



RESULTS FROM THE PROVINCIAL HOMELESSNESS COMMUNITY ACTION GRANT PROGRAM

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About the Program

The Homelessness Action Grant provides one-time funding to support local planning and collaborative initiatives to address homelessness. The program supports community-based action including demonstration projects, partnerships, research, and other collaborative efforts.

The program is designed to:

- Build understanding of community-level needs and emerging issues
- Address specific needs of distinct populations experiencing homelessness
- Respond to service gaps for those who are homeless or at risk
- Foster local innovation and capacity-building
- Support positive outcomes at both individual and community levels

Eligible applicants include:

- Community-based organizations
- Non-profits
- Local governments
- Indigenous organizations
- Other groups engaged in homelessness-related work

SPARC BC administered the program with funding from the Province of British Columbia. SPARC BC is an independent, non-partisan, registered charity that works with communities across British Columbia to build a just and healthy society for all. With a history spanning nearly 60 years, SPARC BC focuses on social justice, inclusion, integrity, and learning through initiatives in accessibility, community development, research, and public education.

About the Partners

A Way Home Kamloops Society	City of Quesnel
Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness	City of Surrey – The SUILC's Skookum Lab
Aboriginal Front Door Society	City of Surrey Vulnerable Women and Girls Working Group
Aboriginal Housing Management Association	City of West Kelowna
Aboriginal Housing Society of Prince George	Community Connections
ADAPS Youth and Family Services	Community Connections Society of Southeast BC
Ahousaht First Nation	Community Partners Addressing Homelessness
Aids Network Outreach Support Society	Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria
Alouette Addictions Services Society	Comox Valley Coalition to End Homelessness
BC Coalition of Experiential Communities	Comox Valley Social Planning Society
BC Metis Nation	Comox Valley Transition Society
BC Non-Profit Housing Association	Comox Valley Unhoused Society
BC Poverty Reduction Coalition	Connective
Burnaby Society to End Homelessness	Cool Aid
Campbell River & District Coalition to End Homelessness	Cover the Coast Alliance for Affordable Housing
Campbell River Art Galley	Cowichan Valley Basket Society
Campbell River Nurturing Society	Cyrus Centre
Canadian Mental Health Association – Port Alberni	CSUN – Coalition of Substance Users of the North
Canadian Mental Health Association – Shuswap/Revelstoke	Dawn to Dawn: Action on Homelessness Society
Canadian Mental Health Association – Northern BC	Delta Homelessness Committee (Deltassit)
Canadian Mental Health Association – South Cariboo	District of West Vancouver
Canadian Street Soccer Association	Douglas College Digital Equity Initiative
Cariboo Chilcotin Metis Association	Downtown Eastside SRO Collaborative Society
Carnegie Centre Community Association	Downtown Eastside Women's Centre
Castlegar & District Community Services Society	Dudes Club
Central Okanagan Foundation/Journey Home Society	Dze L Kant Friendship Centre Society
Cheam First Nation Band	Eastside Community Action Project Society
Chilliwack Overdose Prevention Society	Echen Healing Society
Chilliwack Restorative Justice	The Elizabeth Fry Society
Christ Church Cathedral	Engaged Communities Canada Society
Chrysalis Society	FHA Hope/Agassiz Mental Health
City of Abbotsford	First United Church Community Ministry Society
City of Burnaby	Fort Nelson Community Literacy Society
City of Courtenay	Foundry Abbotsford
City of Kelowna	Foundations for Social Change
City of New Westminster	Fraser Health – Rapid Access to Addiction Care
City of Penticton	Fraser Health – Youth Concurrent Disorders Program

About the Partners

Fraser Health Authority – Connect to Care Partnership	Kuu-us Crisis Line Society
Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA)	Langara College
Fraser River Indigenous Society	Langara Community College – Building Community Connections
Fraser Valley Addictions and Recovery HubFree Rein Associates Training LTD	Lookout Housing and Health Society
Free Store Canada Society	Low Entropy Foundation
Fresh Outlook Foundation	Lower Columbia Community Development Team Society (LCCDTS)
Fresh Start Collaborative Society	Lu'ma Native Housing Society
Gitxsan Housing Needs Study	Lush Valley Food Action Society
Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness	Maxxine Wright Community Health Centre
Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness	McCreary Centre Society
Green Ground Community Design Society	MegaTECH Distribution Inc.
Helping Hands Universal Outreach Services LTD	Mennonite Central Committee
Helping Spirit Lodge Society	Mental Health Recovery Partners -South Island
Hollyburn Family Services Society	Mission Possible
Hope for Freedom Society	Mountainside Harm Reduction Society
Homelessness Services Association of BC	Nazko First Nations
Hope for Freedom	Network of Inner City Community Services Society (NICCSS)
Hupacasath First Nation	New Westminster Homelessness Coalition Society
Immigrant Link Centre Society	Nicola Valley Shelter and Support Society
Indigenous Women's Sharing Society	Non-Judgemental Recovery
Individualized Funding Resource Centre	North Island Metis Association
INEO Employment Counselling Inc.	North Park Neighbourhood Association
Inspire with Horses Youth Development Society	North Shore Homelessness Task Force
Ishtar Women's Resources Society	North Vancouver City Library
Island Crisis Care Society	North Vancouver District Public Library
John Howard Society of British Columbia	Northern Network of Peers for Equality
John Howard Society of Victoria	OHEART Oceanside Homelessness Ecumenical Response Team
John Howard Society of Okanagan & Kootenay	Okanagan Boys and Girls Clubs
Journey Home Community Association	Options Community Services
Kamloops Arts Council	Old Massett Village Council
Kelowna Gospel Mission	Options Community Services
Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society	Our Place Society
Kinbrace Community Society	Peer2Peer Indigenous Coalition
Kootenay Boundary Supported Recovery Program	Phoenix Society – Addiction/Recovery

About the Partners

PIVOT Empowering Recovery Society
Surrey Urban Mission
Tahlitan Central Government
The Existence Project
Three Links Care Foundation
Tk'emlups te Secwepemc (Kamloops Indian Band)
Together We Can
Tri-Cities Homelessness and Housing Task Group
Turning Points Collaborative Society
UBC Learning Exchange
Union Gospel Mission
United Way Central and Northern Vancouver Island
United Way BC
Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre
VisionQuest Recovery Society
Walk With Me Campbell River
Walk with Me Comox Valley
Watari Counselling & Support Services Society
West End Seniors Network Society
Whole Way House Society
University of Victoria
University of Victoria, School of Nursing
Vernon Upper Room Mission Society
V6A Community Gardens
Wisteria Community Association
YWCA Metro Vancouver
Zero Ceiling Society of Canada
Soap for Hope
Sooke Shelter Society
Songhees Nation
Sources Community Resources Society
SPIRIT
Squamish Helping Hands Society
Street Corner Media Foundation
Streethome Foundation
Surrey Memorial Hospital Emergency Department and Forensics

Surrey Road to Home Society
Surrey Urban Mission
Tahlitan Central Government
The Existence Project
Three Links Care Foundation
Tk'emlups te Secwepemc (Kamloops Indian Band)
Together We Can
Tri-Cities Homelessness and Housing Task Group
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University of Victoria, School of Nursing
Vernon Upper Room Mission Society
V6A Community Gardens
Wisteria Community Association
YWCA Metro Vancouver
Zero Ceiling Society of Canada

Projects and Partnerships with **Provincial Reach and Impact**



Projects with Provincial Reach and Impact

Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA)

Province-wide | Amount: \$50,000

The Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA) is looking to create a Strategic Framework to ensure Indigenous community engagement in the development of Provincial initiatives to address homelessness through initiatives which include extensive community mapping, consultation, engagement and data analysis. Specific activities will include a needs assessment to identify existing services, needs/gaps, and resiliencies/opportunities, recruiting, orientation and training of a project consultant, data analyst, and 5 peer research assistants. The framework will entail data collection through key informant interviews, focus groups, online survey and community/social gatherings, analysis and evaluation of data using Indigenous- and gender-based framework while engaging in continuous quality improvement processes within the evaluation process. Data findings will be presented along with recommendations for a full Strategy implementation.

Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA)

Province-wide | Amount: \$50,000

The Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA) will engage the wider Indigenous community in the development of Provincial initiatives to address homelessness while addressing the over-representation of Indigenous people among populations experiencing homelessness. Achieving this goal will involve activities which will include conducting community events and feasts, convening focus groups, and holding informant interviews to explore diverse perspectives of affected populations, service providers and intersecting drivers/determinants of risk and resiliency in the Indigenous homelessness landscape. It will also involve consultations with Elders/Knowledge keepers including the lived experience of participants who share their stories and experiences.

BC Non-Profit Housing Association

Province-wide | Amount: \$50,000

The BC Non-Profit Housing Association will develop an on-line platform to 'match' housing providers who have identified serious staffing needs in the face of COVID-19 with individuals from across different sectors who may have lost employment because of COVID-19 and who wish to help vulnerable and precariously housed populations. A number of measures and indicators will be developed and reported on including the number of submissions made by potential employees and employers, matches made, location, types of jobs secured and duration. There will also be follow-up with, and feedback from those who are linked together through this initiative to help determine the success and challenges that occur which will assist in further adapting and refining the delivery of this service.

BC Poverty Reduction Coalition

Province-wide | Amount \$25,000

The BC Poverty Reduction Coalition has expressed an interest in developing a multipronged campaign that will amplify call for a rights-based approach to dignified housing for everyone in BC. To achieve this end, the campaign will involve various elements including lobbying, public awareness campaigns, events, and activating stakeholders, as well as advancing policy ideas like vacancy control and addressing homelessness through non-market housing. The lobbying component will involve communication of best practices to stakeholders in government, as well as knowledge translation to media such as in op-eds and interviews and community-based engagement. These elements will work in concert to increase political pressure conducive to the creation of conditions for legislative changes that would make the enactment of Right to Housing principles achievable.

Canadian Street Soccer Association

Province-wide | Amount \$25,000

The Canadian Street Soccer Association is actively engaged in developing relationships and in learning from First Nations communities on Vancouver Island in the traditional territories of the Namgis, Kwaguith and Mamalilikala territories. In engaging the community, the goal is to build on Indigenous practices and teachings to help build the bridges and relationships needed for true reconciliation. In early June, the CSSA and its players will participate in a First Nations Soccer Tournament which has been held on the second week of June for the past 64 years. This initiative seeks to explore the healing powers that come from building a deeper connection with one's roots as well as the opportunities for greater understanding that comes from people and communities coming together and building a deeper sense of our shared humanity by playing a game that has been played since time immemorial.

Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA)

Province-wide | Amount: \$50,000

The Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA) is looking to explore more fully the roles and relationships that Friendship Centres play in addressing Indigenous homelessness including the provision of information and supports, as well as the identification of local strategies and actions that have been designed to prevent and/or reduce homelessness among Indigenous families and individuals across British Columbia.

Homelessness Services Association of BC

Province-wide | Amount: \$10,000 per year x 3

The Homelessness Services Association of BC will offer people with lived and living experience (PWLLE) the opportunity to highlight their experiences and make contributions to substantive policy and practice through the convening of PWLLE-led modules showcasing the impacts on those experiencing homelessness at their annual conference. Peers and peer-led groups and organizations will be offered the opportunity to highlight their PWLLE-led programs and impacts on those experiencing homelessness which will help establish best practices for supporting peers while inspiring other service providers to develop meaningful opportunities for peers to contribute, and assisting in eroding the harmful binary narrative of homelessness services as strictly one of a service provider and service recipient.

Projects and Partnerships in the **East Kootenay Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the East Kootenay Region

Aids Network Outreach Support Society (ANKORS)

Cranbrook | Amount: \$25,000

The AIDS Network Outreach Support Society (ANKORS) East Kootenay Region will provide direct support to Indigenous individuals experiencing homelessness with a focus on providing a bridge toward community stabilization, connection to culture, and facilitating referrals to existing Indigenous housing. In addition to providing access to housing, this initiative also seeks to connect individuals to appropriate health and wellness supports.

Aids Network Outreach Support Society (ANKORS)

Cranbrook | Amount: \$25,320

The AIDS Network Outreach Support Society (ANKORS) looks to support members of the community in Cranbrook who are experiencing significant challenges in finding and keeping housing that they can afford. This has resulted in a number of people who are sleeping rough on the streets or staying in the Moir Park Community Collective. Through this funding, SPARC BC is interested in supporting ANKORS in providing outreach and support to those who are part of the Moir Park Community Collective. This includes peer-engagement and cultural supports as well as support in working with individuals to find suitable housing in the community or a sense of belonging and connection while they look for housing.

Community Connections Society of Southeast BC

North Cranbrook | Amount: \$20,000

Community Connections Society of Southeast BC is looking to create a safe place for unhoused individuals homeless in an area where the anti-camping bylaw will not be enforced and away from the business core. This initiative will educate, engage, and start community conversations and increase awareness around the complexity of homelessness.

Fresh Start Collaborative Society

Cranbrook | Amount: \$37,000

Through the Empowered Employment Program, Fresh Start Society will introduce a low-barrier employment project that creates, and scales, pathways to employment for vulnerable, unhoused populations by eliminating barriers and creating bridges to success. The Program will act to offer participants a way to actively contribute to the betterment of their community while reconnecting with the broader society. Through meaningful and purposeful work, individuals can better their current economic situation, thereby fostering personal growth and inclusion, while also helping to challenge narratives that people experiencing homelessness only take from, rather than contribute to, society.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Central Kootenay Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the Central Kootenay Region

Castlegar & District Community Services Society

Castlegar | Amount: \$25,000

The Castlegar & District Community Services Society is seeking to support the development of a community-based homelessness plan and strategy to address the issue of homelessness for Castlegar and the surrounding area. Specific steps will include the development of a preliminary report that includes an inventory of services and supports available within the Castlegar region for addressing homelessness, a review of the range of services, supports and resources available through the Federal and Provincial government as well as local resources and supports. It will also include the identification of local partners and stakeholders engaged in working on the issue of homelessness including research into understanding the scope and nature of the needs across different priority population and sub-populations.

Castlegar & District Community Services Society

Castlegar | Amount: \$25,000

The Castlegar & District Community Services Society is exploring opportunities for the Society to leverage the Rent Bank B.C. funding to put into place a collaborative regional model for addressing housing insecurity for low income and vulnerable households. This will include working to establish a network of partnerships across the Kootenay Boundary region to ensure that the needs of low income and vulnerable families can be met.

Castlegar & District Community Services Society

Castlegar | Amount: \$25,000

Castlegar & District Community Services Society will explore opportunities to study the housing histories and household composition of individuals and families who are at risk of economic eviction and who are compelled to apply for rent bank assistance and other types of supports to maintain their housing. It is felt that a clearer understanding of who becomes at risk of economic eviction and the kinds of reasons and triggering events which can precipitate homelessness can help to inform the types of policies and actions needed to provide these families and individuals with a greater level of stability and security in their housing situation.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Kootenay-Boundary Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the Kootenay-Boundary Region

Kootenay Boundary Supported Recovery Program

Nelson | Amount: \$10,000

The Kootenay Boundary Supported Recovery Program will work towards the prevention of homelessness through the purchase of addictions recovery software to improve the consistency and quality of support for live-in program participants who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The purchase and implementation of the “My Recovery Plan” software will allow the organization to focus on the prevention of homelessness through the improvements the software will offer in the consistency and quality of support that will be provided for live-in program participants who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Lower Columbia Community Development Team Society (LCCDTS)

Trail | Amount: \$10,000

The Lower Columbia Community Development Team Society (LCCDTS) is undertaking a community engagement process designed to support the collection and presentation of research and evidence needed to demonstrate need and to facilitate the development of supportive housing within the City of Trail. This will entail the collection of need and demand data (including effective presentation tools), community and stakeholder engagement meetings and presentations, and the introduction of a Working Committee looking at how to support BC Housing owned and operated supportive housing.

MegaTECH Distribution Inc.

Grand Forks | Amount: \$25,000

MegaTECH Distribution Inc has been working with the City of Grand Forks to explore ways that access to temporary containerized emergency shelter spaces can help to add to the current range of housing and shelter choices available in the City of Grand Forks. Through this program, the City of Grand Forks is interested in exploring ways to ensure that individuals with lived/living experience of homelessness have a safe, warm and welcoming place to stay while the community works to create longer term, more permanent solutions.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Okanagan-Similkameen Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the Okanagan-Similkameen Region

City of Penticton

Penticton | Amount: \$25,000

This project seeks to conduct a community-based research project that will analyze the current situation of youth homelessness and will seek to coordinate the efforts of local organizations and community partners through the creation of an implementation strategy designed to help the City of Penticton to identify, address and mitigate the challenges facing youth experiencing homelessness.

Princeton Family Services Society

Princeton | Amount \$23,048

Princeton Family Services as they look to identify the number of unhoused individuals in Princeton and the resources they require. This initiative aims to find the gaps in the services and supports and will connect the unhoused population with valuable resources they may need.

United Way BC – Peer-Based Partnership

Penticton | Amount \$25,000

This initiative called 100 More Homes Penticton is supported by the United Way BC and is designed to deliver sustainable administrative and coordination supports to ensure lived expertise is included in the planning and policy development needed to tackle the issue of homelessness in Penticton. This project seeks to empower individuals with lived/living experience to share their expertise in identifying effective strategies and solutions to help break the cycle of poverty and homelessness across those living in Penticton and the broader region. This includes the identification of meaningful opportunities for community development and peer engagement.

Projects and Partnerships in the Fraser Valley Region



Projects and Partnerships in Fraser Valley Region

Cheam First Nation Band

Rosedale | Amount: \$50,000

The Cheam First Nation is looking at ways to increase staff capacity and strengthen the housing services system while building capacity in the community to better address issues of chronic homelessness. In seeking this funding, the community is interested in retaining two (2) PTE emergency shelter workers to build the capacity of the emergency shelter staff through training and mentorship opportunities. This would include providing hygiene, first aid, harm reduction and PPE supplies for shelter clients.

Chilliwack Overdose Prevention Society

Chilliwack | Amount \$15,000

The Chilliwack Overdose Prevention Society partnered with SPARC BC to provide access to cell phones (including tech support, continued engagement and wrap around peer support) for residents and clients living in rural and remote communities in BC, particularly vulnerable individuals at risk of, or currently, experiencing homelessness and who use drugs, engage in sex work and other high-risk activities. Qualitative analysis of the impacts of cell phone access in combination with peer support will be conducted. Program support will also include the creation of materials such as flyers, and promotional and operational materials for phone distribution. Community engagement with partners will help to facilitate understanding and assist in the preparation of a distribution chain for the cellphones, the distribution of phones to eligible parties, partners and participants including the provision of tech support, regular check in with parties to address concerns, and the gathering of data for qualitative analysis.

Chilliwack Restorative Justice

Chilliwack | Amount: \$10,000

The Chilliwack Restorative Justice Society program provides a bike maintenance service to community members with a focus on providing affordable transportation choice for low-income individuals. Through this program, individuals with a history of homelessness will have access to affordable transportation through access to tools and equipment to receive donated bikes, help to repair and maintain them, and to make them available to others.

City of Abbotsford Housing and Homelessness Prevention and Response System

Abbotsford | Amount: \$25,000

The City of Abbotsford will work to prepare an updated Community Homelessness Action Plan designed to draw upon the expertise and recommendations of key partners as well as clients and service users.

City of Abbotsford Housing and Homelessness Prevention and Response System

Abbotsford | Amount: \$35,000

The City of Abbotsford is interested in exploring ways to strengthen the delivery of community-based programs and services for individuals experiencing homelessness. This proposed initiative will build on the previous research with a focus on building a deeper understanding of potential gaps in the systems of services and supports for individuals experiencing homelessness with a focus on the experiences and needs of individuals with mental health and addictions related challenges. In developing the plan, consideration will be given to engaging individuals with lived/living experience of homelessness to build a deeper understanding of the specific challenges they face in navigating the housing and homelessness serving system within the Fraser Valley.

Cyrus Centre

Chilliwack | Amount: \$50,000

This initiative is designed to support the development of a strategy to respond to the experiences and circumstances contributing to youth homelessness including youth with a history of involvement in the criminal justice system and/or the foster care system, as well as those using illicit substances. The research will also seek to address the current discourse that often criminalizes 'at risk' youth, while causing misunderstanding and further alienation of vulnerable and 'at risk' youth.

FHA Hope/Agassiz Mental Health

Hope/Agassiz | Amount: \$ 1,000

Hope/Agassiz Mental Health provides community-based mental health services for individuals living between Boston Bar and Agassiz. This includes the many Indigenous communities in the area. The Fraser Health Authority has a dedicated Indigenous Outreach nurse to help provide needed supports. Many of the clients that we work with live in isolated/rural areas and have limited financial resources and means to access needed supports. Additionally, many clients may be experiencing co-occurring medical or psychosocial conditions that contribute to increased vulnerabilities and barriers to access in terms of basic health and social services. Access to smartphones for these individuals will increase their ability to stay in contact with their health care/support teams when travel is not possible and would ensure that, in times of crisis, staff are able to stay connected to clients. This would have a secondary benefit of conserving the use of limited outreach resources when they are not needed. This phone can also provide support during the extreme weather events including the need for a reliable means of communication with services providers and other supports.

Foundry Abbotsford

Abbotsford | Amount: \$8,000

In 2021, Foundry Abbotsford provided support to over 2,073 youth through 8,691 visits. Foundry Abbotsford is part of a network across BC that is committed to transforming how youth, 12-24 years old, access support. The Foundry brings together primary care, mental health, social services, youth and family peer support and substance use under one roof and seeks to provide wrap around services in a responsive and client-centered way. Foundry Abbotsford is a partnership of 16 programs with Archway Community Services as the lead agency. With this funding opportunity, the Foundry seeks to provide same-day counselling sessions that work together with specialized mental health services, primary care clinics and youth and family peer support.

Fraser Health – Rapid Access to Addiction Care

Chilliwack | Amount: \$12,350

The Indigenous Outreach Team, operating out of the FE Rapid Access to Addictions Care Clinic in Chilliwack provides support to any Indigenous individuals within the Fraser Health region who wants support around their substance use. Many of those who rely on the services of the FE Rapid Access Addiction Care Clinic struggle with issues of substance misuse and homelessness and frequently do not have the resources needed to purchase a cell phone. Furthermore, without access to a cell phone, clients experience major service disruptions when trying to coordinate service and access care. Lack of contact can lead to missed health appointments, delayed treatment and detox dates, and risky substance use. Cell phones provide individuals with connections to crucial resources during the recovery process including access to virtual group therapies, utilization of life-saving apps such as the LifeGuard app, and access to virtual health appointments, while remaining in contact with their family and support networks. Providing cell phones to clients also allows for clients to actively participate in their own care plan, which can help to foster a sense of agency autonomy and independence which can help build a positive self image.

Fraser Health Authority – Connect to Care Partnership

Fraser Valley | Amount: \$25,000

The Fraser Health Authority through its Connect to Care Program will conduct a community-based research project which will use the dissemination of smart phones to promote virtual health equity by connecting people, particularly those from historically marginalized communities, to health and social services from wherever they are. In addition to coordinating the distribution of mobile devices to clients, the Fraser Health Authority will also develop and conduct a project evaluation plan.

Fraser Valley Addictions and Recovery Hub

FVRD | Amount: \$25,000

The Fraser Valley Addictions and Recovery Hub to support the Indigenous-Led OAT Stability Initiative which enhances opioid treatment for Indigenous individuals facing homelessness. This initiative will serve Indigenous individuals facing homelessness and barriers to OAT by providing culturally safe recovery and support through Elder-led Circles, peer support, and traditional healing.

Free Rein Associates Training LTD

Hope | Amount: \$1,580

Free Rein provides employment training services through engaging in collaborative partnerships and is committed to developing the potential in all individuals through providing a learner-centred environments fostering respect and dignity, and by utilizing a holistic rights-based approach. The services provided through Free Rein Associates encourages people to own their careers, follow their passions, and achieve success on their own terms. The Reins of Freedom program provides wraparound support for people with all types of disabilities in the Fraser Valley, so participants can move forward on their path to employment. This includes working to address barriers one at a time in order to allow individuals to achieve success.

Free Store Canada Society

Chilliwack | Amount: \$25,000

Through this initiative, the goal is to provide support to women and children fleeing violence by helping to ensure that they have a safe place to sleep and by working to offer them with the resources and supports needed to regain stability and normalcy in their lives. This include providing the supports and resources needed to chart a new pathway forward including assistance with meeting basic needs such as getting ID, food, clothing and personal hygiene as well as gaining new skills and training to help them to move forward in their lives.

Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA)

Fraser Valley | Amount: \$25,000

The Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA) is looking to explore the feasibility, benefits and impact of using non-traditional sources of supply (i.e. rented or purchased single detached houses) to respond to the shelter and other support needs of vulnerable and 'at risk' Indigenous Elders living in Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley. This initiative will focus on Indigenous Elders who are homeless, precariously housed and/or at risk of losing their housing and will include consideration of structural, systemic and individual factors.

Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA)

Fraser Valley | Amount: \$25,000

The Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA) is looking to examine the continuum of housing choices available to Indigenous youth who are homeless or 'at risk' of becoming homeless to build a better understanding of the gaps and pressures within the current system of housing and supports. The research will be designed to look at the types of services and supports needed to address the historical on-going patterns of inequity that limit access to opportunities for low income Indigenous families and individuals.

Mennonite Central Committee

Abbotsford | Amount: \$15,000

The Mennonite Central Committee is interested in working with community partners, including individuals with lived/living experience of homelessness to test the feasibility of the Circle of Friends (COF) model as a way to help to facilitate and support a deeper sense of connection and inclusion for those who are transitioning out of homelessness via weekly meetings and social activities designed to build positive connections and enhance greater resilience.

Mountainside Harm Reduction Society

Chilliwack | Amount: \$35,000

Mountainside Harm Reduction Society is interested in expanding their Connect2Care Cell Phone Program to include the activation and distribution of cell phones and top-up minutes through the network of provincial peer support workers and drug users. This network is exclusively organized by people who use drugs and for whom concerns about the toxic drug supply is a lived reality. Through outreach and engagement, it has been established that access to basic communication plays a central role in overdose prevention and response. In addition to the distribution of the cell phones, Mountainside Harm Reduction Society is committed to providing on-going monitoring, engagement, and research support. Documentation of the potential benefits and limitations of the current plan will be highlighted based on the experiences and stories of those receiving the phones.

Ruth and Naomi's Mission

Chilliwack | Amount: \$25,000

Ruth and Naomi's Mission will hire a Peer Support Coordinator to develop and run a training program for people experiencing homelessness. This training project will provide individuals experiencing homelessness with employment and skills training, thereby increasing their readiness to move from Ruth and Naomi's Mission Shelter and into permanent, long term housing.

Seabird Island Band

Agassiz | Amount Requested: \$9,920

This initiative seeks to provide services to Elders living in the Seabird Island Community as well as Elders living nearby in Hope, Agassiz, Harrison, and Chilliwack. Most of the Elders either have a landline and/or a mobile phone, however, there is a small group of Elders who face barriers in terms of access to basic communication. This includes individuals who don't have a landline or cell phone, individuals who use flip phones (financial hardship), some individuals who have family pass on messages as they don't hear the phone ring, and others whose phones are not-in-service because of financial hardship. Access to basic smartphones through Connect 2 Care, can provide a way to help Elders connect with family, friends, health care providers and home support. The connectivity will also help to reduce the level of social isolation that many Elders experience.

Sister Watch Society

Mission, BC | Amount: \$25,000

Sister Watch Society looks to support sex trade workers, and people who are victims of sexual assault and violence. Through this program, Sister Watch will operate from midnight to 6am to provide support and advocacy for sex workers as they navigate law enforcement and other systems. In addition to ensuring that vulnerable 'at risk' women have access to basic supports, Sister Watch is also committed to providing assistance to vulnerable and 'at risk' women in terms of filing bad date reports, as well as assistance in accessing medical care.

Sister Watch Society

Mission, BC | Amount: \$25,000

Sister Watch Society will undertake research, designed to capture information on the multiple vulnerabilities of low-income women and girls and the barriers that they face in finding and keeping their housing as well as the challenges that they face in keeping their families together. Through this research, Sister Watch will conduct a series of interviews with women and girls with lived/living experience of homelessness as well as organize a series of "registry days" to gather more complete information on women and girls living in Surrey and other parts of the Metro Vancouver region to help draw attention to their needs and the types of services and supports that could help to make a meaningful difference.

Sisterwatch

Surrey/Mission | Amount \$25,000

Existing research shows that survival sex is frequently connected to youth (male, female, gender-diverse and gender minority) who have left home and who are living on the streets or in unstable and dangerous housing situations where they are trading sex to meet their basic survival needs. This research will focus on the lived experiences of individuals living in Surrey and Mission who are in this situation with a focus on identifying the different types of services, supports, and community resources that are needed to protect individuals who find themselves alone and navigating the complexities of their situation.

Skwah First Nation

Chilliwack | Amount: \$25,000

The Skwah First Nation is seeking to provide a safe space for comfort, engagement, as well as better access to supports. The proposed target population includes individuals who are currently homeless, as well as those who may be facing homelessness. This initiative will focus on supporting individuals through the cold, rainy season by helping them to build a greater sense of self-esteem, as well as a deeper sense of family connection and community. This funding will be used to construct two (2) firm, fire-proof, structures that can help to provide cover and ensure that individuals who do not have a place to live will have a place that they can go where they feel safe and dry in rainy conditions.

Skwah First Nation

Chilliwack | Amount: \$25,000

The Skwah First Nation will use this funding to develop a better understanding of the multi-faceted nature of homelessness as it relates to vulnerable and at-risk individuals living in the community. Through the collection and analysis of different sources of data and information, this initiative will focus on solutions that support the dignity and well-being of community members. The goal is to develop a survey that will be sent to more than 450 individuals across eight (8) Indigenous communities. The results will be shared through a series of town hall meetings to hear from those living in poverty and to discuss solutions to homelessness. The findings to be used to engage the First Nations Health Authority and other community partners to support the development of a strategic plan to address the crisis of Indigenous homelessness.

Skwah First Nation

Chilliwack | Amount: \$25,000

The Skwah First Nation will use this funding to prepare supports and wellness packages for vulnerable and 'at risk' families and individuals. This will include the provisions of additional supports for "free food stores". The funding provided through this grant will help to build community capacity to reach out to vulnerable individuals and offer support. The funding provided through the grant will also support the hiring of peer leaders and the implementation of a community-led outreach and engagement strategy.

Projects and Partnerships in the Metro Vancouver Region



Projects and Partnerships in the Metro Vancouver Region

Progressive Housing Society

Burnaby | Amount: \$23,664

Progressive Housing Society is interested in developing a training program designed to build knowledge and capacity for front-line staff. The training program will include the development of materials and resources designed to cover topics critical to understanding an individual's struggle with mental health, homelessness, and addiction. Once the materials have been fully completed they will be made available to others who are interested.

Burnaby Society to End Homelessness

Burnaby | Amount: \$10,000

The Society to End Homelessness in Burnaby is looking to hire an artist to draw portraits of people living below the poverty line while listening to their stories. Much of the trauma and disorientation of homelessness can stem from a loss of identity and voice. This Portrait Project will seek to give vulnerable and 'at risk' individuals living in Burnaby a chance to regain some of who they are through their portrait and being heard through their stories. The portraits (along with important elements of their story) will be displayed in a gallery during Homelessness Awareness Week and will be archived as part of an ongoing display.

Burnaby Society to End Homelessness

Burnaby | Amount: \$25,000

The Society to End Homelessness in Burnaby seeks to serve individuals who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless by operating programs and services to help meet their basic needs. These services include providing support in finding affordable housing, accessing cooked meals, and ensuring individuals have access to basic medical care. The Task Force is also engaged in working to arrange weekly meetings with a representative from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction's Integration Specialist Team to help ensure that homeless individuals have access to the services they need. In addition to ensuring the provision of an array of services for homeless individuals, this project is designed to build a deeper understanding of the issue of homelessness in Burnaby.

Burnaby Society to End Homelessness

Burnaby | Amount \$25,000

Breaking down barriers and responding to gaps in the homelessness serving system in Burnaby has been a central focus of the Burnaby Society to End Homelessness. This has included their efforts to make visible the challenges that people face in their day to day lives and to work to find creative and compassion solutions. Through this funding the Burnaby Society to End Homelessness is committed to working together with others to respond to gaps in the continuum of services and supports for those experiencing homelessness in Burnaby with a focus on working to build bridges and new pathways forward for ending homelessness.

City of Burnaby

Burnaby | Amount: \$50,000

The City of Burnaby will use this funding to support the creation of a Mayor's Task Force on Unsheltered Community Members with a focus on supporting the development of a coordinated, integrated, systems-based response to meet the needs of unsheltered community members living in the City of Burnaby.

Immigrant Link Centre Society

Coquitlam | Amount: \$25,000

The Immigrant Link Centre Society is looking to lead an initiative to prioritize volunteerism by addressing the issue of food insecurity within unhoused individuals in their community. The Immigrant Link Centre Society will run a community kitchen that repurposes surplus food into nutritious meals and will be supported by partnerships with organizations dedicated to aiding the unhoused population. This approach will empower participants through active involvement, skill development, and community service, creating a sustainable model for social and nutritional support.

Tri-Cities Homelessness and Housing Task Group

Coquitlam | Amount: \$12,000

Tri-Cities Homelessness and Housing Task Group is seeking to update their website to ensure that the information is as up-to-date as possible to ensure that individuals experiencing homelessness have the information that they need. Through the redevelopment of their website, the Tri-Cities Homelessness and Housing Task Group is interested in recruiting a volunteer who can liaise with community partners and other homelessness serving organizations.

SHARE Family and Community Services Society

Coquitlam | Amount: \$25,000

SHARE works to connect, engage, and strengthen access to services and supports for individuals and their families. For 50 years, SHARE has provided community-based programs and services including food bank services, counselling services, affordable housing, initiatives to support newcomers and refugees, services for children and youth with special needs, as well as supports for senior individuals living in poverty. Through the provision of services, SHARE is committed to supporting families and individuals through periods of vulnerability. Access to computers, internet services and basic communication remains out of the financial reach of many Tri-Cities residents and SHARE clients.

Delta Homelessness Committee (Deltassist)

Delta | Amount: \$25,000

Deltassist Family and Community Services Society is looking to achieve a range of goals including working to build an enhanced understanding of the existing and emerging homelessness needs in Delta. This includes responding to gaps in services and supports, building greater community capacity, creating Delta specific solutions to respond to homelessness while addressing further needs as they are identified. Activities will involve interviewing persons with lived and living experience, developing a profile of the homeless and at risk population, developing interventions that can help address the challenges people face, and conducting research to determine successful housing arrangements and partnerships in comparable communities and jurisdictions.

Ishtar Women's Resources Society

Langley | Amount: \$25,000

Ishtar Women's Resources Society will continue with their Community Outreach Response Program (COR). COR provides outreach-based services to street entrenched women by providing harm reduction supplies, food, water, referrals, assistance with applications and a shower facility. This program looks at ways to support the well-being of women living with violence, homelessness, and/or substance use. COR will offer services Monday to Friday with various hours in the morning, afternoon, and evening, to meet the diverse range of needs of women in the community.

Lookout Housing and Health Society (Peer Led Homelessness Research)

Langley | Amount: \$25,000

This initiative is designed to recruit and engage individuals with lived/living experience in the design of a peer-led homelessness research project and survey intended to provide a deeper understanding of homelessness based on the experiences of those with lived/living experience. This initiative will be delivered in partnership with DOPERS (Diverse Organization Providing Education and Regional Services) with Lookout Housing and Health Society acting as the trustee organization. The feedback and insights gained through this process will be used to guide and inform future planning and policy development.

Lookout Housing and Health Society (Out of the Cold)

Langley | Amount: \$25,000

This initiative is designed to support an “Out of the Cold Arts Group” which will include weekly art creation sessions to support people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in developing their voice and by providing an outlet for their creativity through supporting the implementation and showcasing of a peer art collective body of work. The funding will support regular gatherings in two (2) locations – Langley and Surrey and is intended to help to build a deeper sense of inclusion and engagement among individuals with a history of lived/living experience of homelessness.

Ron Cares Society

Langley | Amount \$10,000

The Ron Cares Society builds and distributes Community Care Kits to marginalized populations, including the unhoused, seniors/elders, low income families and new immigrants. These kits contain hygiene and wellness products and are specifically tailored to the target population. We would hope to build a minimum of 120 Street Care Kits with this funding. Kits also take seasons into consideration and supply warming and cooling items accordingly. A full list of the contents of the kits can be provided if requested.

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VisionQuest Recovery Society

Langley | Amount: \$15,000

VisionQuest Recovery Society will provide access to quality out-patient recovery services for low income women struggling with substance use. The program offered through VisionQuest recovery society will focus on providing therapeutic services for low income and vulnerable women from across the Lower Mainland, including one-on-one counselling from a certified drug and alcohol counsellor. The services will be provided through a hybrid in-person or virtual model.

Alouette Addictions Services Society (Connect Event 2023)

Maple Ridge | Amount: \$11,000

Alouette Addictions Services Society seeks to explore ways to strengthen the level of collaboration and community support around individuals from the community who are experiencing homelessness with a focus on bringing community partners together through the organization of a “connect event”. This event recognizes that none of us has the complete answer and by bringing community members

together (face to face) it is possible to share experiences and celebrate successes while at the same time learning from areas where the potential has not yet been fully realized.

Alouette Addictions Services Society (Connect Event 2024)

Maple Ridge | Amount: \$24,500

Alouette Addictions Services Society will use this funding to continue the “connect event”. This event will explore ways to strengthen the level of collaboration and community support around individuals from the community who are experiencing homelessness. The focus of the “connect event” is to bring community partners together (face to face) to share experiences and celebrate successes while at the same time learning from areas where the potential has not yet been realized.

Alouette Addictions Services Society (The HUB)

Maple Ridge | Amount: \$25,000

Alouette Addictions Services Society will develop a HUB designed to bring services together to provide individuals experiencing homelessness Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows with dignified access to services including housing, employment, and health-related services. Through this initiative, the central goal is to build a deeper sense of interagency collaboration and support among community partners.

Fraser River Indigenous Society

Maple Ridge | Amount: \$600

Fraser River Indigenous Society serves individuals who are homeless, due to systemic or societal barriers, including lack of affordable and appropriate housing. The Society also seeks to respond to the individual's or household's financial situation, as well as to the individual's mental, cognitive, behavioral, or physical needs. The Society also seeks to respond to instances of racism or discrimination. Individuals may be challenged with chronic homelessness, where they stay in unsheltered locations, emergency shelters, or are staying temporarily with others without the guarantee of continued residency. Individuals who are living without a place to call home, continue to struggle with the effects of colonization and trauma, as well as the social, cultural, economic, and political conditions that place them in poverty. Having access to technology assists in connecting to basic needs, such as healthcare, food, personal hygiene, clothing/footwear, shelter, laundry service, obtaining their identification (I.D), and public transit. Without the technology, accessing care is brought with additional barriers which can be life threatening especially during extreme weather.

Non-Judgemental Recovery

Maple Ridge | Amount: \$10,000

Non-Judgemental Recovery will provide outreach, on-call support, rides, and referral services to individuals who are entering into or transitioning between treatment facilities (detox, rehab, halfway houses). Through the provision of outreach, on-call support, rides and referral services, a central focus of Non-Judgemental is to help reduce the amount of time that individuals facing issues of substance use spend on the street or living in unsafe and precarious housing situations while waiting for a bed to become available. In working to address this need, NJR is seeking to reduce the time that it takes for individuals to access addictions and recovery-related services. Non-Judgemental Recovery also seeks to work across the range of potential addictions/recovery services private and not-for-profit to ensure that individuals experiencing addiction related challenges have access to the supports and wrap around services they need.

Non-Judgmental Recovery Society

Maple Ridge | Amount: \$25,000

The Non-Judgmental Recovery Society looks to extend their previously funded Rapid Response Program. The focus of this initiative will be coordinating and updating a Social Services Inventory as well as developing strategies around automated implementation, data collection, and other social planning outcomes related to the use and development of the inventory.

Non-Judgmental Recovery Society

Maple Ridge | Amount: \$25,000

The Non-Judgmental Recovery Society will fill gaps in current referral and transportation services for individuals struggling with addiction to get connected to the resources, services, and housing necessary for success in their recovery journey. This work will look to expand the service to include 211 calls and inclusion of personal support networks in the transportation process through mileage coverage and service coordination.

Ridge Meadows Seniors Society

Maple Ridge | Amount: \$24,610

The Ridge Meadows Seniors Society (RMSS) provides one-stop access for seniors through building a peer community that provides different services and supports. It operates through two centres, one in Maple Ridge and one in Pitt Meadows and has an Outreach Department for seniors who may be 'at risk' as a result of a change in their life situation such as an eviction, loss of income, or difficulties within their home setting. Through outreach coordination and caregiver connection the goal is to meet with individuals, families and others, to identify potential strategies to help strengthen their connection to services, including improved access to health-related services (hospitalization and virtual medical appointments) as well as food, housing, and basic transportation services.

Salvation Army Ridge Meadows Ministries

Maple Ridge | Amount: \$50,000

The Salvation Army Ridge Meadows Ministries wishes to establish a "housing first" model which includes the acquisition of 2 to 3 rental units, designed to provide housing and wrap around support services for individuals who face multiple barriers in accessing housing through traditional models. In securing these units, the Salvation Army is interested in breaking down barriers and address the stigma experienced by many individuals with a history of homelessness.

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experienced by many individuals with a history of homelessness.

Journey Home Community Association (Building the Narrative)

Metro Vancouver | Amount: \$25,000

The Journey Home Community Association will develop a community engagement kit and social media strategy designed to build increased awareness around the specific housing needs of refugee claimants and their families as well as provide for an expanded range of housing choices for a vulnerable population with few options within a highly competitive housing market.

Journey Home Community Association (Creating Meanwhile Spaces)

Metro Vancouver | Amount: \$25,000

Through this initiative, Journey Home Community Association will work with the private development community to identify vacant properties that can be used as interim housing for refugee claimants. The research will include information on different opportunities that have been identified within the Lower Mainland. Key work program elements will include a business case analysis in terms of creating affordable rental housing, the purchase and costing of furniture for the different suites as well as post occupancy evaluation/feedback from refugee claimants who have been able to secure access to this housing on their journey to more permanent housing.

Journey Home Community Association (Data Collection)

Metro Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000

The Journey Home Community Association will seek to develop a Refugee Claimant Reception Centre to provide short-term housing, basic orientation and referrals in order that arriving refugee claimants can immediately begin their settlement process. This will help to prevent homelessness by diverting individuals and families away from shelters not equipped to meet their settlement needs and where family members are often separated from each other. In addition to the design and development of a refugee claimant reception centre, the initiative entails the development and deployment of a case management system and the planning, design and implementation of a social media awareness campaign.

Journey Home Community Association (Creating a Social Enterprise)

Metro Vancouver | Amount: \$25,000

Journey Home Community Association is interested in building the business case for creating employment for refugee claimants using a social enterprise model that is designed to provide training to refugee claimants in helping to provide moving services and other supports to individuals in establishing their new home in Canada. The report will include information on the different opportunities identified including the business case analysis as well as the types of partnerships and support that could not only provide refugee claimants success in their new homes but that could also support their inclusion in the work force.

Kinbrace Community Society — Refugee Housing and Support

Metro Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000

In this work, Kinbrace Community Society is working towards the removal of key barriers that refugee claimants face in achieving financial mobility in Canada. Specifically, Kinbrace will work to bring together refugee claimants, employers, employment specialists and coaches, settlement agencies, employment related associations, and others to create discussions and action plans to help break down employment barriers within a series of Employment Roundtables. This initiative will also create a Refugee Claimant Opportunities Pool as a centralized repository of employment, volunteering, networking, and educational opportunities targeted for refugee claimants. This initiative will also

provide support in recertifying, reskilling, and upskilling refugee claimants.

Kinbrace Community Society — Refugee Housing and Supports

Metro Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000

In this work, Kinbrace Community Society is seeking to develop an employment program that will help refugee claimants living at Kinbrace to exit homelessness and secure a permanent home through employment support using the principle that helping secure employment and study income reduces homelessness and increases long-term housing stability. This initiative will include the collection of employment resources for refugee claimants, identification of gaps in employment resources, the development of an employment program, the development and testing of employment readiness, expectations and placement pool materials, translation of essential employment program materials for refugee claimants, outreach and knowledge transfer to other refugee serving organizations and an evaluation of the program.

City of New Westminster

New Westminster | Amount: \$50,000

The City of New Westminster will establish an enhanced outreach, referral and advocacy model which includes an expanded role for the City's Outreach Workers and Liveability Coordinators to support the development of a coordinated response to the needs of individuals who are homeless or 'at risk' of homelessness. This will be accomplished by focussing on the development of relationships across core city staff positions as well as across key community partners.

Douglas College Digital Equity Initiative

New Westminster | Amount: \$50,000

Douglas College seeks to develop and implement a 'digital equity initiative' which will include sourcing and cleaning devices, erasing data and installing open source operating systems and applications on smartphones, desktops, laptops and tablets to target the creation and expansion of public wi-fi hot spots and internet provision to those who cannot afford connectivity. This initiative will also seek to create education and training materials, and will build device use to help develop greater community capacity, particularly for digitally excluded populations. Pop up 'tech cafes' will be set up to process and distribute devices, develop learning materials, and to develop engagement initiatives and events. A community capacity model will be developed to ensure the ongoing sustainability of the initiative. This initiative will be evaluated and conference/research papers will be prepared.

The Elizabeth Fry Society

New Westminster | Amount: \$19,000

The Elizabeth Fry Society is interested in raising awareness about the work they have been doing on understanding the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness. Through this research, the Elizabeth Fry Society is interested in drawing attention to the different factors contributing to growing housing, shelter and service needs among children and youth across the Lower Mainland.

Lookout Housing and Health Society (Employment Training Program)

New Westminster | Amount: \$49,800

Lookout Housing and Health Society will deliver an employment training program to their guests struggling with barriers to employment, such as mental health and addiction, poverty and homelessness. This program will provide pre-employment skill building as well as on the job training for participants. The employment and training program opportunities will include working at the Lookout Food Hub and the HOME Moving social enterprise. Participants will earn a stipend for their time and investment in the program.

New Westminster Homelessness Coalition Society

New Westminster | Amount: \$15,000

The New Westminster Homelessness Coalition Society is interested in developing a Strategic Plan designed to clearly articulate community priorities including the articulation of the Society's role in addressing homelessness. Through this new initiative, the New Westminster Homelessness Coalition Society is interested in the development of an online presence that is both informative and engaging. Through this funding the New Westminster Homelessness Coalition Society will seek to leverage knowledge and action by building capacity within the Society and across the broader community. This initiative is also designed to build community support around existing and emerging needs.

New Westminster Homelessness Coalition Society

New Westminster | Amount: \$15,000

The New Westminster Homelessness Coalition Society is interested in exploring opportunities to help breakdown barriers and address issues of stigma as part of their 2025 Homelessness Action Week activities. This initiative will feature presentations, personal accounts, and creative performances that will discuss housing, homelessness, and systemic solutions. Through this event, the New Westminster Homelessness Coalition Society will raise awareness, highlight the unhoused experience, and challenge stigma.

Seniors Services Society of BC

New Westminster | Amount: \$35,000

The Seniors Services Society of BC will engage in collaboratively-designed solutions to ensure that vulnerable and low-income seniors in Metro Vancouver have access to affordable housing and integrated supports that meet their health and housing needs. Seniors with lived experience will be engaged as advisors while racialized, Indigenous, LGBTQ2S+ seniors and veterans, including seniors who have experienced family violence and mental health challenges will be engaged, thereby ensuring that the programs, services, and supports provided respond to the full range of community needs. This project will promote diversity, inclusivity, and intergenerational connection in affordable and sustainable multi-unit rental housing to address immediate needs and contribute to the creation of healthy and sustainable communities.

Seniors Services Society of BC

New Westminster | Amount: \$25,000

The Seniors Services Society of BC is interested in hosting a Seniors' Housing Navigators Conference which will bring together seniors housing navigators from across B.C. to meet, share information on wise practices as well as identify existing and emerging needs among low income and vulnerable seniors.

North Shore Homelessness Task Force (c/o District of North Vancouver)

North Vancouver | Amount: \$25,000

The North Shore Homelessness Task Force is developing a community-informed plan and strategy for reducing the impacts of homelessness and poverty on the North Shore. The initiative will help to ensure that those who are homeless and 'at risk' of homelessness have access to the types of services and supports they need. The development of the plan will include extensive community consultation to ensure all perspectives are identified. Efforts will also be taken to secure additional funding to help address homelessness on the North Shore.

North Vancouver City Library

North Vancouver | Amount: \$25,000

North Vancouver City Library continues their Open Door Community Hub initiative, which provides a dedicated space for unsheltered individuals and other vulnerable community members. This funding will help support the creation of a Community Access Coordinator position. Through the Open Door Community Hub, a key goal will be to build community capacity to respond to gaps in the current system of services and supports for individuals with a history of housing precarity and homelessness.

North Vancouver District Public Library

North Vancouver | Amount: \$25,000

North Vancouver District Public Library seeks to support their Open Door Community Hub through the provision of time and space for vulnerable community members to gather in a safe space where they can build connections, access information, navigate resources and acquire referrals to other community social supports.

Hollyburn Family Services Society–Youth Homelessness

North Vancouver – Lower Mainland | Amount: \$50,000

Hollyburn Family Services Society is interested in conducting community-based research to address the needs of vulnerable and at-risk youth with a focus on prevention as well as the development of targeted strategies to meet the gender-specific needs of vulnerable and ‘at risk’ youth in order to create a responsive model within the networks, services and supports available to youth to reduce the risk of homelessness before it happens. The project will include the design of a survey to better understand the housing histories and housing careers of vulnerable and at-risk youth in the Lower Mainland including their different pathways into and out of homelessness.

Hollyburn Family Services Society—Seniors Homelessness

North Vancouver – Lower Mainland | Amount: \$50,000

In this project, the Hollyburn Family Services Society will create a pilot project and seniors housing registry that helps to build connections between single senior homeowners and vulnerable seniors who are at risk of homelessness through economic eviction. The pilot project will explore the potential benefits of establishing a Seniors Roommate Registry (SRMR) as well as identify potential strategies for addressing any risks.

Hope for Freedom Society

Port Coquitlam | Amount: \$10,000

The Hope for Freedom Society is seeking the creation of shower facilities in their organization’s office washrooms specifically for those who are homeless in the Tri-Cities area. In so doing, beyond the obvious benefits of cleanliness and well-being, there will be a compounding effect of increasing and enhancing clients’ contact with outreach workers who serve the area which may lead to a further and deeper social reintegration for clients to the services that are available as well as a potential bridge towards wider community connections.

Low Entropy Foundation

Port Coquitlam | Amount: \$25,000

Low Entropy Foundation is looking to develop a comprehensive homelessness plan and strategy that addresses the unique challenges faced by those experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness in Coquitlam. This includes identifying the most pressing needs including accessing affordable housing, services, and income support. This initiative will also explore the role that modular transitional housing could play in conjunction with wraparound services.

MegaTECH Distribution Inc.

Richmond | Amount: \$25,000

MegaTECH Distribution Inc. has developed a prototype of a containerized, mobile homeless/emergency shelter solution which can be quickly deployed and easily re-located, and which is both scalable and cost efficient. In engaging this initiative the focus is on helping to change the community narrative on homelessness with fewer people living in tents, parks, and on the streets.

Richmond Public Library**Richmond | Amount: \$5,000**

Richmond Public Library is interested in establishing a pilot for an ID clinic to assist individuals experiencing homelessness in replacing copies of their missing or stolen identification. By waiving or paying the fees to re-establish their ID, this initiative will reduce barriers to housing, healthcare and employment. This initiative will also seek to offer free legal assistance for those who have more complicated issues that need to be addressed. In undertaking this initiative, an over-riding goal is to ensure that those who have a history of lived/living experience of homelessness develop a deeper sense of belonging and connection.

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City of Surrey–The SUILC’s Skookum Lab**Surrey | Amount: \$25,000**

The SUILC’s Skookum Lab of the City of Surrey wishes to evaluate the Indigenous Partnership Pilot Program (IPPP) to address gaps in services to ensure that it continues to provide culturally safe and trauma informed access to services for the Surrey Indigenous community who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. This includes seeking to address systemic barriers and gaps, designed to build capacity. This will be accomplished through the development of an Indigenous evaluation framework, the collection of Indigenous and community-based knowledge, the sharing and analysis of the knowledge gathered, and the development and validation of an Evaluation Report. The Evaluation Report will highlight key practices and actions, along with documenting key milestones and achievements.

City of Surrey Vulnerable Women and Girls Working Group**Surrey | Amount: \$50,000**

The Vulnerable Women and Girls Working Group in the City of Surrey is engaged in the development of a collaborative research project designed to build a better understanding of the service and housing needs of vulnerable women and girls living in Surrey. This will include engagement in a strategic planning exercise that includes the development of an updated housing and service inventory and gaps analysis including arts-based engagement of women and youth with lived experience. A forum to invite input and feedback from community leaders will be convened, and a gap analysis report will be created. Research will be conducted into best practices in meeting the needs of vulnerable women and girls with a focus on both housing and services including the production of updated women’s resource cards.

City of Surrey Vulnerable Women and Girls Working Group

Surrey | Amount: \$25,000

The Surrey Vulnerable Women and Girls Working Group is interested in undertaking a research project which would engage directly with vulnerable women and girls in Surrey to understand the positive and negative impacts they are experiencing, both from the new housing development and supports that have been introduced for vulnerable women and girls, as well as the effects of the COVID pandemic, the opioid crisis, and on-going affordability challenges. The project will result in a better understanding of the barriers to and gaps in service provision, current and anticipated housing needs. The initiative will also seek to enhance safety for vulnerable women and girls.

Dudes Club

Surrey | Amount: \$25,000

The Dudes Club is looking to conduct a community-based research project that expands the services provided by the DUDES Street Squad both as a geographical footprint within the DTES, as well as by frequency, expanding from 1 day per week to two. The funding will also allow the Society to initiate, train and mentor new Street Squads in communities such as Smithers, Prince George, Terrace and Prince Rupert while engaging many other BC communities which have expressed interest in the Street Squad program.

Fraser Health – Youth Concurrent Disorders Program

Surrey | Amount: \$21,000

Fraser Health's Youth Concurrent Disorders Program serves youth aged 13-24 who are struggling with moderate to severe mental health and substance use challenges. Youth referred to the program have typically tried a number of different services that were unable to meet their needs, or are not comfortable in engaging with professionals in a typical office setting. It takes time to build a trusting therapeutic relationship. Having access to reliable communication can help to improve individual and health-related outcomes. By providing access to a smartphone, the basic support and health needs of youth will be enhanced. A significant proportion of program clients are homeless or precariously housed, in Ministry care or have recently aged-out of care, and are trying to make ends meet on meager income assistance or disability payments. These living conditions mean that phones have often been lost, stolen, or sold, making it exceedingly difficult for many of these youths to access services and to stay connected.

Fraser Health Authority

Surrey | Amount: \$25,000

Fraser Health Authority will explore additional opportunities and partnerships related to the 'smartphone' initiative in keeping with the directions set out in the Evaluation Plan that has been prepared by the Fraser Health Authority. The Plan seeks to increase vulnerable patients' access to health and community services while also addressing the social isolation which emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA) – Youth

Surrey | Amount: \$50,000

The Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association will build and expand upon key services for vulnerable and 'at risk' youth, with the delivery of services from a culturally responsible Indigenous approach. Financial assistance will support vulnerable, homeless and at-risk youth to navigate independence, build connections, life skills and other supports as they transition from homelessness into independent housing and the private rental housing market.

Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA) – Indigenous Youth

Surrey | Amount: \$50,000

The Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA) is looking to provide financial assistance and support for vulnerable, homeless and at-risk youth as they navigate independence, build connections, and acquire the life skills they will need as they transition from homelessness into the rental housing market. The types of supports provided will include housing search, life skills programs, cultural life skills, tenant literacy skills, and income supports.

Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA)

Surrey | Amount: \$10,000

The Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA) is interested in exploring opportunities for a mobile doula service which could provide birthing support for young, expectant Indigenous mothers who face highly challenging personal circumstances often in fluid, isolating and medically risky circumstances. In many cases, these mothers have few other supports they can rely on. Many of these young mothers are also at risk of losing their baby because of their precarious circumstances. This initiative also seeks to provide appropriate bereavement counselling to those young Indigenous women who may require such support in difficult and emotionally wrenching circumstances.

Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA)

Surrey | Amount: \$10,000

The Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA) is interested in creating a report that creates a meaningful, safe and respectful space for Indigenous people to share their perspectives on housing and homelessness. This includes engagement with Elders, families, singles, and Indigenous youth with a focus on learning more about the factors that are shaping their housing choices and the types of services and supports needed to meet their basic needs. This initiative also included engagement with single Indigenous men to learn from others in similar circumstances about different ways to navigate often challenging personal and societal circumstances, as well as to build connections and develop stronger inter-personal and life skills.

The Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA)

Surrey | Amount: \$50,000

The Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA) seeks to build and expand upon evidence based intensive transitional housing support to youth at risk of or experiencing homelessness from an Indigenous approach including increasing positive outcomes at the individual and systems level.

Helping Hands Universal Outreach Services LTD

Surrey | Amount: \$25,000

Helping Hands Universal Outreach Services will seek to provide culturally relevant services and client centered support to people who are housing insecure in Surrey BC. This funding will be used to support key positions, including one Peer Coordinator and Peer Outreach Worker.

Lookout Housing and Health Society

Surrey | Amount: \$7,000

Through this funding opportunity, Lookout Housing and Health Society will provide life skills and work readiness support to clients facing homelessness and/or mental health and addictions challenges through the On Your Feet laundry service peer program within their shelter. Through this initiative,

the goal is to support clients in developing a greater sense of responsibility and accountability while motivating them to strive for greater independence, earn income and develop a sense of community involvement.

Lookout Housing and Health Society (Peer Led Homelessness Research)

Surrey | Amount: \$25,000

Lookout Housing and Health Society in Surrey will join Langley in conducting peer led homelessness research initiative to recruit and engage individuals with lived/living experience and to survey other unhoused individuals to provide a deeper understanding of homelessness based on the experiences of those with lived/living experience. This initiative will provide participants with interviewing skills as well as support the development of targeted solutions.

Lookout Housing and Health Society (Out of the Cold)

Surrey | Amount: \$25,000

Lookout Housing and Health Society will also support the “Out of the Cold Arts Group” which will include weekly art creation sessions to support people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in developing their voice and by providing an outlet for their creativity through supporting the implementation and showcasing of a peer art collective body of work. The funding will support regular gatherings in two (2) locations – Langley and Surrey and is intended to help to build a deeper sense of inclusion and engagement among individuals with a history of lived/living experience of homelessness.

Lookout Housing and Health Society (Community Engagement Specialist)

Surrey | Amount: \$80,000

Lookout Housing and Health Society will explore the implementation of community engagement specialist position designed to address the sense of stigma and judgement that frequently goes with the lived stereotype that members of the general public as well as local businesses often hold when opposing new supportive housing developments and/or emergency shelters and other spaces designed to better meet the needs of those experiencing homelessness. Through the development of these community engagement specialist positions, Lookout Housing and Health Society is interested in engaging non-traditional partners (local businesses, schools, and churches) to explore ways to strengthen local connections and partnerships to better meet the needs of those experiencing homelessness. This initiative will be piloted across 8 communities across the Lower Mainland. In addition to working to strengthen connections, this initiative will seek to develop a toolkit to help others navigate future conversations.

Maxxine Wright Community Health Centre

Surrey | Amount: \$25,000

Maxxine Wright Community Health Centre (MWCHC) provides services to pregnant and early parenting women whose lives are impacted by substance use and/or violence/abuse. These women live with complexities that make getting medical care a challenge. Many clients have no contact information due to homelessness or not having a phone, while many experience violence, addictions, and/or social isolation. By providing clients with a smartphone, numerous benefits would accrue including:

- the ability to book and confirm appointments;
- the ability to have telephone or virtual visits with care providers;
- the ability to receive texts about appointments and referrals;
- the ability to access the internet for education resources and tools;
- a decreased sense of social isolation;

- the ability to use the phone for translation services for non-English speaking clients; and
- increased access to client's children who are not in their care to arrange visits with foster parents/ social workers or simply to talk with their children.

Options Community Services

Surrey | Amount: \$25,000

Options Community Services is seeking to conduct a community-based research project designed to build capacity at the local level to respond to existing and emerging needs through an analysis of gaps and barriers. The analysis will also focus on the antecedents to housing and health services for individuals experiencing homelessness. Project deliverables included the collection and thematic analysis of data, validation of the data findings, and the organization of a town hall to present the findings. Options will also seek to use the findings to inform improvements to their service delivery practices.

Options Community Services

Surrey | Amount: \$10,000

Options Community Services will conduct a community-based research project which will help empower homeless clients by providing them with the access and tools to create a personal narrative. Specifically, this initiative will focus on training clients on the use of cameras, and will compile their photos and stories in a hardcover book which will be produced and published. Project deliverables and associated payments will support the purchase and distribution of cameras to clients, workshops for clients on the use of the equipment and project framework, selection of photos and creation of accompanying narrative.

Phoenix Society – Addiction/Recovery

Surrey | Amount: \$50,000

The Phoenix Society is interested in exploring opportunities to offer a supportive program for learning and acquiring life skills which would enable individuals with a history of homelessness and addictions-related challenges to successfully transition to housing in the private market. The initiative is intended to build on the successful “ready-to-rent” model. In developing this program, a central focus included the development of targeted supports to meet the specific needs of individuals with addictions-related challenges with the underlying objective being to support individuals in making the transition to stable community living.

Realistic Success Recovery Society

Surrey | Amount: \$15,000

The Realistic Success Recovery Society seeks to demonstrate the social benefits and contributions that recovery houses play in helping to breaking the cycle of poverty and homelessness among men with a history of addictions, many of whom have experience in the criminal justice system because of their addictions. The research includes the development of an in-take and exit survey that captures information on the history of homelessness among men with a history of addiction.

Realistic Success Recovery Society

Surrey | Amount: \$25,000

The Realistic Success Recovery Society seeks to expand the services available to individuals who have a history of addictions and who require access to safe, supportive recovery services to help them move forward in their lives. Access to recovery services can help individuals to build the resources they need to overcome their addictions and re-build their lives. Many of the clients accessing the services through Realistic Success Recovery Society face multiple barriers.

Semiahmoo House Society

Surrey | Amount Requested: \$4,340

This initiative will help to provide people with developmental disabilities (PWD) better access to health and social services by providing access to virtual care and will allow them to have more control in their lives. Through access to basic digital equity, our goal is to increase access to mental health supports in the [UNITI] community; access to technology; and opportunities to connect people to their community. Many individuals with developmental disabilities have limited access to computers and the internet, have challenges with digital literacy, and limited prior access to technology. They also have limited or no access to safe and secure private virtual services and are increasingly excluded from accessing services in a technology driven world. Through access to smartphones, UNITI Digital Literacy Training Program (UDLTP), will use a “nothing about us without us” and a person-centered approach to engaging users with UDLTP going at the pace of the slowest learner to build tailored experiences that meet the individual’s needs and desires. A person-centered approach is woven into UDLTP, with all material in plain language, and catering to different ways of learning.

Seven Sacred Fires Society

Surrey | Amount: \$50,000

Seven Sacred Fires Society will provide access to Indigenous culture, and address issues of food insecurity by providing outreach to individuals who have a history of homelessness. Over the course of the project, 24 different engagements have been planned. Plans include the organization and distribution of 1800 pairs of socks, as well as gloves and toques. The funds will also be used to purchase winter boots and jackets. The outreach is also designed to support Indigenous individuals in reconnecting to their culture through land-based resources, sacred medicines, and community customs.

Sober Life Foundation

Surrey | Amount: \$25,000

Sober Life Foundation looks to continue to provide culturally relevant services designed to prevent overdose deaths amongst the South Asian community living in the Fraser Health region. With this funding, the goal is to expand awareness of the peer support line, hire part-time peer navigators, and expand the services and supports that are available to individuals from the community.

Sources Community Resources Society

Surrey | Amount: \$50,000

Sources Community Resources Society is undertaking a project to understand the different factors leading to increased levels of housing instability for families and individuals living in Surrey. Through this research, Sources is interested in developing different approaches to better meet the needs of low income and vulnerable households in Surrey. This initiative will also help to provide a better understanding of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Surrey Memorial Hospital Emergency Department and Forensics

Surrey | Amount: \$24,220

Surrey Memorial Hospital [SMH] Emergency Department [ED] is the largest emergency department in B.C. by size and volume of per patient visits. SMH ED serves a cross section of patients including a large proportion of individuals who are experiencing homelessness. In some cases, they are the victims of human trafficking. Many of these patients do not have the financial means to access smartphones, primary care, or other basic necessities of life. Access to basic smart phones would provide them with the means for timely follow up care, thereby preventing future visits to the Emergency Department.

Providing access to basic communication will provide these patients with equitable access to community services and will help them develop ongoing relationships crucial to their well-being.

Surrey Urban Mission

Surrey | Amount: \$9,700

Surrey Urban Mission Society to provide low-barrier employment opportunities to people experiencing homelessness and those who are “at risk” of homelessness to offer them a chance to regain a sense of agency, autonomy and dignity as well as opportunities to earn income. The twin experiences of meaningful work and community engagement via participation in the “Surrey Clean and Care” program in which individuals will be engaged in street cleaning will also help to challenge the stereotypes that so often depict homeless individuals in a negative light.

Surrey Road to Home Society

South Surrey/White Rock | Amount: \$25,000

The Surrey Road to Home Society is interested in exploring options for establishing an extreme weather shelter in the City of White Rock. This initiative will involve the formation of a task group engaged in developing a plan to create shelter and housing opportunities for people in White Rock/South Surrey. Surrey Road to Home Society is also interested in the development of a demographic profile for people who are homeless in White Rock/South Surrey.

BC Coalition of Experiential Communities

Vancouver | Amount: \$25,040

The BC Coalition of Experiential Communities looks to investigate the impact of housing exclusion on the lives and safety of sex workers. The results of this research will be instrumental in the development of actions, practices and policies needed to address issues of stigma and judgement. The BC Coalition of Experiential Communities will conduct an environmental scan of existing housing policies related to sex work, as well as engage with the public, sex workers, housing providers and police to create a final report and recommendations.

BC Metis Federation

Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000

BC Metis Federation are undertaking a broad-based research project designed to build a deeper understanding of the historical roots of homelessness among Metis peoples with a focus on building a deeper understanding of the experiences of Metis people and those with mixed ancestry in terms of their experiences of homelessness and housing insecurity. In undertaking this research, Metis Nation is interested in building a deeper understanding of the different experiences and circumstances of Metis people living in rural areas as well as those living in urban areas.

Christ Church Cathedral

Vancouver | Amount: \$25,000

Christ Church Cathedral will use this funding to hire an outreach worker to identify specific gaps in service and needs amongst people who are homeless or who are precariously housed in the downtown and West End of Vancouver neighbourhoods. In undertaking this research, there is the belief that, once the gaps have been identified, it will be possible to work to address these gaps.

Chrysalis Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$15,000

The Chrysalis Society will offer specific training opportunities for marginalized women including Workplace Safety, Food Safe and First Aid certifications as well as resume building, budget

management and life skills management. This program is intended to help participants build the skills and confidence they need to re-enter the workforce while healing from trauma.

Connective

Vancouver | Amount: \$35,000

Connective plans to support a multi-sectoral leadership gathering focused on the development of strategies to better meet the needs of individuals with complex needs with a focus on bringing together leaders from across the social, health and justice sectors to explore common challenges and opportunities with a focus on identifying and overcoming differences in service philosophies. In bringing people together a key area of focus is on improving the coordination of services for underserved populations as well as identifying opportunities for collaboration. This initiative will also seek to build and deepen our understanding through a person-centred, peer-based approach.

Eastside Community Action Project Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$25,000

This initiative is designed to support the Eastside Community Action Project Society in addressing the food security needs of individuals living in the CRAB park encampment with a focus on comfort, survival, health and nutrition. In addition to working with residents living in the encampment, this initiative will also focus on providing individuals with the necessary fire-safety training and support.

Engaged Communities Canada Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$22,630

Through the Connect to Care program, Engaged Communities Canada Society will distribute smartphones to individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in the Surrey area. This will include outreach and engagement with individuals facing greater disconnection to services due to linguistic challenges, lower digital literacy levels, mobility issues, social isolation, transportation barriers, as well as financial hardship. By working directly with individuals facing multiple barriers, the goal is to address multiple health inequities in a way that helps to support individuals' health and social needs.

First United Church Community Ministry Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000

First United has been engaged in a B.C Eviction Mapping Project designed to build deep insight into the experiences of individuals who face eviction. Through this project, First United is interested in developing a robust dataset designed to build a deeper understanding of pathways into homelessness. The eviction mapping project is interested in documenting mechanisms of formal and informal evictions, outcomes of eviction, and impacts on multiple populations. The BC Eviction Mapping Project is designed to offer insight into the types of tenant protection policies that are needed. This could include recommendations for better prevention focussed policies, as well as changes to the provincial residential tenancy law.

First United Church Community Ministry Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$10,000

First United Church Community Ministry Society will host Indigenous Housing Justice Talking Circles for participants to discuss landlord-tenant issues impacting Indigenous Peoples and communities as it relates to tenancy. The Talking Circles will be elder-led events and the knowledge generated from the Circles will be used to inform Indigenous-specific law reform recommendations.

Foundations for Social Change–New Leaf Project Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000

This initiative is designed to empower individuals to move beyond homelessness by working in partnership with others to support those experiencing homelessness to have the choice, control and purchasing power they need at a critical time in their life. This research relies on the use of both a person-centred and evidence-based approach for addressing homelessness. Through the provision of basic top-up funding, the goal is to empower individuals in making the choices needed to gain stability and self-sufficiency.

Foundations for Social Change**Vancouver | Amount: \$80,000 (\$10,000 per community nodes)**

Foundations for Social Change is working with community partners to support the development of a community engagement process called 'SEN' (Storytelling, Experience Building, Narrative Inquiry), a process of storytelling which allows deep engagement with participants for building powerful narratives of change. Through this funding, Foundations for Social Change is interested in working with community partners across eight community nodes including hosting regular events which employ various methods of engagement (i.e., story forms). The funding will also enable the hosting of "sensemaking" sessions to review and interpret the stories together. In designing this process, the ultimate goal is to cultivate a safe environment to allow for stories to emerge naturally and to channel learnings into possible actions that address on-going social inequities. The funding will include \$10,000 for the design of the SEN process itself as well as \$10,000 for each of the seven (7) regional partners who have stepped forward to support this initiative.

Helping Spirit Lodge Society – Indigenous Homelessness Women**Vancouver | Amount: \$25,000**

The Helping Spirit Lodge Society seeks to address issues of housing instability and homelessness among vulnerable and at-risk Indigenous women. The focus of this initiative will include an examination of the housing histories and history of violence against women using services provided through Helping Spirit Lodge. This includes gathering best practices research and lessons learned from similar programs in other jurisdictions. The research findings will be used to improve the lived experience of program clients and others in similar circumstances.

Individualized Funding Resource Centre**Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000**

With this funding, the Individualized Funding Resource Centre will hire and train a Navigator to assist clients who are full-time wheelchair users in finding accessible, affordable housing in the already tight rental housing market in Metro Vancouver. The Navigator will determine client eligibility, schedule intake appointments, locate vacant accessible units, review and submit housing applications to housing providers, assist clients in attending interviews and viewing units, and document successes.

John Howard Society of British Columbia**Vancouver | Amount: \$10,000**

The John Howard Society of British Columbia is conducting a community-based research project that undertakes the striking of a leadership summit for government, non-profit, Indigenous and community groups to meet to discuss and find ways to address the issues, challenges and service gaps facing homeless individuals across B.C.

Langara College**Vancouver | Amount: \$35,000**

Langara College wish to develop an app that can help to connect individuals with lived experience

of homelessness with local shelters and other services that can help to meet their needs. The app will include information on the type of shelter, the genders supported through the shelter, the location of the shelter as well as the nature of the services provided through the different shelter locations. The app is intended to provide individuals with real-time information on the shelter and other services that are available and will be “tested” in the Surrey, Langley, and Burnaby.

Langara Community College -Building Community Connections

Vancouver | Amount: \$25,000

Langara Community College has developed an app that is designed to provide outreach workers, community partners and persons with lived/living experience of homelessness with access to ‘real-time’ information on the services and supports available in their community. The initial development of the app has been completed, and the research team is interested in expanding the potential uses and benefits that can be realized through the app through additional community engagement and user testing. This funding is designed to support the community engagement/user testing phase and will include outreach and engagement with 5 to 6 different community-based planning tables and partners both in the Lower Mainland as well as on Vancouver Island. As well this funding will help to provide honorarium to support the engagement of those with lived/living experience of homelessness to better understand their information needs and use of services.

Lu’ma Native Housing Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000

Through this funding, Lu’ma Native Housing Society will develop and support an outreach strategy for Indigenous people who are living in Oppenheimer Park in order to ensure that they have access to the services and supports they need while strengthening and re-building their connections with their own home communities/people. This will involve building connections with the organizations and services working with those living in Oppenheimer Park to identify potential supports that can be provided while learning more about the housing and homelessness history of residents living in the Park. Lu’ma will also reach out to the Ahousaht First Nation to help support the efforts of the AFN to create an Urban Indigenous Homelessness Strategy.

Lu’ma Native Housing Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$10,000

Lu’ma Native Housing Society will establish a Bus Ticket Program to allow tenants in the Society’s modular housing the ability to access medical appointments, attend court dates, commute to educational institutions and run personal errands with a sense of dignity, and without fear of being poorly treated and/or ejected from public transit.

McCreary Centre Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000

McCreary Centre Society will conduct a survey of homeless and street involved youth (HSIYS) to gather up-to date, relevant, and accurate information on the needs, barriers, and supports experienced by BC youth who are homeless, inadequately housed, or who have recently exited homelessness. Through this research, the goal is to help break the cycle of poverty and homelessness that many vulnerable and at-risk youths experience. This initiative will involve youth with living/lived experience of homelessness in the design, delivery, analysis, and dissemination of the research. The proposed research approach and methodology will build community capacity to respond to gaps in the current system of services and supports to enable positive policy change for individuals experiencing homelessness with a focus on street involved youth in BC. The findings will be shared widely within BC to help to shape policy and practice in the development of strategies that enable youth experiencing

homelessness to thrive and to identify strategies and initiatives to help increase their likelihood of exiting homelessness.

McCreary Centre Society – TRUST Collective Impact

Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000

Working in partnership with the McCreary Centre Society, this initiative is designed to look at the types of supports needed to ensure the successful transition for youth aging out of care. This initiative will build on the capacity of TRRUST partner agencies to provide comprehensive services and supports for youth at risk of homelessness or those experiencing homelessness. This initiative is focussed on addressing gaps in the current continuum of housing supports for vulnerable and 'at risk' youth. This initiative also explores different types of housing and support arrangements and the role they play in helping youth to make a successful transition.

Pivot Legal Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$25,000

The Pivot Legal Society offers legal research services and advocacy to strengthen the human rights of people who experience discrimination and judgement based on their social condition. This initiative will also include the development of a "tool" to look at local bylaws and the types of barriers or judgements individuals experience. Through this research, Pivot Legal Society is interested in developing a user-friendly stigma auditing tool which will help to identify systemic and/or unconscious bias, thereby leading to its reduction/eradication.

Raincity Housing and Support Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000

Raincity Housing and Support Society helped to pioneer the One Stop Shop (OSS) initiative. Through One Stop Shop, the goal is to provide outreach and navigation support to help individuals with lived/living experience of homelessness in navigating the homelessness serving system. This includes a focus on removing barriers to access to housing, and treatment services through the use of a peer-based approach. Through this initiative, the underlying objective is to identify meaningful solutions to complex problems in a way that helps to improve access to housing, treatment and other types of basic services and supports.

Sage Nation Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$25,000

Sage Nation Society plays a central role in connecting youth aging out of care & elders aging into care to the services they require. Key areas of focus for this initiative will include the housing services, income assistance, and support, as well as employment services and cultural services Sage Nation Society operates in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

Sage Nation Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$26,500

Sage Nation Society looks to address homelessness, poverty, mental health, and advocacy issues faced by Indigenous communities, youth aging out of care, and elders. This project will connect indigenous youths and elders with supports and services including housing services, income assistance, and employment and cultural services.

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Street Corner Media Foundation

Vancouver, Victoria | Amount: \$15,000

Street Corner Media Foundation is looking to build increased awareness and understanding of homelessness by engaging citizens in dialogue on pressing issues such as housing insecurity, homelessness, poverty and the overdose crisis. This will be accomplished through the use of photography, including the creation of a photographic exhibit. This initiative will also offer income earning opportunities to low income individuals who are experiencing marginalization. Through this initiative, a key goal will be to provide a useful bridge toward greater societal inclusion and participation.

Streetohome Foundation

Vancouver | Amount: \$50,651

Streetohome is interested in hosting an Adapted Therapeutic Community Training session to promote six core principles that empower groups of people to help each other achieve their goals, whether it is pursuing a life free of crime and/or substance use, recovering from a mental health challenge, or personal improvement. This initiative is committed to working to empower individuals in realizing their full potential.

Three Links Care Foundation

Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000

Three Links Care Foundation wishes to engage in the development of a weekly breakfast program to support individuals with lived/living experience of homelessness who do not typically access services in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. This initiative is supported by a community-based neighbourhood response and was inspired by an article published in the Georgia Straight by Stanley Woodbine (a blogger with lived experience). Through this initiative, the goal is to work to build trust and to provide services to at least 50 individuals living in the Fairview Slopes area with a focus on providing access to healthy food, clothing donations and other supplies.

Together We Can

Vancouver | Amount: \$10,000

Together We Can has designed a street outreach program to provide food, toiletries and information on resources and other services to support individuals who are living without a place to call home to feel a sense of connection to the community. The program is also designed to strengthen the connection to community resources and supports by providing individuals with information about the resources/materials available including drug treatment programs, harm reduction and other community resources. In addition to meeting immediate needs, this initiative will seek to gain a deeper understanding of the services and supports people need by asking individuals "what are the three things you need right now?"

UBC Learning Exchange

Vancouver | Amount: \$55,000

The UBC Learning Exchange will explore opportunities to work with community partners in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside to develop strategies which support the decriminalization of poverty while supporting the development of community-led safety initiatives. Through this initiative, the focus will be on the exploration of alternative strategies for supporting community-led emergency response teams.

Union Gospel Mission

Vancouver | Amount: \$5,000

Union Gospel Mission will use the funding to create a Community Advisory Committee of individuals with lived/living experience of homelessness. Through this initiative, UGM is interested in gaining additional insight and understanding of individual's experiences and circumstances leading to homelessness. This research will also be used to help UGM propose strategies or actions that could help to reduce homelessness in the community. A coordinator will be retained to build a policy proposal for the Advisory Committee including its pilot launch. The coordinator will engage and consult with UGM staff, clients and program participants to ensure the proposed policy is adaptable to the changing nature of the DTES neighbourhood, and that UGM structures its programs and services to best address those needs. It will also help UGM to identify service gaps and ways individuals struggling with homelessness can be better supported.

Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre

Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000

The Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre is interested in developing a system of collecting "point of service" client information as a way of building a deeper understanding of the different services their clients require. Through the collection of this information, the Friendship Centre will seek to develop targeted strategies to respond to gaps in services, or difficulties in accessing services. This project is geared specifically to the needs of the unhoused, urban Indigenous people and is designed to enable the Friendship Centre to be more responsive to changing client needs.

Watari Counselling & Support Services Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000

Watari Counselling & Support Services Society works in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside in the provision of hot meals as well as conducting street outreach services for individuals who are living on Hastings Street or in the encampment in CRAB park. The funding provided through this initiative will support peer-led interviews and video documentation for the unhoused and precariously housed people living on Hastings Street and in CRAB Park. The photos and videos will help to create shareable stories to ensure that the voices of those with lived experience are heard without intermediation. The video research is intended to help support better policies and decision-making as well as help to better understand the food security, social inclusion, and other needs of those who are currently living without a place to call home. Through this initiative, the goal is to provide the community with appropriate, self-determined support.

West End Seniors Network Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$15,000

The West End Seniors Network Society has created a new "Seniors in Need Program" to assist seniors who are in financial need by providing a one-time payment to bridge their rent costs. In developing this initiative, the goal is to help lower income and vulnerable seniors to avoid homelessness when all

other means have been exhausted. The funding received through this initiative will be combined with other funding received by the Society to help as many seniors as possible.

Whole Way House Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$15,000

The Whole Way House Society will pilot and develop a project entitled the “I Get to Legacy Project” which is designed to provide meaningful and flexible employment for individuals with complex barriers. Through the project, the goal will be to provide those who are experiencing barriers with access to opportunities that can help to re-build their sense of self esteem and self worth through employment.

Whole Way House Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$10,000

The Whole Way House Society is seeking to facilitate weekly small group and individual sessions for seniors and veterans who have experienced homelessness. In conducting these sessions, there is an interest in fostering a supportive environment which can help encourage participants to explore their goals and to work toward exploring wider opportunities that can help them to move closer to their goals and/or identify different barriers that they are experiencing that are preventing them from achieving these goals.

Whole Way House Society

Vancouver | Amount: \$15,000

The Whole Way House Society is seeking to create a brand book, campaign and social media strategy in support of the “I Get to Legacy Project” that received \$15,000 in previous funding under the Homelessness Community Action Grant program.

YWCA Metro Vancouver

Vancouver | Amount: \$50,000

The YWCA of Metro Vancouver is interested in the collection and analysis of qualitative and quantitative data, designed to gain insight into the long-term impact of having access to housing. The focus of this research is on single mothers and children living in YWCA residences. The research is designed to document the successes of the program, as well as to identify potential gaps. The research is also interested in understanding the connection between housing precarity and homelessness for low income single parent families. This initiative will involve the development of a research plan, the collection and analysis of the data, as well as documentation and dissemination of the findings. The research is also designed to build a deeper understanding of the needs of vulnerable single parent family households who have experienced homelessness to ensure they have access to the services and supports they need to support their personal well-being and economic independence while reducing homelessness.

YWCA Metro Vancouver

Vancouver | Amount: \$17,145

Working with the YWCA, this initiative seeks to conduct an economic analysis of the impacts of gender-based violence (GBV) and its connections to housing security. This project will propose robust and evidence-based policy recommendations to government, as well as build community, government and private sector knowledge on the true costs of GBV in BC.

Aboriginal Front Door Society

Vancouver DTES | Amount: \$25,000

The Aboriginal Front Door Society will address the needs of clients by examining how to connect existing Indigenous Food Sovereignty efforts Province-wide to Indigenous food security needs in the DTES, a neighbourhood lacking in the provision of Indigenous-specific food provision services. This will include the creation of agreements to share data, best practices and resources with key partners, interviews and the compilation of best practices from partners further along the food sovereignty journey, meetings with Indigenous elders to discuss food security issues and concerns, the convening of an Indigenous feast to review and share results, and the facilitation of knowledge transfer within the DTES. A position paper on Food Insecurity and Indigenous Homelessness will also be prepared.

Aboriginal Front Door Society

Vancouver DTES | Amount: \$35,000

The Aboriginal Front Door Society has been serving as a host for the support provided to the residents at CRAB park -one of the City of Vancouver's homelessness encampments. This funding will continue to provide support for this community and will include funding for outreach support, supplies as well as resident training and peer support. Through this initiative which is entitled building on the strengths and resilience in CRAB park, this funding will help to document the stories of the lived experience of those staying in the park as well as provide resources and support to help them make the transition to a home that they can call their own.

Carnegie Centre Community Association

Vancouver DTES | Amount: \$25,000

The Carnegie Centre Community Association will look at the types of actions and solutions that can be taken to offer unhoused individuals a humane and dignified interim solution while more lasting, permanent solutions are being developed. In undertaking this research, the Carnegie Centre will seek to give a voice to community partners as well as unhoused residents in the creation of a community plan that will not only identify concrete targets in terms of the housing that is needed, but will also describe the different steps and actions needed to achieve the targets.

Carnegie Centre Community Association

Vancouver DTES | Amount: \$25,000

The Carnegie Centre will conduct a research project in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. This project aims to research current threats to the low-income community and use the history of social movements in the neighbourhood to bring attention to the current opportunities for improvement and the harms that would result from emerging policies and development if the community isn't heard. This project will bring the community together for numerous events over a 12-month period, and will produce a collection of articles, social media posts, and photos demonstrating the effects of gentrification and chronicling DTES community action from the past and present.

Carnegie Centre Community Association

Vancouver DTES | Amount: \$25,000

The DTES is unique both in terms of its sense of community and in terms of the types of challenges that the residents face. The Carnegie Centre provides a vital link in the community for helping to organize community members to respond to the many pressures that residents face. The outreach and engagement activities which were previously funded allowed the Carnegie Centre to reach and engage more than 1,000 unique participants. As the community continues to experience the pressure of gentrification, the funding received through this grant will allow us to continue to tell the story of the DTES through the lived experience and voices of those who are part of it.

Downtown Eastside SRO Collaborative Society

Vancouver DTES | Amount: \$25,000

The Downtown Eastside SRO Collaborative Society will conduct a preliminary review and feasibility study of a sample of three (3) to five (5) SRO buildings in order to gather the information needed to model a potential RRAP (Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program) to preserve and protect the existing SRO stock in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver. The sample of buildings selected could include buildings of different sizes, ages and geographic locations with further consideration being given to buildings in different stages of their economic lifecycle and levels of repair. Documentation of the findings for each of the SROs will include recommendations around key considerations for the design and structure of a program.

Downtown Eastside SRO Collaborative Society**Vancouver DTES | Amount: \$25,000**

The Downtown Eastside SRO Collaborative Society will create a peer-led evaluation on the use, experiences, successes, challenges, costs and impacts of the cellphone program which has been created by SPARC BC and which allowed for a peer-to-peer digital network to emerge in the DTES. As well as ensuring that the network is able to continue, the evaluation will seek to steward and sustain a longer-term strategy for achieving digital justice for those who are most vulnerable in society with a view to working to ensure that access to basic communication is viewed as a necessity rather than a luxury.

Downtown Eastside Women's Centre**Vancouver DTES | Amount: \$25,000**

The Downtown Eastside Women's Centre provides essential services and support to more than 900 women and children living in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. An essential part of the DEWC's service provision is a peer program that invites women from the community to participate in providing services to the drop-in centre and shelter clients.

Lookout Housing and Health Society**Vancouver DTES | Amount: \$50,000**

Lookout Housing and Health Society is looking to conduct a community-based research project as fully outlined by the Project Partner in their research proposal and that increases housing retention and quality of life for those living with Hoarding Disorder in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside through the use of a harm reduction approach which assists participants in reducing clutter while changing the discourse around this issue, and offering alternative intervention options to service providers.

Mission Possible**Vancouver DTES | Amount: \$25,000**

Mission Possible Compassionate Ministries Society is seeking to prevent homelessness by providing support through the creation of a Housing Support Coordinator position. The individual in this role will provide support for participants to help them to reach their housing goals. This initiative will seek to adopt a person-centred approach, designed to build and expand partnerships with housing providers. The Housing Support Co-ordinator is also responsible for evaluating the housing needs of participants to ensure that the services and supports that they receive are in full alignment with the existing needs of clients.

Mission Possible**Vancouver DTES | Amount: \$35,000**

Mission Possible is committed to transforming lives through meaningful work with a focus on individuals who are typically excluded or marginalized from the workforce. While many of those

engaged in the services of Mission Possible have been successful in their efforts in building a connection to the workforce, they have been unable to find suitable and appropriate housing. The lack of access to stable and affordable housing has had an impact on their overall economic security. To this end, Mission Possible is interested in establishing a Housing Support Coordinator position to continue to support clients of Mission Possible who are precariously housed.

Network of Inner City Community Services Society (NICCSS)

Vancouver DTES | Amount: \$50,000

The Network of Inner City Community Services Society (NICCSS) is looking to create an SRO habitability and tenant well-being hub that will help to reduce isolation and increase connection to services for SRO tenants and to strengthen housing policies designed to maintain affordability and prevent the loss of the SRO housing stock. This initiative will also seek to strengthen collaboration and communication among SRO tenants, community partners and funders in the Vancouver Downtown Eastside. A key focus of this initiative is to improve the living conditions in the SRO housing stock and support a higher quality of life for SRO residents.

SPIRIT

Vancouver, DTES | Amount: \$25,000

SPIRIT is looking to enhance their Food Service Program through the delivery of more meals to individuals experiencing homelessness. There is the belief that once the basic survival needs are met, this will have a beneficial and compounding effect including greater access to training. The training also includes food safe training, with a focus on strengthening existing community connections and community capacity. This initiative will also seek to open up a dialogue about trafficking in the DTES.

V6A Community Gardens

Vancouver, DTES | Amount: \$25,000

Uya'am Gaak offers paid positions for community members, particularly Elders and Indigenous residents, to be directly involved in decision-making processes related to the outcomes and goals of the Downtown Eastside Food Sovereignty Collaborative (DTES FSC). Elders, Indigenous knowledge keepers, V6A Garden members, have guided the scope of Indigenous Food Sovereignty pathways and goals since the inception of the DTES FSC. Through monthly meetings where community members set the agenda and guide discussions, DTES FSC, practices community consensus approaches and talking circles. Uya'am Gaak serves and employs residents of the DTES to have a voice in how food and medicines are grown and distributed throughout the neighbourhood. Through the pursuance of this grant, V6A Community Gardens is interested in increasing the community's capacity to demonstrate their leadership capabilities as knowledge keepers, horticulturalists, medicine people, hunters, trappers and ecologists. The research will highlight the abundance of traditional knowledge that urban Indigenous people living in the DTES can share with the surrounding neighbourhoods.

District of West Vancouver

West Vancouver | Amount: \$25,000

The District of West Vancouver is interested in restoring their community shower program. This program will operate 4 days a week and will provide local unhoused and precariously housed community members with access to showers along with hygiene products, grocery cards, snacks and referrals to local services and supports.

Sources Community Resources Society (HUB)

White Rock | Amount: \$40,000

Sources Community Resources Society will establish a pop-up HUB to enhance the community's

ability to reach unhoused individuals facing barriers in accessing housing and services through more traditional means. The wrap-around services provided through the HUB model will be designed to meet the physical, mental and other health-related needs of individuals with a history of homelessness. The services provided through the HUB, will be structured to improve the lives of individuals who have a history of homelessness. In delivering services through the HUB, a central focus will be on the provision of services in a dignified, respectful and empathetic way.

Projects and Partnerships in the Capital Region



Projects and Partnerships in the Capital Region

Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness

Victoria | Amount: \$25,000

The Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness Society will examine the impact of the label “homeless” and what it means in terms of the perceptions and experiences of individuals experiencing homelessness. This research will deepen the understanding of the social and psychological consequences that come with being labeled homeless and will put forward recommendations for developing a more person-centred and inclusive approach when looking at the issues of homelessness and the types of strategies and approaches needed to ensure that everyone is given a chance to realize their full potential. This initiative will include a specific focus on the experiences of Indigenous people in Canada and the particular challenges and experiences they face. The results will be shared as part of a larger community of practice focussed on de-stigmatizing homelessness.

Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness

Victoria | Amount: \$50,000

The Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness Society will examine the specific needs of the Indigenous street community, which includes looking at housing and support through an Indigenous lens with a focus on creating culturally responsive approaches to meet the needs of the Indigenous street community in their search for safe, secure, stable and appropriate housing. This focus is a pressing issue in that Indigenous people experiencing homelessness face not only additional barriers such as prejudice, racism and the disenfranchisement of rights, but the enduring effects of colonialism and the forced acculturation and assimilation which resulted in Indigenous people being over-represented in homeless counts across Canada.

Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness – Nourishment Boxes

Victoria | Amount: \$15,000

The Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness Society is seeking to develop and distribute nourishment baskets that include individualized and cultural supplies to more than 40 to 50 individuals weekly to honour the experiences and voices of individuals who are experiencing homelessness and to work toward building a sense of inclusion and of home. This will include creating care packages that recognize individuals’ unique circumstances including specific health/dietary needs, spiritual/cultural needs, promoting and supporting individual creativity while fostering a sense of connection. A report evaluating the impact of the program will be written to provide an opportunity for future learning.

Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness – Decolonizing Harm Reduction

Victoria | Amount: \$50,000

Through this initiative, the Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness Society seeks to better understand the unique circumstances and experiences of Indigenous people in Canada and how these experiences have so often affected their life course. This initiative will look at different models and approaches to harm reduction and will include the development and publication of a harm reduction framework that takes into consideration the spiritual, cultural, and historical needs of Indigenous people. This research will include engagement with stakeholders and partners from across the homelessness-serving and health care systems and will include engagement with Indigenous people experiencing homelessness, Elders and Knowledge Keepers. The goal is to create a toolkit that can be used by others to understand more fully the underlying principles and practices around approaches to harm reduction.

Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness – Gathering of Community Leaders

Victoria | Amount: \$25,000

The Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness Society will use this funding to conduct the initial phase of an outreach strategy with the Indigenous street community. In conjunction with a cross-organizational/cross-sectoral gathering of community leaders, the Society will share the findings of their work while exploring opportunities to build new pathways forward.

Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness

Victoria | Amount: \$10,000

The Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness will use this funding to supplement the extra costs involved with Welcome Home Kits Initiative. This will support the Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness with the cost of storage lockers, furniture and moving vans to help support individuals with a history of homelessness to make a new start in their new home.

Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria

Victoria | Amount: \$25,000

The Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria seeks to conduct a Neighbour-to-Neighbour Demonstration project designed to build on the community-based response to homelessness in the Greater Victoria area by providing street outreach and emerging supplies to those living outdoors. This initiative will focus on documenting the types of supplies and services needed to help to provide an effective community-based neighbourhood response to ending street homelessness. This initiative will involve building partnerships to form the Neighbourhood Solidarity with Unhoused Neighbours (NSUN). This initiative will include the development of workshops that include sharing stories within the community, as well as the provision of housing services and supports to meet the most basic needs of vulnerable members of the community.

Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria

Victoria | Amount: \$50,000

The Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria is seeking funding to support the development of a research project that looks at both the causes of and solutions for housing precarity and homelessness. In 2021, the Community Social Planning Council began providing grants to households at risk of homelessness through the launch of the rent bank program. Through their research, a central goal is to understand community level determinants of homelessness, evaluating the effectiveness of the homeless prevention interventions and design and test best practices. This research will employ a trauma informed approach to build on the relationship between staff and clients during the intake stage with follow-up support.

Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria

Victoria | Amount: \$35,000

The Community Social Planning Council will use this funding to support their proposed initiative, a one stop shop for ID services and support needs related to the acquisition and storage of essential ID. This initiative will address the needs of unhoused individuals in the Greater Victoria region along with vulnerable youth, seniors and individuals with substance use and/or mental health issues.

Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria

Victoria | Amount: \$25,000

With funding provided through a previous grant, the Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria engaged in a project called 'Drivers of Eviction' which examined the experiencing of people applying for funding through the Greater Victoria Rent Bank which is operated by CSPC. As part of this research, the CSPC developed a set of criteria to categorize the different types of 'crises' that tenants are experiencing and that are resulting in their need to turn to the rent bank and that puts them at risk of losing their housing. A troubling trend that was highlighted through this initial research was the occurrence of violence and the role that this has played in contributing to the experience of housing loss and trauma among rent bank recipients. Building off this work, CSPC wants to renew the program to establish connections related to the data/findings, and to conduct outreach to other Rent Banks in BC to, where possible, align our data tracking to highlight the issues across BC.

Cool Aid

Victoria | Amount: \$25,000

The Victoria Cool Aid Society has developed a "Peer Support Welcome Program" that provides peer-led, one on one social and emotional support to people transitioning from homelessness into supportive housing at the Cool Aid Society. This program will serve as a first point of connection for new residents. Through this program the goal is to create employment opportunities for individuals with lived/living experience of homelessness while at the same time help those who are new to homelessness to access the services and resources that they need.

Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness

Victoria | Amount: \$25,000

The Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness is interested in conducting community-based research on creating 'self-managed and supported' encampments by examining in a documentary format, the journey of a group of unhoused individuals. The film will explore the needs of unsheltered individuals through the lens of the National Protocol for Homeless Encampments in Canada, the BC CDC and the Ministry of Health's 'Response to Homeless Encampments'. The film will also look at the rise of encampments in response to the COVID-19 crisis. A template of best practices and lessons learned will be prepared to support safe encampments as a temporary measure, as well as strategies to take beyond encampments.

Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness

Victoria | Amount: \$25,000

The Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness is interested in working to create an information management system that can help shelter staff, outreach workers, and individuals experiencing homelessness gain a better understanding of existing and emerging needs in the community. The system will be designed to allow for up-to-date information on individuals experiencing homelessness both within the emergency shelter system as well as in community. The system is currently being piloted at the Victoria Native Friendship Centre (VNFC). Through the adoption and implementation of this system the goal is to strengthen the community-based response to homelessness across the Greater Victoria region.

Green Ground Community Design Society

Salt Spring Island | Amount: \$25,000

The Green Ground Community Design Society will provide flexible support to those who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness in the form of a drop-in service which engages clients through the arts and coaching as well as job and life skills development. More specifically, the funding will allow for the development of a Community Garden project, the launch of Community Maker Space, as well as the launch the Community Tool Exchange. The community will also engage in the planning and delivery of an asset-based community development survey.

Hunger for Freedom

Salt Spring Island | Amount: \$20,000

Hunger for Freedom will provide warm dry spaces for individuals to be housed during all weather conditions and that helps to provide essential services and support needed to help individuals to shelter from the cold. Through this initiative the goal is to provide inclusive access to services to all individuals no matter their background or experience with the goal being to help to meet the basic needs of those living without a place to call home.

John Howard Society of Victoria

Victoria | Amount: \$25,000

The John Howard Society of Victoria will use this funding to create a social enterprise café and teaching kitchen as part of a mixed use affordable housing project to provide jobs and skills training to clients as a means to reduce the risk of homelessness due to lack of employment for individuals leaving correctional facilities. Other benefits will include the augmentation of important domestic skills and the sense of socialization and achievement that come from gaining some mastery over a useful skill.

Mental Health Recovery Partners -South Island

Victoria | Amount: \$25,000

This initiative will ensure the inclusion of people facing mental health challenges in the development of programs they will access, and in the decisions that are made about them. As well as demonstrating that people experiencing homelessness are subject matter experts on their particular needs, it will help to reduce the stigma around homelessness while creating pathways for trust and street-cultural safety in service delivery. This collaboration with people with lived experience of mental illness will lead to the development and delivery of effective and impactful services, as well as the development of trust between and amongst service providers, vulnerable populations and, by extension, the wider community.

North Park Neighbourhood Association

Victoria | Amount: \$22,000

The North Park Neighbourhood Association is looking to address the needs of vulnerable and at risk community members by supplying them with the supports they need while living rough. Services and supports provided to unhoused individuals include the purchase and distribution of supplies, that can be purchased and donated for distribution to unhoused individuals.

Our Place Society

Victoria | Amount: \$22,000

Our Place Society seeks to engage in the development and delivery of a point-of-service survey designed to develop a deeper understanding of the needs of families and individuals using their services. This initiative will also seek to provide additional insights to the needs of individuals who have a history of mental illness and addictions-related challenges. This research also seeks to build a deeper understanding of the needs of seniors and older adults (55 years and older).

Peer2Peer Indigenous Coalition

Victoria | Amount: \$25,000

The Peer2Peer Indigenous Coalition seeks to increase their mobile outreach team by hiring two more employees to support their pilot project which is designed to support the unhoused Indigenous population in Downtown Victoria and the neighbouring parks. Key program elements include the offer of food, harm reduction materials, blankets, and tents.

Rent Smart Education and Support Society

Victoria | Amount: \$10,000

Rent Smart Education and Support Society seeks to build a deeper understanding of different housing models and approaches designed to better meet the needs of First Nations community members. This includes the development of culturally responsive approaches to help alleviate the conditions contributing to the high levels of homelessness among Indigenous people. The research will include the development of a survey instrument, as well as the administration of a survey tool in a series of focus groups.

Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society

Salt Spring Island | Amount: \$30,000

The Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society is seeking to build a more complete understanding of rural homelessness in order to develop meaningful measures that can help to add to our understanding of the specific needs of homeless individuals in rural communities and the types of supports which are most lacking and most needed.

Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society

Salt Spring Island | Amount: \$25,000

Salt Spring Island has a large and growing homeless population. In working with the community, the Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Island Community Services Society identified more than 89 individuals who were 'living rough' and who did not have access to adequate and appropriate housing and other supports. In response, the Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society engaged in a process to help each individual "write the next chapter of their story", an approach which looked to achieve solutions while fostering agency of those who were homeless.

Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society

Salt Spring Island | Amount: \$10,000

The Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society is seeking to build a deeper understanding of the impacts of the dislocation and movement of people experiencing homelessness. In particular, it was noted that, as local government develop targeted strategies to house people currently living rough in homeless encampments, people start to move to other areas. This research will seek to learn more about the demographic profile and history of homelessness among those living in encampments, as well as the kinds of patterns of relocation and displacement that people experience as a result of these shifting circumstances.

Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society

Salt Spring Island | Amount: \$35,000

The Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society is seeking to provide practical, hands on, in person assistance for marginalized, low-income individuals to access complicated and confusing government programs and services that often require technological resources, skills and literacy. This includes providing assistance with tax filing, applying for social assistance or PWD, obtaining or replacing personal identification documents, completing rental assistance documents or tenancy agreements, completing job applications, and completing paperwork for many other benefits including child tax benefits, old age security and COVID-related benefits.

See Spring Mental Wellness Coalition

Victoria | Amount: \$25,000

See Spring Mental Wellness Coalition will work with unhoused First nations, Inuit, Metis people who are experiencing a mental health breakdown by running a warm line where individuals in distress can receive a positive, empathic intervention before more potentially traumatic and/or escalatory interventions including the police or bylaw enforcement. In particular, funds will be used to hire and train outreach workers on harm reduction including Naloxone training, teaching volunteers about the peer curriculum, as well as expanding services to the Greater Victoria area. The funding will also enable the expansion of services to seven days per week. The funding will also help to advance and support cultural awareness practices and assist unhoused Indigenous people who are experiencing challenges navigating the system. This includes assistance with applying for housing, obtaining or replacing photo ID, and accessing mental health services.

See Spring Mental Wellness Coalition (Warmline)

Victoria | Amount: \$25,000

Warmline was established as a way of reaching out and engaging unhoused neighbours living in the City of Victoria with a focus on helping to create solutions that meet their immediate and longer term needs. Warmline is different than a crisis line, it is about walking alongside individuals who are living without a place that they can call home. Warmline is largely volunteer driven and is designed to support unhoused individuals in finding and keeping housing with over 72 individuals being housed to date. Warmline seeks to meet each individual on their own terms and walk alongside them to create individualized solutions that can help to make a difference.

See Spring Mental Wellness Coalition (Paper Trails)

Victoria | Amount: \$50,000

See Spring Mental Wellness Coalition will seek to establish a presence in “The Block” in the City of Victoria with a focus on ensuring that individuals with a history of homelessness can access the government, health, and housing opportunities that they are entitled to with a focus on meeting the full diversity of needs across those experiencing homelessness. In engaging in this initiative, the See Spring Coalition is interested in removing the different types of barriers that are limiting individuals with a history of homelessness to complete the paperwork and follow-up needed to successfully link individuals to the services and supports that they are entitled to.

Soap for Hope

Victoria | Amount \$15,000

Soap for Hope Canada has adopted a commitment to eradicate hygiene poverty by offering free soap and hygiene products to street entrenched people. Not only will this help to keep individuals clean and healthy and to enhance their self esteem, it can also facilitate wider acceptance and inclusion in the community and greater opportunities to present themselves in potential employment situations.

This project will also allow individuals to apply their limited financial resources to other needs including food and shelter. By engaging the wider community in providing soap and other hygiene products, it can have the added benefit of breaking down barriers and deepening the understanding and support across the broader community.

Sooke Shelter Society

Sooke | Amount: \$22,000

The Sooke Shelter Society is looking to develop a multi-year strategic plan designed to ensure sustainable support services, secure & appropriate housing, advocacy & awareness, prevention and effective collaboration & leadership. In developing this Plan, the communities will be interested in identifying a suite of activities, programs and initiatives which will assist in addressing the complex challenges of homelessness. The work will be guided by a project steering committee.

Songhees Nation

Victoria | Amount: \$35,000

The Songhees Nation is interested in preparing a Housing Plan that can be used to meet the ongoing housing needs of Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people who live on reserve land that is adjacent to the City of Victoria, View Royal, the Esquimalt Nation and the Pacific Ocean. The information gathered through this initiative will be used to support the community in making informed decisions around potential strategies and to meet the diverse range of housing needs across the community. This will be accomplished through the design and implementation of multiple housing initiatives.

The Existence Project in partnership with Tides Canada Initiatives

Victoria | Amount: \$30,000

The Existence Project seeks to partner with a diverse range of community partners with a focus on the use of “storytelling” to address myths and misconceptions about individuals experiencing homelessness. The initiative seeks to address the root causes of poverty across different priority population groups. Workshops will be organized and conducted with various community partners including Anawim Companion Society, PEERS Resource Centre, and School District 61. An evaluation including the compilation of qualitative data from each of the different workshops, and the creation of impact reports of schools and communities will be conducted, as well as expansion of the lesson from this initiative to key groups in the community.

The Existence Project (Part 2)

Victoria | Amount: \$50,000

The Existence Project is interested in exploring ways to systematically tackle systems of oppression, stigma and disconnect between communities, and addressing gaps in the current system of housing and supports for people who are experiencing homelessness. This initiative recognizes that the public health emergency of COVID-19 and the growing number of encampments has created pressure by increasing the visibility of street homelessness. This has also contributed to increased tension between the housed and unhoused communities, including an increased sense of mistrust and misunderstanding. This initiative draws on the use of peer-based networks and volunteer facilitators to explore ways to build increased understanding and empathy around the needs of those who are part of the unhoused community. The initiative will include working directly with individuals experiencing homelessness as well as community partners and neighbourhood leaders to seek to address issues of NIMBY. Storytelling and narrative building will help to change the public discourse and build a deeper culture of understanding of people experiencing homelessness.

The Existence Project

Victoria | Amount: \$35,000

The Existence Project seeks to implement their initiative, “How to Counter Nimbyism”. This initiative is designed to foster deepened understanding, empathy, and active engagement towards addressing homelessness in Victoria, BC, and involves multi-faceted community engagement strategies including a series of Workshops and the creation of Digital Content intended to promote dialogue, awareness, and collective action around the issue of homelessness.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Cowichan Valley**



Projects and Partnerships in the Cowichan Valley

Canadian Street Soccer Association

Duncan | Amount \$10,000

Working with the Canadian Street Soccer Association and local partnerships, this initiative seeks to build a sense of connection and resilience through providing opportunities for individuals with lived experience of homelessness in the community of Duncan to become part of the street soccer movement and to begin to feel a part of something bigger. The funding provided through this grant is intended to support outreach and engagement as well as the purchase of equipment and training to help build the 'street soccer' movement in British Columbia while at the same time providing people with lived/living experience of homelessness with the opportunity to connect with peers as well as others in the community who are committed to their success and well-being.

Cowichan Valley Basket Society

Duncan | Amount: \$25,000

The Cowichan Valley Basket Society has established an initiative which they call "A Place to Be" which is designed to provide a safe and comfortable space for unhoused individuals living in the Cowichan Valley region. A Place to Be seeks to provide a welcoming space where people who are experiencing homelessness can go and experience a sense of welcoming as well as temporary comfort and support especially during extreme weather events.

Lookout Housing and Health Society (The Village)

Duncan | Amount: \$50,000

Lookout Housing and Health Society looks to support the proposed Street Smart Initiative which is designed to expand the peer outreach program that was developed to build community support for the temporary housing project known as "The Village". Through this initiative, the focus is on building increased community support for this form of housing while at the same time, helping to support the development of a peer-based outreach team. By increasing the connection to the community, the goal is to work to build positive relationships with residents, businesses, and the wider community. A related goal is to build the skills and sense of empowerment of residents while also providing lifesaving support.

University of Victoria -Drug Testing Equipment

Duncan – Lookout Housing and Health Society Partnership | Amount: \$22,800

The University of Victoria is engaged in a community-based research project in response to the ongoing drug poisoning and overdose crisis. Through this research, the University of Victoria is interested in a scale-up, community drug checking process at four (4) sites on Vancouver Island which will focus on expanding the evidence base of promising practices. The data and engagement findings from this process will be presented along with recommendations for implementation of a Strategic Plan.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Nanaimo Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the Nanaimo Region

Canadian Street Soccer Association

Nanaimo | Amount \$10,000

Working with the Canadian Street Soccer Association and local partnerships, this initiative seeks to build a sense of connection and resilience through providing opportunities for individuals with lived experience of homelessness in the community of Nanaimo to become part of the street soccer movement and to begin to feel a part of something bigger. The funding provided through this grant is intended to support outreach and engagement as well as the purchase of equipment and training to help build the 'street soccer' movement in British Columbia while at the same time providing people with lived/living experience of homelessness with the opportunity to connect with peers as well as others in the community who are committed to their success and well-being.

Island Crisis Care Society

Nanaimo | Amount: \$25,000

Island Crisis Care Society will create a program to help individuals gain meaningful training and support related to 'pre-employment', helping them gain the skills, confidence, and capacity to take future steps to remove barriers. The program works with Island Crisis Care Society Supportive Housing Program Participants and volunteers to make and sell various handmade items online and through community markets and "pop-up" stores.

OHEART Oceanside Homelessness Ecumenical Response Team

Parksville | Amount: \$50,000

OHEART Oceanside Homelessness Ecumenical Response Team is looking to activate a community-based response to address the urgent needs of the homeless amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Through this initiative, OHEART will work together with local government and other partners to jointly develop a plan to ensure that the necessary services and supports are in place to fully meet the needs of those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless including a 24-hour shelter, second stage housing and addiction/recovery spaces.

United Way Central and Northern Vancouver Island

Nanaimo | Amount: \$45,000

The United Way for Central and Northern Vancouver Island will work with the Nanaimo Homeless Coalition's (NHC) Communication Strategy to build public understanding about the root causes of homelessness while shifting the narrative around homelessness to one based on accurate information, understanding and positivity. This funding will help to support community conversations around homelessness, as well as provide a source of accurate and consistent information on actions being taken by community service providers and all levels of government to address homelessness. This initiative will also provide community members opportunities to learn more about homelessness, mental health and addictions.

Wisteria Community Association

Nanaimo | Amount: \$25,000

Wisteria Community Association (WCA) has plans to open a Social Centre in Nanaimo. This proposal for a WCA Social Space will respond to the increasing demand from unhoused individuals for meals, counselling, harm reduction, and safe spaces. This centre will provide warm meals and comprehensive health and social services to the unhoused populations, individuals with substance addictions, Indigenous peoples and veterans in the Nanaimo area.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Alberni-Clayoquot Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the Alberni-Clayoquot Region

ADAPS Youth and Family Services

Port Alberni | Amount: \$35,000

ADAPS Youth and Family Services Society is seeking to support the work of the Youth Services Roundtable on Housing and Homelessness with a focus on building a deeper understanding of the experiences of systemic and absolute homelessness. This will involve working closely with community partners to develop community response protocols and solutions to address the issues of youth homelessness both Indigenous and non-Indigenous across the Alberni-Clayoquot region, Port Alberni, the Alberni valley and the West Coast of B.C.

Ahousaht First Nation

Port Alberni | Amount: \$25,000

The Ahousaht First Nation is committed to meeting the social development needs of the community in a way that recognizes the importance of building on their core values which includes respect for one another, teaching one another, caring for one another and helping one another. The Ahousaht First Nation seeks to develop culturally appropriate housing for people from the Ahousaht First Nation who are living without a place to call home. This partnership includes the development of basic need and demand data to be provided by SPARC BC along with the completion of a post-occupancy evaluation of the housing development that the community recently completed in the City of Port Alberni.

Ahousaht First Nation (Meaning of Home)

Ahousaht | Amount: \$25,000

The Ahousaht First Nation is committed to meeting the needs of their community no matter where they live based on the values of respect for one another, teaching one another, caring for one another and helping one another. This initiative will seek to support the work of the Ahousaht First Nation in developing culturally appropriate housing by engaging Elders and cultural leaders on the “meaning of home” and the different ways that this can be reflected in the housing that is developed, including intergenerational housing for Elders and youth.

Ahousaht First Nation (Urban and Away Population)

Ahousaht | Amount: \$25,000

The Ahousaht First Nation is committed to meeting the needs of their community no matter where they live. This commitment is reflected in their values with the focus of this initiative seeking to explore the different ways that the Ahousaht First Nation can meet the needs of their ‘urban and away population’ who can often be isolated and disconnected from their community, with the overriding goal being to ensure that members of the Ahousaht First Nations community feel connected to each other no matter where they are living.

Ahousaht First Nation (Feeling Home)

Ahousaht | Amount: \$25,000

The Ahousaht First Nation is committed to meeting the needs of their community no matter where they live with a commitment to building a sense of cultural connection and celebration. Through this funding, the focus is on learning more about the work of the Indigenous Outreach Workers Network (IOW) in the Capital Regional District and the different ways that the network has been able to come together to help build and strengthen the system of services and support for Indigenous people living in the City of Victoria and the broader Capital region who are living without a place to call home. Through this funding, the goal is to build a deeper understanding of the different ways that the IOW

has been able to use traditional Indigenous practices of singing, gathering, food and celebration as a way of creating a sense of home among the Indigenous Street Family in Victoria and the role these practices play in contributing to a deeper sense of “feeling home”.

Canadian Mental Health Association – Port Alberni

Port Alberni | Amount: \$50,000

The Canadian Mental Health Association in Port Alberni will use this funding to create a low barrier work program where individuals experiencing homelessness can access income through drop-in employment. This initiative will be delivered in partnership with key community partners including the City of Port Alberni, the Vancouver Island Health Authority, the Port Alberni Shelter Society, and the local Friendship Centre. Funding will cover program management and coordination, wages, the purchase of safety equipment/clothing and insurance and other program related fees, and will help to extend a pilot project started with funding made available through UBCM.

Hupacasath First Nation

Port Alberni | Amount: \$25,000

Hupacasath First Nation will develop a demonstration project which will focus on the development of a series of ‘housing pods’ on land serviced by the City of Port Alberni and BC Housing. Through the development of this housing the goal is to create a welcoming place where all members of the community (especially members from the Hupacasath First Nation) can feel a sense of home. Working with others, this funding is intended to create a ‘prototype’ for a liveable housing pod that can be tested and that could serve as a potential model to help meet the needs of the 170 people in the City of Port Alberni and the surrounding area who are living without a place to call home.

Hupacasath First Nation

Port Alberni | Amount: \$25,000

Through this funding the Hupacasath First Nation is seeking to create a demonstration project that will offer training for individuals interested in developing new skills in the trades. Through the development and testing of the proposed social enterprise model, the goal is to create a welcoming place where all members of the community, particularly members from the Hupacasath First Nation can feel a sense of home as well as develop new skills through the process. Through the development of the business case, the goal is to “test” whether it would be possible to train individuals in the community to support the development of this housing for others.

Hupacasath First Nation

Port Alberni | Amount: \$25,000

Hupacasath First Nation will use this funding to work in partnership with the Friendship Centre and other key services and supports in the community to explore the types of health and other supports needed to better respond to the needs of those from the Hupacasath First Nation community who are living without a safe, secure place to call home. This funding will help build a deeper understanding of the existing service needs and service gaps that exist as well as to identify new pathways forward for the community.

INEO Employment Counselling Inc.

Port Alberni | Amount: \$50,000

INEO Employment Counselling Inc. in Port Alberni will provide carpentry skills training (classroom and hands-on) for the deconstruction of bed frames and box springs by participants for the re-purposing of the wood into crates, planters, shelves and boxes. The program will offer individuals who are experiencing homelessness an opportunity to gain self-confidence while enhancing their communication and teamwork skills. Program funds will address potential barriers to employment

such as the purchase of tools and equipment required for carpentry work and will be used to secure a rental agreement for a woodwork shop. The funding will also allow a Project Supervisor to be hired to oversee the program.

Kuu-us Crisis Line Society

Port Alberni | Amount: \$50,000

Kuu-us Crisis Line Society is interested in creating community stabilization beds for the Port Alberni and the Nuuchahnulth territory. This project will allow for research on the specific needs and issues faced by those experiencing homelessness in the Port Alberni area, with a focus on the Nuuchahnulth First Nation. The findings of this research will be used to provide the evidence needed to support an application for funding of a 4 year pilot project with Substance Use and Alcohol Program (SUAP).

Port Alberni Shelter Society

Port Alberni | Amount: \$25,000

The Port Alberni Shelter Society is interested in exploring the different ways that access to employment and other resources can support individuals with lived/living experience of homelessness gain the stability they need to move forward in their lives. Through the expansion of the Shelter Farm program to five (5) days per week and twelve (12) months per year, the goal is to provide additional opportunities and supports for individuals wishing to participate in the program. Through this program, a central goal is to provide “graduates” of the program with skills and resources needed to help them break the cycle of poverty and homelessness they experience.

Salvation Army Alberni Valley Ministries

Port Alberni | Amount: \$50,000

The Salvation Army Alberni Valley Ministries is looking to create a comprehensive service map of community resources available to meet the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness, as well as identify potential service gaps. The service map will include consideration of the resources available to individuals living in Port Alberni, on Vancouver Island and across the Province. As part of the process, the Salvation Army is interested in mapping individual’s journey and experience in relation to finding housing, treatment beds and in connecting to other available services.

University of Victoria Drug Testing Equipment

Port Alberni Shelter Partnership | Amount: \$22,800

The University of Victoria is engaged in a community-based research project in response to the ongoing drug poisoning and overdose crisis. Through this research, the University of Victoria is interested in a scale-up, community drug checking process at four (4) sites on Vancouver Island which will focus on expanding the evidence base of promising practices. The data and engagement findings from this process will be presented along with recommendations for implementation of a Strategic Plan.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Strathcona Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the Strathcona Region

Campbell River & District Coalition to End Homelessness

Campbell River | Amount: \$50,000

The Campbell River & District Coalition to End Homelessness will be seeking to support the creation and implementation of a 5 year Strategic Plan to alleviate homelessness while increasing affordable housing through a range of strategies including the creation of a housing brief, creation of communications initiatives and campaigns to reduce stigma and increase awareness, provide advocacy including around addressing bylaws and encouraging greater housing supply, and supporting dialogue between stakeholders through workshops and other events.

Strathcona Housing Alliance

Campbell River | Amount: \$25,000

Working with the Campbell River & District Coalition to End Homelessness through the Strathcona Housing Alliance Society in their initiative to create a Community of Practice for front-line staff and management of regional agencies working with people experiencing homelessness and those at risk of homelessness. The Campbell River & District Coalition to End Homelessness will administer this project which will broaden the community's ability to respond to homelessness at the individual and system level. This project looks to build community capacity and expand the evidence base of promising practices in this sector, ensuring that the community is doing everything it can at the local level to improve outcomes.

Campbell River Art Galley

Campbell River | Amount: \$10,000

The Campbell River Art Galley has a interest in creating a safe space where persons with lived/living experience of homelessness can share their talents and gifts and connect with each other. This includes the purchase of screen-printing equipment to allow community members to learn new skills and to engage in screen printing and other artistic endeavours. It is believed that by engaging in these types of initiatives, it is possible to build the trust and connection needed to help those experiencing homelessness to imagine a different future and to work to helping them to find a place where they have a sense of belonging.

Campbell River Nurturing Society

Campbell River | Amount: \$25,000

The Campbell River Nurturing Society will use this funding to address the needs of clients falling through the cracks by way of a creative approach to food security and wellness in a constructive, developmental manner. Specific actions can include the creation and distribution of Me-Nourish Medicine Cards to help foster learning and engagement, outreach to individuals experiencing homelessness, including outlying, underserved areas such as Gold River, with regular delivery of food security boxes to elders, community workshops with elders to mutually share wisdom of mental wellness and recipes, the creation of a wellness journal group to help build habits through nurturing and nourishing practices for women affected by trauma and homelessness, and the convening of an event that combines an Art Show with public education around homelessness and community inclusion.

Canadian Street Soccer Association

Campbell River | Amount \$10,000

Working with the Canadian Street Soccer Association and local partnerships, this initiative seeks to build a sense of connection and resilience through providing opportunities for individuals with lived experience of homelessness in the community of Campbell River to become part of the street soccer movement and to begin to feel a part of something bigger. The funding provided through this grant is

intended to support outreach and engagement as well as the purchase of equipment and training to help build the 'street soccer' movement in British Columbia while at the same time providing people with lived/living experience of homelessness with the opportunity to connect with peers as well as others in the community who are committed to their success and well-being.

North Island Metis Association

Campbell River | Amount: \$25,000

Through this funding, North Island Metis Association will engage in a community consultation and engagement process designed to learn more about the specific needs of Metis people living in Campbell River, Gold River, Sayward, Port McNeill, Port Alice and Port Hardy. This initiative will also look at the specific needs of the Metis people living in the smaller surrounding island communities including Quadra and Cortes Island. As part of the engagement process, a key focus will include the development of a survey instrument that can be used to offer insights into the experiences and circumstances of Metis individuals and families who are experiencing housing insecurity.

North Island Metis Association

Campbell River | Amount: \$25,000

North Island Metis Association is looking to continue their work in building information on the housing situation of Metis people living on northern Vancouver Island by using the knowledge gained from housing surveys completed in 2022 to 2023. Through this funding, North Island Metis Association will appoint a Housing Navigator to support Metis families in finding affordable and available housing. This project aims to improve the financial literacy for Metis community members and provide community resources, financial knowledge and information about the rights and responsibilities of a renter.

Salvation Army Ocean Crest Ministry

Campbell River | Amount: \$12,000

The Salvation Army Ocean Crest Ministry will lead the development and implementation of a community-based housing case management system designed to create an effective response to providing a continuum of housing services while identifying and addressing service gaps. In developing this system, the Salvation Army is seeking to create a centralized and coordinated approach that values recipients' time and energy. Specific activities will include the identification of potential participants and the types of privacy regulations which apply, establishment of a working group from participating agencies and people with lived experience, investigation of secure, web-based technology/software as well as user training.

United Way Central and Northern Vancouver Island

Campbell River | Amount \$25,000

Efforts to address homelessness are often challenged by bias and stereotypes within a community. The United Way Central and Northern Vancouver Island will work with the key community partners in Campbell River to support the development of a communications strategy that can help to shift the narrative around homelessness to one based on accurate information, understanding and positivity.

Walk With Me Campbell River

Campbell River | Amount: \$10,000

Walk With Me is a community-based research project that seeks to change the existing narrative around drug use and homelessness, while reducing harm. The long term goal of Walk With Me is to create systems/policy change in relation to the overdose crisis by inviting participants to share their unique stories and perspectives on the overdose crisis. This 'grassroots' approach to policy

development prioritizes deep community listening through the hosting of 'sharing circles' and 'audio walks' with the conversation seeking to set the foundation for policies and systems which can better address the challenges around substance use and homelessness.

University of Victoria

Campbell River -Vancouver Island Mental Health Society | Amount: \$22,800

The University of Victoria is engaged in a community-based research project in response to the on-going drug poisoning and overdose crisis. Through this research, the University of Victoria is interested in a scale-up, community drug checking process at four (4) sites on Vancouver Island which will focus on expanding the evidence base of promising practices. The data and engagement findings from this process will be presented along with recommendations for implementation of a Strategic Plan.

Projects and Partnerships on the **Sunshine Coast**



Projects and Partnerships on the Sunshine Coast

Cover the Coast Alliance for Affordable Housing

Gibsons | Amount: \$25,000

Cover the Coast Alliance for Affordable Housing wishes to develop a community level homelessness action plan by deepening their understanding of community demand, available resources, and weaknesses within the current system. The research will seek to identify gaps in services, as well as existing barriers through data-driven insights related to services, target populations and funding. This work will involve the identification and prioritization of community needs through data discovery sessions, alignment of community-based activities and service mapping, as well as engaging key network actors in helping to identify and prioritize community needs and actions.

Cover the Coast Alliance for Affordable Housing

Gibsons | Amount: \$25,000

Through the initial phase of service mapping, Cover the Coast Alliance for Affordable Housing will use the insights gained to help inform the development of a community level homelessness needs assessment and action plan. This phase of work will also focus on convening a series of community dialogues to share information and to bring together key community partners to identify potential solutions. Key work program elements will include the design and analysis of a community survey that will help to measure waiting lists and to map referral connections.

PIVOT Empowering Recovery Society

Sechelt | Amount: \$25,000

The PIVOT Empowering Recovery Society seeks to build a deeper understanding of the experiences of youth with a history of housing insecurity and homelessness by focussing on developing a deeper understanding of the issues and struggles that vulnerable and 'at risk' youth experience while seeking to provide the supports and solutions to help address these challenges.

Vancouver Coastal Health—Sechelt Mental Health & Addictions Drop-In

Sechelt | Amount: \$10,000

In response to the growing number of opioid deaths in the community, the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority will engage community partners to explore ways to build and strengthen the peer-based network which works to provide harm reduction and supports. This initiative has included exploring different ways that the newly launched LifeGuard app can be used, as well as other supports. This initiative is also engaged in looking at the potential benefits and limitations of the current "SPARC BC smartphone initiative" especially in the context of smaller communities which do not necessarily have good coverage and/or the full range of services and supports needed to effectively respond to existing and emergency needs among those with lived/living experience of homelessness.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Comox Valley Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the Comox Valley Region

Canadian Street Soccer Association

Comox Valley | Amount \$10,000

The Rainbow Warriors under the mentorship of Grant Shilling represents a powerful example of the street soccer movement and the potential that it plays in helping to build and deepen the sense of connection and resilience among those experiencing homelessness. Building on this success, the Canadian Street Soccer Association is seeking to engage other communities in similar initiatives with this funding being provided to support on-going outreach and engagement including the purchase of the equipment needed to continue to advance the street soccer movement in British Columbia.

City of Courtenay

Courtenay | Amount: \$50,000

The City of Courtenay will use this funding to provide coordination support for the Region's street outreach team (the Comox Valley Homelessness Response Team—HRT) through a range of initiatives and actions. These will include the development of a Terms of Reference and protocols for the HRT, the conduct of regular meetings among HRT partners, support for ongoing efforts to address anti stigma/discrimination of individuals experiencing homelessness, including the coordination of a range of community engagement/education activities.

Comox Valley Coalition to End Homelessness

Courtenay | Amount: \$50,000

The Comox Valley Coalition to End Homelessness is undertaking a community-based research project to establish a warming centre intended to provide a safe, warm and welcoming space for those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. This initiative will provide access to a range of supports and services designed to assist individuals in the pursuit of self-sufficiency.

Comox Valley Social Planning Society

Vancouver Island | Amount: \$35,000

Tsawalk means "Everything is Connected"—Live/Work/Play. This initiative seeks to draw on Indigenous epistemologies and ways of being to provide inspiration for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people trying to make sense of (or seeking alternatives to) the day to day struggles to find meaning. Live/Work/Play seeks to build on these different systems of knowledge and to build resilience among those experiencing homelessness by helping them to reconnect to themselves and to their communities through building meaningful friendships and relationships where people take care of each other and where both working together and playing together people can experience easy and joyous ways of being as well as a sense of resilience. This initiative seeks to leverage the opportunities created through the street soccer movement to build a sense of connection and resilience among Indigenous people experiencing homelessness.

Comox Valley Transition Society

Courtenay | Amount: \$50,000

The Comox Valley Transition Society is looking to conduct a community-based research project to support community partners in the Comox Valley in the provision of outreach and support for those who are homeless and 'at risk' of homelessness including support for individuals with complex housing and support needs including mental illness and addictions-related challenges.

Comox Valley Transition Society

Courtenay | Amount: \$50,000

The Comox Valley Transition Society will undertake the planning and implementation of projects through the development of a 5 Year Plan to End Homelessness including the provision of supports and services including, homelessness prevention, education, community capacity building, as well as the 2020 Comox Valley Homeless Point in Time Count.

Comox Valley Unhoused Society

Comox Region | Amount: \$25,000

The Comox Valley Unhoused Society is interested in the development of a Tiny Home Community for unhoused people recovering from substance abuse. This initial stage of the initiative will be targeted at working with an architect in the creation of three tiny home options and the design of a tiny home model, the creation of a Design Charrette to gather community feedback while sharpening critical analysis of the various designs, and conducting and gathering further community feedback through engagement with community partners.

Comox Valley Unhoused Society

Comox Region | Amount: \$10,000

The Comox Valley Unhoused Society will host a community event where members of the community, both housed and unhoused would come together for a variety of interactive and learning opportunities designed to reduce stigma around people experiencing homelessness through engagement with people with lived/living experience of homelessness in explaining what it's like to live on the streets and the complex reasons that can lead to homelessness. This initiative will help to bridge the gap between the housed and unhoused by bringing both groups together to share information and food at a local event.

Dawn to Dawn: Action on Homelessness Society

Comox | Amount: \$10,000

Dawn to Dawn: Action on Homelessness Society will use the funding to host a 3 day event in downtown Courtenay in the fall of 2020. The initiative will focus on issues such as homelessness, nutrition, and contemporary art and music, with a focus on creating a positive, open and constructive dialogue between the housed and those who are unhoused or 'at risk' of becoming homeless.

Dawn to Dawn: Action on Homelessness Society (Rainbow House)

Comox Valley | Amount: \$15,000

Dawn to Dawn: Action on Homelessness Society will conduct a community-based research project which will engage LGBTQ2S+ youth in the feasibility, design and implementation of housing which will provide specialized supports for LGBTQ2S+ youth aged 16 to 28. Recognizing that very few LGBTQ2S+ youth will choose to seek refuge in the shelter system as many youth report discrimination and feeling vulnerable and unsafe in shelters. This initiative will seek to develop targeted strategies that will help to meet the housing and support needs of vulnerable and 'at risk' youth in environments where they feel safe and comfortable.

Indigenous Women's Sharing Society

Courtenay | Amount: \$25,000

The Indigenous Women's Sharing Society is seeking to address existing service and support gaps through the provision of outreach and assistance to vulnerable people seeking to maintain their housing or obtain supports, encouraging collaboration with other community partners through

participation in/coordination with local action groups, and enhancing community awareness and lead community education efforts which note the importance of stable housing in combatting homelessness and supporting harm reduction.

Lush Valley Food Action Society

Courtenay | Amount: \$25,000

Working with community partners to recruit participants, Lush Valley Food Action Society will provide high quality, nutritious, 'Good Food Boxes' to individuals dealing with housing insecurity. The goal is to provide people with dignified access to healthy food while providing them with a sense of caring, nurturing, well-being, and connection. Through this initiative, the goal is to support positive physical and mental health outcomes, strengthened community connection and a decreased sense of isolation. The program will engage some of the participants to work in the community garden/warehouse. This program will foster a new narrative which values food-systems solutions as a way to strengthen community and decrease isolation. As well, this initiative will focus on the different ways that community partners can come together to contribute to improved mental and physical well-being while meeting basic survival needs. A survey of participants will be conducted regarding food security challenges and current food access (baseline data) as well as program impacts.

Lush Valley Food Action Society

Courtenay | Amount: \$25,000

Lush Valley Food Action Society will provide high quality, nutritious, 'Good Food Boxes' to individuals experiencing housing insecurity and homelessness. The goal is to provide dignified access to healthy food in collaboration with warming centres and social housing sites while engaging in action research to understand current costs of nutritious food and gaps in service in the community. As well as offering a larger sense of caring, well-being and connection to vulnerable and at-risk community members and supporting positive physical and mental health outcomes, this initiative will work toward the development of a new narrative that values food-systems solutions as a way to deal with complex issues. Anticipated outcomes include a strengthened sense of community, decreased isolation, and improved mental and physical well-being.

Lush Valley Food Action Society

Courtenay | Amount: \$35,000

Lush Valley plays an integral role in helping to address issues of food security within the Comox Valley. This initiative will continue to focus on the development of strategies to meet the needs of those who are unhoused as well as those who are experiencing housing insecurity with the lessons learned being documented to share with other communities.

United Way Central and Northern Vancouver Island

Courtenay | Amount \$25,000

Building on the insights and experiences gained in working with the Nanaimo Homelessness Coalition, the United Way Central and Northern Vancouver Island is interested in working with the members of the Comox Valley to support the development of a communications strategy designed to build increased public awareness and understanding of the root causes of homelessness. The goal of this initiative is to build a deeper understanding of homelessness in a way that can help to address the underlying judgement, negativity and stigma that frequently undermines local efforts.

Walk with Me Comox Valley

Comox Valley | Amount: \$10,000

This initiative includes hosting of 'sharing circles' with K'omoks Elders and Knowledge Keepers as it pertains to substance use, with the development of a partnership with the Comox Valley Community Health Network helping to extend the results further policy and systems change.

University of Victoria

Courtenay - AVI Health and Community Services Partnership | Amount: \$22,800

The University of Victoria is engaged in a community-based research project in response to the on-going drug poisoning and overdose crisis. Through this research, the University of Victoria is interested in a scale-up, community drug checking process at four (4) sites on Vancouver Island which will focus on expanding the evidence base of promising practices. The data and engagement findings from this process will be presented along with recommendations for implementation of a Strategic Plan.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Squamish-Lillooet Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the Squamish-Lillooet Region

Squamish Helping Hands Society

Squamish | Amount: \$25,000

Squamish Helping Hands Society is interested in ensuring that the Open Door Health Program provides equity-oriented low barrier primary care to improve health outcomes for vulnerable and marginalized people struggling with substance use, pain and mental illness, and who face barriers to primary health care. Clients include individuals who do not have a family physician because of societal inequities, discrimination, and lack of access to basic services or supports. A core program outcome will include regular wellness checks on individuals. This initiative will also seek to help individuals meet their immediate needs, including providing assistance with food, shelter, hygiene, harm reduction, mental health care, as well as access to other health-related services such as medical or dental care. This initiative will also focus on providing information about basic services (showers, laundry, washrooms, bus tickets), as well as advocacy in supporting clients in accessing service.

Squamish Helping Hands Society

Squamish | Amount: \$25,000

Squamish Helping Hands Society recognizes the role that trauma, chronic pain, and mental health can play in putting individuals at increased risk of homelessness. Through the Squamish Pain Program, Squamish Helping Hands is interested in helping individuals achieve better individual health outcomes, while at the same time reducing the stigma associated with homelessness, mental health issues and substance use. This initiative will also seek to explore the interconnectedness of various interventions (e.g. food, shelter, hygiene, harm reduction as well as access to outreach workers, physicians, nurses, counsellors, and physiotherapists) within a low-barrier, comfortable environment.

Zero Ceiling Society of Canada

Whistler | Amount: \$35,000

Zero Ceiling Society is interested in developing strategies for youth who are at risk of homelessness due to lay-offs and staff housing closures arising from the COVID-19 crisis. This funding will enable Zero Ceiling Society to develop a new scattered site model with supports for youth who have lost their employment and their housing due to COVID-19. A key focus of this initiative is to build partnerships and take action to provide on-going stability in terms of housing and other health needs and supports for 'at risk' youth to allow them to remain in their community and to be in a position to re-enter the labour market. This funding is also intended to help build a wider understanding of the impact of COVID-19 on populations at high risk of losing their housing including youth and those in the service, recreation and hospitality industries, while also informing the types of strategies that are optimal in the face of an unprecedented crisis which impacts employment, health and housing.

Canadian Street Soccer Association

Alert Bay | Amount \$10,000

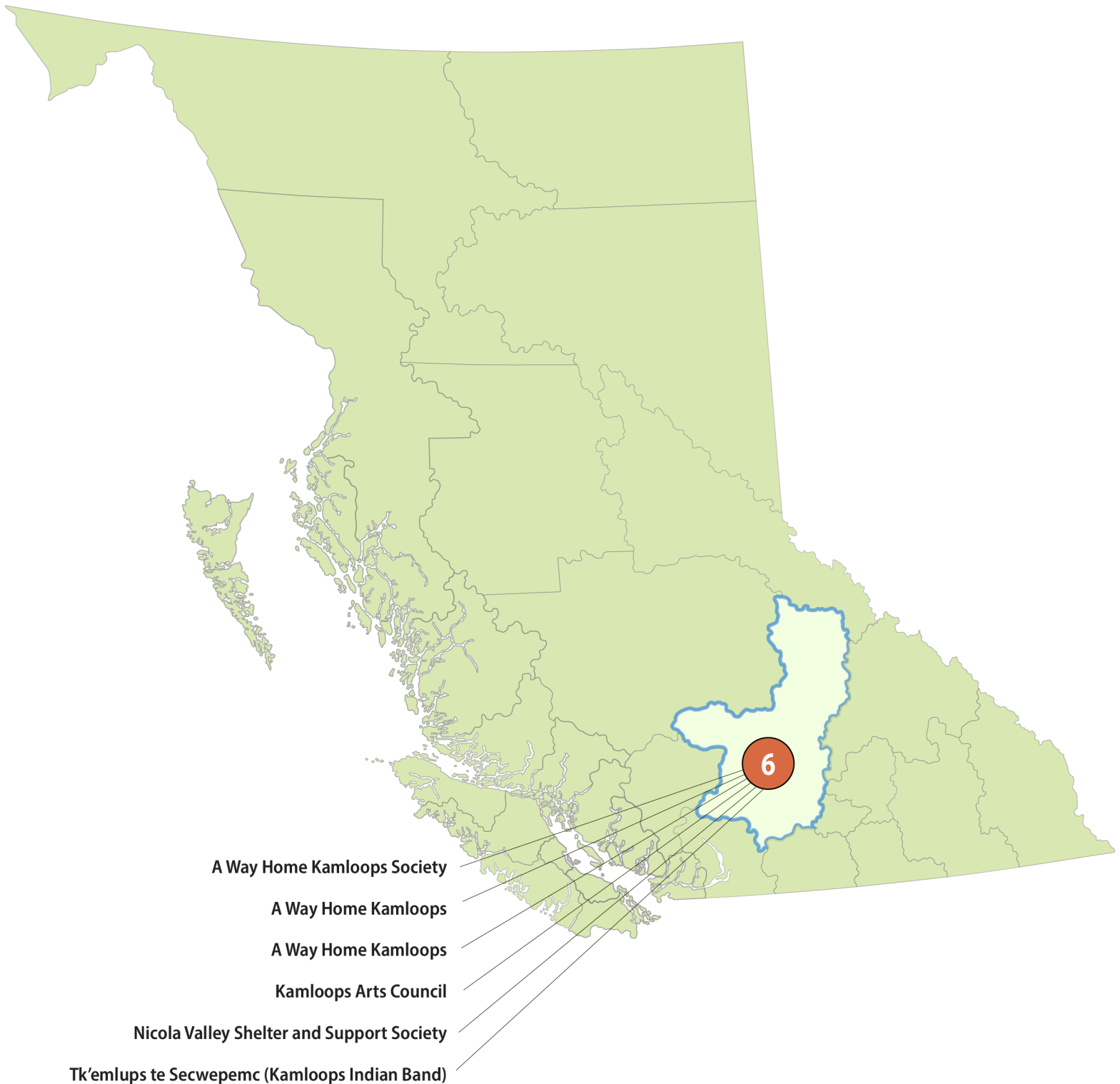
Working with the Canadian Street Soccer Association and local partnerships, this initiative seeks to build a sense of connection and resilience through providing opportunities for individuals with lived experience of homelessness in the community of Alert Bay to become part of the street soccer movement and to begin to feel a part of something bigger. The funding provided through this grant is intended to support outreach and engagement as well as the purchase of equipment and training to help build the 'street soccer' movement in British Columbia while at the same time providing people with lived/living experience of homelessness with the opportunity to connect with peers as well as others in the community who are committed to their success and well-being.

Canadian Street Soccer Association

Port Hardy | Amount \$10,000

Working with the Canadian Street Soccer Association and local partnerships, this initiative seeks to build a sense of connection and resilience through providing opportunities for individuals with lived experience of homelessness in the community of Port Hardy to become part of the street soccer movement and to begin to feel a part of something bigger. The funding provided through this grant is intended to support outreach and engagement as well as the purchase of equipment and training to help build the 'street soccer' movement in British Columbia while at the same time providing people with lived/living experience of homelessness with the opportunity to connect with peers as well as others in the community who are committed to their success and well-being.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Thompson-Nicola Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the Thompson-Nicola Region

A Way Home Kamloops Society

Kamloops | Amount: \$40,000

A Way Home Kamloops Society will engage the BC Coalition to End Youth Homelessness (BCCEYH) in the development of a B.C. made Provincial plan for addressing youth homelessness. Key activities will include co-ordination and organization of five (5) bi-monthly “think tanks” to engage homeless youth with lived experience working to identify potential gaps in the current system of services and supports for vulnerable and at-risk youth along with the organization of a youth-led homelessness conference.

A Way Home Kamloops

Kamloops | Amount: \$45,720

A Way Home Kamloops is seeking to plan and conduct a conference designed specifically to highlight the voices of youth with lived experience to support a dialogue around solutions to end youth homelessness. In addition to youth, the conference will engage policy-makers and decision-makers with a focus on working together to support the development of solutions that can be included in a provincial plan to end youth homelessness. Key results will be collected and shared including actionable items emerging from the discussions. In funding this initiative, the goal is to ensure that the voices of youth with lived/living experience of homelessness are central to discussion on solutions for ending youth homelessness.

A Way Home Kamloops

Kamloops | Amount: \$25,000

A Way Home Kamloops Society, to explore a partnership with Day One Society to fill gaps in services for youth and young adults by formalizing systems and programs related to supported housing and substance use. Given the many challenges and the many potential gains from collaboration and partnership, this initiative seeks to document the exploration process of a collaboration between A Way Home Kamloops and Day One Society while also highlighting work done elsewhere. Through engaging in this project, it will be possible to create a roadmap for societies as they advance their partnership and maximize the benefits of adopting a mutually reinforcing approach to complex social problems in which no single party holds all of the tools or answers.

Kamloops Arts Council

Kamloops | Amount: \$22,000

Kamloops Arts Council will provide marginalized people in the community the opportunity to think creatively via participation in art workshops. Through these workshops the goal is to build trust and to support individuals in their personal health and wellness. This initiative will also seek to build connections with people working in local service agencies as well as members of the wider community. In addition to training instructors, procuring supplies for the workshops, the funding will also train instructors to work with at-risk community members including the development of potential strategies that can help to create a safe and respectful environment which helps to build confidence and to provide at-risk individuals with new skills.

Nicola Valley Shelter and Support Society

Merritt | Amount: \$25,000

The Nicola Valley Shelter and Support Society is looking to continue the development of a work-readiness program aimed at providing employment opportunities for individuals experiencing diverse barriers including mental health, addictions, and other related challenges. This initiative is also designed to provide culturally appropriate services and supports as well as wellness activities delivered through a trauma-informed approach.

Tk'emlups te Secwepemc (Kamloops Indian Band)

Kamloops | Amount: \$50,000

This initiative seeks to provide a range of services and supports for individuals living in the Tk'emlups te Secwepemc homeless encampment. The individuals assisted through this initiative include individuals who are not only experiencing homelessness, but those who do not typically access more traditional street outreach services. This initiative will include assistance with harm reduction supplies, wound care, food, clean water, a source of warmth during the winter months, cultural supplies and medicines, access to Knowledge Keepers and transportation to ceremonies. This initiative is also designed to ensure that those living in the encampment feel a sense of belonging and inclusion in their community and know that their needs are not being ignored or forgotten.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Cariboo Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the Cariboo Region

Canadian Mental Health Association – South Cariboo

Cariboo | Amount: \$25,000

The Canadian Mental Health Association, South Cariboo will respond to service gaps for unhoused individuals in the south Cariboo to ensure that individuals who are unable to secure stable and affordable housing have access to the basic services and supports that they need from access to basic communication (cell phone) through to other types of supports (emergency supplies, laundry and shower services) as well as tents, sleeping bags and other basic comforts. The services will be delivered on a monthly basis with the needs being tracked through a monthly client survey.

Cariboo Chilcotin Metis Association

Williams Lake | Amount: \$16,500

Cariboo Chilcotin Metis Association will use this funding to support their 'free store' initiative which is located in the heart of Williams Lake, and serves as a valuable meeting place and gathering place for members of local First Nations communities who are struggling to make ends meet. The kits will include both cultural items and seasonal items. The funding provided through this grant will support the operation of the 'free store' with the final outcome report providing information on the number of individuals assisted and the types of supports that made the greatest difference or impact.

City of Quesnel

Quesnel | Amount: \$30,000

The City of Quesnel is interested in developing a Cold Weather Plan that identifies the City's response to a range of services including the way in which these services are triggered. This action will help to amplify the inter-agency relationships within the community, while addressing gaps in services through the creation of a cold weather response. Through this initiative, it will be possible to issue helpful alerts to partner agencies, community members, homelessness serving organizations and agencies as well as outreach staff with the goal being to add to the support and safety of the unsheltered population in the community.

CSUN- Coalition of Substance Users of the North

Quesnel | Amount: \$45,000

The Coalition of Substance Users of the North (CSUN) will provide peer support outreach to connect individuals who are in vulnerable circumstances (living on the streets, staying under bridges) and who do not have access to services to necessary supports. Through this initiative, the Coalition of Substance Users is interested in decreasing the risk of overdose deaths due to using alone with this initiative focussed on building and strengthening community connections and supports both in Quesnel and in partnership with supporting Indigenous communities (the Nazko, the Kluskus, (Lhoosk'uz) and the Lhtako Dene Nation.

CSUN- Coalition of Substance Users of the North

Quesnel | Amount: \$45,000

This initiative is designed to support the work of the Coalition of Substance Users of the North as they provide overdose prevention services as well as aftercare kits for individuals who have a history of homelessness. Through this initiative, the Coalition of Substance Users of the North is interested in ensuring that PWUD have supports both in terms of access to nutrition, as well as other supports including overdose aftercare. The funding will help to support the development of the kits as well as the provision of additional peer outreach support.

Echen Healing Society

Quesnel | Amount: \$20,000

The Echen Healing Society is interested in developing a healing space where people with a history of homelessness can go and to feel a sense of welcoming, calmness and belonging. In developing the space, the Echen Healing Society is interested in learning more about the experiences of individuals with a history of unstable and precarious housing and the types of barriers and challenges they faced. Through listening and learning, the Echen Healing Society is interested in using this knowledge to provide services and supports needed to change one's life course and help to provide a sense of healing, recovery and wellness. The objective is reach out and engage more than 150 individuals from the Quesnel region who have a history of unstable and precarious housing to learn from their experiences about what needs to be done better and differently such that everyone has a place they can call home.

Nazko First Nations

Quesnel | Amount: \$25,000

This initiative is designed to support the Nazko First Nation in the development and implementation of their Healing Fire initiative which will involve a series of events on the Nazko reserve and in the neighbouring community of Quesnel. Healing Fire events, in addition to the rich symbology of the public fires, will include speakers, shared meals, the distribution of vital supplies to those in need as well as information sharing and data collection. Elders and other presenters will speak to the reality of homelessness while sharing stories of success. The wider population of Quesnel will be engaged in efforts to share an understanding of the outsized risk of homelessness to Indigenous people due to historic reasons and the ongoing trauma which resulted from colonization and the residential school system.

Northern Network of Peers for Equality

Quesnel | Amount: \$25,000

The Northern Network of Peers for Equality will apply the funding received to employ two (2) peer system navigators to support participants in gaining access to needed health and social supports. The funding will also be used to open drop-in space in the evening, especially during the winter months, to build relationships with partners in the community and provide hygiene products, food, socks and clothing for winter conditions.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Mount Waddington Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the Mount Waddington Region

Canadian Street Soccer Association

Alert Bay | Amount \$10,000

Working with the Canadian Street Soccer Association and local partnerships, this initiative seeks to build a sense of connection and resilience through providing opportunities for individuals with lived experience of homelessness in the community of Alert Bay to become part of the street soccer movement and to begin to feel a part of something bigger. The funding provided through this grant is intended to support outreach and engagement as well as the purchase of equipment and training to help build the 'street soccer' movement in British Columbia while at the same time providing people with lived/living experience of homelessness with the opportunity to connect with peers as well as others in the community who are committed to their success and well-being.

Canadian Street Soccer Association

Port Hardy | Amount \$10,000

Working with the Canadian Street Soccer Association and local partnerships, this initiative seeks to build a sense of connection and resilience through providing opportunities for individuals with lived experience of homelessness in the community of Port Hardy to become part of the street soccer movement and to begin to feel a part of something bigger. The funding provided through this grant is intended to support outreach and engagement as well as the purchase of equipment and training to help build the 'street soccer' movement in British Columbia while at the same time providing people with lived/living experience of homelessness with the opportunity to connect with peers as well as others in the community who are committed to their success and well-being.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Bulkley-Valley** and **Kitimat-Stikine Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the Bulkley-Valley and Kitimat-Stikine Region

Dze L Kant Friendship Centre Society

Smithers | Amount: \$50,000

The Town of Smithers is experiencing significant growth and change. While the growth is having a positive impact in terms of the local economy, it is having an adverse impact on those who are at the lower end of the housing and income continuum. This included many members of the Indigenous community who have experienced a long history of discrimination and racism. To this end, this initiative will explore ways that the community can come together to provide culturally responsive approaches to addressing Indigenous homelessness.

Gitxsan Housing Needs Study

Upper Skeena Region | Amount: \$50,000

Working with Sandra Harris Martin, this initiative sought to build a deeper understanding of the different housing models and wrap around services to better meet the needs of Indigenous people living on reserve. This initiative will focus on the development of culturally responsive approaches for addressing Indigenous homelessness with a focus on prioritizing models and practices.

Tahltan Central Government

Dease Lake | Amount: \$15,000

The Tahltan Central Government is interested in providing healthy, nutritious food, as well as basic home provisions like soap, shampoo, and laundry soap for those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, as well as expectant mothers, Elders and others who are vulnerable and without financial security in the Dease Lake and area community. The particular cultural needs of the Indigenous community will be addressed through the addition of salmon and wild game to the nutrition boxes, and in the convening of an Indigenous feast and gathering at which feedback will be collected.

University of Victoria, School of Nursing

Victoria, BC | Amount: \$31,500

The University of Victoria School of Nursing has been working on an initiative called “Understanding and Addressing Homelessness in Terrace: A Public Health Approach”. This initiative seeks to address the issue of homelessness in Terrace by looking at root causes, reviewing policies, as well as analyzing issues through a public health framework. The expected outcomes of Phase 1 include a comprehensive understanding of risk factors, policy improvements, baseline data on public perception, and evidence-based interventions.

University of Victoria, School of Nursing

Victoria, BC | Amount: \$31,500

The University of Victoria School of Nursing looks to explore public perceptions of homelessness and housing options in Kitimat. This project will examine the discrepancies between individuals’ lived experiences and the actual housing options available in the community. This will bring a greater understanding as to how these discrepancies impact the public’s understanding of housing options and opportunities, along with the effectiveness of housing policies.

Projects and Partnerships in the Bulkley-Valley and Kitimat-Stikine Region

Projects and Partnerships in the **Skeena Queen Charlotte Region**



Old Massett Village Council

Projects and Partnerships in the Skeena Queen Charlotte Region

Old Massett Village Council

Haida Gwaii | Amount: \$35,860

Working with Old Massett Village Council, SPARC BC provided funding to support their housing program, in which there are 52 homeless individuals. Most of these individuals were 'couch surfing' or living in already crowded homes. The community purchased two homes in the Village of Masset and are currently working on 16-unit rapid housing project that will serve homeless individuals and childless couples. This project will respond to some of the many gaps in services and support available to our local homeless, build capacity within the community to create policies for local shelters, provide a space for our circle of care and keep individuals experiencing homelessness safe.

Projects and Partnerships in the Skeena Queen Charlotte Region

Projects and Partnerships in the **North Okanagan Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the North Okanagan Region

Turning Points Collaborative Society

Vernon | Amount: \$10,000

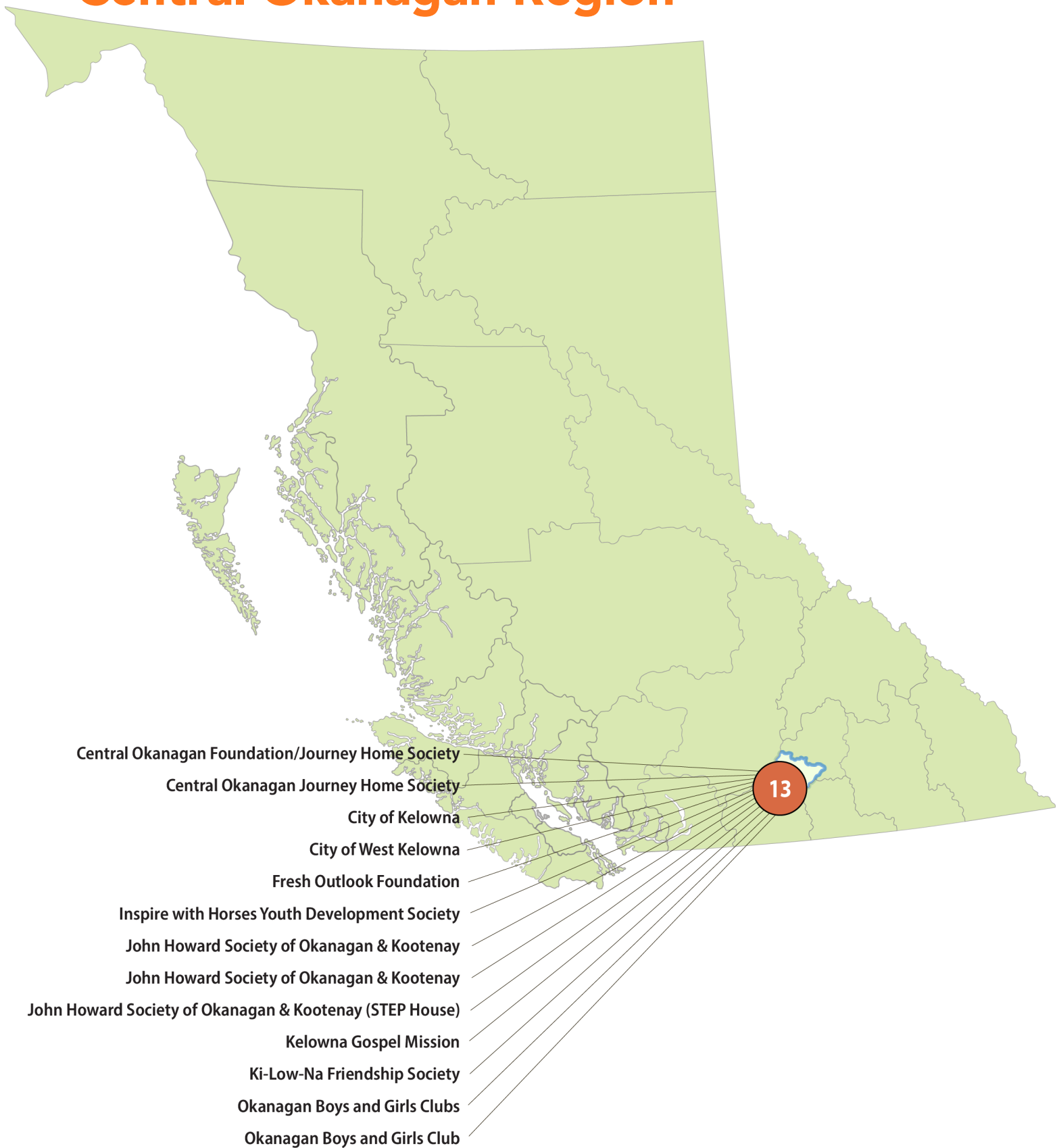
Turning Points Collaborative Society will support their Homelessness Crisis Intervention Team as they work to support the more than 100 unhoused individuals living rough in the City of Vernon. Through this initiative, the Turning Points Collaborative Society is seeking to secure “affordable” rental housing and to provide transportation and other supports to assist individuals needing a second chance.

Vernon Upper Room Mission Society

Vernon | Amount: \$15,000

Vernon Upper Room Mission Society will look to conduct a research project, focused on a continuum-of-care approach for people struggling with homelessness and addiction. This project will give more understanding of the full scope of care available in Vernon and indicate the gaps, barriers and requirements in accessing this care.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Central Okanagan Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the Central Okanagan Region

Central Okanagan Foundation/Journey Home Society

Kelowna | Amount: \$25,000

The Central Okanagan Journey Home Society is working in partnership with the Kelowna Homelessness Research Collaborative and the Lived Experience Circle on Homelessness to establish and support a “first person lived experience perspective” about homelessness and the types of housing, health, and supports that can help to make a difference to those experiencing homelessness including the provision of wraparound health and other types of services.

Central Okanagan Journey Home Society

Kelowna | Amount: \$35,000

The Central Okanagan Journey Home Society, in partnership with Urban Matters, will explore ways to break down barriers and address the issue of stigma towards Persons with Lived and Living Experience of homelessness. In undertaking this research, the goal is to work together to address the negative attitudes and perceptions which fuel community and neighbourhood resistance to the development of new supportive housing projects in the City of Kelowna and elsewhere.

City of Kelowna

Kelowna | Amount: \$25,000

This initiative recognizes that municipalities are increasingly on the front lines of the homelessness response, and yet participation and leadership on this issue is relatively new to local governments. Identifying different types of housing and support models designed to respond to the needs of individuals with complex housing and health needs will be one a central area of focus for this research with particular attention given to the role that local governments can play in addressing homelessness.

City of West Kelowna

West Kelowna | Amount: \$50,000

Working in partnership with the Salvation Army, the City of West Kelowna will use this funding to provide a mobile washroom and shower facility for their unhoused population. This includes seeking to improve the comfort and safety of those who are currently living on the street, living in their cars or living in other locations that were not meant for human habitation. This initiative will also allow for improved hygiene and health among those experiencing homelessness. Ideally this initiative will contribute to greater opportunities for employment as well as a greater sense of dignity and inclusion among those experiencing homelessness. The City will work closely with community partners including the Salvation Army in running the initiatives.

Fresh Outlook Foundation

Central Okanagan | Amount: \$25,000

The Fresh Outlook Foundation in partnership with individuals of all ages, cultures, abilities and genders designed and delivered British Columbia's first HEADS UP! Community Mental Health Summit in November, 2020. A central goal of this initiative was to create opportunities for cross-cultural collaboration and learning about mental health to build a deeper culture of understanding about mental health and wellness.

Inspire with Horses Youth Development Society

Kelowna | Amount: \$45,000

Inspire with Horse Youth Development Society will use this funding to work with marginalized youth

(Indigenous and non-Indigenous) to provide a safe place to learn skills, build relationships as well as develop a sense of achievement. Through participation in this program, youth between the ages of 15 and 25 will be given the opportunity to gain valuable work experience and confidence as well as develop new skills, return to school, or pursue other opportunities that are meaningful and important to them and their development. This funding will allow for the program to be expanded and to take on new participants.

John Howard Society of Okanagan & Kootenay

Kelowna | Amount: \$20,000

The John Howard Society of Okanagan & Kootenay is seeking to operate and scale up the organization's Managed Alcohol Program, a person-focused, evidence-based, harm reduction program that helps participants manage their alcohol intake while minimizing personal harm and adverse societal effects of severe alcohol dependence. The funding provided through this initiative will support expansion of the program to include additional qualifying clients. Research designed to assess the health benefits and positive changes in the lives of participants will be part key areas of focus for this research.

John Howard Society of Okanagan & Kootenay

Kelowna | Amount: \$20,000

The John Howard Society of Okanagan & Kootenay will use this funding to create meaningful employment training opportunities through the provision of low barrier access to employment. In designing this initiative, the goal is to address the unique employment and employability needs and challenges of those who rely on the services of the John Howard Society of the Okanagan and Kootenay. A safe and respectful workplace which addresses issues of cultural awareness, mental health, and first aid/CPR training will be provided, while training and supervision will be offered to peers participating in the program. The benefits of access to this program will form part of the final outcome report.

John Howard Society of Okanagan & Kootenay (STEP House)

Kelowna | Amount: \$35,000

The John Howard Society's STEP House initiative seeks to interrupt the revolving door between homelessness and the criminal justice system. Through this initiative, the John Howard Society is interested in exploring ways to provide housing along with life skills training, employment, and health support.

Kelowna Gospel Mission

Kelowna | Amount: \$25,000

Kelowna Gospel Mission will support efforts to enhance cultural competency and outreach to First Nations people and communities in the Kelowna and West Kelowna regions. It is recognized that this funding would contribute to the different partnerships and relationships that have already been established with key Indigenous partners and organizations and that the funding is intended to allow for the strengthening of the types of services and supports available to individuals in the community who have a history of homelessness.

Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society

Kelowna | Amount: \$50,000

Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society will support Upstream Kelowna and its efforts to prevent youth homelessness and school disengagement. This includes working to address gaps in Kelowna's youth homelessness services. This initiative will include a focus on the provision of preventative and

youth-oriented services with the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society providing culturally safe supports for Indigenous youth who self-identify.

Okanagan Boys and Girls Clubs

Kelowna | Amount \$50,000

The Okanagan Boys and Girls Clubs is interested in hiring a Program Coordinator and Case Manager to run a program called Upstream Kelowna which seeks to prevent youth from becoming homeless. To further this goal, the Program Coordinator will also seek to prevent disengagement from school through the use of a universal screening tool to identify at-risk students and families, to ensure that the necessary supports are in place.

Okanagan Boys and Girls Club

Kelowna | Amount \$15,000

The Okanagan Boys and Girls Clubs is seeking to enhance protective factors against homelessness for youth aged 13-24 by maintaining and enhancing safety within their families and the natural support systems in their lives and in the community. The Shelter Diversion strategy showcased in this approach has changed the narrative around youth homelessness by focussing on preventing entry into the homeless-serving system among vulnerable and 'at risk' youth through the enhancement of protective measures including an increase in staff shelter hours as well as an increase in access to shelter diversion services. This initiative also seeks to build increased community awareness and understanding through the tracking and analysis of the data.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Columbia-Shuswap Region**



Canadian Mental Health Association –
Shuswap/Revelstoke

Community Connections

2

Projects and Partnerships in the Columbia-Shuswap Region

Canadian Mental Health Association – Shuswap/Revelstoke

Salmon Arm | Amount: \$25,000

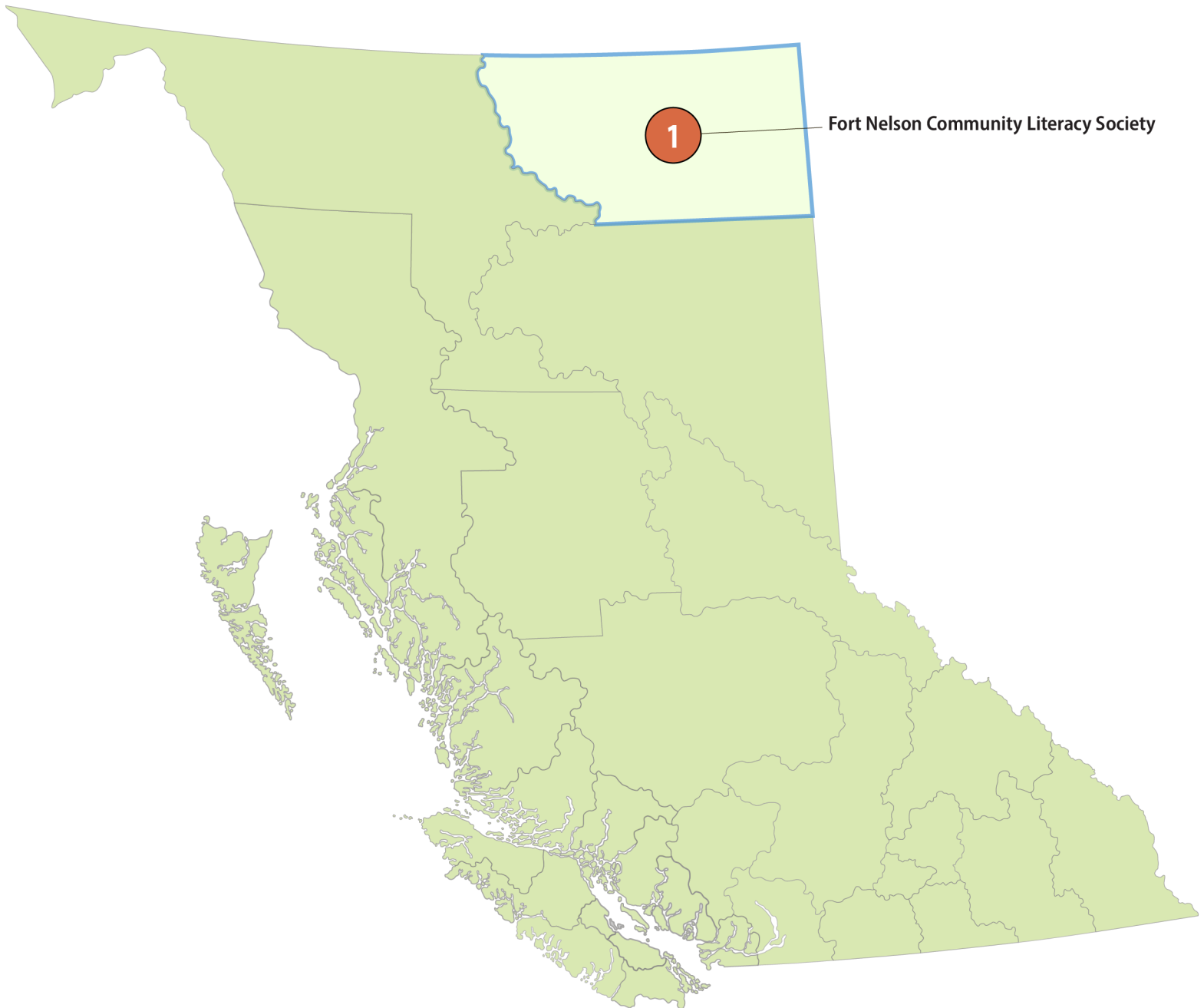
This project will use regional asset mapping, knowledge transfer and data collection and sharing through a series of design labs and community summits to cultivate strong cross-community interagency relationships, deepen the understanding of existing resources, build on the strengths and address the gaps in service provision with the goal being to create homefullness for all Shuswap residents. Specific steps will include liaising with community stakeholders, collection of data, convening of a two (2) day summit, the conduct, compilation and sharing of results of asset mapping with stakeholders, hosting a series of design labs to build on strengths and gaps in services including sharing results with participants and the compilation of the results of process learning and outcomes into a report to be shared with the community.

Community Connections

Revelstoke | Amount: \$10,000

Revelstoke Community Connections expressed an interest in an Emergency Shelter Program Coordinator to support their Emergency Housing and Resource Fund, delivered through a partnership with the City, the Revelstoke Community Foundation, and the Revelstoke Credit Union. This initiative supports individuals who are living outdoors and who require shelter during the coldest times of the year. The fund will be used to provide winter coats, boots, transportation, as well as temporary shelter and other supports. In addition to assisting individuals in meeting their immediate basic survival needs, this initiative was also designed to allow them to build connections to community resources and supports.

Projects and Partnerships in the **Northern Rockies Region**



Projects and Partnerships in the Northern Rockies Region

Map of BC with the cities/first nations noted here plus larger dot if there is more than one grant. Put the names of the cities/First Nations on the map]

Fort Nelson Community Literacy Society

Fort Nelson | Amount: \$25,000

The Fort Nelson Community Literacy Society is seeking funding to address homelessness in the Northern Rockies region with a focus on working to build and deepen community connections and partnerships through local dialogues with a focus on meeting the needs of those experiencing homelessness across the Northern Rockies region. The project will facilitate partnership-based knowledge by exchanging information about the number of individuals experiencing homelessness as well as by identifying information and resources on best practices. The research will also seek to identify potential service gaps as well as identify potential opportunities for collaboration to help fill these gaps.