



Research Impact!

**How Research Can Contribute
to Ending Homelessness**

Part 1

What Role Can Research Play?

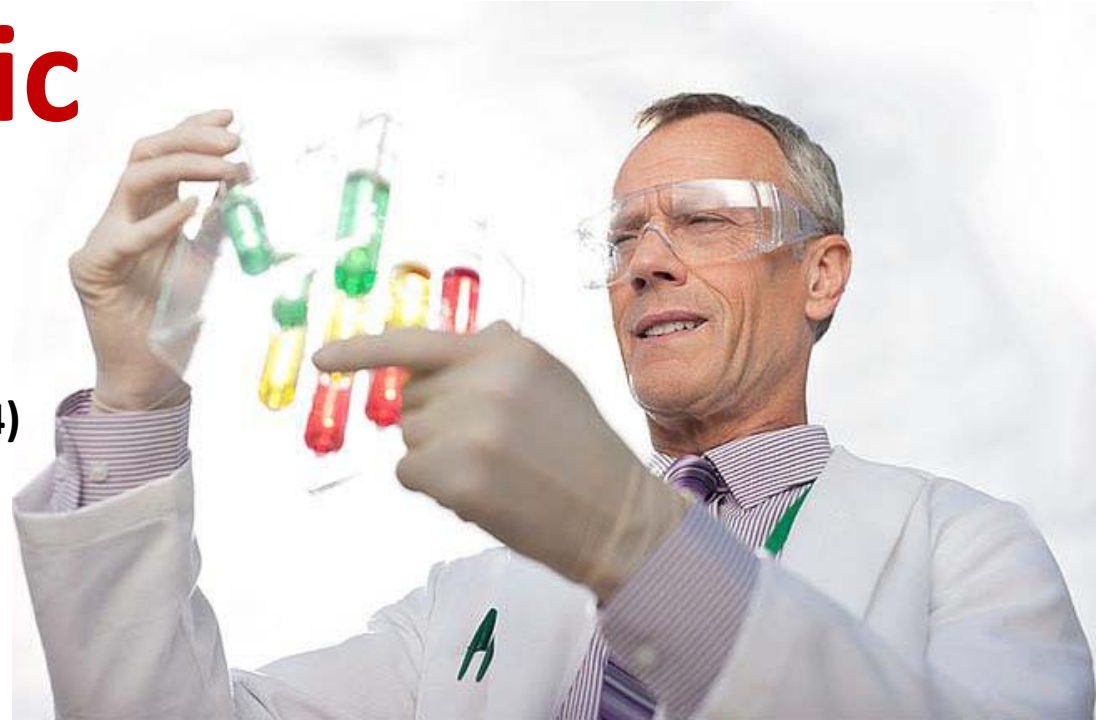


We don't need RESEARCH!
We know the Problem
We know the Solution

Three Uses of Research

- **Conceptual**
- **Instrumental**
- **Symbolic**

(Amara, Ouimet, Landry, 2004)



Conceptual research

Contributes to the:

“subtle but potentially weighty shifts in knowledge, understanding and discourse, can be hugely significant in policy and practice settings, not just as a means to more instrumental impacts from research but as an end in themselves.”

(Sandra Nutley).

Conceptual research

Supplemental Document to the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness: June 2010
Dennis Culhane, Stephen Metraux, and Thomas Byrne – A Prevention Centered Approach to Homelessness Assistance

A Prevention-Centered Approach to Homelessness Assistance: A Paradigm Shift?

Dennis P. Culhane
University of Pennsylvania

Stephen Metraux

Philadelphia

Conceptual research



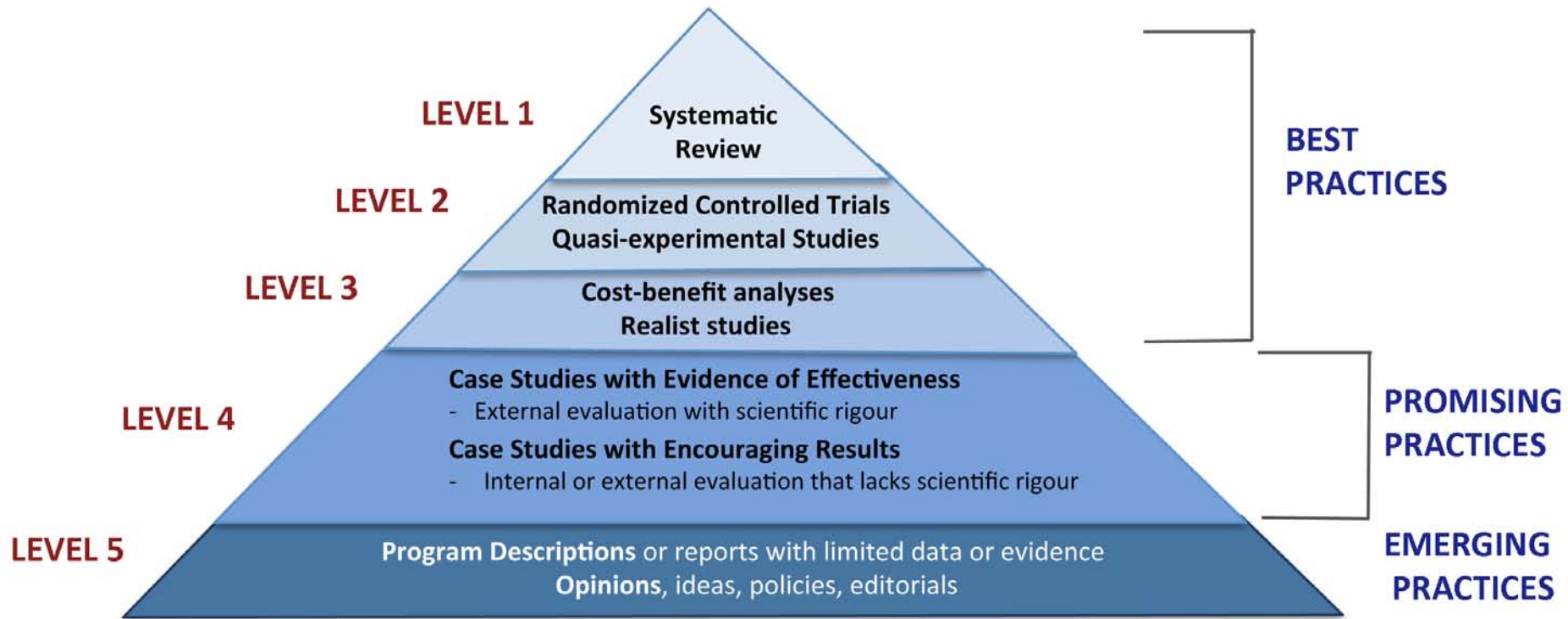
Canadian Definition of Homelessness

Instrumental research

Evaluation research that answers key questions:

**What works, for whom and in
what contexts?**

Hierarchy of Evidence

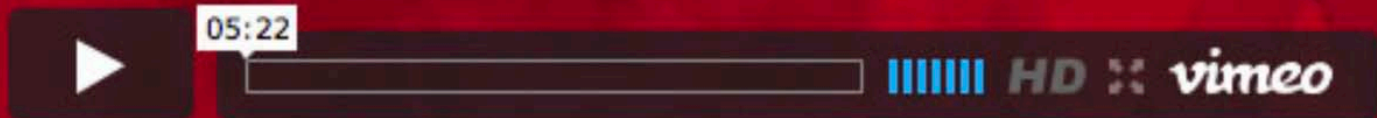


A good example . . .



PROGRAM EVALUATION

for the Homelessness Sector



Symbolic research

. . . involves using research results to legitimate and sustain arguments, strategies and positions.

Symbolic research



THE REAL COST *of* HOMELESSNESS

Can we save money
by doing the right thing? Stephen Gaetz



Research Evidence Matters!

You wouldn't like me
when I'm angry...

Because I always back up
my rage with facts and
documented sources.

-The Credible Hulk

Part 2

Engaged Scholarship

What is Engaged Scholarship?

Strategies and practices that seek to strengthen connections between research, policy and practice to enhance common good.

Research

Researchers

*Policy
Makers*

*Service
Providers*

1. Understand and acknowledge differences.



Institutional Differences:

- What gets rewarded at the institutional level?
- What kind of research is most valued?
- Timelines and Expectations
- What gets funded and resourced?

Different interests

- What kind of research – Conceptual? Instrumental? Symbolic?
- What is considered interesting (topics, questions)?
- What is valued in your field?
- What you believe the role of research should be?

Different Practices

- Methodology
- Scientific rigour
- Presentation of results
- Thinking about collaboration

2. Identify Mutual Benefits



For researchers

- Opportunity to engage in research that has an impact
- Emerging issues on the ground are identified
- Access to institutions and populations

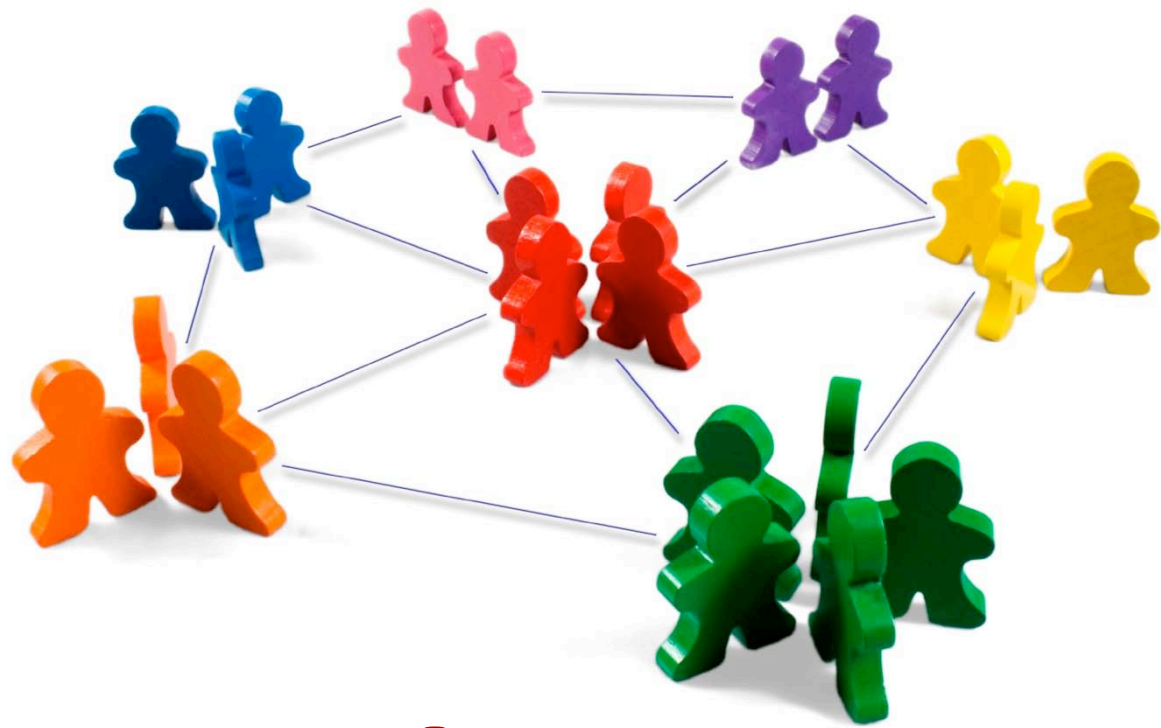
For Policy makers and practitioners

- Key questions get addressed
- Lends legitimacy to strategies
- Evidence base for decision-making
- Identify and confirm promising practices
- Shift thinking about issues

For both (Mutuality)

“That ‘academic’ credibility is essential to moving the message forward on whatever that research is. Equally important, I am accepted by community people...so that part of the message couldn't be heard if I wasn't there. We just reach different audiences.”

(Arlene Hache, NWT)



3 The importance of Relationships

Necessary Features

- All parties treated with mutual respect
- Thoughtful planning
- Key roles and leadership

4 Co-creating the research agenda



Solicit Agreement on

- The focus of the research
- Key research questions
- Methodology
- Research outputs
- Timelines

5 Division of Labour



Necessary Features

- Concept of mutuality doesn't imply equality of workload
- Clarity about roles and expectations
- Open and frequent communication

6 Research Outputs



Considerations

- What are the specific outputs? (report, academic papers, briefs, etc.)
- Intellectual property
- Mode of presentation
- Communication Strategy
- Uses (planning, advocacy, etc.)

Part 3

DISSEMINATION

To find out more:



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homeless hub

www.homelesshub.ca



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TOPICS +

COSTS OF
HOMELESSNESS

STORIES +

Homelessness in Yellowknife

An Emerging Social Challenge

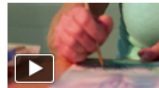
REPORT #4



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Featured Resources

Exploring Homelessness Through the Artist's Hands



A beautiful short documentary about the sense of community created by art workshops for homeless people at Toronto's Scott Mission.

The Real Cost of Homelessness



This unit is intended for teachers of Grade 9/10 History and/or Civics/Citizenship learners. The activities described here have been developed based on curriculum expectations for intermediate students from various provincial education ministry/departments across Canada. The common element of most provincial curriculum expectations is: the development of learners as Informed, Purposeful, and Active citizens.

Integrating Homelessness Issues into Family/Social Sciences Classes

A beautiful short documentary about the sense of community created by art workshops for homeless people at Toronto's Scott Mission.

The Study of Homelessness in English and Media Classes in Canadian Secondary Schools

"Homelessness" as a topic for study offers us, the teachers of English and Media, a thought-provoking lens for considering anew many standard literary classics and, thus, for deepening our perspectives on contemporary literature. Traditional universal themes—revenge, forbidden love, the journey, for example—have stood the test of time as avenues of approach for literary studies; now, despite its decidedly modern ring, "homelessness" offers a less-traditional but universal theme, one attended by an array of social, economic, political...



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Can I see your ID? The Policing of Youth Homelessness in Toronto

O'Grady, Bill | Gaetz, Stephen | Buccieri, Kristy



Homelessness, and its visibility, is back in the news in Toronto. Concerns about the scourge of panhandling have once again surfaced in local media with city councillors regularly weighing in on the 'problem'. With little evidence that there is a dramatic increase in the numbers of people sleeping in parks or 'aggressively' panhandling on sidewalks, calls are once again being made for a law and order response to address this highly visible manifestation of urban poverty; to crack down on homelessness with tougher laws... [Read more](#)

Recent Blog Posts



In homelessness, diversity does not mean complexity
David J. Hulchanski, U of Toronto

[Read more](#)



When Public Housing was Paradise

Joy Connelly

[Read more](#)



Is there a place for harm reduction in our response to homelessness?

Bernie Pauly, U of Victoria

[Read more](#)

Facebook Activity



The Homeless Hub on
Facebook



Resources

Hours and Nurses Working Together

David; Murray, Nancy; et al.

Green the McMaster University School of Nursing (SON)
representing different neighbourhoods in the City of



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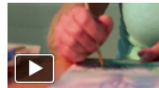
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FOR TEACHERS +

FOR STUDENTS +

Street Stories

Understanding Homelessness
Through Drama

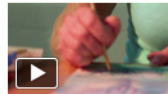
[READ MORE »](#)

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Featured Resources

Exploring Homelessness Through the Artist's Hands

SUBJECTS: Visual Art, Social Studies GRADES: 9-12



A beautiful short documentary about the sense of community created by art workshops for homeless people at Toronto's Scott Mission.

Integrating Homelessness Into Civics Classes

SUBJECTS: Civics GRADES: 9-10



This unit is intended for teachers of Grade 9/10 History and/or Civics/Citizenship learners. The activities described here have been developed based on curriculum expectations for Intermediate students from various provincial education ministry/departments across Canada. The common element of most provincial curriculum expectations is the development of learners as Informed, Purposeful, and Active citizens. The teaching/learning strategies....

Integrating Homelessness Issues into Family/Social Sciences Classes

SUBJECTS: Family/Social Sciences, Civics GRADES: 9-12

A beautiful short documentary about the sense of community created by art workshops for homeless people at Toronto's Scott Mission.



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NEW BRUNSWICK +

NEWFOUNDLAND &
LABRADOR +

NOVA SCOTIA +

NORTHWEST
TERRITORIES +

NUNAVUT +

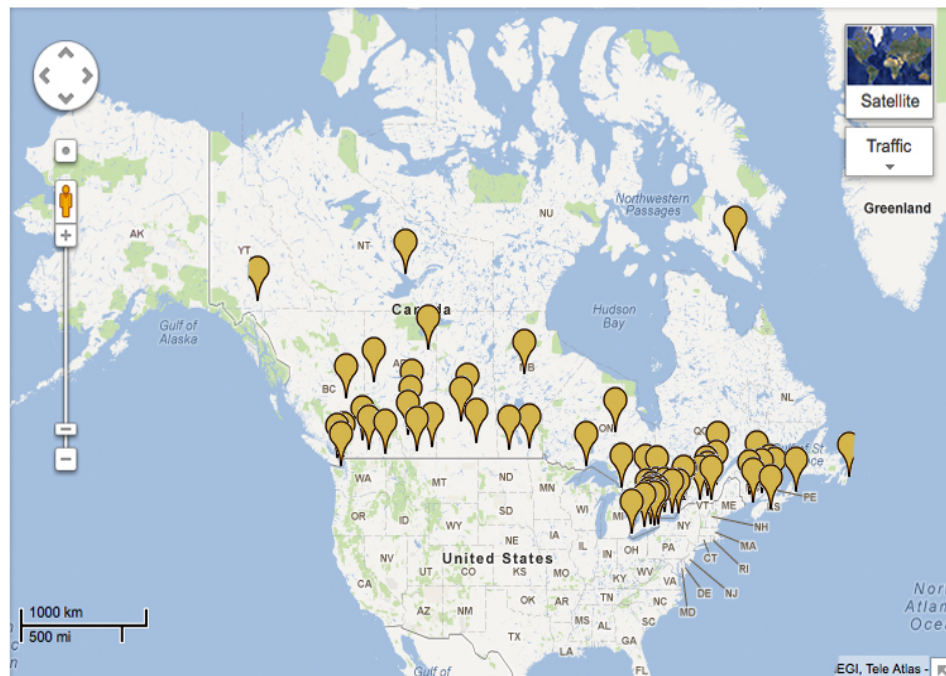
ONTARIO +

PRINCE EDWARD
ISLAND +

QUEBEC +

SASKATCHEWAN +

YUKON +



On the map above, select one of the 61 designated* communities across Canada to view **community plans**, **report cards**, **homeless counts** and other reports that monitor homelessness trends in the region.

*These 61 designated communities receive funding under the **Homelessness Partnering Initiative (HPI)**. The HPI is a unique community-based federal program designed to help prevent and reduce homelessness in Canada. Each of these communities has a unique experience and their homeless populations, issues and needs are varied.

Solutions

Planning

Promising Practices

Monitoring Progress

Integrated Systems

Models of Accommodation and Supports


Prevention

- Model of preventing homelessness
- Primary prevention
- Systems (institutional) prevention
- Child welfare reform
- Discharge planning – mental health
- Discharge planning - corrections
- Early intervention

Promising Practices

- Used to highlight initiatives across Canada
- Features a video or written testimony from participants
- Links to related resources (annual reports, budgets, HR docs, research, etc.)

Welcome [stephszakall](#) | [Visit Your Community](#) | [Log Out](#) [ABOUT US](#) | [CONTACT US](#)


 the homeless hub


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Model Programs

[Eva's Phoenix](#)

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 **Eva's Phoenix**
eva's initiatives



"I want to thank you for all you have done for our son Michael at Eva's Phoenix. It is far beyond anything we could have imagined."
- Mrs. Smith

Lead Organization: Eva's Initiatives
Location: Toronto, Ontario, Serving: Toronto

A 50 unit transitional housing and employment training facility for homeless and at-risk youth aged 16 to 29. The focus is on supporting youth as they work towards self-sufficiency. This one-year program includes independent living, life skills training, mentoring, employment counselling, job coaching, and on-the-job work experience in a variety of careers.

About the Initiative

Types of Activities: Public education, Research, Client advocacy, Shelter provision, Employment / job training, Community development, Partnership / coalition development, Housing provision

Principal Clients: Living with mental illness, Aboriginal, Victims of violence, Substance abuse, Ex-offenders, Youth, Gay, lesbian, bi, trans, Facing racism / discrimination, Hard-to-house

Scope: Local

Setting: Urban

Started: January 2000 to: ongoing

Annual Budget: Greater than \$250,000

Types of Funding: City of Toronto, Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC), foundations, corporate and individual donations, fundraising events

Offers Services In: English, Spanish

Contact
Mailing Address: Eva's Phoenix
215 Spadina Avenue, Suite 370, Toronto, Ontario M5T 2C7
Contact Person: Jennifer Morris, Director of National Initiatives
Phone: (416) 977-4497 x 127

Related Resources

- Calgary's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness
- Making Research Matter: Calgary's 3 Year Research Agenda to End Homelessness
- Re-Housing Triage and Assessment Survey Toolkit
- Meet Ken, a poster boy to end homelessness
- Risks and Assets for Homelessness Prevention: A Literature Review for the Calgary Homeless Foundation

At Home/Chez Soi:
An Overview of the Mental Health Commission's pilot projects on homelessness & mental health
TELEFORUM May 30, 11:30am EDT

research summary
A case study of a homelessness intervention program for elderly people

Hot Content

1. "Canada Speaks" Exposing Persistent Myths ...
2. Making Toronto Safer: A Cost-Benefit Analy...
3. Access to primary health care among homeless...
4. A Progress Report on Calgary's Research Ag...
5. The Little Voices of Nunavut: A Study of W...
6. ...
7. Funding or Dividing Aboriginal Communities...
8. Women and Homelessness May 2011 Presentation
9. PhD candidate gives GNWT 5 tips on helping...
10. Homeless in Yellowknife: An Emerging Socia...

Part 4

Research *AS* Design

DESIGN IS A
BEHAVIOUR
NOT A DEPARTMENT

DESIGN FRAMEWORK

- Concept
 - Research
 - Research Outputs
 - Communications and Marketing
 - Creative Design

Concept

Is our emergency response to homelessness cost effective?

Audience:

- General public
- Policy makers
- Service providers
- Communities
- Students



Research

Literature review of Canadian and American research:

- Cost of responding to homelessness
- Health care costs
- Criminal justice costs



Research Outputs

Report

Executive Summary

Blog

Video

Press release

Academic Article

Communications and Marketing

- Mainstream Media
- Newsletter
- Social Media

Social Media

- Facebook Page




- Twitter





Twitter



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chapters
just added!



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A single place to find homelessness info across Canada.
<http://www.homelesshub.ca>

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Tweets Favorites Following Followers Lists

homelesshub Homeless Hub
We have over 100 registrants for the Without A Home Check out the topics & sign yourself up here: bit.ly/q3Psh3
2 hours ago


homelesshub Homeless Hub
Canada's HIV positive youth desperately lack serv support: t.co/H6oyJwnT [RESEARCH SUMMARY] via @researchimpact
26 Sep

homelesshub Homeless Hub
Nanaimo's #homeless are getting much-needed h bit.ly/q3Psh3 via @ilona6dotcom
23 Sep

homelesshub Homeless Hub
Our latest e-newsletter is out today: bit.ly/r03CG3 subscribe here: bit.ly/newTQ1 #housing #health #hunger
23 Sep

researchimpact ResearchImpact **Retweeted by** homelesshub
<new blog post> A Summer of Summaries #KMB bit.ly/pwUQzg thanks to @homelesshub & @ICES colleagues
22 Sep

homelesshub Homeless Hub
Nearly 1.1 million food bank visits in the GTA in the 14% since 2008. Full report: bit.ly/pqnkrF #hunger
22 Sep



Homeless Research

@CHRNNetwork Canada

Canadian Homelessness Research Network (CHRN) is committed to enhancing the impact of research on the homelessness crisis in Canada.
<http://www.homelesshub.ca>

Following

Tweet to @CHRNNetwork

Tweets Favorites Following Followers Lists

homelesshub Homeless Hub **Retweeted by** CHRNNetwork
Canada's HIV positive youth desperately lack services & social support: bit.ly/oVYI7N [RESEARCH SUMMARY] via @researchimpact
26 Sep

CHRNNetwork Homeless Research
Thanks for the RTs and #FFs @mustardseedyeg @IT_For_Change @nlanduw
23 Sep

CentretownCHC Centretown CHC **Retweeted by** CHRNNetwork
RT @homelesshub: Our latest e-newsletter is out today: bit.ly/r03CG3 Subscribe here: bit.ly/newTQ1 #housing #health #hunger
23 Sep

CHRNNetwork Homeless Research
Can't believe the response we've gotten! Don't miss it: Research symposium on contemp issues in CND homelessness bit.ly/pXqWhp Oct 6
23 Sep

LondonHON London Homelessness **Retweeted by** CHRNNetwork
Our recommendations for provincial candidates are now on the @homelesshub - homelesshub.ca/Library/View.a...
22 Sep

About @CHRNNetwork

789 Tweets 751 Following 868 Followers 72 Listed

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You follow accounts that follow @CHRNNetwork · view

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To eliminate and prevent Siouxland homelessness thro...

UnisonHCS Unison · Follow
Unison Health and Community Services is a Toronto-L...

homelessconnect homelessconnect · Follow
A Barcamp on Feb 11th to bring the tech community, ci...

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About
Making Research Matter

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-  Mission Old Brewery (page officielle)
-  Helping the Homeless - Andy Coats

The Homeless Hub



Education

DISCOVER

THE COMPLEXITY & DIVERSITY OF
HOMELESSNESS IN CANADA
& HELP CONTRIBUTE TO
INFORMED SOLUTIONS

← like us



A LIBRARY with over 30,000 resources on topics such as youth homelessness, mental health, housing & more.



CURRICULUM UNITS and additional resources for teachers who plan to undertake homelessness as a topic in their classroom.



RESEARCHER DATABASE
Find others conducting research by location and/or topic through our Canada-wide database of researchers.



CONDUCT RESEARCH with access to resources on: ethics, methodologies, community planning and program evaluation.



STORIES by individuals and families who have experienced homelessness, as well as the service providers dedicated to providing support.



PLAIN LANGUAGE content including reports, research summaries, blogs & e-books. Perfect for students, busy practitioners, policy makers, the media & the general public.



ARTS-BASED resources including: videos and documentaries, music, poetry, fine arts and dramatic arts pieces.



EVENT & CONFERENCE listings across Canada.

VISIT WWW.HOMELESSHUB.CA TO LEARN MORE

THE LATEST IN OUR REPORT SERIES

Homelessness in Yellowknife: An Emerging Social Challenge

A research paper about who is 'visibly homeless' in Yellowknife, programs & funding for homeless people, & policy issues and recommendations.



 the
homeless hub

Creative Design

Overall 'look' integrated into all outputs



Creative Design

Use of visuals including 'infographics'

Pomeroy argues that because people who are homeless are also more likely to be involved with the law and / or be high users of mental health services, these costs need to be calculated in any comparison of the cost of homelessness (shelters and services) versus providing people with housing and needed supports.

with substance abuse and mental health issues in British Columbia argues that one homeless person costs the public system in excess of \$55,000 per year (Patterson et al., 2008). Alternately, if this same population was provided with adequate housing and supports, it is estimated that the cost per person would drop to \$37,000 per year, which would save the province approximately \$211 million annually.

Similarly, in the Wellesley Institute's Blueprint to End Homelessness (2007), Shapcott argues that the average monthly costs of housing people while they are homeless are \$1,932 for a shelter bed, \$4,333 for provincial jail, or \$10,900 for a hospital bed. Compare this with the average monthly cost to the City of Toronto for rent supplements (\$701) or social housing (\$199.92).

A more recent study of homeless people

AVERAGE MONTHLY COST OF HOUSING SOMEONE WHILE HOMELESS



**Soooo . . .
What happened?**



Part 5

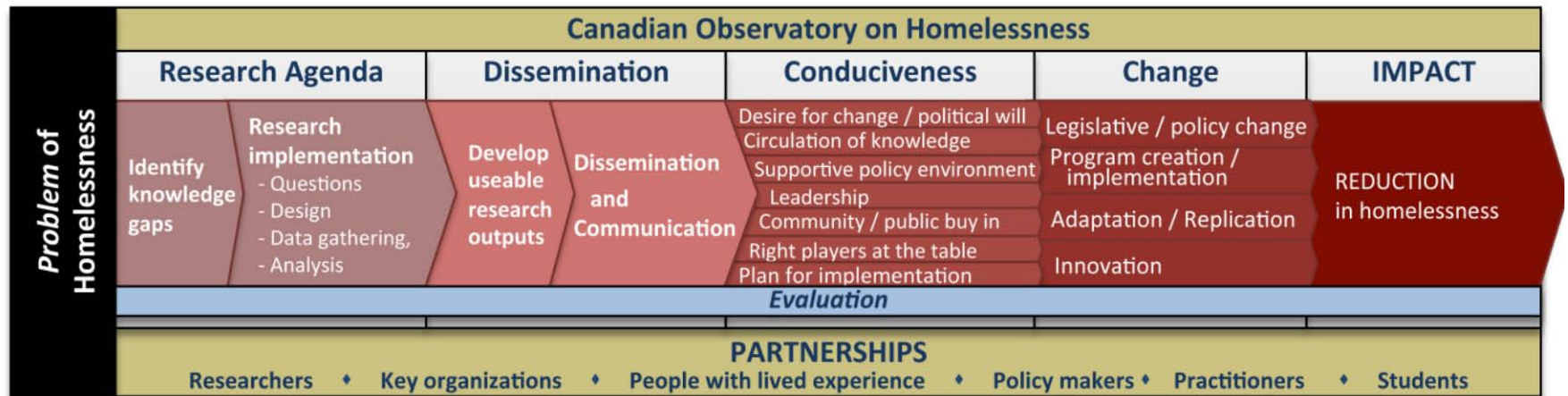
Canadian Observatory on Homelessness



Creating Impact

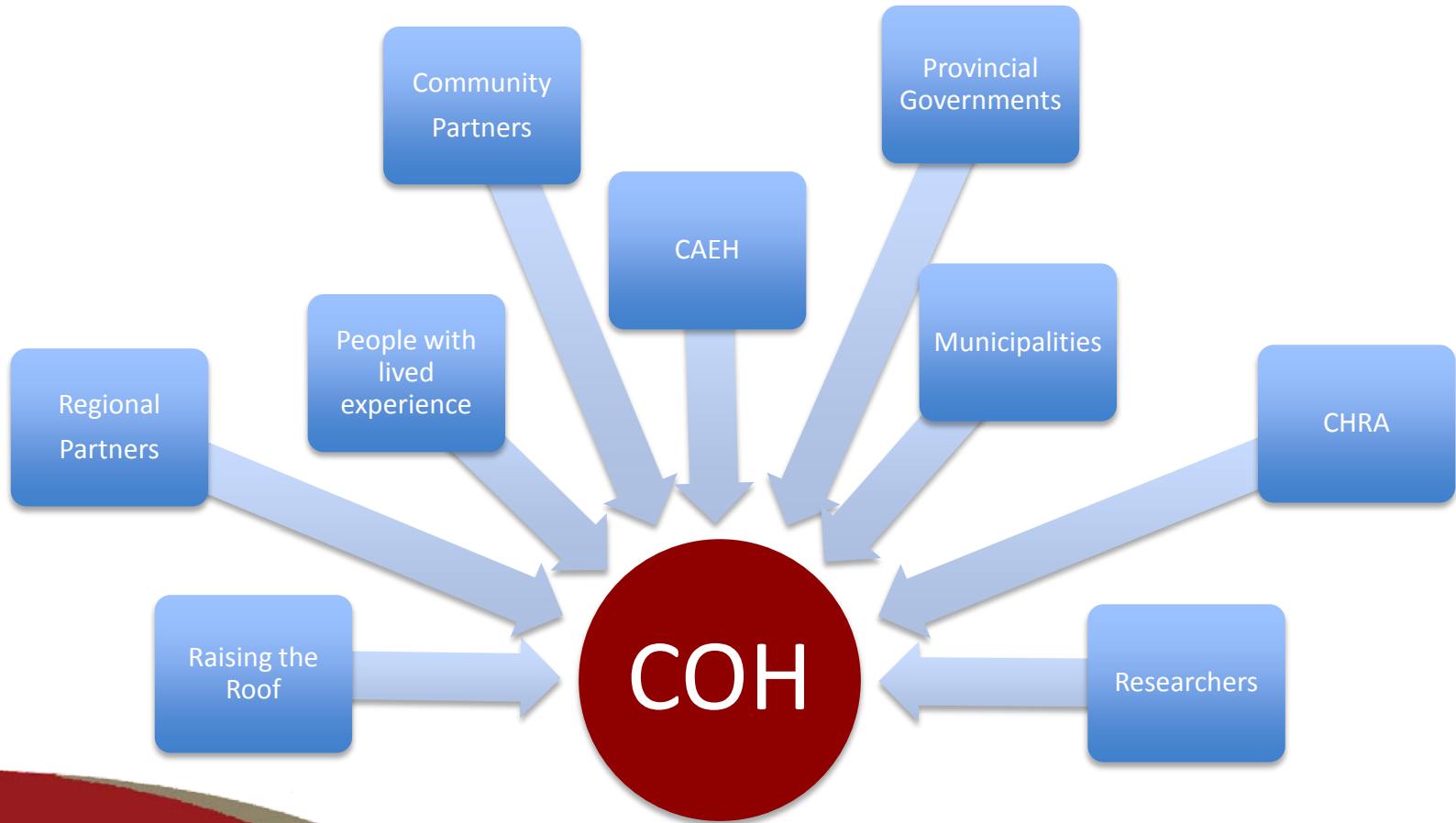


Our Theory of Change





Partnerships





Activities

Monitor progress on homelessness:

- Annual report card on homelessness (in partnership with CAEH)
- Support communities to do counts
- Support communities to do report cards



Activities

Implement a RESEARCH AGENDA





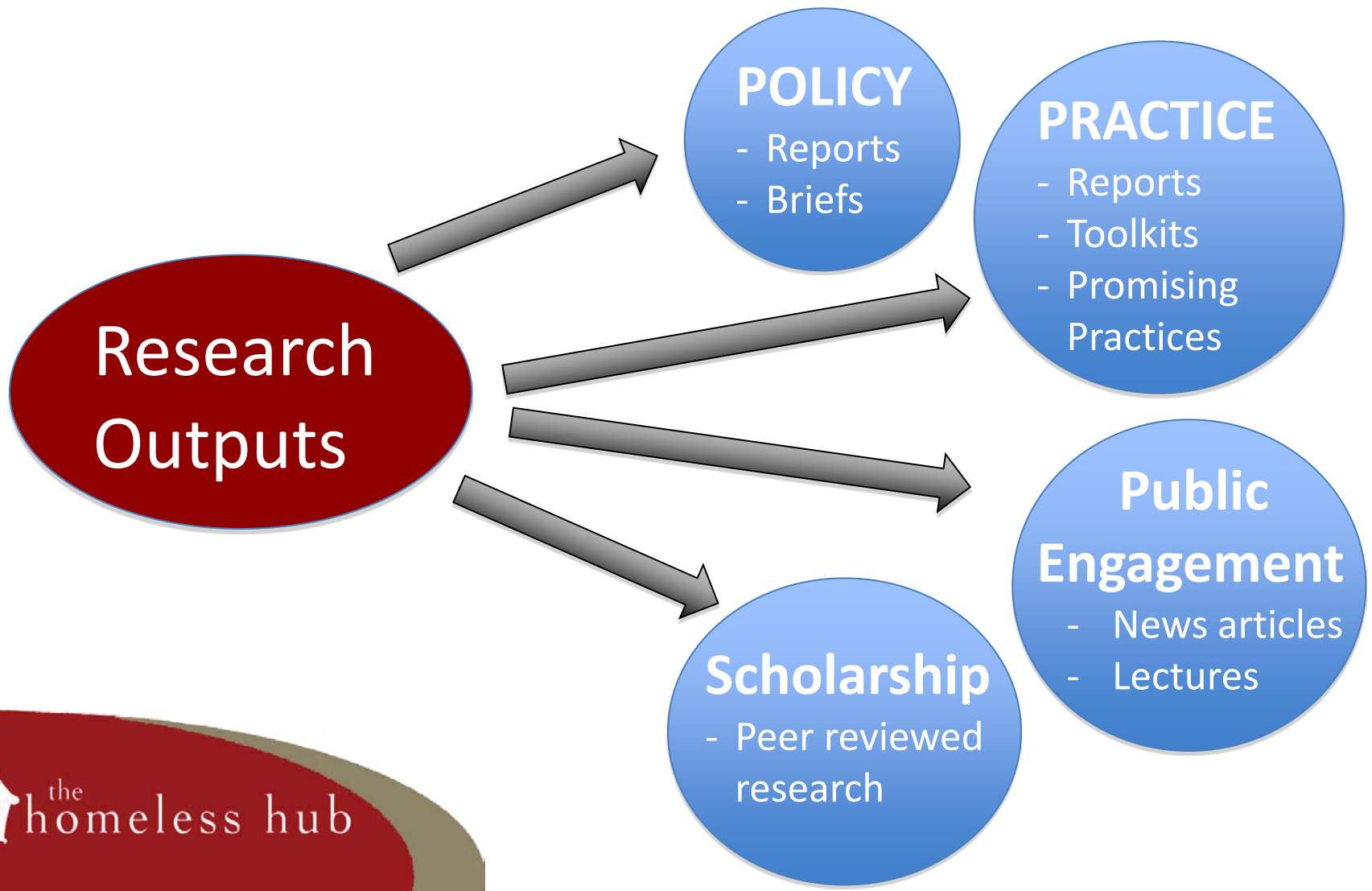
Research Agenda

Preliminary Research Priorities

- 1. Exploring effective 'systems' responses to homelessness.***
- 2. Understanding and facilitating the implementation of effective models of housing and support.***
- 3. Addressing Aboriginal homelessness in Canada.***



Knowledge Mobilization



Part 5

International Engagement

- **Global Alliance to End Homelessness**



- **Global Observatory on Homelessness**

Research Agenda:

- Homelessness prevention
- Housing and support models for homeless adults
- Youth homelessness
- Homelessness and criminal justice
- Comparison of Prevalence Rates
- Global Monitor of Homelessness

Questions?

