



Media Release

Regina to Participate in Fourth Nationally Coordinated Point-in-Time Homeless Count

In 2024, Regina will take part in a coordinated effort to measure homelessness across Canada.

In October, Namerind Housing Corporation, the Reaching Home Community Entity in Regina, Saskatchewan and community volunteers will participate in the fourth nationally coordinated Point-in-Time (PiT) Homeless Count in Canada.

A Point-in-Time Count, or PiT Count as it is commonly referred to, is a measure of the number of people experiencing homelessness in a community, counted on a specific day and during a specified period of time. It is meant to be a “snapshot” painting a picture of what homelessness looks like in that particular time and place. It will indicate the minimum number of people experiencing homelessness in our community.

During a specified period of time over the course of one day, trained volunteers will enumerate and survey individuals staying in shelters, short-term or transitional housing, public systems (detox), those sleeping rough (in unsheltered spaces) and hidden homelessness (living temporarily with others or accessing temporary accommodations).

Our PiT Count will improve our understanding of the needs and circumstances of the people affected by homelessness in Regina. The survey will provide key data on gender, age, ethnicity, veteran status and more.

The PiT Count will reveal the need for crucial leadership interventions for increased investment and coordination between all orders of government, also including nonprofit and private sectors.

Results from the 2024 PiT Count will be made public and will be used to improve our response to homelessness. In the future, successive counts will assist in measuring progress towards our ultimate goal: ending homelessness in Regina.

The Regina PiT Count is receiving support from the Government of Canada through Reaching Home: Canada’s Homelessness Strategy (Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada). In October and November of 2024, individuals experiencing homelessness will be counted in 58 communities across the country. The coordinated effort will help us to create a picture of homelessness in communities across Canada.

Quotes

“The federal government recognizes the importance of reducing and preventing homelessness across the country. To address these issues, we must first understand their scope, which is why the PiT count is so vital. We’re working partners to enhance resources and help address the issues facing people experiencing homelessness.” (The Honourable Dan Vandal, Minister of Northern Affairs and Minister responsible for PrairiesCan and CanNor, on behalf of the Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities)

“‘Without deviation from the norm, progress is not possible.’ (Frank Zappa) If we don’t make changes in how we do things, we won’t be able to prevent homelessness, and do things in our community or across the country.” (Robert Byers, President and CEO of Namerind Housing Corporation)

Media Participation

The media is invited to contact the PiT Count Coordinator for more information. At this time, we are withholding the exact date of the count as it may comprise the process.

Ensuring the safety and anonymity of our participants is our utmost priority. Media will not be invited to accompany PiT Count volunteers; however, the media is invited to attend a brief press conference on the day of the count. Further details will be made available in the near future.

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