Homeless Count
Homelessness is a regional, provincial and national issue

2018 Homeless Counts:

1. **Federally-funded counts in 61 communities across Canada**
   - In 6 BC communities outside Metro Vancouver
   - 2 counts in Metro Vancouver
     - Indigenous/Aboriginal Count, March 14 in Vancouver, New West, Surrey
     - Youth Count across Metro Vancouver, April 4-12

2. **Provincially-funded counts in BC**
   - In 12 other BC communities

3. **COV count in Vancouver**, March 13/14

• In all, 21 homeless counts were conducted in BC in March and April
Region Overview – 2017 Metro Vancouver Count

Homelessness is not just a Vancouver issue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>#</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>#</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta/White Rock</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Langley</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tri-Cities</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridge Meadows</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surrey</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Westminster</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burnaby</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vancouver</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,803</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,138</strong></td>
<td><strong>335</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Shore</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,777</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,605</strong></td>
<td><strong>828</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12th Homeless Count in Vancouver
Every 3 years regionally since 2002
Annually in Vancouver since 2010
“Point-in-time” snapshot of people who are homeless
Considered an undercount
Provides a basic demographic profile and tracks trends over time
Over 400 volunteers
Indigenous/Aboriginal Count – Collaboration

- Federally-funded Indigenous/Aboriginal Count in Vancouver, New Westminster and Surrey on March 14
- Administered by Lu’ma Native Housing Society
- Collaborated on:
  - Survey questions
  - Volunteer training
  - Allocation of routes
  - Data collection
  - Tobacco ties
  - Data entry and analysis
Results of 2018 COV Homeless Count

2,181
PEOPLE IDENTIFIED AS HOMELESS IN VANCOUVER ON MARCH 14, 2018

659 UNSHELTERED

1,522 SHELTERED
Total Homeless Population by Gender (n=2159)

- 74% Men
- 25% Women
- 1% Another gender
Total Homeless Population by Age (n=1406)

- 71% 25-54
- 15% 55-64
- 9% 19-24
- 5% 65+
- 0.5% Under 19
- 0.5% Under 19
People who are homeless consistently report a range of health issues

- **Medical Condition/Illness**: 44% (n=1272)
- **Mental Health Issue**: 43% (n=1266)
- **Physical Disability**: 38% (n=1261)
Health Conditions - Addiction

% Total Homeless Population with Addiction to Substance (n=1337)

- No addiction: 35%
- Cigarettes: 28%
- Opioids: 25%
- Methamphetamine: 23%
- Alcohol: 22%
- Marijuana: 20%
- Cocaine: 12%
- Other: 10%
- Addiction to 2 or more substances: 38%
- No addiction to one substance: 25%
- Substances not identified: 2%
Sources of Income

523 people (37%) have multiple income sources and still cannot afford rent. They are living in deep poverty.
Length of Time Homeless

Over half the homeless population has been homeless less than a year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length of time homeless</th>
<th>% of Total Homeless Population (n=1360)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 6 months</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 months to 1 year</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year – 5 years</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 year – 10 years</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 10 years</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Homeless in Vancouver

Majority living in Vancouver when they became homeless (n=955)

- 78% Were already living in Vancouver when became homeless
- 22% Became homeless before moving to Vancouver
- 8% from other parts of BC
- 4% from other parts of Metro Vancouver
- 10% from outside BC
Indigenous/Aboriginal Profile
Indigenous/Aboriginal people over-represented in homelessness

% Indigenous/Aboriginal in homeless population (n=1407) - 40%

% Indigenous/Aboriginal in general population - 2.2%

Indigenous/Aboriginal
Non-Indigenous/Non-Aboriginal
Indigenous/Aboriginal Identity by Gender

**Women**
(n=337)
- 53% Indigenous/Aboriginal

**Men**
(n=1042)
- 35% Indigenous/Aboriginal

Categories:
- **Indigenous/Aboriginal**
- **Non-Indigenous/Non-Aboriginal**
Indigenous/Aboriginal Identity & Unsheltered/Sheltered

Unsheltered/street (n=630)

- 46% Indigenous/Aboriginal
- 54% Non-Indigenous/Non-Aboriginal

Sheltered (n=777)

- 35% Indigenous/Aboriginal
- 65% Non-Indigenous/Non-Aboriginal
Indigenous/Aboriginal Identity and Age

Youth under 25 (n=123)

- Indigenous/Aboriginal: 46%

Adult 25-54 (n=975)

- Indigenous/Aboriginal: 43%

Seniors 55+ (n=283)

- Indigenous/Aboriginal: 28%

Lines:

- Indigenous/Aboriginal
- Non-Indigenous/Non-Aboriginal
Gender: Youth-Adult-Seniors

Higher proportion of youth are women/female

Youth under 25 (n=123)
- 41% Women/female
- 54% Men/male
- 4% Another gender

Adults 25-54 (n=981)
- 75% Men/male
- 24% Women/female
- 1% Another gender

Seniors 55+ (n=289)
- 84% Men/male
- 16% Women/female
- 1% Another gender

Women  Men  Another gender identity
Higher proportion of youth identifies as LGBTQ2+

**Youth under 25**
(n=121)
- Identifies as LGBTQ2+: 28%
- Not LGBTQ2+: 69%
- Identifies in another way: 3%

**Adults 25-54**
(n=935)
- Identifies as LGBTQ2+: 5%
- Does not identify as LGBTQ2+: 88%
- Identifies in another way: 1%

**Seniors 55+**
(n=273)
- Identifies as LGBTQ2+: 1%
- Does not identify as LGBTQ2+: 94%
- Identifies in another way: 5%
Mental Health: Youth-Adult-Seniors

Higher proportion of youth report a mental health issue

- **Youth under 25** (n=117): 62%
  - Reported mental health issue: 62%
  - Did not report mental health issue: 38%

- **Adults 25-54** (n=880): 45%
  - Reported mental health issue: 45%
  - Did not report mental health issue: 55%

- **Seniors 55+** (n=252): 28%
  - Reported mental health issue: 28%
  - Did not report mental health issue: 72%
Contributors to Homelessness

Multiple factors influence homelessness making it challenging to address:

• Low vacancy rates
• Loss of SRO units to increased rents and closures due to disrepair
• Rising rental rates
• Poverty and low income
• Stigma related to homelessness
COV Response - Warming Centres

Welcome

We are open to provide refuge from the cold.
Coffee and hot chocolate available.
• Warming Centres are activated when temperatures drop to “feels like” -5C

• Partnership between COV Community Services and Board of Parks and Recreation (Community Centres)

• Opened one night in the Central Library this year

• Operated on a low barrier model: People can come and go; can bring their belongings and pets; warm drinks and snacks are provided

• All staff trained on supporting vulnerable populations
## Warming Centres – 2017 / 2018 Winter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Warming Centre</th>
<th># Nights Open (Nov 2017-March 2018)</th>
<th>Average # Users per Night</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Britannia Community Centre</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnegie Community Centre</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitsilano Community Centre</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West End Community Centre</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VPL Main Branch</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Partnership between COV, BC Housing, and non-profit operators
  – COV provides facilities and upgrades
    • Some long-term/regular shelters also add to their existing capacity (e.g. Salvation Army and Catholic Charities)
  – BC Housing pays operating costs
  – Non-profit operators run the shelters
• 2017/2018 season: 300 shelters spaces opened early and extended their seasonal opening, in some cases until the end of Oct, effectively making them available on a year round basis
## Temporary Shelters – 2017 / 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shelter</th>
<th># Beds</th>
<th>Opening Date</th>
<th>Closing Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gathering Place, 609 Helmcken</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Nov 1, 2017</td>
<td>April 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directions Youth Services, 1138 Burrard</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nov 15, 2017</td>
<td>April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sister Shelter, 131 Dunlevy</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Dec 12, 2017</td>
<td>May 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raincity Hornby, 1401 Hornby</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Nov 1, 2017</td>
<td>June 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raincity East 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;, 1648 E. 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Ave.</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Nov 8, 2017</td>
<td>July 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metson Shelter, 1060 Howe</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Dec 15, 2017</td>
<td>July 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Charities, 828 Cambie</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Nov 13, 2017</td>
<td>July 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvation Army Harbour Light 119, 134 &amp; 138 E. Cordova</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>Nov 1, 2017</td>
<td>Nov 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL BEDS:** 301
Since 2013, the outreach team has supported approximately 3,800 individuals to find or secure housing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># individuals* served</td>
<td>1,257</td>
<td>1,866</td>
<td>2,620</td>
<td>3,609</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># new clients served</td>
<td>695</td>
<td>1,287</td>
<td>1,689</td>
<td>1,848</td>
<td>2,027</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># individuals supported to</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>768</td>
<td>927</td>
<td>851</td>
<td>850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>find or secure housing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Individuals served includes those living in shelters, sleeping outside, precariously housed, living in SROs, and recently evicted from their homes.
Creating New Homes
The City continues to approve and open new affordable homes to respond to the housing crisis and homelessness.
Railyard Housing Co-op
- Opened early 2018
- 135 units for singles and families
- Includes 10 units at shelter component of Income Assistance under the STEP program
- Other units range from HILs rates at rent geared to income, up to Low End of Market rents
- CAC funded project
Recent Social Housing Projects Completed

VPL (nḗc̓aʔmat ct) - 720 E Hastings
• Opened in spring 2017
• YWCA-operated Cause We Care House
• 21 units of family housing for single mothers and their children
• Rents range from shelter component of Income Assistance up to Housing Income Limits
• Partnership between CoV, VPL, YWCA
Recent Social Housing Projects Completed

Olivia Skye, 41 E Hastings

- Opened in spring 2017
- 72 units of housing for single women and women-headed couples
  - 52 studio units rent at maximum shelter allowance
  - 20 units to older women who are eligible to receive a Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters (SAFER) rent supplement.
- Partnership between CoV, BC Housing Streetohome Foundation and a private developer.
Supportive Housing Projects Across The City of Vancouver:
April 2018

Legend:
- Permanent Supportive Housing Projects
- Housing Projects Opened Since 2019
- Temporary Modular Supportive Housing Projects in Process or Approved
In Sept 2017, in response to the humanitarian crisis, the new provincial government announced funding for 2,000 modular homes across the province to be provided for homeless people, with 600 to be delivered in Vancouver.

Another 600 modular homes are funded for 2019/2020.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner</th>
<th>Roles and Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BC Housing</td>
<td>• Leads tenanting process&lt;br&gt;• Installs housing units&lt;br&gt;• Secures non-profit housing operators to operate and manage the buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Vancouver</td>
<td>• Secures sites for TMH&lt;br&gt;• Leads engagement with surrounding community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver Affordable Housing Agency (VAHA)</td>
<td>• Acts as the representative&lt;br&gt;• Procures housing units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver Coastal Health</td>
<td>• Provides health and social services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-profit Housing Operator</td>
<td>• Oversees tenanting&lt;br&gt;• Manages the buildings&lt;br&gt;• Provides support services to the tenants</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## TMH Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th># Homes</th>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>Proposal stage</th>
<th>Development permit stage</th>
<th>Under construction</th>
<th>Completed and tenanted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7430 &amp; 7460 Heather St.</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>Community Builders Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓ February 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1131 Franklin</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>PHS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓ April 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>525 Powell</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Atira</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓ May 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4480 Kaslo</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Atira</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Target: August 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>595 &amp; 599 W. 2\textsuperscript{nd}</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>PHS</td>
<td>✓ (approved)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Target: August 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Mountain</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Coast Mental Health</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total # to date:** Approx. 306
Solutions to homelessness can only be accomplished through a concerted effort and commitment by all levels of government

- Both federal and provincial governments have offered more funding over the coming years

- A sustained level of investment, including in operating subsidies, will make homes affordable for people living at the lowest income levels and address the crisis in homelessness.