financial losses associated with Bill 23;
- and openness to reversing legislative changes that have unintended consequences.

Increased housing supply is a top priority for municipalities in every part of Ontario.

Despite recent legislative changes, municipalities are working with the industry and other partners to find ways of getting more homes built as quickly as possible.

At the same time that COVID-19 created an unanticipated spike in demand for houses in Ontario, it laid bare the failure of Ontario's public policy approach to homelessness.

AMO has updated its picture of the provincial-municipal fiscal relationship using 2021 provincial data.

In 2021, municipal revenues of \$60 billion were invested in the services people and businesses rely on most – municipal services.

That includes billions in services funded provincially in the rest of Canada including health, social housing and homelessness.

In 2021, Ontario continued to have the lowest per capita spending on services of any province or territory in Canada.

In fact, Ontario's spending of \$11,800 per person is almost \$2,000 per person LESS than the average expenditure of the other provinces and territories at about \$13,800.

If the Ontario budget included program expenditures equal to the average expenditures of the other provinces and territories, the Ontario budget would reflect an additional \$28 billion in expenditures annually.

We live in a province where successive provincial governments have favored income tax cuts over investments in people, and favored downloading of expenditures on property taxpayers as a means to conceal provincial underspending.

In 2023, people in every part of Ontario, in big cities, small towns and rural communities - in the north and in the south - are seeing the direct results of these provincial policies and choices by successive provincial governments over the past three decades.

The homelessness crisis is by far the most visible outcome of those provincial policies.

Homelessness is the return on provincial underinvestment.

The homelessness crisis in your community is a made-in-Ontario crisis that results from underinvestment and other disastrous policy choices made by the government of Ontario.

Inadequate investment in the health and mental health systems, and outdated approaches to addictions have failed people and families.

Provincial policies on income assistance contribute substantially to growing income disparity and poverty.

Failures in the provincial child welfare, justice and corrections systems compound barriers to economic participation and contribute directly to homelessness.

The province's failure to engage in meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous peoples creates economic and social disparity and limits opportunity.

The downloading of social housing and homelessness to municipalities in the 1990s hides the fact that our homelessness crisis is a product of provincial choices and policy levers entirely within the provincial sphere of authority, financial responsibility and accountability.

Ontario's homelessness crisis harms people and families.

It undermines the social fabric and economic prospects of our communities.

It imposes unnecessary costs on our institutions, community agencies and government.

In reality, the homelessness crisis signals that Ontario's broader prosperity is at risk if the government is not prepared to act.

The Government of Ontario has the tools and resources to end the homelessness crisis it has created over decades.

It must surely possess the leadership, capability and political will to get the job done.

AMO is calling on the Government of Ontario to take integrated and collaborative action to end homelessness in Ontario.

Municipalities and partners in all social and economic sectors stand ready to assist with the task.

Thank you.



# AMO Focuses on Housing and Homelessness in Pre-Budget Advice to Ontario Legislature

News Release • February 13, 2023

Increasing the supply of housing and tackling the homelessness crisis in Ontario, brought on by decades of failed provincial social and economic policies, are the top priorities for municipalities across Ontario. That was the message from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario presenting its 2023 Pre-Budget Submission to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs.

Increasing the supply of housing is a priority for municipalities across Ontario. AMO repeated concerns that the *More Homes Built Faster Act 2022* (formerly Bill 23) may undermine this goal because it is based on false assumptions.

“The provincial government’s belief that the housing supply crisis can be solved by limiting municipal access to infrastructure financing, eliminating environmental protections or changes to municipal governance is unsound,” said AMO President Colin Best. “Unless the costs of Bill 23 are fully offset by the province, it will cost Ontario property taxpayers \$1 billion a year.”

The submission calls on the government for collaboration with the municipal sector, clarity about the province’s commitment to offset the cost impacts of the legislation on property taxpayers and a commitment to reverse legislative measures that are creating unintended consequences.

AMO's submission also illustrates that the Government of Ontario's per capita spending on programming is the lowest in Canada at \$2,000 less per person than the national average. It states the homelessness crisis in Ontario is a direct result of decades of provincial underinvestment in areas such as affordable housing, community mental health and income assistance programs.

"This is a made-in-Ontario crisis resulting from provincial underinvestment and poor policy choices made by the government of Ontario," Best said. "The Government of Ontario has the tools and resources to end the homelessness crisis it has created over decades. It must surely possess the leadership, capability and political will to get the job done."

AMO's submission calls for the Ontario Government to commit to ending homelessness:

- - Increase the supply of deeply affordable housing through a variety of approaches from rent subsidies to property acquisitions.
- Increase financial assistance to individuals and families and fulfill the government's promise to transform its social assistance system.
- Invest in health services, community-based mental health services, supportive housing and addictions services.

Ontario's homelessness crisis is apparent and in every part of the province, including big cities and small towns, and in rural and northern communities.

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario and Canada's political system.

-30-

For more information, contact: Brian Lambie, 416-729-5425, [lambie@redbrick.ca](mailto:lambie@redbrick.ca)

Contact:

**Brian Lambie**

AMO Media Contact

[lambie@redbrick.ca](mailto:lambie@redbrick.ca)

**Report #:** 9.3  
**Subject:** Child Care Workforce Shortage  
**To:** Board Members  
**Presented By:** Tammy MacKenzie, CAO  
**Prepared By:** Tammy MacKenzie, CAO  
**Date:** March 9, 2023

---

**Resolution:**

WHEREAS the District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board supports Resolution 23-13 passed by the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board at their meeting held on January 19, 2023 regarding the child care workforce shortage in Ontario; and

WHEREAS access to quality licensed child care is an essential component of Ontario's social and economic well-being and enable children to grow up with a sense of community; and

WHEREAS lack of licensed child care is a barrier for parents to return or enter into the workforce, thus putting a strain on families, hindering economic participation, and forcing parents to remain at home to care for their children; and

WHEREAS the demand for child care spaces creates waitlists that have parents waiting for several years for a space, if they receive a space at all; and

WHEREAS in recent years the recruitment and retention of qualified Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECE's) and child care staff has been a challenge that has been exasperated by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS the workforce crisis in the early years and child care sector has been further exasperated by the significant wage disparity between the compensation paid to RECE's employed by School Boards and those employed in licensed child care centres due to lack of funding which has created an inequity for workers with equal qualifications; and

WHEREAS Ontario has signed the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement putting Ontario on the path to reducing child care fees to an average of \$10/day which will create a demand for more child care spaces when a workforce shortage already exists; and

WHEREAS the province of Ontario's commitment to a minimum wage of \$19/hour for RECE's with \$1 annual increases until reaching \$25/hour does not provide an immediate response to attracting and retaining child care staff and will take many years to correct the wage disparity.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board advocates for the Province of Ontario to address the child are workforce shortage in Ontario by

immediately increasing the \$19/hour minimum wage and providing benefits to RECE's in licensed child care centres to an equitable level to that which is paid to RECE's employed by School Boards; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of Ontario launch and financially support an accelerated Early Childhood Education Intensive program, to be completed within 14 to 16 months, similar to the program launched in March 2022 for Personal Support Workers (PSW's), where funding supported the costs of tuition, books, and other mandatory fees, to help address the shortage of RECE's in Ontario; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to OMSSA, Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care, Childcare Resource and Research Unit, NOSDA, FONOM, AMO, and all District Social Services Administration Boards, to request their support and advocacy for this resolution; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade Vic Fedeli and MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka Graydon Smith.





## **RESOLUTION 23-13**

DATE: January 19, 2023

MOVED BY: Ryan Bignucolo

SECONDED BY: Al MacNevin

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board supports Resolution No. 2022-273 passed by the Municipality of East Ferris at their meeting held October 11, 2022 regarding the child care workforce shortage in Ontario; and

WHEREAS access to quality licensed child care is an essential component of Ontario's social and economic well-being and enable children to grow up with a sense of community; and

WHEREAS lack of licensed child care is a barrier for parents to return or enter into the workforce, thus putting a strain on families, hindering economic participation, and forcing parents to remain at home to care for their children; and

WHEREAS the demand for child care spaces creates waitlists that have parents waiting for several years for a space, if they receive a space at all; and

WHEREAS in recent years the recruitment and retention of qualified Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECE's) and child care staff has been a challenge that has been exasperated by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS the workforce crisis in the early years and child care sector has been further exasperated by the significant wage disparity between the compensation paid to RECE's employed by school boards and those employed in licensed child care centres due to lack of funding which has created an inequity for workers with equal qualifications; and

WHEREAS Ontario has signed the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement putting Ontario on the path to reducing child care fees to an average of \$10/day which will create a demand for more child care spaces when a workforce shortage already exists; and

WHEREAS the province of Ontario's commitment to a minimum wage of \$19/hour for RECE's with \$1 annual increases until reaching \$25/hour does not provide and immediate response to attracting and retaining child care staff and will take many years to correct the wage disparity.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board advocates for the Province of Ontario to address the child care workforce shortage in Ontario by immediately increasing the \$19/hour minimum wage and providing benefits to RECE's in licensed child care centres to an equitable level to that which is paid to RECE's employed by school boards; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of Ontario launch and financially support an accelerated Early Learning Childhood Education program, to be completed within 14 to 16 months, similar to the program launched in March 2022 for Personal Support Workers (PSW's), where funding supported the costs of tuition, books, and other mandatory fees, to help address the shortage of RECE's in Ontario; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to OMSSA, Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care, Childcare Resource and Research Unit, NOSDA, FONOM, AMO, all District Social Services Administration Boards in Northern Ontario, and all Ontario Municipalities to request their support and advocacy for this resolution; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade Vic Fedeli and Algoma-Manitoulin MPP Michael Mantha.

*Bruce Killah*

---

CHAIR

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS	MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
BIGNUCOLO, RYAN			KELLY, ANGELA		
BURKE, KEVIN			KILLAH, BRUCE		
CAHILL, JIM			LANDRY, ROGER		
CAMPBELL, ROB			MACNEVIN, AL		
DEFORGE, JOHN			PORTELANCE-GODIN, DENISE		
DUPLESSIS, KEN			SANTI, DAVID		
GORHAM, VERN			WHYNOTT, NED		

**Report #:** 9.4

**Subject:** Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH) – Homelessness Prevention and Housing Benefit

**To:** Board Members

**Presented By:** Tammy MacKenzie, CAO

**Prepared By:** Tammy MacKenzie, CAO

**Date:** March 9, 2023

---

**Resolution:**

WHEREAS the drastic recent increase in homelessness and the concurrent increase in the reliance of Canadians on food banks is evidence of the widening of the gap in income disparity due to current economic conditions; and

WHEREAS the CAEH has presented data illustrating that the majority of Canadians believe that homelessness is a problem and it is getting worse; and

WHEREAS the data also shows that the majority of Canadians believe resources should be allocated to improving the situation; and

WHEREAS CAEH has presented the benefits of creating a Homelessness Prevention Housing Benefit;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board supports the CAEH in requesting that the Federal government create a Housing Benefit as outlined in the CAEH report and proposal.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be circulated to all District of Parry Sound municipalities, AMO, OMSSA and Parry Sound-Muskoka MP, Scott Aitchison; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada and the leaders of the opposition parties.

**Report:**

The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH) leads a national movement of individuals, organizations and communities working together to end homelessness in Canada.

With the understanding that the drastic increase in homelessness combined with the critical rise in reliance on food banks across Canada, the CAEH correctly contends that homelessness today is largely a product of income inequality.

CAEH conducted a poll with Nanos Inc. (attached). The results clearly indicate that the majority of Canadians believe homelessness is a major problem and it's getting worse. The data also indicates that 1 in 4 Canadians are worried about how to pay shelter costs in the coming months.

With the data from the poll in support of the notion that income disparity and poverty are at the root of Canada's worsening homelessness crisis, CAEH is proposing the creation of a Homelessness Prevention and Housing Benefit. This Benefit would immediately result in preventing homelessness for over a quarter of a million households in Canada.

The proportion of Canadians worried or somewhat worried about paying housing costs has increased nine points since 2021, concern is highest among younger Canadians.

# Key Findings

1

**The proportion of Canadians worried or somewhat worried about paying housing costs has increased**

Nearly one-quarter of Canadians are worried ([eight per cent](#)) or somewhat worried ([16%](#)) about paying their housing costs next month which is a nine-point increase compared to 2021 ([five per cent worried, 10% somewhat worried](#)). Nearly one-third of younger Canadians report some level of worry ([13% worried, 18% somewhat worried](#)).

2

**Over two-thirds of Canadians support or somewhat support a new benefit to help low-income Canadians pay rent**

A majority of Canadians support ([33%](#)) or somewhat support ([36%](#)) the introduction of a new benefit, paid for by the federal government, that would help low-income Canadians pay rent, to prevent them from becoming homeless and to help those who are already homeless get back into housing. Older Canadians (55 plus) were more likely to support ([36%](#)) or somewhat support ([41%](#)) this than younger Canadians (18-34) ([34% support, 28% somewhat support](#)).

3

**A strong majority of Canadians say the number of people experiencing homelessness is increasing**

Three-quarters of Canadians agree that the number of people experiencing homelessness is increasing but are split on whether that increase is happening quickly ([35%](#)) or slowly ([39%](#)). Over one in ten ([15%](#)) believe it is staying about the same.

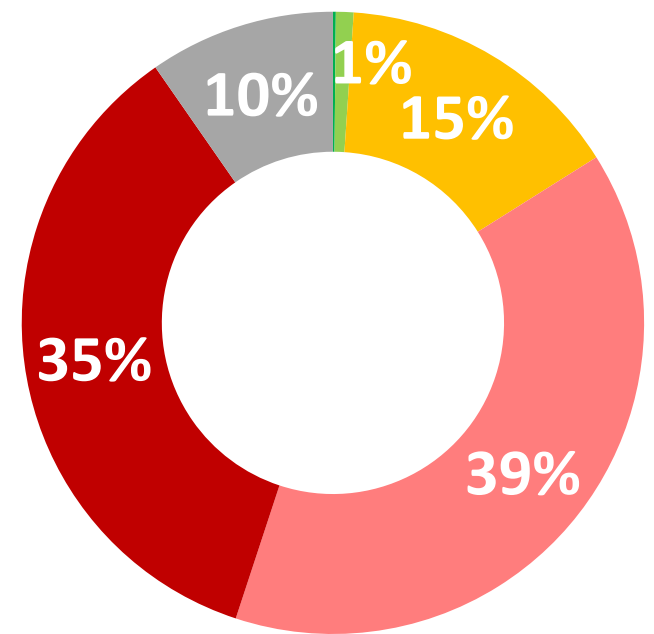
4

**Canadians are most likely to say funding programs to fight homelessness is important for the upcoming spring budget**

[Fifty-five per cent](#) of Canadians say funding programs to fight homelessness is important when it comes to the federal government's upcoming budget this spring ([55% score 7-10 out of 10](#)). Importance is scored higher among Canadians from the Atlantic region ([mean of 7.2](#)), women ([mean of 7.1](#)), older Canadians (55 plus) ([mean of 7.0](#)), and those who say they usually vote NDP ([mean of 8.2](#)).



# Change in number of people experiencing homelessness



- Decreasing quickly
- Decreasing slowly
- Staying about the same
- Increasing slowly
- Increasing quickly
- Unsure

\*Weighted to the true population proportion.  
 \*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

	Atlantic (n=110)	Quebec (n=236)	Ontario (n=353)	Prairies (n=216)	BC (n=139)
Increasing quickly/slowly	78.5%	71.3%	73.2%	72.5%	82.1%
Men (n=557)	71.8%	76.7%	75.8%	74.4%	73.1%
Women (n=494)	72.5%	71.1%	80.9%	74.5%	73.5%
Usually votes LPC (n=352)					
Usually votes CPC (n=262)					
Usually votes NDP (n=114)					
Usually votes Bloc (n=67)					
I don't have a party I regularly vote for (n=199)					

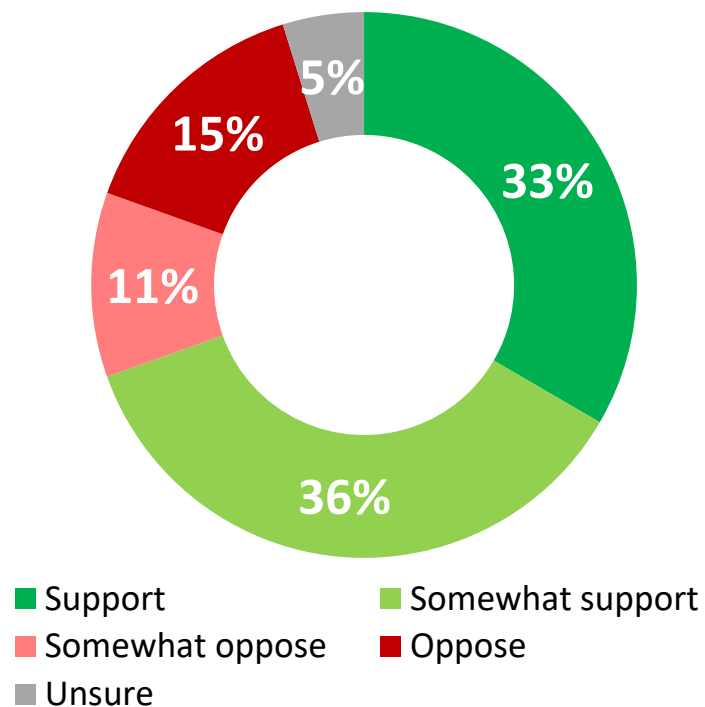
Q – Compared to a year ago, do you think the number of people experiencing homelessness is decreasing quickly, decreasing slowly, increasing slowly, increasing quickly or is it staying about the same in your community?

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, January 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, n=1054, accurate 3.0 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.



# Support for the introduction of a new benefit paid by the federal government

Q – As the price of housing and other essentials continue to increase, would you support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or oppose the introduction of a new benefit, paid for by the federal government, that would help low-income Canadians pay rent, to prevent them from becoming homeless and to help those who are already homeless get back into housing?



Support/somewhat support

Atlantic (n=110)	Quebec (n=236)	Ontario (n=353)	Prairies (n=216)	BC (n=139)
<b>73.6%</b>	<b>68.1%</b>	<b>70.9%</b>	<b>62.4%</b>	<b>75.0%</b>
Men (n=557)	Women (n=494)	18 to 34 (n=245)	35 to 54 (n=388)	55 plus (n=421)
<b>62.8%</b>	<b>76.0%</b>	<b>62.2%</b>	<b>65.7%</b>	<b>77.3%</b>
Usually votes LPC (n=352)	Usually votes CPC (n=262)	Usually votes NDP (n=114)	Usually votes Bloc (n=67)	I don't have a party I regularly vote for (n=199)
<b>81.0%</b>	<b>46.4%</b>	<b>92.1%</b>	<b>67.4%</b>	<b>68.8%</b>

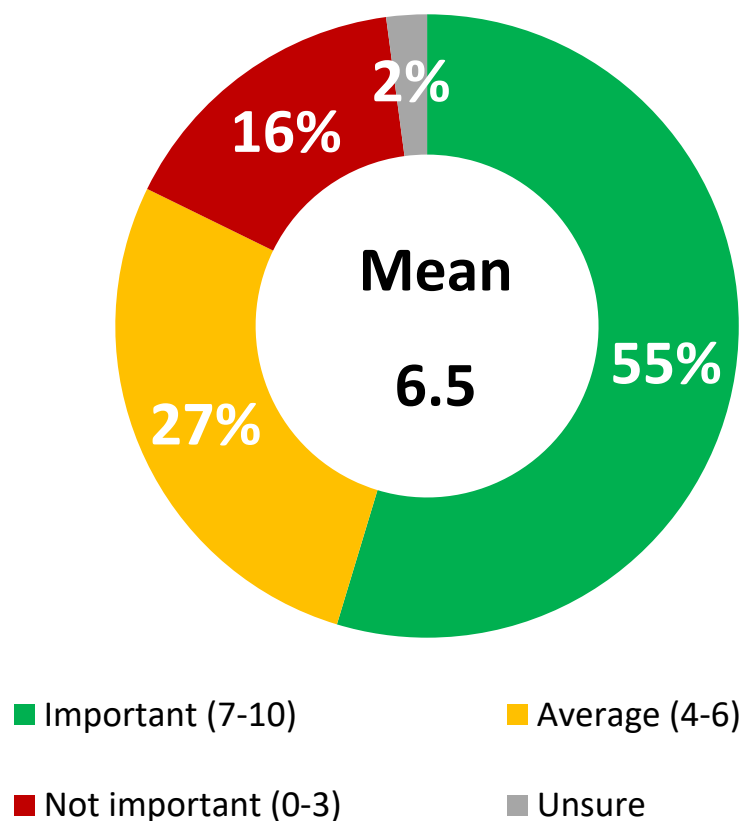
\*Weighted to the true population proportion.

\*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, January 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, n=1054, accurate 3.0 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.



# Importance of funding programs to fight homelessness



\*Weighted to the true population proportion.

\*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

	Atlantic (n=110)	Quebec (n=236)	Ontario (n=353)	Prairies (n=216)	BC (n=139)
	7.2	6.5	6.6	6.0	6.6
Mean					
Men (n=557)	5.9	7.1	6.0	6.3	7.0
Women (n=494)					
18 to 34 (n=245)					
35 to 54 (n=388)					
55 plus (n=421)					
Usually votes LPC (n=352)	7.0	4.8	8.2	6.7	6.7
Usually votes CPC (n=262)					
Usually votes NDP (n=114)					
Usually votes Bloc (n=67)					
I don't have a party I regularly vote for (n=199)					

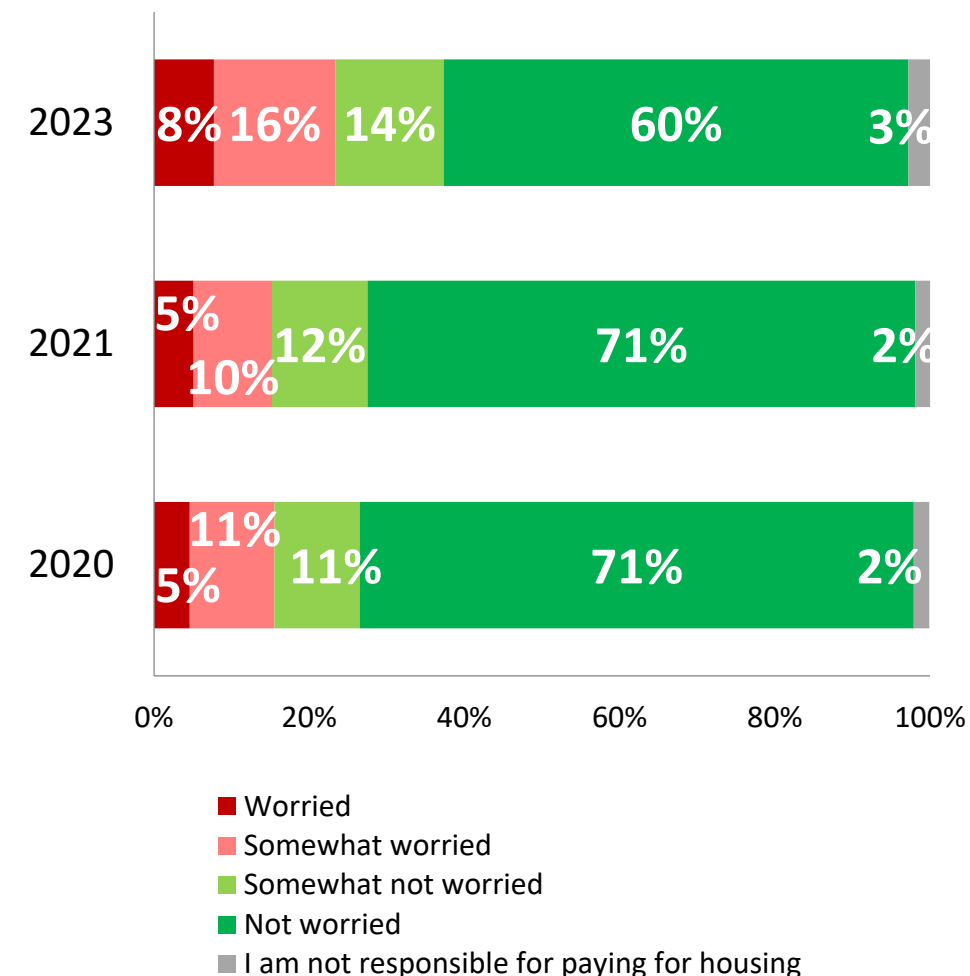
Q – Thinking of the federal government's upcoming budget this spring, please rate the importance of funding programs to fight homelessness on a scale of 0 to 10 where 0 is not at all important and 10 being extremely important.

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, January 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, n=1054, accurate 3.0 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

# Worry about paying housing costs next month

Nearly **1 in 4** Canadians

are worried or somewhat worried about paying their housing costs next month. This represents a nine-point increase compared to when this question was asked in 2021. Nearly one-third (31%) of younger Canadians (18-34) are worried (13%) or somewhat worried (18%) about paying their housing costs next month.



\*Weighted to the true population proportion.

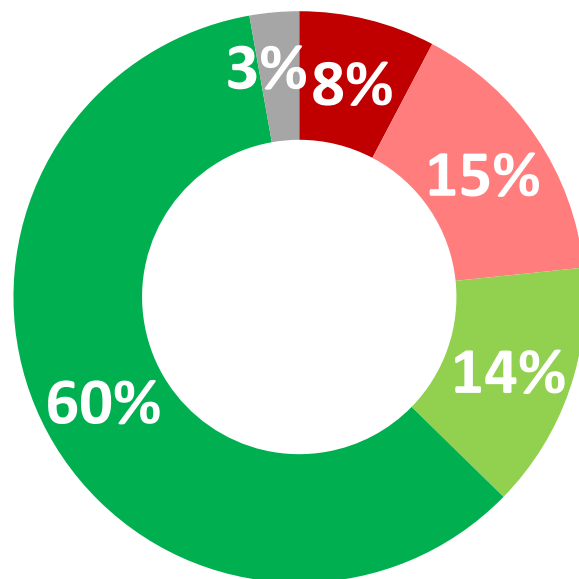
\*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Q – Are you worried, somewhat worried, somewhat not worried or not worried about paying your housing costs next month?

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, January 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, n=1052, accurate 3.0 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

# Worry about paying housing costs next month

Q – Are you worried, somewhat worried, somewhat not worried or not worried about paying your housing costs next month?



■ Worried  
■ Somewhat worried  
■ Somewhat not worried  
■ Not worried  
■ I am not responsible for paying for housing

Worried/somewhat worried

	Atlantic (n=110)	Quebec (n=236)	Ontario (n=353)	Prairies (n=216)	BC (n=139)
	<b>26.4%</b>	<b>19.6%</b>	<b>23.4%</b>	<b>27.5%</b>	<b>22.8%</b>
Men (n=557)		Women (n=494)	18 to 34 (n=245)	35 to 54 (n=388)	55 plus (n=421)
	<b>20.5%</b>	<b>25.7%</b>	<b>31.3%</b>	<b>28.9%</b>	<b>13.8%</b>
Usually votes LPC (n=351)		Usually votes CPC (n=262)	Usually votes NDP (n=113)	Usually votes Bloc (n=67)	I don't have a party I regularly vote for (n=199)
	<b>17.8%</b>	<b>23.6%</b>	<b>25.5%</b>	<b>14.2%</b>	<b>28.6%</b>

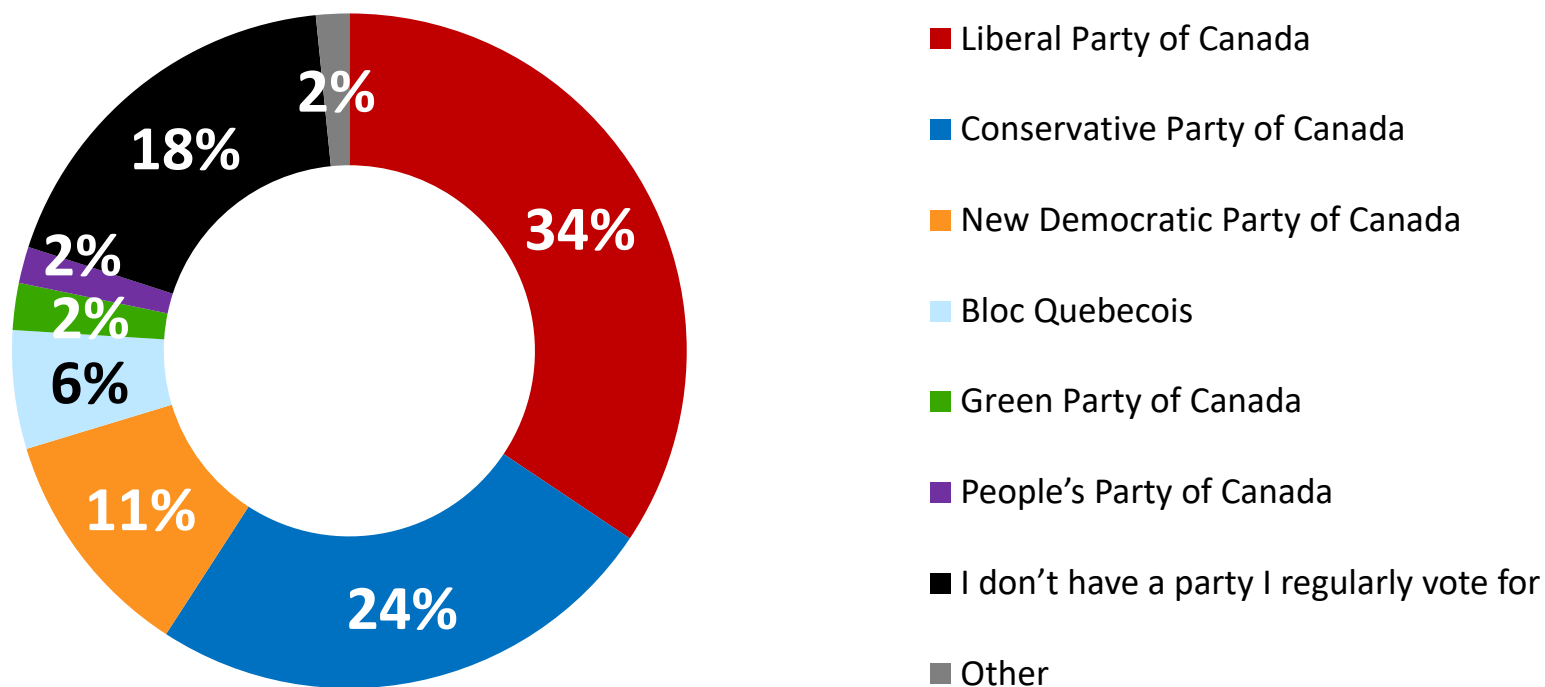
\*Weighted to the true population proportion.

\*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, January 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, n=1052, accurate 3.0 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

## Federal party usually supported

Q – Thinking of federal elections, which federal party do you usually vote for [RANDOMIZE]



\*Weighted to the true population proportion.

\*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, January 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, n=1053, accurate 3.0 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

# METHODOLOGY

Nanos conducted an RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online random survey of 1,054 Canadians, 18 years of age or older, between January 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as part of an omnibus survey. Participants were randomly recruited by telephone using live agents and administered a survey online. The results were statistically checked and weighted by age and gender using the latest Census information and the sample is geographically stratified to be representative of Canada.

Individuals were randomly called using random digit dialling with a maximum of five call backs.

The margin of error for a random survey of 1,054 Canadians is  $\pm 3.0$  percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

The research was commissioned by CAEH and was conducted by Nanos Research.

Note: Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.



Element	Description	Element	Description
Research sponsor	Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness	Weighting of Data	The results were weighted by age and gender using the latest Census information (2021) and the sample is geographically stratified to ensure a distribution across all regions of Canada. See tables for full weighting disclosure.
Population and Final Sample Size	1054 Randomly selected individuals.	Screening	Screening ensured potential respondents did not work in the market research industry, in the advertising industry, in the media or a political party prior to administering the survey to ensure the integrity of the data.
Source of Sample	Nanos Probability Panel	Excluded Demographics	Individuals younger than 18 years old; individuals without land or cell lines, and individuals without internet access could not participate.
Type of Sample	Probability	Stratification	By age and gender using the latest Census information (2021) and the sample is geographically stratified to be representative of Canada. Smaller areas such as Atlantic Canada were marginally oversampled to allow for a minimum regional sample.
Margin of Error	±3.0 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.	Estimated Response Rate	13 percent, consistent with industry norms.
Mode of Survey	RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online omnibus survey	Question Order	Question order in the preceding report reflects the order in which they appeared in the original questionnaire.
Sampling Method Base	The sample included both land- and cell-lines RDD (Random Digit Dialed) across Canada.	Question Content	Topics on the omnibus ahead of the survey content included: views on political issues, views on economic issues, views on public safety, healthcare, and refugees.
Demographics (Captured)	Atlantic Canada, Quebec, Ontario, Prairies, British Columbia; Men and Women; 18 years and older. Six digit postal code was used to validate geography.	Question Wording	The questions in the preceding report are written exactly as they were asked to individuals.
Fieldwork/Validation	Individuals were recruited using live interviews with live supervision to validate work, the research questions were administered online	Research/Data Collection Supplier	Nanos Research
Number of Calls	Maximum of five call backs to those recruited.	Contact	Contact Nanos Research for more information or with any concerns or questions. <a href="http://www.nanos.co">http://www.nanos.co</a> Telephone:(613) 234-4666 ext. 237 Email: info@nanosresearch.com.
Time of Calls	Individuals recruited were called between 12-5:30 pm and 6:30-9:30pm local time for the respondent.		
Field Dates	January 27 <sup>th</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2023.		
Language of Survey	The survey was conducted in both English and French.		
Standards	Nanos Research is a member of the Canadian Research Insights Council (CRIC) and confirms that this research fully complies with all CRIC Standards including the CRIC Public Opinion Research Standards and Disclosure Requirements. <a href="https://canadianresearchinsightscouncil.ca/standards/">https://canadianresearchinsightscouncil.ca/standards/</a>		





nanos dimap analytika



NANOS RUTHERFORD McKAY & Co.

As one of North America's premier market and public opinion research firms, we put strategic intelligence into the hands of decision makers. The majority of our work is for private sector and public facing organizations and ranges from market studies, managing reputation through to leveraging data intelligence. Nanos Research offers a vertically integrated full service quantitative and qualitative research practice to attain the highest standards and the greatest control over the research process. [www.nanos.co](http://www.nanos.co)

This international joint venture between [dimap](http://www.dimap.com) and [Nanos](http://www.nanos.co) brings together top research and data experts from North American and Europe to deliver exceptional data intelligence to clients. The team offers data intelligence services ranging from demographic and sentiment microtargeting; consumer sentiment identification and decision conversion; and, data analytics and profiling for consumer persuasion. [www.nanosdimap.com](http://www.nanosdimap.com)

NRM is an affiliate of Nanos Research and Rutherford McKay Associates. Our service offerings are based on decades of professional experience and extensive research and include public acceptance and engagement, communications audits, and narrative development. [www.nrmpublicaffairs.com](http://www.nrmpublicaffairs.com)

# Any questions?

---



Nanos Research

(613) 234-4666, ext. 237

[ea@nanosresearch.com](mailto:ea@nanosresearch.com)

For more information on the firm, please visit [www.nanos.co](http://www.nanos.co)





# Nanos services

- ✓ As premier market and public opinion research firms, we conduct research around the world for a variety of clients.
- ✓ Nanos offers a full suite of services ranging from bespoke research engagements to strategic assessments and mission planning. Our firm applies the latest machine learning algorithms to deliver exceptionally rigorous and insightful intelligence to clients.
- ✓ At Nanos, we believe that small steps can lead to large insights. We'll sit down with you to learn about your challenges and work on them together.
- ✓ For more information about how we can help, please visit us at:  
[www.nanos.co](http://www.nanos.co)

Nanos Research offers a vertically integrated full service quantitative and qualitative research practice to exceed the highest standards.

Since

1987

top executives have turned to Nanos for world-class data and strategic insight.





# Responding to a new wave of homelessness:

## PROPOSAL FOR A HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION & HOUSING BENEFIT

A proposal for the federal government, prepared on behalf of the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH).

---

By Steve Pomeroy  
Industry Professor, McMaster University, Canadian Housing Evidence  
Collaborative (CHEC) and Senior Research Fellow, Carleton  
University, Centre for Urban Research  
and Education (CURE)



## Executive Summary

This brief reviews recent trends in homelessness and housing affordability and proposes a policy initiative to help alleviate the impacts of high inflation on housing affordability and homelessness. Based on evidence from the 2021 census—augmented by shelter use data—it recommends a revised and expanded federally-funded Homelessness Prevention and Housing Benefit (HPHB), as an expansion to the Canada Housing Benefit (CHB), that will both accelerate exits from homelessness and prevent new inflows into homelessness.

As Canada faces the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, a cost-of-living crisis driven by significant inflation rates, and a likely recession, more Canadians are facing homelessness. Since pandemic supports ended, there has already been an increase of shelter use and homelessness, seen in cities across the country. In many cases, this homelessness is highly visible in encampments and on the street, which is driving significant concern amongst the broader public.

The oncoming recession will make things worse. Research has shown that there is a lag effect with a delay of several years between the onset of the recession and the increase in the homeless population (Falvo, 2010, 2021).<sup>1</sup> The rising cost of living eventuates these challenges, especially for those on fixed incomes (Kneebone & Wilkins, 2022). With no capacity to absorb higher costs, these individuals and households are more at risk.<sup>2</sup>

The 2021 census demonstrated that the financial supports provided during the pandemic played a major role in reducing core housing need in Canada. Renters in core need were reduced by five per cent helping over 177,000 households compared to the 2016 count.

As a result, we propose a new federally-funded benefit – the Homelessness Prevention and Housing Benefit (HPHB) – to augment the Canada Housing Benefit (CHB). This benefit is designed to slow the wave of new homelessness and accelerate reductions in people experiencing chronic homelessness.

### THE BENEFIT WOULD HAVE TWO STREAMS:

- ▶ Stream 1: An HPHB to reduce the flow into chronic homelessness and accelerate exits from chronic homelessness.
- ▶ Stream 2: An HPHB to prevent “at risk” populations from becoming homeless.

Under the second stream, two variations are outlined to provide options:

- ▶ 2A. Assumes a more universal approach seeking to capture all those potentially “at risk.” An extreme shelter cost burden is typically identified as paying over 50% of income for rent and is used as a proxy for those at risk.
- ▶ 2B. Assumes a more narrowly targeted option that more selectively enrolls participants based on need – at which point they would move from “at risk” to fall into homelessness.

---

<sup>1</sup>Falvo, N (2010). The Calm Before the Storm: The Great Recession’s Impact on Homelessness CAE; Falvo, N (2021). The long-term impact of the Covid 19 Pandemic on Homelessness in Canada, ESDC.

<sup>2</sup>Kneebone & Wilkins (2022). Income support, inflation, and homelessness. <https://www.policyschool.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/HSP104-Inflation.Kneebone.Wilkins.pdf>



## Impact

Estimates of chronic homelessness have identified a count of 35,000 individuals over the course of a year. Prior research (Recovery for All, 2020), demonstrated that this is not a static number. To account for ongoing flows into chronic homelessness, a more realistic estimate of 50,000 individuals is used in developing the current proposal.

Meanwhile, it is estimated that 385,000 households experience a severe shelter cost burden (i.e., they pay over 50% of income for rent) and are therefore at high risk of becoming homeless, especially in the prevailing high inflation context.

The potential impact of the HPHB would be to bring up to 50,000 people/households out of chronic homelessness and prevent between 200,000 and 385,000 people/households from falling into homelessness due to inflationary pressures they are currently experiencing. Depending on implementation and eligibility, this benefit could impact up to almost half a million Canadians as some move off the benefit while others are added.

## Cost

The potential cost will be significantly influenced by decisions on eligibility, targeting, and the level of benefit provided. It will also vary over time, as some individuals become stabilized and able to improve their income, potentially transitioning off benefit, while others flow in, reflecting the intent to divert persons facing imminent homelessness through a rapid re-housing response.

**Stream 1 is anticipated at full implementation to support up to 50,000 people. Assuming the average gap of \$600-\$700 per month, this would require an annual budget of \$360 million up to \$420 million.**

The budget for Stream 2 will depend on the degree to which shelter cost burdens are reduced, and whether it will be more broadly spread to cover all 385,000 households at risk or more narrowly targeted to enroll people imminently at risk.

- ▶ Enrolling 385,000 “at risk” (those who pay over 50% of their income in shelter cost) individuals and reducing their shelter cost to 30% would require an expenditure of approximately \$3.0 billion per year.
- ▶ A shallower (reducing rent to only 40% of their income) more targeted benefit (200,000 individuals) would incur a lower cost, approximating \$1.0 billion annually.

**Combining Stream 1 (accelerate exits of existing and future chronic) with up to 50,000 recipients, and Stream 2B (a targeted prevention stream assisting 200,000 people/households at imminent risk of homelessness) would therefore involve an approximate combined cost of \$1.4 billion annually.**

## Implementation

It is further recommended that this be funded as a unilateral federal initiative, but implemented in consultation and collaboration with provinces and Territories who would be partners in separately funded necessary ongoing support services.

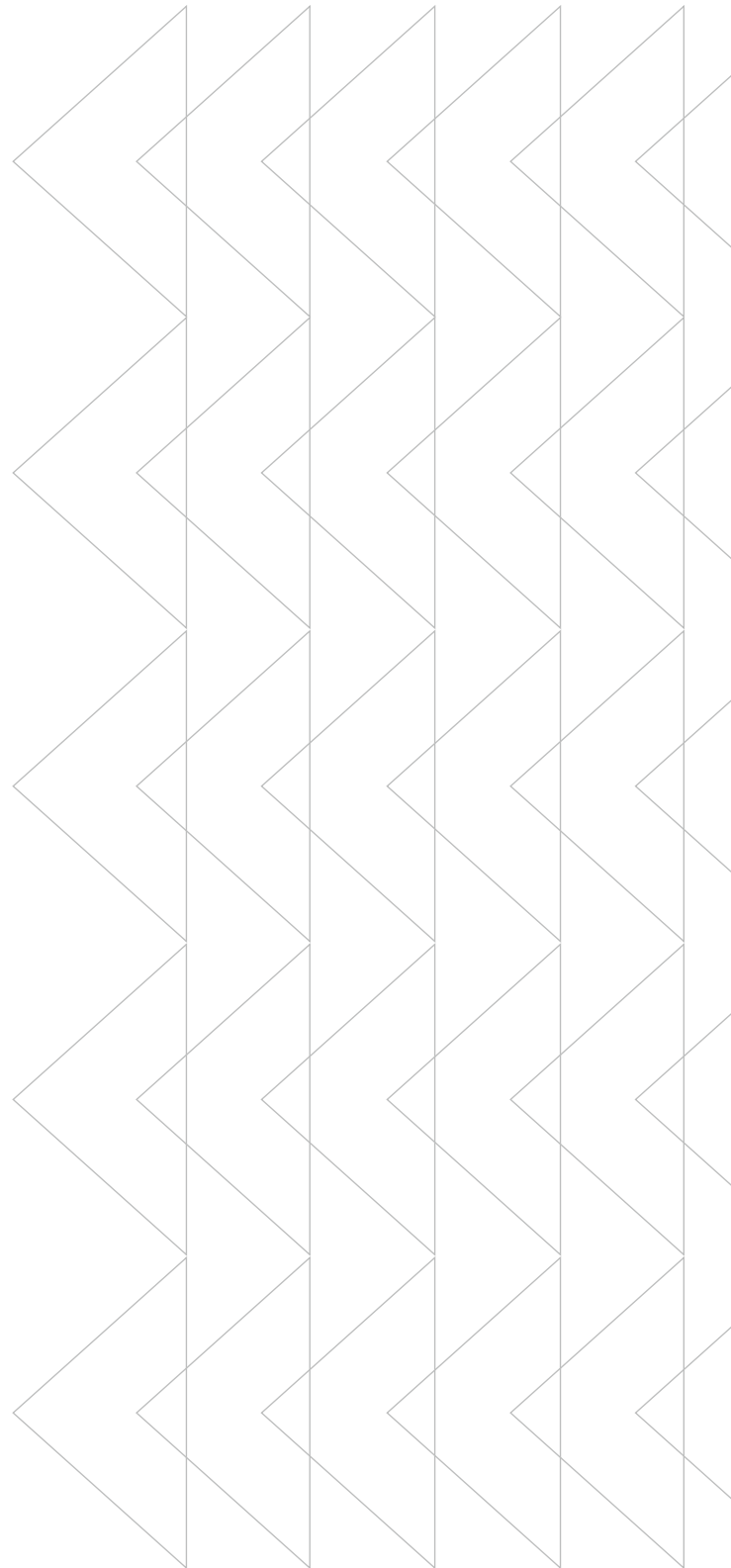
In both streams, it is suggested that payments be administered through the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), like many other federal credits and benefits.

The HPHB Stream 1 would be piloted and delivered via existing Reaching Home community entities, which would allow targeting of chronic homelessness. Once the delivery mechanism is tested and in place, the initiative could be expanded to other communities outside of the Reaching Home network.

## Summary

The introduction of the HPHB could play a major role in halting the increase in homelessness that we are currently experiencing and accelerating reductions in chronic homelessness. The single greatest impediment to reducing and preventing homelessness is the absolute lack of, and ongoing erosion of, low-rent housing options. Without affordable places to rent, reducing homelessness is close to impossible. The proposed HPHB augments their ability to afford housing that is more available.

However, as Canada works to deliver on its commitments to build more affordable housing and tackle the housing crisis, an HPHB could play a significant role in alleviating the suffering and trauma of up to half a million Canadians experiencing, or “at risk” of experiencing, homelessness.



# Table of Contents

<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>FRAMING THE ISSUE</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>REVIEWING THE EVIDENCE – THE CASE FOR A HOMELESS HOUSING BENEFIT</b>	<b>3</b>
Investment to address homelessness and renter affordability being eroded	5
Illusionary but revealing insights from the 2021 Census	6
<b>EXISTING CANADA HOUSING BENEFIT</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>PROPOSED TARGETED HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND HOUSING BENEFIT</b>	<b>10</b>
1. A benefit to substantially reduce chronic homelessness	11
2. A benefit to prevent new flows into homelessness	13
<b>ESTIMATED PARTICIPATION AND BENEFIT AMOUNT IN A PREVENTION HPHB</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>OPTIONS FOR THE DELIVERY OF THE HPHB</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>19</b>
<hr/>	
<b>APPENDIX A: COSTING ESTIMATES</b>	<b>25</b>



## Introduction

This brief reviews recent trends in homelessness and housing affordability and proposes a policy initiative to help alleviate the impacts of high inflation on housing affordability and homelessness. Based on evidence from the 2021 census—augmented by shelter use data—it recommends a revised and expanded federally-funded Homelessness Prevention and Housing Benefit (HPPHB), as an expansion to the Canada Housing Benefit (CHB), that will both accelerate exits from homelessness and prevent new inflows into homelessness.

Recent data have already identified an increase in shelter use and homelessness as pandemic relief initiatives end. Further, previous research (Falvo, 2010, 2021) has documented a phenomenon of rising homelessness following periods of economic recession.<sup>3</sup> Falvo found a lag effect with a delay of several years between the onset of the recession and the increase in the homeless population. The rising cost of living eventuates these challenges, especially for those on fixed incomes (Kneebone & Wilkins, 2022). With no capacity to absorb higher costs, these individuals and households are more at risk.<sup>4</sup> With a recession now anticipated in Canada and globally, it is critical to consider programming to minimize the downstream impacts of an economic downturn on top of the withdrawal of pandemic-related temporary assistance. Without further action, there is continued risk of rising homelessness and further expansion of tent-cities.

---

<sup>3</sup> “Falvo, N (2010). The Calm Before the Storm: The Great Recession’s Impact on Homelessness CAE; Falvo, N (2021). The long-term impact of the Covid 19 Pandemic on Homelessness in Canada, ESDC.”

<sup>4</sup> Kneebone & Wilkins (2022). Income support, inflation, and homelessness. <https://www.policyschool.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/HSP104-Inflation.Kneebone.Wilkins.pdf>

## Framing the issue

Homelessness has become an increasingly visible element in Canadian society and governments have responded with an array of programming to provide supports and assistance to those living on the streets and in emergency shelters.

In 2017, the National Housing Strategy (NHS), identified the right to housing as a cornerstone of the strategy which was subsequently formalized with the proclamation of the National Housing Strategy Act, 2019. This committed the federal government to the progressive realization of the right to adequate and affordable housing for all. Essentially, this means ending homelessness within the foreseeable future.

In the 2020 Speech from the Throne, the NHS target of reducing chronic homelessness by 50% was updated to completely end chronic homelessness. The NHS was expanded with a new funding stream, the Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI), designed to build permanent supportive housing. This is the only initiative in the NHS that targets deep assistance, as required for those seeking to exit homelessness. The RHI is currently funded with \$4 billion and is anticipated to add over 12,000 units of permanent supported housing for both chronic and at-risk individuals and families (with ongoing support costs to be funded by the provinces and territories).

The COVID-19 pandemic heightened concern for people experiencing homelessness. When confronted with the directive to “go home and stay home,” people experiencing homelessness were at a significant disadvantage – with no home to go home to.

Through the later part of the pandemic period, the dramatic rise of inflationary pressures has had a significant impact on affordability. Families face increasing difficulty buying food and covering their basic costs of living with pressures exacerbated by unprecedented increases in rents. Across most cities, the rents for new tenancies are reported as increasing by over 15% from the summer to fall of 2021.

These pressures have manifested in the emergence of encampments across communities large and small. These were initially a product of service restrictions and fears of COVID-19. People experiencing homelessness were forced out of shelters by restrictions or left due to fear of getting sick. Subsequently, others, facing the impacts of inflationary rent increases and other increasing costs of living, have also been unable to sustain their housing, forcing them into homelessness. Meanwhile, those trapped too long in the emergency shelter system—those experiencing chronic homelessness—are inhibited from exiting these dire conditions by the absence of lower rent housing and, due to low income-assistance benefit levels, their inability to pay the prevailing rents in most communities. And now, inflating basic living expenses are making affordability worse.

While expanding the new supply of affordable, permanent, supportive housing through the RHI—with appropriate support funding (typically funded at the provincial level)—could create options, it is important to recognize that chronic homelessness is only the tip of the iceberg. Most homelessness is shorter term and associated mainly with a lack of income, and insufficient lower rent options.

Triggering events such as family breakups, accidents, and illness (especially for the uninsured), loss of employment and/or income, all act to exacerbate flows into homelessness.

But the longer people remain in the emergency system and in temporary accommodations, the more likely they are to ultimately “age into chronic homelessness” (i.e., experience homelessness for more than 180 days). Therefore, prevention and mechanisms to stop and slow the flow into homelessness and to reduce the duration of homelessness are just as important as supporting the outflow (exiting into stable housing, with necessary supports, as in RHI).

Setting aside the different triggering events for this much larger cohort, the primary issue is low income combined with unaffordable housing. Many are living in housing that is adequate (condition) and suitable (not over-crowded) – it’s just unaffordable at their income level and as such, they are at risk of losing this housing. A reasonable label for this group is “economically homeless.”<sup>5</sup>

For this significant at-risk population, it is not necessary to build new housing (although at a broader scale, expanding supply is necessary to take pressure off the existing stock). Because their problem is affordability, it can largely and more rapidly be addressed by providing conditionally linked income assistance—that is, rental assistance akin the Canada Housing Benefit—to alleviate high shelter cost burdens and reduce the risk of becoming homeless.

---

<sup>5</sup> The concept of economic homelessness was developed and described in detail in a 2008 report for the Region of Waterloo Assessing Risk of Economic-based Homelessness: Background Report for Waterloo Region’s Housing Stability System, prepared by Steve Pomeroy



As reviewed below, the experience of wage supplements and now, the one-time top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit (CHB), provides concrete proof of the efficacy of a conditional rental assistance approach.

## Reviewing the evidence – the case for a homeless housing benefit

Data on emergency shelter use and counts of chronic homelessness created the appearance of an initial improvement in the earlier phases of the pandemic. This was enabled by social distancing protocols and the opening of temporary accommodations including the use of motels and hotels to minimize congregation in shelters. Reaching Home—the federal homeless funding stream—announced the allocation of an additional \$157.5M in one-time funding as part of the Government of Canada’s COVID-19 Economic Response Plan on 13 March 2020, with a further enhancement of \$236.7M in Sept 2020.

The initial impact of these initiatives was positive, as shown in the data below. This is drawn from a cross-section of communities that have implemented a By-Name-List (BNL) to track progress in ending chronic homelessness (and is reported on the Built for Zero website).

As shown in this data, chronic homelessness began to decline across all communities and reached lows in early-to-mid 2021. However, since relief measures have now been terminated—including the closure of temporary spaces—there is a dramatic rise in

the counts of chronic homelessness in the BNL shelter data, with new peak counts evidenced in more recent months. Averaging across these communities, chronic homelessness has already increased by 46%. It is anticipated that this trend will continue, as the impacts of inflation add burden and stress on the costs of living.

The high rate of inflation is impacting these trends, with low-income individuals and families struggling to pay rising bills and especially rising rents, the number of individuals at risk of falling into homelessness is also increasing (more so for those facing claw backs of ineligible CERB benefits).



## TREND IN CHRONIC HOMELESS (BNL DATA) ACROSS COVID-19 PERIOD

BFZ COMMUNITY	LOW POINT	# CHRONIC	LATEST	# CHRONIC	% CHANGE
Edmonton, AB	Apr-19	1543	Aug-22	2525	64%
Fort McMurray, AB	Jul-20	17	Sep-22	43	153%
Fredericton, NB	Jun-21	100	Sep-22	141	41%
London, ON	Feb-20	247	May-22	349	41%
Moncton, NB	Oct-21	125	Jun-22	174	39%
Ottawa, ON	Mar-22	1005	Sep-22	1162	16%
Peel, ON	Aug-20	408	Aug-22	850	108%
Red Deer, AB	Nov-20	85	Jun-22	157	85%
Saint John, NB	Oct-20	49	Aug-22	90	84%
St John's, NL	Jan-22	72	Sep-22	104	44%
Toronto, ON	Feb-21	3550	Sep-22	4978	40%
Waterloo, ON	Jun-21	354	Sep-22	495	40%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>7,555</b>		<b>11,068</b>	<b>46%</b>

Source: Built for Zero Community Data: <https://bfzcanada.ca/community-progress/>

The high rate of inflation is impacting these trends, with low-income individuals and families struggling to pay rising bills and especially rising rents, the number of individuals at risk of falling into homelessness is also increasing (more so for those facing claw backs of ineligible CERB benefits).

**Investment to address homelessness and renter affordability being eroded**

There is a dramatic reduction in the number of existing low-rent units, which creates a barrier to exiting the shelter system.

The census records rents in \$250 increments, commencing at \$500 per month. To afford a rent of \$500 (a rent just above the benefit level of singles on income assistance) at 30% of income, an income of \$20,000 is required. A rent of \$750 per month requires an income of \$30,000, which is roughly the annual income at minimum wage.

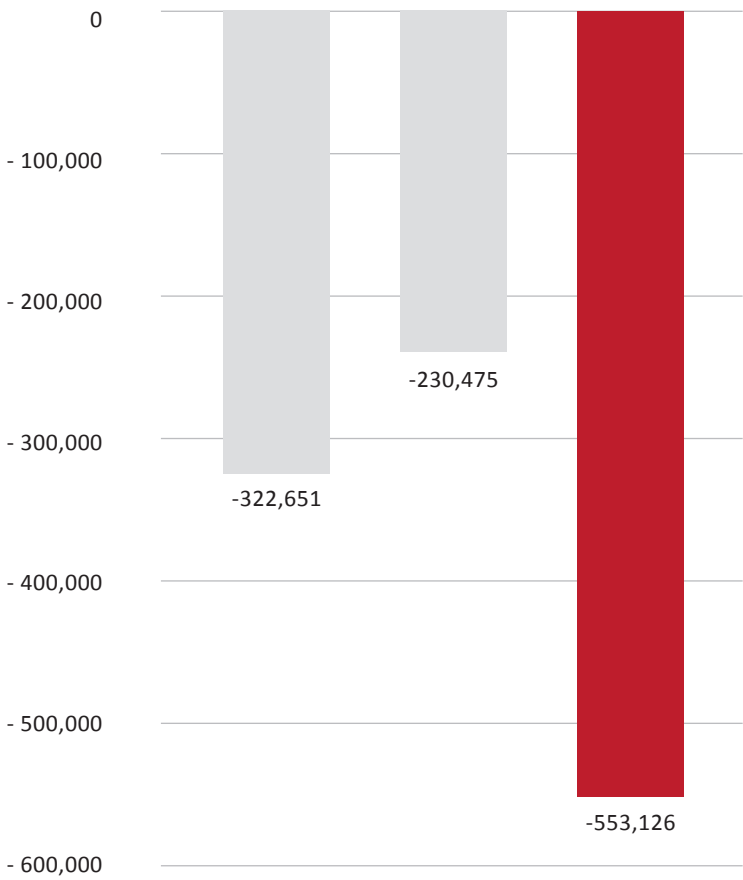
The number of units renting below these thresholds is rapidly disappearing. In 2016, there were 303,775 units below \$500; by 2021 this number fell by 35,000 to only 268,305.

The chart below shows the net change in the number of units below \$750 rent. The number of rentals under \$750 fell by 322,000 between 2011 and 2016. Since 2016, it has been further reduced by 230,000. This equates to a total loss of over half a million units in the past decade. Furthermore, the rent in higher-cost cities with similar erosion in the \$750-\$1000 range offers even more limited housing options.

The NHS proposes to add roughly 16,000 new affordable homes per year through new construction (plus a further 3,000-4,000 per year via RHI, but only for 2020-2023 as RHI is not currently ongoing). However, this is overwhelmed by the erosion of 55,000 existing affordable options each

**Change in #rental units under \$750**

(NON-SUBSIDIZED RENTAL STOCK)



**UNITS LOST**      **2011-2016**      **2016-2021**      **2011-2021**

Source census 2011, 2016 2021

year – a loss of three to four affordable homes for every new one proposed.

The two original NHS targets of a reduction in renter need and 50% reduction in chronic homelessness by 2028 are completely negated by this phenomenon of erosion within the existing private low rent stock.

In some cases, this involves absolute loss. For instance, low-rent properties which largely exist in inner city areas subject to intensification are demolished and replaced with either higher rent or condominium units. In most cases, the units continue to exist, but rents have inflated above the more affordable rent range (i.e. above \$750). This is enabled by market pressures, rent regulation that permits vacancy decontrol and landlord behaviours that seek to force the end of tenancies (renovictions) to implement vacancy decontrol with a substantial increase in rents.

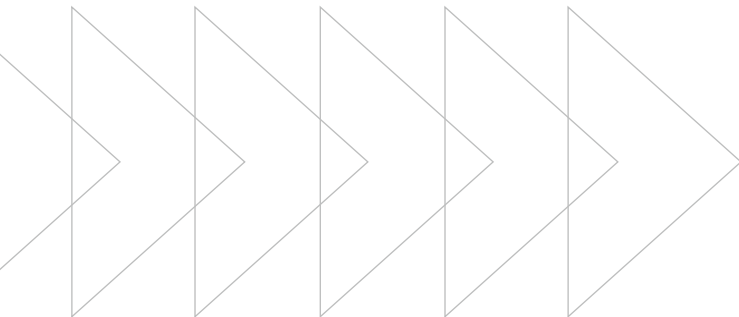
## Illusionary but revealing insights from the 2021 Census

The housing and income data from the 2021 Census, released in September 2022, provides further evidence and insight on potential solutions.

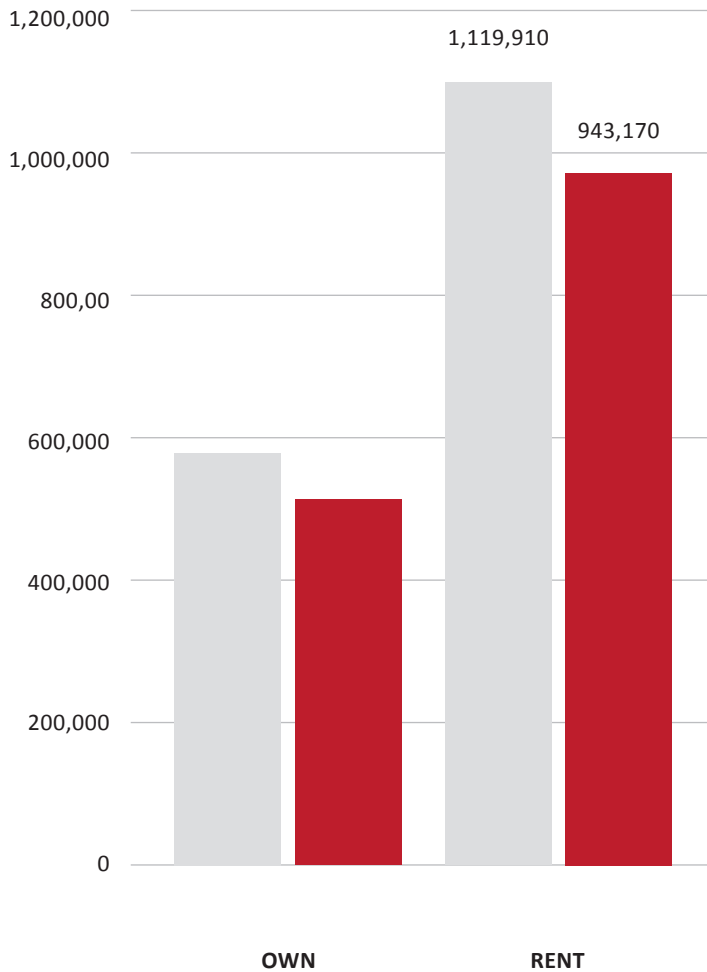
New estimates of core housing need reported in Census 2021 add valuable insight into the impact of income support. Despite the extensive media and political discourse about a housing affordability crisis, the Census reported a substantial improvement in housing affordability.

The total number in core housing need declined by 242,000, with most of the gain among renters (177,000). The percentage of all renters in core housing need fell from 27% to 20% of all renters.

While CERB (the Canada Emergency Response Benefit) was temporary and general in nature, it dramatically reveals the potential impact of providing income subsidy on housing affordability.



## Number Household in Core Need

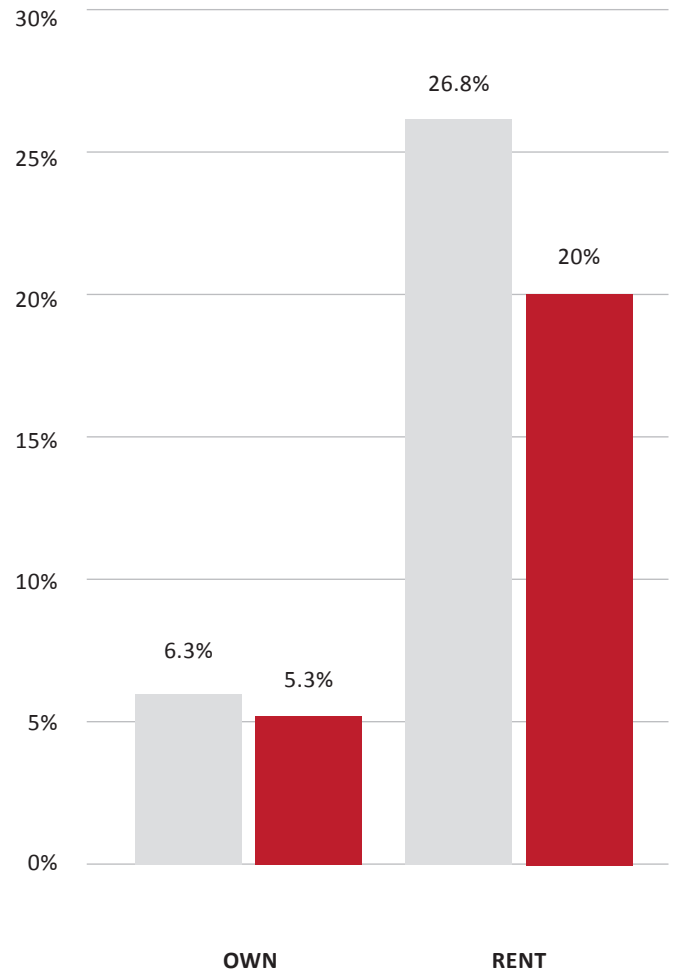


Statistics Canada. Table 98-10-0248-01

■ 2016

■ 2021

## Incidence of Need, by Tenure



Statistics Canada. Table 98-10-0248-01

■ 2016%  
IN NEED

■ 2021%  
IN NEED

While this seems counterintuitive, given the wide discussion of inflation, rising rents and prices, the improvement is readily explained. Because affordability compares shelter cost to income, while rents and prices have increased, there was a more than offsetting improvement in incomes – but a very temporary one.

Because the Census was conducted in May 2021 and asked for total annual income in 2020, it captured the peak of CERB and other pandemic-related wage subsidies. As such, this is a temporary phenomenon and one that is already in abeyance.

**More importantly, while this was temporary in nature, it dramatically revealed the potential impact of providing income subsidies. The same effect can be reproduced and extended by expanding the Canada Housing Benefit. A CHB-type approach can be implemented far more quickly and more cheaply than building new units with deeply subsidized rents.**

For the almost one million renter households in core need, over 85% experience only an affordability problem. They live in a home of sufficient size for their family and in fair or good condition. Assisting them to address the specific issue of affordability can be achieved by simply augmenting their income - which doesn't require a pandemic response.

While most homeless people are not captured in the core need assessment, many "at risk" households are, especially those with high shelter cost burdens— paying over 50% of their income for rent. Loss of employment or some income reduction, unexpected expenses and other life events can quickly create challenges to pay the rent, lead to arrears and ultimately eviction. With an insufficient stock of low-rent homes available, and nowhere affordable to move to, the consequence of this is homelessness.

Over one-third (37%) of the 943,000 renter households in core need in 2021 pay over 50% of

their income for their housing and, as such, are potentially at risk. Augmenting the income of these 347,000 renters with severe rent burdens is an effective way to reduce the risk of increasing flows into homelessness.

To have the greatest impact, it would be desirable to create a universal housing benefit, as exists in other countries like the United Kingdom, Netherlands, and France. However, prior analysis has determined that such a universal entitlement approach would involve substantial cost —more than \$3.5 billion annually (Blueprint, 2021). In the current context, which demands fiscal prudence to manage the risk of exacerbating inflationary pressures, a more narrowly targeted or rationed benefit is a more realistic option (e.g., as in the US Section 8 voucher or Australian Commonwealth Rent Assistance).

This can target people experiencing homelessness and those deemed to be at high risk of becoming homeless. Such a targeted option could also be effective in addressing the prevailing concern for those forced to live in tent encampments, due to the lack of affordable housing. And when combined with Housing First supports can also assist in housing those in encampments with complex needs.

More carefully designed supportive housing is required for the most vulnerable and highest acuity homeless (especially those with significant mental health and addiction illness and complex needs). These cases may be better managed under initiatives like the Rapid Housing Initiative or another dedicated supportive housing program.

But for the vast majority for whom the primary cause is simply a lack of income, combined with insufficient lower rent stock, a housing benefit is a quick and effective remedy.

Detailed analysis of the dynamics of poverty and core housing need has empirically confirmed that in most cases, the issue is temporary and resolvable (CMHC, 2012). Two-thirds to three-quarters of those in poverty or core need are found to experience these challenges for less than three years – there is only a smaller subset of chronic poor or chronic core need.

Given this characteristic, temporary income support can be effective, and overtime clients will reduce and eliminate their need (usually due to improved employment and income) with stabilized and affordable housing.

## Existing Canada Housing Benefit

The Canada Housing Benefit (CHB) was introduced under the NHS as one of the three cost-shared initiatives to be delivered under bilateral agreements by the provinces and territories. Scheduled to be implemented effective April 1, 2020, this was delayed in many jurisdictions due to the pandemic. As a result, there is limited data and reporting on achievements to date.

Progress on the NHS as of June 2022 reported that provinces have committed \$284.79 million to support 84,835 households. Some jurisdictions have used the new CHB cost sharing to expand existing provincial housing allowance programs,

notably in British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec, while the others are designing and implementing new initiatives. But the progress remains well short of the plan to address rental affordability for 300,000 households.

Subsequently inspired by the necessity to address the impacts of high inflation in September 2022, the federal government announced an Affordability Plan (Bill C-31). This included a range of relief initiatives including what is framed as “a one-time top up to the Canada Housing Benefit”. This is described in the official government release:

*The one-time top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit would deliver a \$500 payment to 1.8 million renters who are struggling with the cost of housing. This more than doubles the government’s Budget 2022 commitment, reaching twice as many Canadians as initially promised. The federal benefit will be available to applicants with an adjusted net income below \$35,000 for families, or below \$20,000 for individuals, who pay at least 30 per cent of their adjusted net income on rent.<sup>6</sup>*

The release further advises that Canada Revenue Agency’s (CRA) application portal for Canada Housing Benefit will be available to Canadians following Royal Assent of Bill C-31.

As such, this is not so much a top-up of the bilateral CHB, as a unilateral federal initiative. This

---

<sup>6</sup>In this statement it counts all persons living in renter households, hence 1.8 million **people** vs the earlier reference to 943,000 renter **households** in core need.

demonstrates a federal commitment to improve housing affordability for low-income renters. It also reveals a commitment to directly deliver assistance to individuals or households using the tax system, in the same way that the child tax benefit or the Climate Action Incentive payment, rather than rely of delivery via provincial-territorial programs.

In the area of homelessness, the federal government already directly delivers funding to communities under Reaching Home Community Entity agreements. Earlier versions of Reaching Home created rent supplements to augment Housing First initiatives and the new Veteran Homelessness Program (announced in Budget 2021 and 2022) is expected to allocate over \$100M to facilitate Housing First, plus a rent supplement.

So the precedents and mechanisms to allocated and distribute a unilateral homeless housing benefit are already well established.

## Proposed Targeted Homelessness Prevention and Housing Benefit

As reviewed above, the number of low-rent units are insufficient and eroding, and usually already occupied. To exit homelessness, a sufficient level of purchasing capacity is needed to access available housing, typically at least \$750-\$1,000 range. These rents are far above the benefit level of Income Assistance.

For those facing high shelter cost burdens, the risk of losing their home can be reduced by augmenting income with targeted income assistance, in the form of a housing benefit.

The intent here is to accelerate exits from homelessness and at the same time prevent “at risk” individuals and households from falling into homelessness due to lack of income and inability to secure affordable housing. This ultimately adds to counts of chronic homelessness.<sup>7</sup>

This problem can be addressed by creating a remedy for the critical barrier that is precluding exits from homelessness or exacerbating the risk of becoming homeless – insufficient income.

Based on this assessment, and the dual issues of exiting homelessness and slowing and preventing the growth of additional homelessness two variants for a benefit are proposed:

- ▶ 1. A benefit targeting chronic homelessness to enable exits and minimize long-term emergency shelter stays; and
- ▶ 2. An upstream benefit to prevent and divert at risk households from becoming homeless.

The potential eligibility and affordability gaps, and estimated costs are outlined below for each of these streams.

---

<sup>7</sup> Others may present at shelters because of other risk factors, including mental health, addictions, family violence or separation, so risk is not only associated with loss of or insufficient income. However, “economic homelessness” is associated with a high proportion of cases, separately or in combination with these factors.



## **1. A BENEFIT TO SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS**

There are an estimated 35,000 chronically homeless people per year, although this is in constant flux. As some are housed, new flows and longer stays in the shelter system, influenced by the ongoing cost of living crisis, result in new chronic homelessness. In the 2020 assessment for Recovery for All (CAEH, 2020) it was estimated that the number of people experiencing long-term chronic homelessness is likely closer to 50,000 per year when accounting for these new flows in chronicity.

Depending on need and individuals' acuity level, some people experiencing chronic homelessness may better fit with permanent supportive housing, being delivered in existing supportive housing and now under the new Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI) or through scattered site Housing First programs. However, a targeted Homelessness Prevention and Housing Benefit (HPHB) can be an effective complement to RHI and can much more quickly reduce chronic shelter use. A housing benefit is also an integral element of scattered-site housing first.

So, the first stream of the proposed HPHB would seek to assist the majority of those identified in chronic homelessness, between 30,000-50,000 mostly single-person households.

This would be phased in incrementally, but ideally with the goal of housing as many as possible within the first year. This could potentially house 20,000-25,000 people and incrementally assist remaining (and newly) chronic over the subsequent 2-4 years. At full participation, up to 50,000 people would be assisted after 5 years.

As recipients are stabilized in housing and supported to reacquire employment skills, participation and/or the amount of assistance required may decline as recipients gain employment earnings, are transitioned to mainstream provincial or territorial housing benefits, or are moved into purpose built affordable or supportive housing. Ideally, these reductions can exceed the number of new recipients flowing into homelessness – but this depends on a second initiative targeting a reducing in “new homelessness,” described later.

For those seeking to exit the emergency system, most are, initially at least, dependent on provincial/territorial Income Assistance benefits, often associated with Housing First programs. Across Canada, the portion of the income assistance designated for shelter is very low – typically under \$400/month for a potentially-employable single person; and typically, under \$500/month for someone on long-term disability benefits.

## MONTHLY AFFORDABILITY GAP BETWEEN INCOME ASSISTANCE (IA) SHELTER AND MEDIAN RENT (2021)

	SINGLE			LONE PARENT-2 KIDS		
	BLENDED MEDIAN BACH/ONE-BED	AVAILABLE VIA IA BENEFIT	AFFORD GAP	TWO BEDROOM MEDIAN	AVAILABLE VIA IA BENEFIT	AFFORD GAP
AB	945	400	545	1,230	650	580
BC	1225	400	825	1,500	650	850
MB	890	400	490	1,238	650	588
NB	725	400	325	900	650	250
NL	733	400	333	888	650	238
NS	923	400	523	1,175	650	525
ON	1154	400	754	1,397	650	747
PEI	699	400	299	960	650	310
QC	680	400	280	805	650	155
SK	800	400	400	1,105	650	455
CAN	904	400	504	1,084	650	434

Source: 2021 CMHC Rental Market Survey

There is simply an insufficient number of rental units in the lower rent range, and most are already occupied. To enable an exit from homelessness, it is necessary to top up this minimum allowance to better align with the realistic rent costs of available units.

The estimated affordability gap (the difference between median rent of suitable units and the available income assistance shelter benefit) is estimated in the table above (provincial benefits vary by jurisdiction but are on average \$400 and \$500, so for simplicity these general levels are used below).

While the required top-up will vary and be much larger in higher-cost markets (even at the provincial level we see much higher gaps in BC and Ontario), it is likely to average between \$430 and \$500 per month in 2021. This is significantly greater than the current CHB which estimates \$2,500 per year (just over \$200/month).

To reflect ongoing inflation of 15-20% in rents, and the greater share of people experiencing homelessness in more expensive cities, a more realistic estimate is an average gap of \$600-\$700 per month.

**At full participation, up to 50,000 people would be assisted. Assuming an average gap of \$600-\$700 per month would require an annual budget of \$360 million to \$420 million.**

## **2. A BENEFIT TO PREVENT NEW FLOWS INTO HOMELESSNESS**

Alongside enabling current chronically homeless people to access housing, it is critical to slow and ideally stop the flow into homelessness, which when unaddressed, can then evolve toward chronic homelessness.

The critical risk factor for many is a high shelter cost burden, which often exacerbates vulnerability to life stress, such as loss of income, family separation or illness. This can mean an inability to pay rent resulting in arrears that can spiral into eviction. With an inability to afford new accommodation (exacerbated by vacancy decontrol mechanisms that raise the rent on a previously affordable vacated unit), such individuals and families remain homeless, exacerbating mental health issues and creating ongoing trauma.

A substantial proportion of people are seeking assistance from emergency shelters and associated community service centres mainly due to a lack of income and affordability challenges. Because of this, an HPHB can be an effective mechanism to prevent and divert people from homelessness, beyond a very temporary exposure, as their issues are assessed and housing assistance delivered. This reduction new clients at these service providers can concurrently increase the capacity for emergency shelters and community service centres to focus resources and improve outcomes, supporting people experiencing homelessness with higher acuity needs.

## **Estimated participation and benefit amount in a prevention HPHB**

The way that the HPHB is designed, allocated and distributed will significantly impact the program cost for this second type of preventive benefit.

At one extreme, it could be allocated to all renters paying more than 50% of their income on rent. Alternatively, it could be distributed on an “as needed” basis, with enrolment triggered only when a household reports a serious risk of eviction or loss of housing.



In this brief, two variants of the preventive stream are examined.

- ▶ 2A. assumes a more universal approach, seeking to capture all those potentially at risk of homelessness. An extreme shelter cost burden is typically identified as paying over 50% of income for rent and is used as a proxy for those at risk.
- ▶ 2B. assumes a more narrowly targeted option that more selectively enrolls participants based on need – at the point they would move from “at risk” to falling into homelessness.

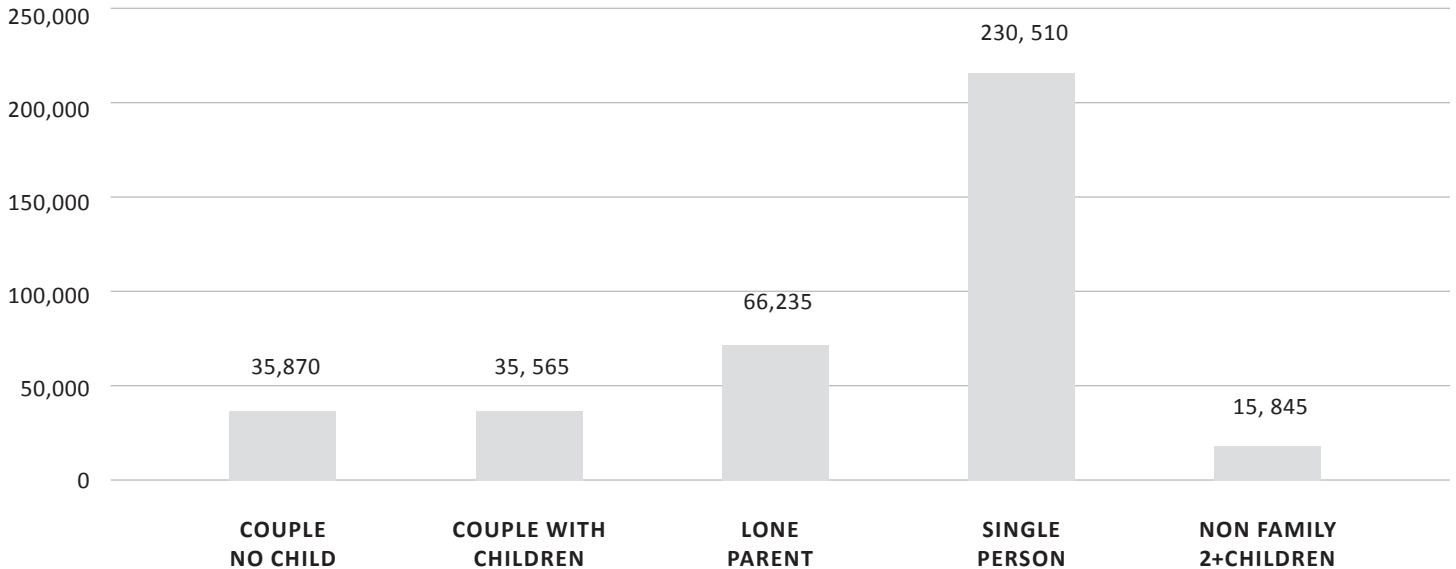
## Stream 2A

For the broader Stream 2A, in 2016 there were 385,000 nonsubsidized renters paying over 50% of their income for their rent. The 2021 Census data captured a lower number at 309,000, reflecting a temporary boost in income due to pandemic supports, which reduced the number of renters with severe rent burdens exceeding 50% of income. As a result, the 2016 Census may provide a better proxy of potential eligibility and is used in developing cost estimates below.

More than half (53%) of the households paying over 50% for rent are single-person (and thus single or fixed income) and a further 17% are sole parents (so again, constrained by one income). Not shown here, roughly 20% of all paying over 50% are seniors, also reflecting low, fixed incomes.

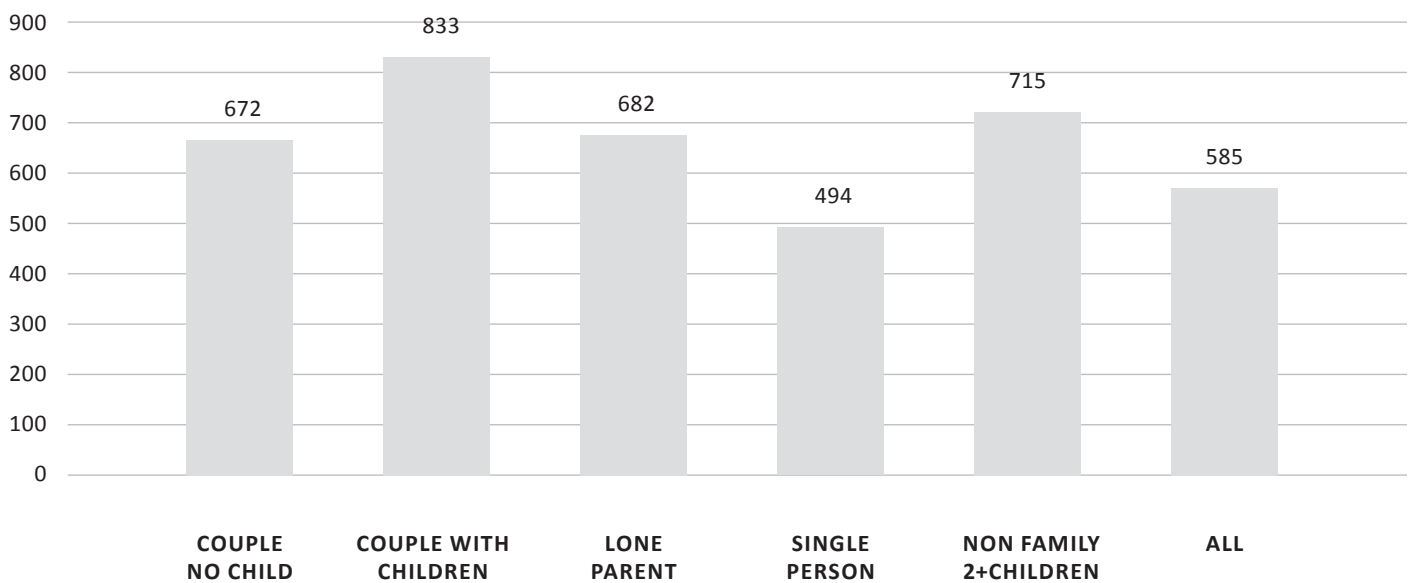


## 2016 Households in core need paying >50%



Source: CMHC HICO 2016

## Core need >50% - affordability gap (2016)



Source: CMHC HICO 2016

Again, based on the average before tax income and average shelter costs, the affordability gap (calculated at 30% gross income) is estimated for each household type, using 2016 data. This reflects the average amount required to reduce payments down to only 30% of gross income.

The overall average HPHB payment required in 2016 is estimated at \$585/month – although this varies by household type, size, and geography. With substantially inflating rents since 2016 and ignoring the temporary income effect of the pandemic support, this is now likely similar to that determined in Stream 1 (chronic benefit), somewhere between \$600-\$700 per month.

The aggregate cost will be impacted by design and eligibility features, especially how much of this gap is addressed.

Reducing affordability down to 30% of income would impose the largest cost. While not removing households from core need, a narrower amount of assistance (e.g., down to 40%) could reduce risk and allow a lower cost option.

As an upper estimate of the potential cost, if 100% participation was facilitated (based on 385,000 people/households paying over 50%), with the benefit designed to lower net shelter cost to only 30% of income, the potential annual cost would be in the order of \$3.0 billion each year.

Rather than fully removing participants from core need, the HPHB could be designed to only reduce the severity of the shelter cost burden and thus the risk of homelessness. If the benefit reduced

maximum shelter expenses to only 40% (rather than 30%) of income, the estimated aggregate cost for the same 385,000 households might be reduced to roughly \$2.0 billion annually. This assumes full, 100% participation, which may occur if recipients are automatically qualified based on a tax filing process, as discussed later.

**Depending on the design and degree of affordability sought, in this first variation of the prevention stream, Stream 2A would incur an estimated cost of between \$1.5 billion and \$2.7 billion annually.**

## Stream 2B

Stream 2B envisions a more targeted approach requiring the development of an enrolment process that assesses and prioritizes people based on need and risk of homelessness. The logistical challenges of enrolling those imminently at risk are greater than Stream 2A, a blanket approach, but this option is more narrowly targeted, with a resulting lower cost.

Because there are so few readily available social-affordable housing options, having an HPHB would expand options to find appropriate and affordable housing. It would strengthen rapid rehousing/diversion initiatives and help secure ongoing housing stability.

This would potentially capture up to 200,000 (excluding people experiencing chronic homelessness) that seek assistance in the shelter system emergency services in any one year.

With a more targeted, needs-based enrollment, and thus lower caseload, it is likely that the number of assisted individuals/households would be between 100,000 and 200,000. Again, if the design simply seeks to reduce excessive shelter burden to 40% of income versus reducing shelter costs to only 30%, this again substantially impacts the required expenditure.

- ▶ Enrolling 200,000 individuals and reducing their shelter cost to 30% would require an expenditure of approximately \$1.5 billion per year.
- ▶ A shallower benefit (reduce rent-to-income to only 40%) would incur a lower cost, approximating \$1.0 billion annually.

## Options for the delivery of the HPHB

The chronic homeless targeted Stream 1 and the more targeted prevention Stream 2B would involve an enrollment/registration process to determine eligibility and benefit level, while being directly linked to the process to support people/families in finding and securing housing.

With the objective of rapid rehousing, local points of access would ideally have access to funds to immediately help in the form of the first month of rent and deposit or an equivalent guarantee mechanism. This could be facilitated by creating a line of credit or refunding source to reimburse the local service agencies. More importantly, this would facilitate immediate rehousing, rather than a period living in the emergency shelter.

Once enrolled, housed payments can be made via direct deposit or cheques to the recipient. Ongoing need and eligibility renewal could be facilitated via creating a tax credit form in the annual income tax filing and utilizing CRA as a payment conduit, as now proposed under Bill C-31, An Act respecting cost of living relief measures related to dental care and rental housing, (September 2022).

An efficient mechanism would be to allocate this targeted HPHB via existing Reaching Home community entities, including the rural and northern streams. Initially this option could be piloted in Reaching Home and communities with Coordinated Access BNLs. Once tested and proven it could then be expanded to additional communities, where designated enrollment services would need to be identified.

For Stream 2A, this component of the HPHB could be established as an expansion of the current Canada Housing Benefit. The process of determining eligibility and calculating benefit levels could be delegated to provincial housing ministries already implementing the CHB.

Since the Canada Housing Benefit is already delivered under the cost-shared bilateral programs, and as most support services are funded and delivered via provincial and territorial programs, there is a case to flow any targeted HPHB as an enhancement to the existing bilateral arrangements on the CHB. This could strengthen coordination between housing and support services, which are almost exclusively delivered via the provinces/territories.

To the extent that the provinces and territories are unilaterally funding the array of health and support services, it may not be fair to also seek a cost-sharing for the HPHB (provinces and territories already fund support costs, a form of cost matching), so this could be unilaterally funded at the federal level. Given the bulk of cost savings for reducing chronic homelessness would accrue to the provinces, and the federal government would be solely funding this enhancement, an argument could be made to the provinces that they should fund health and social services related support costs to support housing people with complex needs.

For Stream 2B, the program could be delivered either under the umbrella of Reaching Home or delivered through provincial or territorial homelessness funding programs. The key in this scenario is to attempt to narrow eligibility to those at greatest risk of homelessness, without inadvertently drawing people at risk of homelessness into the homeless system to access the benefit.

Eligibility for streams 2A and 2B could also be facilitated directly by the federal government by creating a schedule and application in the annual tax return. Distributing monthly assistance payments, and reconfirming eligibility can also be implemented using the tax filing system, in conjunction with the array of other benefits delivered through that mechanism as anticipated under Bill 31.





## Conclusions and Recommendations

To address the trend of rising chronic homelessness as well as overall homelessness, exacerbated by prevailing inflationary conditions, as well as termination of temporary pandemic relief measures it is recommended that the federal government undertake the design and implementation of a targeted Homelessness Prevention & Housing Benefit (HPHB).

### **Two streams of the HPHB are identified:**

- ▶ 1. An HPHB to accelerate exits from chronic homelessness and minimize long-term emergency shelter stays.
- ▶ 2. An HPHB to prevent at risk populations from becoming homeless.

Under the second stream, two variants are outlined:  
2A. assumes a more universal approach seeking to capture all those potentially at risk. An extreme shelter cost burden is typically identified at paying over 50% of income for rent and is used as a proxy for those at risk.

2B. assumes a more narrowly targeted option that more selectively enrolls participants based on need – at the point they would move from “at risk” to falling into homelessness.

Participation and associated annual expenditures to fund these subsidies have been estimated.

Stream 1 is anticipated at full implementation to support up to 50,000 people. Assuming an average gap of \$600-\$700 per month, this would require an

annual budget of \$360 million up to \$420 million.

The budget for Stream 2 will depend on the degree to which shelter cost burdens are reduced and whether it is more broadly spread to cover all 385,000 households at risk or more narrowly targeted to enroll people imminently at risk.

- ▶ Enrolling 385,000 “at risk” individuals (who spend over 50% of their income on shelter) and reducing their shelter cost to 30% would require an expenditure of approximately \$3.0 billion per year.
- ▶ A shallower (reduced to 40% of income) more targeted benefit (200,000 individuals) would incur a lower cost, approximating \$1.0 billion annually.

It is further recommended that this be funded as a unilateral federal initiative but implemented in consultation and collaboration with provinces and territories, who would be partners in separately funded necessary ongoing support services.

In both streams, it is suggested that payments be administered through CRA like many other federal credits and benefits as was already proposed under Bill C-31.

Once individuals are enrolled payments can be facilitated via direct payment either through Reaching Home/Infrastructure Canada) or CRA. Subsequent and ongoing renewal can be determined via tax filing applications, which will require the creation of a specific schedule in the annual tax return to reapply.

# Appendix A: Costing Estimates

## STREAM 1 HPHB TO ACCELERATE EXITS FROM CHRONIC HOMELESS

Total eligible households (most individuals)	50,000	50,000
Gap max welfare shelter and typical rent	600	700
Total cost	\$360 million	\$420 million

## STREAM 2 HPHB PREVENTION TO MINIMIZE NEW HOMELESS

Stream 2A - blanket all renters in core need paying >50%

Total eligible households (2/3 individuals)	385,000
Gap ave rent vs 30% ave income	650/month
Total cost	\$3.0 billion

Total eligible households (2/3 individuals)	385,000
Gap ave rent vs 40% ave income	450/month
Total cost	\$2.0 billion

## STREAM 2B TARGETED ENROLLMENT WHEN PRESENT AS HOMELESS

Total eligible households	200,000
Gap ave rent vs 30% ave income	650/month
Total cost	\$1.56 billion

## STREAM 2B TARGETED ENROLLMENT WHEN PRESENT AS HOMELESS

Total eligible households	200,000
Gap ave rent vs 40% ave income	450/month
Total cost	\$1.0 billion





 @CAEHOMELSSNESS

 @ENDINGHOMELSSNESS

 @CAEHOMELSSNESS

CAEH.CA

**Report #:** 9.5  
**Subject:** Further Appointments to LHC Board for 2023  
**To:** Board Members  
**Presented By:** Shannon Johnson, CFO  
**Prepared By:** Shannon Johnson, CFO  
**Date:** January 12, 2023

---

**Resolution:**

THAT the Board approve the amendment of Resolution 23 01 03 to add the following Officer and Directors to the Parry Sound District Housing Corporation, as follows:

Officer: Vice-Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Directors: Jerry Brandt, Joel Constable, Mike Dell, Peter McIsaac, and Sean Cotton

**Report:**

The Parry Sound District Housing Corporation (the Local Housing Corporation or LHC) is a wholly owned subsidiary of the District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board (the DSSAB). It was incorporated under the *Business Corporations Act* and as such must appoint Officers and Directors, appoint auditors, approve financial statements, file tax returns, etc. each year. At the time of formation of the LHC and transfer of social housing to the DSSAB in 2000, the initial Board members were appointed by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Shortly thereafter, for efficiency of operations and also to reflect the reality of the ownership and responsibility for the LHC, the DSSAB Board started the process of appointing all DSSAB Board Members and relevant staff as Officers and Directors of the Corporation.

Operationally, this has allowed us to act on the business of the Corporation at our regular Board meetings. All activities related to the business of social housing are conducted by the DSSAB. The LHC holds title to the social housing property. Relevant minutes are transferred to the Parry Sound District Housing Corporation minute books and files.

# MONTHLY JOBS REPORT

JANUARY 2023

The Labour Market Group  
Guiding partners to workforce solutions.

## NIPISSING DISTRICT

There were 519 job postings recorded for Nipissing district in the month of January. This is a significant increase; +35.9% (+137), from the previous month's figure of 382 postings. This month-over-month increase is largely attributed to seasonal trends coming out of the holiday season. The 2023 figure is comparable; -2.6% (-14) to the January 2022 total which for the second consecutive month, is a positive sign. 275 unique employers posted jobs in January which is significantly above; +45.5% (+86), December but only slightly above; +5% (+13) the January 2022 figure.



### OF THE 519 JOB POSTINGS



**100%**

Collected from online sources.



**16.2%**

(84) Requiring a bilingual individual.

**13.1%**  
(68) Criminal Record Check



For postings that listed an annual salary.



**\$69,800.52/year**  
AVERAGE



**\$23.96**  
HOURLY WAGE

The average hourly wage in January for those postings which listed one.

Of the 112 postings which listed an hourly wage 18.8% (21) were listed at the provincial minimum wage of \$15.50/hour.

## PARRY SOUND DISTRICT

There were 155 job postings recorded for the Parry Sound district in the month of January. This figure is drastically above; +68.5% (+63), the previous month's total of 63 postings. This month-over-month increase is largely attributed to seasonal trends coming out of the holiday season. The 2022 figure is below; -8.8% (-15), the January 2022 total. 82 unique employers posted jobs in January which is significantly above; +49.1% (+27), December but more in-line; -9.9% (-9), with the January 2022 figure of 91.



### OF THE 155 JOB POSTINGS



**100%**

Collected from online sources.



**6.5%**

(10) Requiring a bilingual individual.

**5.2%**  
(8) Criminal Record Check



For postings that listed an annual salary.



**\$76,231.86/year**  
AVERAGE



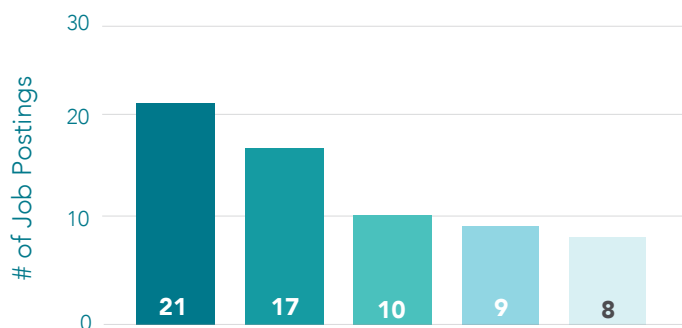
**\$24.32**  
HOURLY WAGE

The average hourly wage in January for those postings which listed one.

Of the 41 postings which listed an hourly wage 4.9% (2) were listed at the provincial minimum wage of \$15.50/hour.

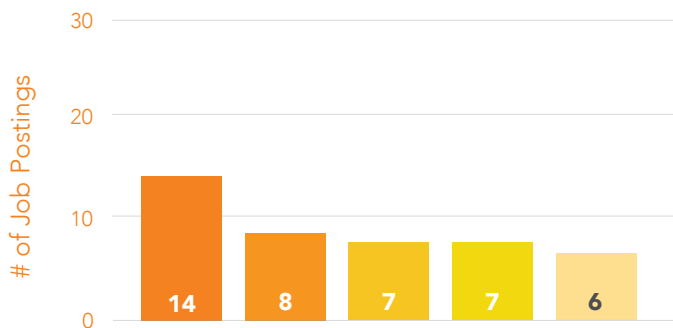
## TOP 5 EMPLOYERS POSTING JOBS

- North Bay Regional Health Centre
- Near North District School Board
- Cascades Casino
- Nordic Minesteel Technologies Inc.
- West Nipissing General Hospital

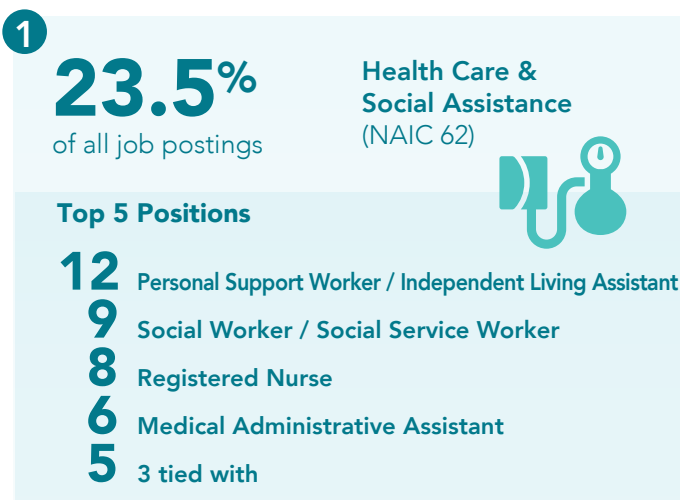


## TOP 5 EMPLOYERS POSTING JOBS

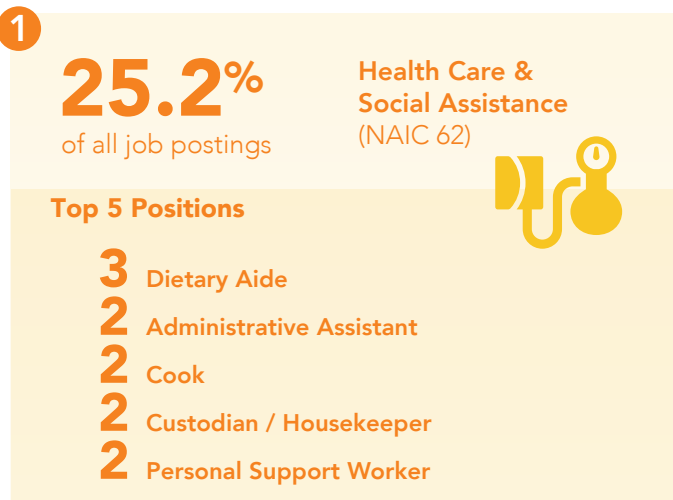
- West Parry Sound Health Centre
- Walmart - Parry Sound
- Near North District School Board
- Sobeys - Parry Sound
- The Home Depot - Parry Sound



## TOP 5 INDUSTRIES HIRING (NAICS)



## TOP 5 INDUSTRIES HIRING (NAICS)



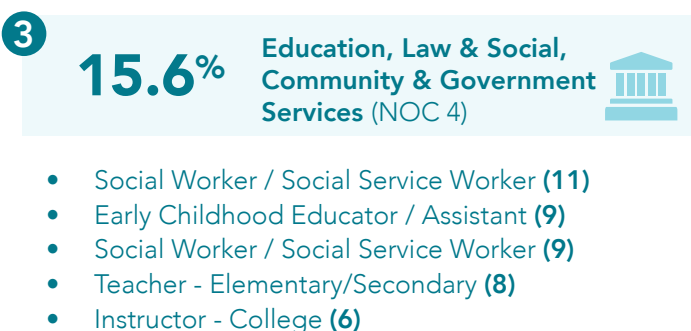
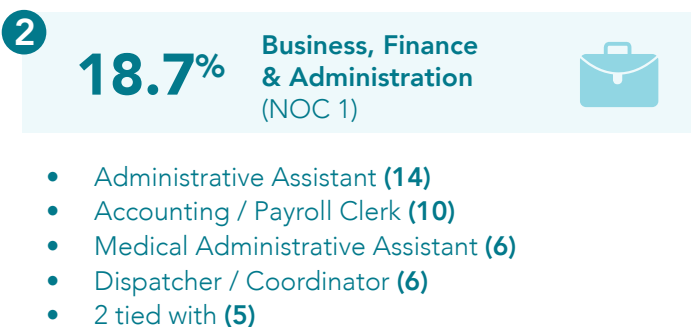
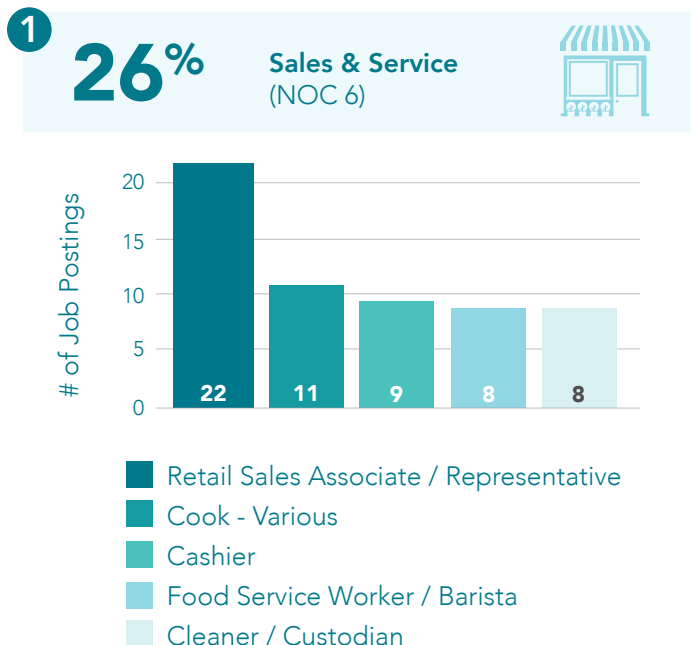
- 2** **20%** : Retail Trade (NAIC 44-45)
- 3** **8.5%** : Accommodation & Food Services (NAICS 72)
- 4** **7.5%** : Educational Services (NAICS 61)
- 5** **7.3%** : Manufacturing (NAICS 31-33)

The Health Care and Social Assistance (NAICS-62) industry saw the greatest number of job postings in January with 23.5% (122) of the overall share amongst all major industry classifications. The largest month-over-month increase of +6.2% occurred within the Retail Trade (NAICS-44-45) industry which accounted for 20% (104) of the job postings in January. The largest month-over-month decrease amongst all major industry classifications of -4.5% was seen in the Educational Services (NAICS-61) industry which accounted for 7.5% (39) of the postings in the month of January.

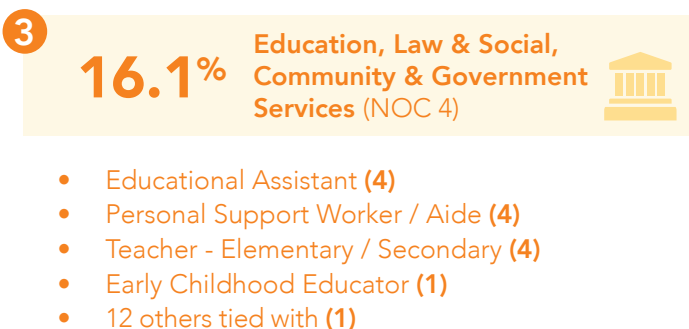
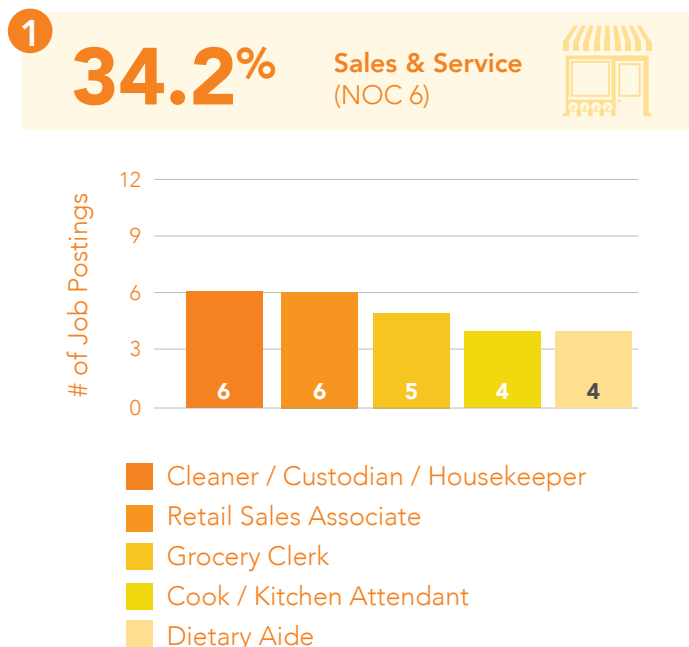
- 2** **24.5%** : Retail Trade (NAICS 44-45)
- 3** **7.1%** : Educational Services (NAICS 61)
- 4** **7.1%** : Public Administration (NAICS 91)
- 5** **6.5%** : Administrative & Support, Waste Management & Remediation Services (NAICS 56)

The Health Care and Social Service (NAICS-62) industry saw the greatest number of job postings in January with 25.2% (39) of the overall share amongst all major industry classifications. The Retail Trade (NAICS-44-45) industry saw the largest month-over-month change of job posting share with a +3.9% increase to account for 24.5% (38) of the January postings. The Arts, Entertainment and Recreation (NAICS-71) industry saw the largest month-over-month decrease of -5.7% to make up 1.9% (3) of the job postings in this month.

## TOP 3 OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORIES (NOC)



## TOP 3 OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORIES (NOC)



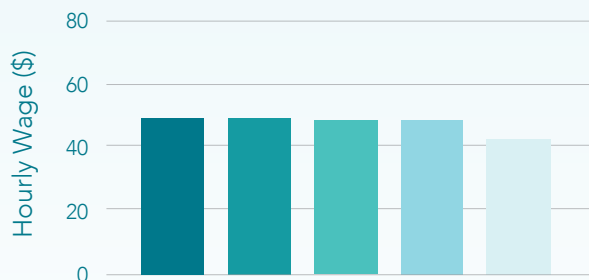
Sales and Service (NOC-6) based occupations made up the largest portion of job postings with 26% (135) of all postings in January when compared to the major occupational classifications. The highest month-over-month increase of +5.6% occurred for Business, Finance and Administration (NOC-1) based occupations which made up 18.7% (97) of the January job postings. Inversely Education, Law and Social, Community and Government Services (NOC-4) based occupations saw the largest month-over-month decrease of -5.1% to represent 15.6% (81) of the January job postings.

Sales and Service (NOC-6) based occupations represented the largest number of job postings with 34.2% (53) of all postings when compared to the major occupational classifications. These occupations also saw the largest month-over-month increase of +4.8%. The largest month-over-month decrease in job posting share was Education, Law and Social, Community and Government Services (NOC-4) based occupations which changed -8.4% to make up 12.3% (19) of the January postings.

## TOP 5 HOURLY WAGE VACANCIES



**\$49.00** Registered Nurse  
@ North Bay Regional Health Centre



**\$49.00** Registered Nurse  
@ West Nipissing General Hospital

**\$48.00** Manager - Clinical Services  
@ One Kids Place Children's Medical Treatment Center of North East Ontario

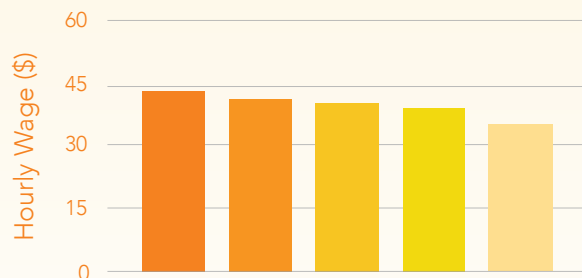
**\$48.00** Occupational Health, Safety and Abilities Management Specialist  
@ West Nipissing General Hospital

**\$42.00** Automotive Service Technician - 310s  
@ Stockfish Automotive Group

## TOP 5 HOURLY WAGE VACANCIES



**\$44.00** Medical Radiation Technologist  
@ West Parry Sound Health Centre



**\$42.00** Heavy Duty Equipment Technician  
@ GF Preston Ltd

**\$41.00** Therapist - Crisis  
@ Canadian Mental Health Association - Muskoka Parry Sound Branch

**\$40.00** Arborist / Lead Climber  
@ TreeWiseGuys

**\$35.00** Heavy Equipment Mechanic  
@ J & J Equipment Repair Inc.

## TOP 3 ANNUAL SALARY VACANCIES

**\$141,155**

Senior Director - Strategic International Development  
@ Canadore College

**\$120,000**

Psychologist  
@ Brainworks

**\$109,377**

Health and Safety Specialist  
@ Workplace Safety North



**Lowest Annual Salary \$45,500**

Receptionist - Bilingual  
@ Community Counselling

## TOP ANNUAL SALARY VACANCY

**\$120,307**

Nurse Practitioner  
@ Eastholme Home for the Aged

**\$95,000**

Architectural Technologist (technical Designer)  
@ Phoenix Building Components Inc

**\$75,000**

Accountant  
@ Gingrich Harris Copeland, Chartered Professional Accountants



**Lowest Annual Salary \$46,000**

Financial Administrator - Projects and Programs  
@ YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka

The average hourly wage in January for those postings which listed (21.6%) an hourly wage was \$23.96/hour. This is notably above; +7% (+\$1.57/hour), the current 12-month average of \$22.39/hour. Of the 112 postings which listed an hourly wage 18.8% (21) were listed at the provincial minimum wage of \$15.50/hour. For postings that listed an annual salary the average was \$69,800.52/year. This figure is significantly above; +12.1% (+\$7,556.21/year), the current 12-month average of \$62,244.31/year.

The average hourly wage in January for those postings which listed (26.5%) an hourly wage was \$24.32/hour. This figure is slightly above; +2.4% (+\$0.58/hour), to the current 12-month average of \$23.74/hour. Of the 41 postings which listed an hourly wage 4.9% (2) were listed at the provincial minimum wage of \$15.50/hour. The average annual salary listed in the month of January was \$76,231.86; significantly above the current 12-month average annual salary is \$64,589.23/year.

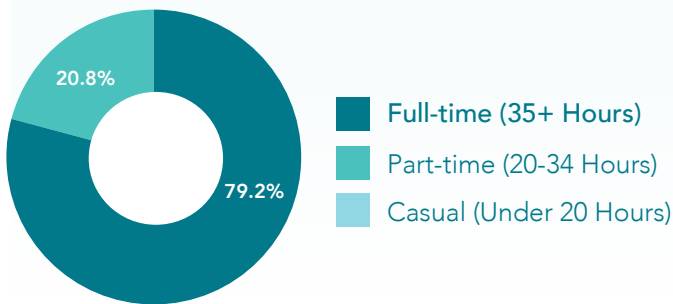


## FULL-TIME / PART-TIME BREAKDOWN

**79.2%** of listings in January

↑ **7.2%**  
from December

79.2% (411) of the listings in January indicated that the employment offered would be classified as full-time. This figure is slightly above; +7.2, the previous month when 72% of the job postings were classified as full-time.



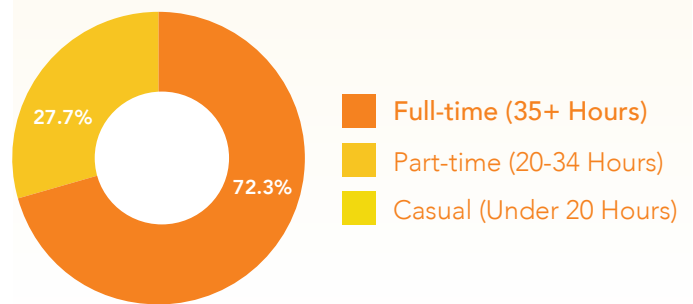
**519** Postings listed hours offered (100%)

## FULL-TIME / PART-TIME BREAKDOWN

**72.3%** of listings in January

↑ **1.6%**  
from December

72.3% (112) of the listings in January indicated that the employment offered would be classified as full-time. This figure is nearly identical; +1.6%, to the previous month where 70.7% of the job postings were classified as full-time.



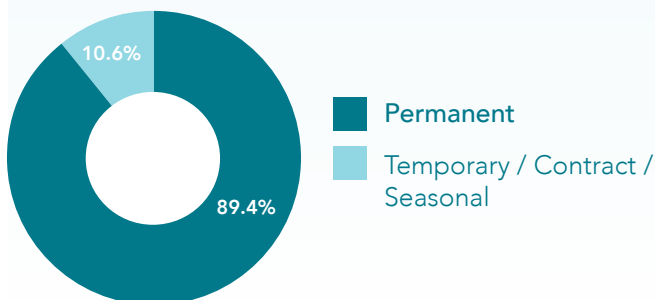
**155** Postings listed hours offered (100%)

## TERM OF EMPLOYMENT

**89.4%** of listings in January

↑ **7.2%**  
from December

89.4% (464) of the listings in January stated that the opportunity in question would be permanent. This is a notable increase; +7.2%, from December when permanent postings made up 82.2% of the job postings.



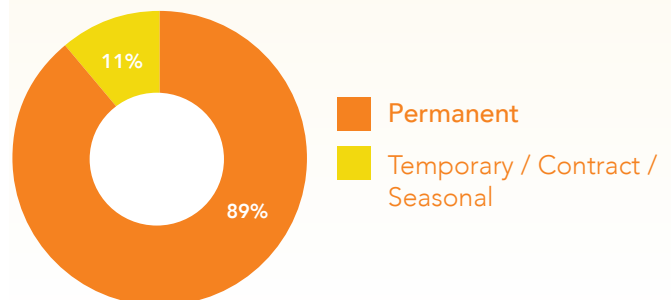
**519** Postings listed hours offered (100%)

## TERM OF EMPLOYMENT

**89%** of listings in January

↓ **4.2%**  
from December

89% (138) of the listings in January stated that the opportunity in question would be permanent. This is slightly above; +4.2%, December when these opportunities accounted for 84.8% of the job postings listed in that month.



**155** Postings listed hours offered (100%)

# ALL EMPLOYERS WITH POSTINGS IN MONTH



## NIPISSING DISTRICT

A.G. Electric LTD  
Account on Fullerton  
Advance Auto Parts Inc.  
AIDS Committee of North Bay and Area  
AIM Kenny U-Pull  
Airport Animal Hospital  
Alex McKillop Tax Ltd.  
Algonquin Nursing Home of Mattawa  
AllRoads Auto Sales  
Alzheimer Society Sudbury-Manitoulin  
North Bay and Districts  
American Eagle Outfitters  
Aramark Canada Ltd.  
Ardene  
Amstein Lawn and Garden Company Inc.  
ASM Stores - Sturgeon Falls  
Au Chateau  
Bath & Body Works  
Bay Commercial Roofing  
Bay Roofing and Exteriors Ltd.  
Bay Truck Stop Family Restaurant  
Bayland Property Management  
Bella Terra Stone  
Best Buy  
Best Western North Bay Hotel  
& Conference Centre  
Binx Professional Cleaning  
Blue Seal Farm  
Blue Sky Animal Hospital  
Bluenotes  
Boart Longyear - North Bay  
Boutique La Vie en Rose Inc.  
Boutique Marie Claire Inc  
Bradwick Property Management  
Brain Injury Association of North Bay and Area  
Brainworks  
Brandt Industries  
BrokerLink - Parry Sound  
Buchner Manufacturing Inc.  
Burger King - Lakeshore Drive  
Burger World - Hammond  
C.A. Sellers Cleaning Services Ltd  
CAA North & East Ontario  
Campus Living Centres  
Canada Clean Fuels  
Canada Post - Sturgeon Falls  
Canada Post - Temagami  
Canadian Addiction Treatment Pharmacy  
Canadian Bearings Ltd.  
Canadian Career College  
Canadian Tire - North Bay  
Canadore College  
Canadore College - Aviation Campus  
Canadore College - College Drive  
Canadore College - Commerce Court  
Canarino Nissan  
Can-Blast Inc  
Canor Construction  
CarePartners  
CARQUEST Canada  
Cascades Casino  
Cash 4 You Corp.  
Casselholme Home for the Aged  
Cementation Canada  
Centennial Contracting Ltd.  
Central Welding & Iron Works  
Chad's Grass Snow and More  
Christian Horizons (CA)  
Circle K - Sturgeon Falls  
Claire's  
Clark Communications  
Clearwater dental clinic  
Cogeco  
Columbia Forest Products Ltd  
Commissionaires  
Commonwealth Plywood Distribution  
Community Counselling  
Community Living North Bay  
Conseil scolaire catholique Franco-Nord

Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est  
de l'Ontario  
Country Style & Mr. Sub  
CSN Collision Centre - Phil's  
CTS Canadian Career College  
Dawson Dental - North Bay  
Dentistry on Airport  
Dentistry on Worthington  
Diagnostic Sleep Clinic  
Discount Car and Truck Rentals  
District of Nipissing Social Services  
Administration Board  
Dr. G Liu Dentistry Professional Corporation  
DSI Underground Canada Ltd.  
Ed Seguin & Sons Trucking and Paving  
Empire Living Centre  
Enbridge Inc.  
Enterprise Rentacar  
Evergreen Landscaping  
Executive Aviation  
Express Parcel  
Eye Specialist of Northern Ontario  
Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott North Bay  
FDM4  
Feldcamp Equipment Limited  
Fire & Flower Inc  
First Choice Haircutters  
First Onsite  
Fisher Wavy Inc.  
GFL Environmental Inc.  
Giant Tiger - North Bay  
Gincor Werx  
goeasy  
GoodLife Fitness Centre - Main Street  
Goodyear Canada Inc. (Retreading)  
Green First Forest Products  
Griffin Jewellery Designs  
Hampton Inn by Hilton North Bay  
Hands TheFamilyHelpNetwork.ca - North Bay  
Hands TheFamilyHelpNetwork.ca/Mains  
LeReseaudaideauxfamilles.ca  
Hemo Logistics Inc.  
Holiday Inn Express North Bay  
Home Instead  
Homewood Suites by Hilton North Bay  
Hope Awaits Ministries  
Hopper Buick GMC  
IMD Holdings  
Jackman Flower Shop Limited  
Jiffy Lube  
Kal Tire  
Kalvin Brown Pharmasave  
Kendall, Sinclair, Cowper, Daigle & Houlden  
LLP  
Kennedy Insurance Brokers Inc.  
Kia North Bay  
KIND Forest School  
Knox-Hutchison Insurance  
Kohltech Windows & Entrance Systems  
KPMG LLP  
Lakeshore Dental Care  
Laverock Plumbing Services  
Lefebvre's Source for Adventure  
Les Soeurs de l'Assomption  
de la Sainte vierge  
Liberty Tax  
Lids  
LifeLabs  
Long & McQuade  
M&M Food Market  
Marina Point Village  
Mark's (Mindfield) - North Bay  
Marshall Park Pharmasave  
Martel & Mitchell Physiotherapy  
Martin Roy Transport / MRT  
Mattawa Hospital  
McAsphalt Industries Limited  
McDonald's (North Bay)  
McDonald's (West Nipissing)  
McDougall Energy Inc.  
McDougall Insurance and Financial

MetricAid  
Metro - North Bay  
Michaels  
Miller Paving  
Miller Waste Systems  
Millford Development Limited  
Mincon Canada  
Mine Hoists International Ltd.  
Ministry of Public and Business  
Service Delivery  
Ministry of the Solicitor General  
Ministry of Transportation  
Motion  
Municipality of Calvin  
Municipality of West Nipissing  
Myrt's Family Restaurant  
Near North District School Board  
Neptune Security Services  
Nijjaansinaanik Child and Family Services  
Nijjaansinaanik Child and Family Services  
- North Bay  
Nijjaansinaanik Child and Family Services  
- Parry Sound Area  
Nipissing Lodge  
Nipissing Serenity Hospice  
Nipissing University  
Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District  
School Board  
Nordic Minesteel Technologies Inc.  
North Bay Airway Clinic  
North Bay Humane Society  
North Bay Military Family Resource Centre  
North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit  
North Bay Police Service  
North Bay Regional Health Centre  
North Care Dental  
Northern Credit Union - North Bay  
Northern Dental Specialty Group  
Northern Diversified Limited  
Northern RV  
Nutrition Club Canada  
Ojibway Family Lodge  
One Kids Place Children's Medical Treatment  
Center of North East Ontario  
Ontario Northland  
Ontario Public Service  
Oxford Learning Centres, Inc.  
ParaMed Home Health Care  
Partner's Billiards and Bowling  
Paul Davis North Bay  
Pavao Contracting Inc  
Penningtons  
PerrinAhmad LLP  
Peter Conti Custom Woodworking & Design  
PHARA  
Plan A Long Term Care Staffing  
and Recruitment  
QE Home /Quilts Etc  
Rahnmet  
Recipe Unlimited Corporation  
Recipe Unlimited Corporation - Montana's  
Recipe Unlimited Corporation - Swiss Chalet  
Reitmans Lte/ltd  
Robinson's Pharmasave  
RONA - McGaughey Ave.  
Roots Canada  
Royal Bank of Canada - North Bay  
Royal LePage Real Estate  
Rx Drug Mart/IDA  
SafeSight Exploration Inc.  
Savage Equipment Leasing Inc.  
Savage Ford Sales Limited  
Science North  
Scotiabank - North Bay  
Scotiabank - Northgate  
Shoppers Drug Mart - Cassells St.  
Shoppers Drug Mart - Josephine St.  
Shoppers Drug Mart - Lakeshore Dr.  
Sienna Senior Living  
SoftMoc  
Spencer Gifts

Stantec  
Staples Canada  
Stock Transportation  
Stockfish Automotive Group  
Structure Spine and Sport  
Sturgeon Falls Brush and Contracting Ltd  
Swiss Chalet  
Tank Traders  
TCM Produce  
TD Bank - North Bay  
The Block Public House  
The Body Shop  
The Children's Aid Society of the District  
of Nipissing and Parry Sound  
The Corporation of the City of North Bay  
The Home Depot - North Bay  
The Sisters of St. Joseph of Sault Ste. Marie  
The Skyline Group of Companies  
The Submarine Place  
The Urban Cafe  
Tim Hortons - Algonquin Ave.  
Tim Hortons - North Bay  
Titanium Transportation Group Inc.  
Total Cleaning & Restoration  
Township of Bonfield  
Trans Canada Safety  
TW Foods  
Twiggs - Cartier St.  
Twiggs - Fraser St.  
Two Rivers Motel  
Under the Hood Automotive  
Union of Ontario Indians  
Valois Motel & Restaurant  
Value Village  
Victorian Order of Nurses / VON  
Voyageur Aviation Corp  
VS Group  
Wacky Wings  
Walmart - North Bay  
Walmart Canada  
Weldtech  
Wendy's Restaurants - Lakeshore Drive  
West Nipissing Family Health Team  
West Nipissing General Hospital  
Wine Rack - Metro  
Workplace Safety North  
YMCA of Northeastern Ontario  
ZEDD Customer Solutions



## PARRY SOUND DISTRICT

Adams Bros. Construction  
Almex Group  
Ashley HomeStore Parry Sound  
Bee-Clean Building Maintenance  
Best Value Inn & Suites  
Binx Professional Cleaning  
Burks Falls Kwik way  
CAA North & East Ontario  
Canada Post - Callander  
Canada Post - Parry Sound  
Canadian Mental Health Association -  
Muskoka Parry Sound Branch  
Canadian Tire - Parry Sound  
CarePartners  
Clements I.D.A Pharmacy  
Commissionaires  
Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est  
de l'Ontario  
Corporation of the Township of Seguin  
CSN Lift Auto Group  
Di Salvo's Bella Cucina and Family Style Meals  
District of Parry Sound Social Services  
Administration Board  
Eagle Lake Marine Inc.  
Eastholme Home for the Aged  
FYidoctors Parry Sound

Gardens of Parry Sound  
Retirement Residence  
Georgian Bay Marina  
Georgian Bay Propane Inc.  
GF Preston Ltd  
Gingrich Harris Copeland, Chartered  
Professional Accountants  
Grand Tappattoo Resort  
Hall Construction Inc.  
High Tide Retrievers  
J & J Equipment Repair Inc.  
Jolly Roger Restaurant & Bar  
Kawartha Credit Union - Burk's Falls  
Kawartha Credit Union - Parry Sound  
KPMG LLP  
Lady Isabelle Nursing Home  
Lakeside Cottage Care  
Lifemark Health Group  
Mac Lang  
Magnetawan Management  
Ministry of the Attorney General  
Municipality of McDougall  
Municipality of Whitestone  
Near North District School Board  
North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit  
North Stone Electrical  
Orr's Fine Meats and Deli  
Parry Air Heating & Cooling  
Parry Sound Animal Hospital  
Parry Sound Family Health Team  
Parry Sound Forest School  
Parry Sound Friendship Centre

Parry Sound Massage Therapy Clinic  
Parry Sound Ready Mix  
PatternStone Inc.  
Phoenix Building Components Inc  
Plan A Long Term Care Staffing  
and Recruitment  
Platinum Patient Transfer Service  
Royal Bank of Canada  
Royal Homes  
Scotiabank - Parry Sound  
Scotiabank - Powassan  
Shawanaga First Nation Education Department  
Shawanaga First Nation Healing Centre  
Shoppers Drug Mart - Parry Sound  
Sobeys - Parry Sound  
Sound Wealth Financial Inc. & Danielle Smith  
Professional Accounting Services  
Soundseals Insulation  
The Home Depot - Parry Sound  
The Salvation Army  
TNT Landscaping  
Town of Parry Sound  
TreeWiseGuys  
True North Cannabis Company  
Van Boekel Landworks  
Walmart - Parry Sound  
Walmart Canada  
Wellspring Centre Parry Sound Inc.  
West Parry Sound Community  
Support Services  
West Parry Sound Health Centre  
YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka



## WHAT IS THE LMG MONTHLY JOBS REPORT?

This Jobs Report is a monthly publication produced by The Labour Market Group. Each month we compile a list of jobs that were posted or advertised through a variety of sources in our community. This report provides current, key information about job postings in the Nipissing & Parry Sound districts. Job postings were gathered online from [www.jobbank.gc.ca](http://www.jobbank.gc.ca), [www.indeed.ca](http://www.indeed.ca), and [www.wowjobs.ca](http://www.wowjobs.ca), and the North Bay & District Jobs Facebook page. They were also gathered from our local newspapers including: Almaguin News, Parry Sound North Star, North Bay Nugget, Mattawa Recorder, and West Nipissing Tribune. The job postings in this study are by no means an exhaustive list of every available job during the collection period. It is simply a tally of jobs posted from the sources listed above. For more clarification on the collection process of this Jobs report, please contact [info@thelabourmarketgroup.ca](mailto:info@thelabourmarketgroup.ca). We would be more than happy to review our process with you!

<sup>2</sup> Includes placement agencies, employment service providers and temporary agencies postings which could otherwise fall under other industries but actual employers are unknown at this time.

<sup>3</sup> HGS and Zedd both post very frequently and state they are looking for large numbers of employees. As a result only 1 posting for each was considered.

FOR MORE INFORMATION & FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT LOCAL JOBS, PLEASE CONTACT :

The Labour Market Group  
Toll Free: 1-877-223-8909  
[info@thelabourmarketgroup.ca](mailto:info@thelabourmarketgroup.ca)



**The Labour Market Group**  
Guiding partners to workforce solutions.



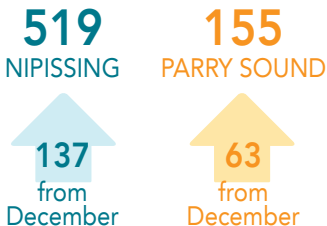
## IN THIS EDITION

HALF OF CANADIAN WORKERS WILL JOB HUNT IN 2023 FOR BETTER PAY AND PERKS, ACCORDING TO POLL

NOTICING A LABOUR SHORTAGE? HERE'S WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON IN ONTARIO'S JOB MARKET

JOBS REPORT  
JANUARY 2023

TOTAL NUMBER OF JOB POSTINGS



TOP INDUSTRY WITH VACANCIES

**NIPISSING**  
Health Care & Social Assistance (23.5%)

**PARRY SOUND**  
Health Care & Social Assistance (25.2%)

To view the full report, visit our website  
[www.thelabourmarketgroup.ca](http://www.thelabourmarketgroup.ca)  
[readysethired.ca](http://readysethired.ca)

T. 705.478.9713

150 First Ave. West  
Suite 103, North Bay, ON  
P1B 3B9

The Labour Market Group is funded by:

**Ontario**

## HALF OF CANADIAN WORKERS WILL JOB HUNT IN 2023 FOR BETTER PAY AND PERKS, ACCORDING TO POLL



The survey conducted in the fall found 50% of respondents indicated they planned to search for a new job in the next six months.



21%

JUNE 2021

28%

YEAR AGO

31%

6 MONTHS AGO

The number of employees on the hunt for a new job has risen steadily.



Workers most likely to make a career move include employees who have been with a company for 2 to 4 years, Gen Z and millennials, tech workers and working parents.



**The top reasons for searching for a new job:** Higher salary, better benefits and perks, more advancement opportunities and greater flexibility to choose when and where they work.



THE SURVEY ALSO FOUND THAT NEARLY 3 IN 10 PROFESSIONALS WOULD CONSIDER QUITTING THEIR JOB TO PURSUE A FULL-TIME CONTRACTING CAREER.

## NOTICING A LABOUR SHORTAGE? HERE'S WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON IN ONTARIO'S JOB MARKET

THE VAST MAJORITY OF WORKERS IN ONTARIO HAVEN'T EXPERIENCED ANYTHING QUITE LIKE IT THEIR ENTIRE WORKING LIVES:



Statistics show:

- Unemployment running as low as it's ever been.
- Record-high job vacancy numbers.
- Unprecedented labour force participation rates.

"A LABOUR MARKET TILTED IN THEIR FAVOUR."

HIRING



This profound shift in the job market has implications for just about everybody, (ordinary worker, an employer, a political leader, or someone waiting to get care in a hospital or service in a restaurant).

It could bring about significant changes in the world of work (from recruitment tactics to workplace culture to salaries) but that largely depends on how governments and employers respond.



## COMING SOON!

### LOCAL LABOUR MARKET PLAN 2023

## 2023 WORKFORCE WEEK

APRIL 24-28, 2023

STAY TUNED FOR A FULL WEEK OF EVENTS!

Questions or concerns?  
Feel free to contact us at  
info@thelabourmarketgroup.ca



T. 705.478.9713

150 First Ave. West  
Suite 103, North Bay, ON  
P1B 3B9

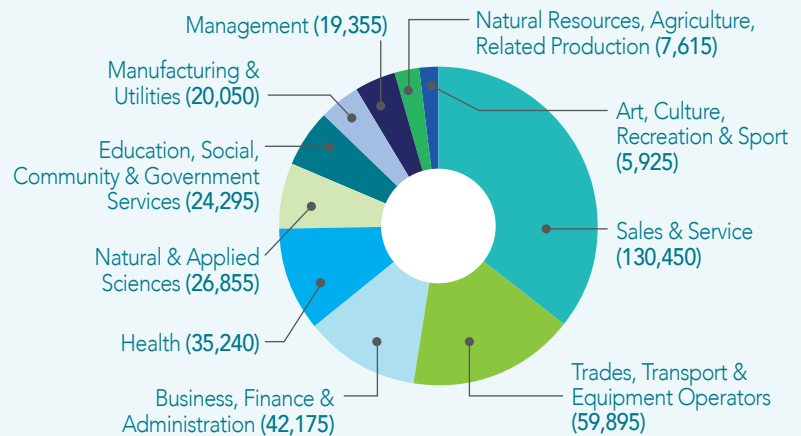
The Labour Market Group is funded by:



### WORKERS WANTED: HERE'S WHERE THE JOBS ARE

The most recent figures show **372,000 job vacancies** in Ontario during the third quarter of 2022.

That's nearly double the average number of vacancies (195,000) reported during the three years leading up to 2020.



### BUT HOW GOOD ARE THESE JOBS?



**60%** of the job vacancies in Ontario required **no more than high school education**, paying on average **less than \$20 an hour**.

Nearly 200,000 jobs required less than 1 year of experience.



More than one-third of the job vacancies were in sales and service.

Still, the overall dynamics of the job market in the province differ substantially from how things were before the COVID-19 pandemic.



### MAKING CURRENT STAFF WORK MORE



Even among **Canadian businesses** that considered labour force shortages to be an obstacle,

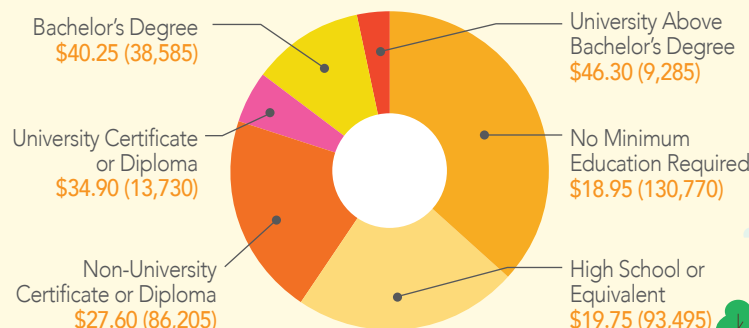
- less than two-thirds planned to offer current employees a **wage increase**,
- less than half planned to **boost wages** to lure new hires,
- and only 1 in 5 planned to **enhance employee benefits**.

*How do companies intend to deal with the labour crunch?*

Expected current management and staff to work more.



### EDUCATION LEVEL & AVERAGE WAGE OF ONTARIO JOB VACANCIES



Particularly high job vacancy rates are currently found in:

- Restaurants and bars (10.2%)
- Nursing homes (8.5%)
- Truck transportation (8%)
- Building construction (7.7%)



### HIRING MORE TEMPORARY FOREIGN WORKERS



Approvals to fill Ontario jobs with **temporary foreign workers** more than **doubled in the July-September 2022 period** compared with the same months in the previous year. In **sales and service occupations** in Ontario, the number of approvals to **hire temporary foreign workers** tripled.

Sources: Statistics Canada, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/canadians-job-hunting-2023-1.6703722>  
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/ontario-workers-shortage-1.6727310>



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

## Nipissing Parry Sound Overdose Incident Report

This report will be updated and sent weekly, every Monday, to inform community organizations and first responders of overdoses and/or negative drug reactions within our community.

	Overdoses or Negative Reactions Reported	Deaths Reported	Date	Number of Times 911 Called	Location	Substances Involved
Week 41: February 27 <sup>th</sup> to March 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	5	0	February 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 (2) March 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2023 (2) March 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	5	North Bay (5)	Fentanyl Unknown Opioid (4)
Week 40: February 20 <sup>th</sup> to February 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	3	1	February 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 February 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 February 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	3	North Bay (2) Powassan	Prescription Opioid Unknown Opioid (2)
Week 39: February 13 <sup>th</sup> to February 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	3	0	February 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 February 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 February 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	3	Mattawa North Bay (2)	Benzodiazepines Crystal Meth Fentanyl Unknown Opioid (2)
Week 38: February 6 <sup>th</sup> to February 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	6	1	February 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 February 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 (3) February 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 (2)	6	North Bay (5) Parry Sound	Alcohol Benzodiazepines Fentanyl Unknown Unknown Opioid (3)
Week 37: January 30 <sup>th</sup> to	5	0	January 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	5	North Bay (4)	Cocaine



## Ministry of Education

Early Years and Child Care Division  
315 Front Street West, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M7A 08B

## Ministère de l'Éducation

Division de la petite enfance et de la garde d'enfants  
315, rue Front Ouest, 11<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto ON M7A 08B

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Child Care and Early Years Partners

**FROM:** Holly Moran  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Early Years and Child Care Division

**DATE:** February 14, 2022

**SUBJECT:** 2022 Early Years and Child Care Annual Report

---

Thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration as we continue to work together on ensuring that child care remains a healthy and welcoming place for children to learn and grow. As our economy continues to recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, child care remains a top priority.

We are pleased that Ontario reached an agreement with the federal government for a Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system that builds on Ontario's existing child care system and will support more affordable, accessible, and high quality child care for families. Our work to implement the CWELCC system is ongoing, but I am pleased that we have achieved 92% enrolment of licensed child care operators across Ontario, and rebates are flowing to families, with fees reduced by an average of 50% as of December 31 2022.

We are also pleased to provide you with Ontario's 2022 Early Years and Child Care Annual Report. You can find the Early Years and Child Care Annual Report 2022 on the [ministry's website](#). The report contains valuable information about our child care and early years system as well as Ontario's progress in line with its commitments to Canada. I hope this report will help you to better understand the early years and child care system in which you play an important part. The majority of the data in the report is captured through the Child Care Licensing System as well as through the Ministry of Education's annual data collection from licensed child care centres and home child care agencies. Thank you to all licensees who completed this data collection in 2022 – your efforts are much appreciated and significantly contribute to more informed decision-making in the province.

Should you have any questions about Ontario's 2022 Early Years and Child Care Annual Report, please feel free to contact your Early Years Advisor, Financial Advisor or Ministry Advisor.

Sincerely,



Holly Moran

c: Maxx-Philippe Hollott, Manager, Financial Accountability and Data Analysis Branch

Maureen Ennis, Director, Early Years and Child Care Programs and Service Integration Branch  
Boafoa Kwamena, Director, Child Care Quality Assurance and Licensing Branch  
Whitney Wilson, Director, Child Care Implementation Branch





SENT VIA E-MAIL: [ministerMCCSS@ontario.ca](mailto:ministerMCCSS@ontario.ca)

February 17, 2023

**Hon. Merrilee Fullerton,**  
Minister of Children, Community and Social Services  
7th Floor, 438 University Ave,  
Toronto, ON  
M5G 2K8

**Dear Minister Fullerton:**

**RE: DSSAB Borrowing**

The Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA) has raised the issue of District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSAB's) ability to borrow with the Minister and many provincial ministries.

DSSAB's directly operate 9,322 public housing units in the North were built in the 1970's and 80's, these units are slowly reaching their end of life.

At an estimated construction cost of \$400 per square foot to build new, and most units being around 750 square feet so \$300,000 per unit, DSSAB's could be looking to borrow as much as 2.5 billion dollars to replace existing units over the next 20 years.

Over the years the 10 DSSABs have borrowed more than 120 million from banks and various lending institutions.

There has been a lot of confusion around the meaning of section 9 in the DSSAB Act and how it is interpreted. Ideally, we would ask for a revision to the act to clearly layout the DSSAB's ability to borrow but we recognize that that may be onerous and impractical at this point. Therefore, we ask the Minister to issue a directive that clearly states the following:

***NOSDA: The Authoritative Voice for Human Services in Northern Ontario***

- i. DSSABs are corporations under the DSSAB Act with the powers of a natural person as provided for under Section 15(1) of the Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010, SO 2010, c 15;
- ii. DSSABs are not limited in their capacity to borrow funds and encumber their assets; and
- iii. Nothing in Section 9 of the DSSAB Act is intended to limit DSSAB capital expenditures.

If you require any further details, please reach out to Fern Dominelli, Executive Director for NOSDA at 705-7665-2944 or [fern.dominelli@nosda.net](mailto:fern.dominelli@nosda.net).

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'mboileau', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michelle Boileau  
NOSDA Chair

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs  
and Housing**

Office of the Minister  
777 Bay Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Tel.: 416 585-7000

**Ministère des  
Affaires municipales  
et du Logement**

Bureau du ministre  
777, rue Bay, 17<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Tél. : 416 585-7000



February 3, 2023

Rick Zanussi  
Board Chair, Parry Sound DSSAB  
1 Beechwood Drive  
Parry Sound, ON P2A 1J2

Dear Rick Zanussi:

**Re: 2023-24 and 2024-25 Planned Funding Allocations for Provincially-Delivered  
Housing and Homelessness Prevention Programs**

I am pleased to be writing to you today with important details regarding your planned funding allocations for community housing and homelessness prevention programs for 2023-24 and 2024-25 where available.

Our government's policies have delivered historic results in getting more homes built faster and complement our nearly \$4.4 billion in investments to create community and supportive housing, respond to COVID-19, and address homelessness over the past three years. Community and supportive housing are critical components of our commitment to build 1.5 million new homes over the next 10 years, which will ensure that all people in Ontario, especially our most vulnerable, have a home that meets their needs and budget.

We are committed to ensuring our partners have certainty and stability in funding for their housing and homelessness services and will continue to fight to ensure Ontario municipalities receive their fair share of funding under the National Housing Strategy – and I would urge you, as municipal leaders, to join us in making the case to the federal government. We are committed to continuing our vital work with you to provide affordable housing and homelessness prevention options in our local communities.

Today, I'm pleased to inform you that the province is investing a further \$11.5 million in both 2023-24 and 2024-25 through the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit for women and children escaping violence.

Additionally, a further \$33.9 million in 2023-24 is being allocated through the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI). Recognizing that the COCHI funding allocation model was based on outdated 2018-19 Social Housing Agreement funding levels, the ministry has updated the funding model for 2023-24 onwards to provide a

more equitable, needs-focused approach based on social housing stock and core housing need. This is intended to help achieve the COCHI objectives, such as preserving and creating new social housing units across the province. Importantly, the revised allocation model ensures that all participating SMs and IPAs see an increase in COCHI allocations from the 2022-23 amounts.

To assist with your local planning, we are providing **your specific planned funding allocations for 2023-24 and 2024-25 fiscal years**.

Please be aware that the ministry is conducting a review of the funding allocation model for the Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP). Given the ongoing review, funding allocations under HPP may be subject to change although any change would not result in a reduction to the planning allocation provided.

All funding allocation amounts included below are for planning purposes only and are subject to confirmation through the province's annual budget planning process. The National Housing Strategy initiatives are dependant on agreement with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation on the National Housing Strategy Bilateral Agreement amendments. Updated program materials including Transfer Payment Agreements, Program Guidelines and Investment Plan templates for the National Housing Strategy initiatives will be released in the coming weeks.

### Planning Funding Allocations – Parry Sound DSSAB

Program	Planning Allocation Amounts	
	2023-24 Fiscal Year	2024-25 Fiscal Year
Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI)	\$350,900	\$477,400
Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI)	\$298,100	\$287,600
Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB) <sup>1</sup>	\$125,100	N/A
Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) <sup>2</sup>	\$899,800	N/A

Notes:

<sup>1</sup>The allocation amount for COHB is funding available to enroll new participants in the program for the fiscal year, including SM administration payments. Allocations exclude the funding required to support existing participants. As the cost required to support existing participants in 2024-25 depends on the 2023-24 participant take-up, the 2024-25 allocations will not be available until early 2024. Housing Program staff will be in touch with you to discuss estimates for the number of applications you should plan to enroll with the 2023-24 funding amount.

<sup>2</sup>The 2023-24 allocation amounts for HPP are under review and will not decrease from the 2022-23 amount shown. Once finalized, allocations for 2023-24 and 2024-25 will be confirmed.

For more information on the programs listed above, please see the enclosed Appendix.

Again, we sincerely appreciate your efforts to assist vulnerable residents and to keep people safe. I look forward to continuing our work together.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

The Honourable Steve Clark  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Enclosures

- c. Tammy MacKenzie, Chief Administrative Officer
- Pamela Nelson, Manager Housing & Integrated Services
- Cindy Couillard, Team Lead, Municipal Services Office

## **Appendix – Program Descriptions**

### **Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI)**

To support Ontario's *Community Housing Renewal Strategy*, COCHI was launched in fiscal 2019-20. COCHI funding is provided under the National Housing Strategy and represents a reinvestment of federal funding that has been declining under the *Canada-Ontario Social Housing Agreement*.

COCHI provides an opportunity for Service Managers and housing providers to address the challenges associated with social housing projects reaching the end of their operating agreements and/or mortgage maturity. This initiative provides flexible funding for social housing affordability support, repair and/or new supply.

### **Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI)**

In addition to launching COCHI under the *Community Housing Renewal Strategy*, the Ministry also launched OPHI in fiscal 2019-20. OPHI provides significant flexibility to address local priorities in the areas of housing supply and affordability, including new affordable rental construction, community housing repair, rental assistance, tenant supports and affordable homeownership.

### **Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB)**

Launched in April 2020, the COHB is a joint federal/provincial housing allowance program under the National Housing Strategy.

The purpose of the COHB is to increase the affordability of rental housing by providing an income-tested, portable housing benefit payment directly to eligible households in housing need that are on, or are eligible to be on, a social housing waiting list, and to households in housing need living in community housing.

### **Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP)**

Launched on April 1, 2022, HPP is a provincially-funded program that supports Ontario's 47 municipal Service Managers to provide affordable housing and support services for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness. The objective of the program is to support Service Managers in preventing, addressing and reducing homelessness, including chronic homelessness.

It combines three previous programs and is intended to be streamlined and flexible so that Service Managers can target funding where community need is greatest and can make the most impact.



Ontario Provincial Police  
Police provinciale de l'Ontario

11.7

## Media Release/ Communiqué

**FROM/DE:** West Parry Sound Detachment

**DATE:** March 6, 2021

### **WEST PARRY SOUND OPP MONTHLY DOMESTIC REPORT FOR FEBRUARY**

**(PARRY SOUND, ON)** – Members of the West Parry Sound Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have investigated 40 domestic related incidents in the month of January 2021, eight of which resulted in someone being charged with a criminal offence.

Some of the charges include:

- Sexual Assault
- Assault – Spousal
- Assault with a weapon
- Assault cause bodily harm
- Aggravated assault
- Overcome resistance by attempting to choke – suffocate or strangle another person
- Utter threats – cause death or bodily harm
- Utter threats – damage or injure animal
- Forcible confinement
- Harassing communication
- Unlawfully in a dwelling house
- Mischief – Domestic
- Theft
- Theft under \$5000
- Possession of a firearm or ammunition contrary to a prohibition order
- Careless use of a firearm, weapon, prohibited device or ammunition
- Careless storage of a firearm
- Possession of a loaded prohibited or restricted firearm
- Unauthorized possession of a weapon
- Importing a firearm, prohibited or restricted weapon, prohibited device or ammunition
- Breach of firearms regulations
- Obstruct peace officer
- Breach of recognizance
- Fail to comply with probation order
- Fail to comply with undertaking
- Fail to comply with probation order
- Fail to comply with release order
- Failure to attend court after having appeared
- Disobey order of court



Ontario Provincial Police  
Police provinciale de l'Ontario

## Media Release/ Communiqué

The OPP will not release names in order to protect the identity of the victims.

Victims in abusive relationships are not alone. If you are in an abusive relationship or know someone who is, there are local resources here to help. A call can be placed to the East & West Parry Sound Victim Services 1-705-746-0508 or the Crisis Line 24/7 1-705-938-1476 where your information will remain anonymous and confidential. You can also visit the following website for more information:

East & West Parry Sound Victim Services at: [www.psvs.ca](http://www.psvs.ca) .

- 30 -

**Contact:** Provincial Constable Joe Scali  
Community Safety Officer / Media Officer

**Phone:** (705) 746-4225

**Email:** [Joe.Scali@opp.ca](mailto:Joe.Scali@opp.ca)

[opp.ca](http://opp.ca)

**Twitter:** @OPP\_NER or @PPO\_Nordest

**Facebook:** Ontario Provincial Police – North East Region