



HOMELESSNESS: A PRIMER FOR BUSINESS INFOSHEET #2

Resources for Persons Homeless in the Tri-Cities

What is available?

Primary resources for persons homeless in the Tri-Cities include:

- ◆ Outreach workers: Hope for Freedom Society, 604-830-1528
Hope for Freedom has been operating the Tri-Cities Homelessness Outreach Program under contract to BC Housing since 2006.
- ◆ 3030 Gordon 24/7 emergency shelter facility: RainCity Housing & Support Society, 604-474-0435.
The 3030 Gordon facility includes 30 emergency shelter beds in single rooms and 30 transitional housing suites in a low-barrier setting.
- ◆ Tri-Cities Bridge Shelter: Hope for Freedom Society
The Bridge shelter is a mat-based shelter program that operates overnight in host church venues from October 1st to March 31st. 30 spaces are available. Occupants are bussed to and from the shelter location from pick-up locations in each of the Tri-Cities. Possession and consumption of alcohol or other intoxicants is not permitted. For pickup locations, contact:
Weekdays 8 am – 4 pm: 604-830-1528; Nights 9 pm – 7 am: 778-709-2038

For a comprehensive list of resources and support services available to persons homeless in the Tri-Cities, refer to the "Tri-Cities Street Survival Guide", available at <https://tricityshomelessness.ca>

What is missing?

Ending homelessness requires not simply managing the problem through emergency services and supports such as shelters and soup kitchens. Approaches are needed that emphasize prevention and/or interventions that lead to appropriate housing options with supports in the Tri-Cities, including those that:

- ◆ Create rental housing affordable to low income households and those on income assistance
- ◆ Create new housing with supports for persons living with addiction and mental health challenges to augment the transitional housing suites at 3030 Gordon.
- ◆ Create additional emergency shelter beds
- ◆ Strengthen mental health and addiction treatment services, including a home/mobile withdrawal management program
- ◆ Establish distributed drop-in services in the Tri-Cities to connect people who are homeless to services and programs and provide warmth and sanitation facilities
- ◆ Provide additional food supports/meal programs in partnership with community partners
- ◆ Enhance supports for youth transitioning out of the foster care system
- ◆ Increase income assistance rates to respond to cost of living and rent increases