



UBCM Housing Conference: **The North Shore Homelessness Action Initiative**

Presented by Mayor Linda Buchanan, City of North Vancouver

NORTH SHORE HOMELESSNESS ACTION INITIATIVE

Our Partners



Tseil-Waututh Nation
PEOPLE OF THE INLET



DISTRICT OF
NORTH
VANCOUVER



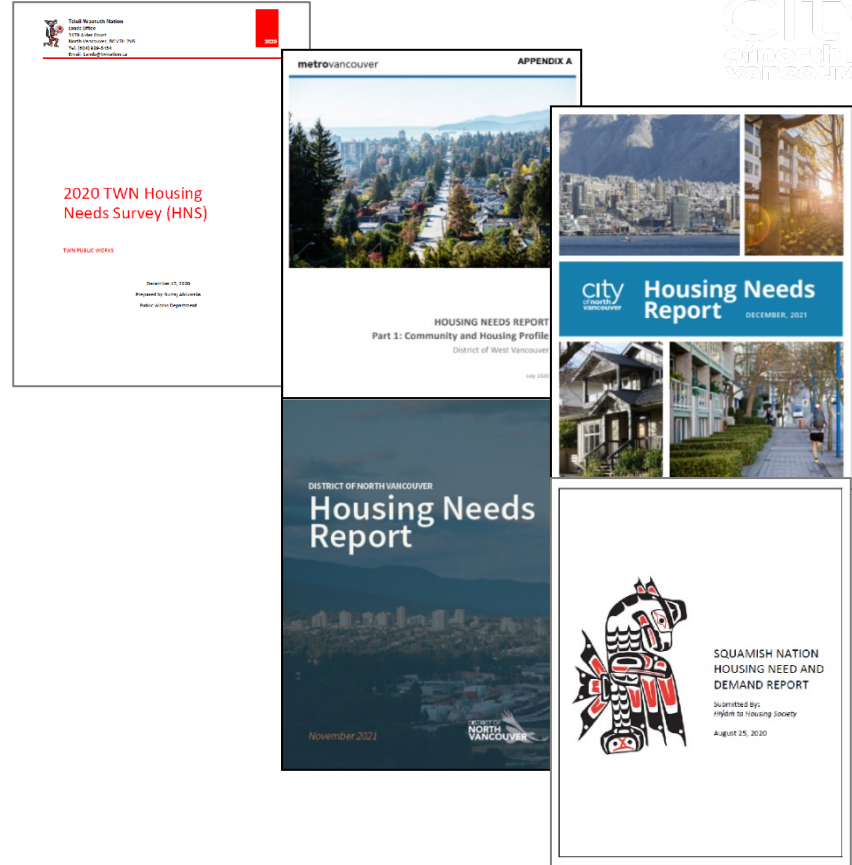
Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw
Squamish Nation



Understanding community need, homelessness, and demographics

Statements of Need across the North Shore focus on:

- **Increasing Numbers:**
 - An increase in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness on the North Shore – both visibly homeless, and hidden homelessness
- **More Options are Needed:**
 - The wide continuum of individual needs, requiring a wider range of options to meet need – enhanced provision for youth, women and children fleeing violence, seniors, and those with mental health issues
- **Indigenous Individuals are Overrepresented:**
 - Indigenous individuals are overrepresented in the homeless population, and further work is required to better understand and define culturally appropriate options to meet shelter and support needs



“The challenges for homelessness and affordable housing have been growing for decades. But the pandemic has exacerbated them. To address what is to come, all levels of government, individuals, and businesses will need to work together to come up with innovative funding and policy solutions.” - Steven Ayer, Common Good Strategies



CBC

[Across Canada, cities struggle to respond to growing homeless encampments](#)

Given the rise of tents in cities from Prince Edward Island to B.C., advocates say it's time to get serious about short- and long-term...



NOTICE OF MOTION

18. Cross Jurisdictional Action on Homelessness – File: 10-5040-04-0001/2020

Submitted by Mayor Buchanan

Moved by Mayor Buchanan, seconded by Councillor McIlroy

WHEREAS the right to safe, suitable, adequate and affordable housing is a fundamental human right that we all share and housing is essential to the vitality, health and well-being of individuals, families and communities;

WHEREAS housing is a key responsibility of the federal and provincial governments with support from local government;

WHEREAS Metro Vancouver released Addressing Homelessness in Metro Vancouver (2017);

WHEREAS the provincial government released TogetherBC: British Columbia's Poverty Reduction Strategy (2019);

WHEREAS homelessness is a symptom of many underlying causes that demand inter-sectoral collaboration and a system-based approach;

WHEREAS the North Shore municipalities have contributed by support and/or initiatives, such as the Emergency Shelter, Youth Safe House, Seniors Safe House, transitional and supportive housing, as well as financial support for outreach workers and employment initiatives;

WHEREAS the North Shore is rich in community-based organizations that provide support to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness;

WHEREAS the number of people experiencing homelessness or are at risk is not decreasing;

WHEREAS COVID-19 has illuminated the need for an additional emergency shelter to support people across the North Shore who are experiencing homelessness that is temporary;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff be directed to create a North Shore cross-jurisdictional Steering Committee and Working Group (government, staff and relevant community agencies) to develop short, medium and long-term actions that are focused on clear, comprehensive and coordinated strategies to prevent homelessness, to serve the people who are currently homeless and to create pathways out of homelessness;

THAT these actions will specifically include working to deliver permanent supportive housing with wrap-around services creating one point of entry for people across the North Shore who are experiencing or at risk for homelessness;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to local MLA's and MP's.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Creating a Vision, Identifying Outcomes

Key outcomes included:

- A shared vision and understanding of the issues.
- Advocacy for and implementation of a single-point-of-entry and housing first model.
- Commitments to improve and expand collaboration and communication between jurisdictions and partners.
- Consideration of new policy ideas and response protocols.
- The collection, monitoring, and sharing of data to understand current and future needs as well as support public awareness and dialogue.



The North Shore wants to provide a people centered approach that focuses on providing housing (emergency, transition, and permanent supportive) and the access to wrap-around supports for individuals who are experiencing homelessness and those who are at risk of homelessness.

Taking Action



TEMPORARY SHELTER SPACE



MOBILE OUTREACH SERVICES VAN

Solutions Navigator Program



“I was referred to the North Shore Neighbourhood House after being evicted, causing immediate homelessness. I was under acute stress, very emotional and afraid.

Under those circumstances, I had the most amazing experience with the Navigators as they allowed me to tell my story, cry and offered me so much compassion and help. I am actually at a loss for words trying to explain how important that moment was for me in the journey.

They took me in without an appointment. They immediately offered resources, advocated for me and helped me figure out what I needed to do.

I feel like I have a team!” - *Navigator Program Client*

Single-Point-of-Entry:

provides a centralized and coordinated intake and information hub to help individuals access the supports they need and limit or mitigate the amount of multiple referrals to different agencies to seek various supports.





NORTH SHORE
HOMELESSNESS ACTION
INITIATIVE REPORT 2022

NSHAI



GRANT	VALUE	PURPOSE	ACTIVITIES
Strengthening Communities' Services Program (Intake #1)	\$1.97 M – UBCM Underway 2021/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve the health and safety of unsheltered homeless people and address related community impacts Partnership between CNV, DNV, DWV, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, NSNH, City Library, and Lookout 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outreach services and cultural supports Urban indigenous outreach services Open door community hub program Shower programs Mobile outreach vehicle Other supports and activities
Strengthening Communities' Services Program (Intake #2)	\$0.9 M – UBCM Application Submitted April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue to improve the health and safety of unsheltered homeless people and address related community impacts Partnership between CNV, DNV, DWV, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, NSNH, City Library, and Lookout 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outreach services and cultural supports Urban indigenous outreach services Open door community hub program Shower programs Other supports and activities
North Shore Poverty Reduction Strategy	\$75,000 – UBCM Underway 2021/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To address inequities and reduce poverty on the North Shore Partnership between CNV, DNV, DWV, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted Consultation North Shore Poverty Reduction Task Force Create strategies and actions
North Shore Poverty Reduction Strategy Action and Implementation	\$150,000 – UBCM Application Submitted Feb 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support action out of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Partnership between CNV, DNV, DWV, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solutions Navigator position to provide individuals one-to-one support, navigation, and access to community resources
North Shore Homeless Task Force (NSHTF) Community Action Strategy	\$25,000 – SPARC Completed 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSHTF created a community-informed plan for reducing the impacts of poverty and homelessness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homelessness Situation Report NSHTF Strategic Plan (2022-2032) NSHTF Relationship Map

Learn more at cnv.org



Thank you.