May 31 – June 1, 2023 Early Evening Welcome Reception, May 30



## Forum national des Premières Nations sur le logement et l'itinérance

Du 31 mai au 1<sup>er</sup> juin 2023 Réception de bienvenue en début de soirée, le 30 mai

### Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi

Executive Director,

Aboriginal Coalition to end Homelessness

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Du 31 mai au 1<sup>er</sup> juin 2023 Réception de bienvenue en début de soirée, le 30 mai

### NETWORKING AND TRADESHOW BREAK

3:15PM – 3:30PM Room: Mountbatten Ballroom

WIFI: Assembly Of First Nations Password: AOFN2023

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# Understanding Indigenous Harm Reduction in the context of Homelessness services

Andrea Jibb
Director of Housing and Healing Services, Atlohsa Family Healing Services

Terri King

Manager of Housing and Community Services at Atlohsa Family Healing Services

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### THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

See you tomorrow at 7:30AM for breakfast!

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## Building A Homeless Shelter from the Ground Up

Sylvia Isaac
Board Member, Epgwas'g Temporary Emergency Shelter

Elder Roseanne Martin Board Member, Epgwas'g Temporary Emergency Shelter - Listuguj Mi'gmaq First Nation

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Du 31 mai au 1<sup>er</sup> juin 2023 Réception de bienvenue en début de soirée, le 30 mai

### NETWORKING / TRADESHOW / LUNCH

11:30AM – 1:00PM Room: All Rooms

WIFI: Assembly Of First Nations Password: AOFN2023

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## Forum national des Premières Nations sur le logement et l'itinérance

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### Reducing and Preventing Homelessness in Winnipeg

Jason Whitford President and CEO, End Homelessness Winnipeg

Kayla Frank Policy Analyst, Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs



Reducing and Preventing Homelessness in Winnipeg

National First Nations Housing and Homelessness Forum

June 1, 2023

### What is End Homelessness Winnipeg (EHW)?

- Winnipeg
- End Homelessness Winnipeg's history and work
- N'Dinawemak
- Right to housing
- Data sovereignty



### The Situation in Winnipeg





### What is End Homelessness Winnipeg (EHW)?

- Indigenous-led, community-based and local non-profit
- Became Indigenous in 2019
- Backbone support for Winnipeg's
   10-Year Plan to End Homelessness
- Collective Impact organization with lived and living experience at the center
- Funded by all levels of government and United Way Winnipeg
- Community Entity for Reaching Home
- Other programs include Coordinated Access, Canada Manitoba Housing Benefit, and HIFIS



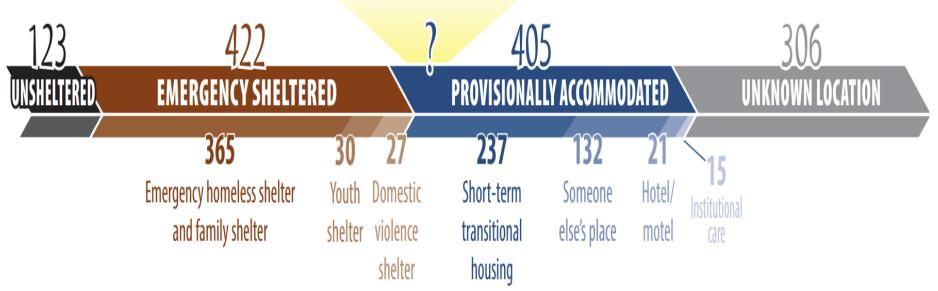


### Homelessness in Winnipeg

### **Figure 1: Where People Stayed**

————On May 24 and 25, 2022, the Street Census reached 1,256 people experiencing homelessness in Winnipeg.————

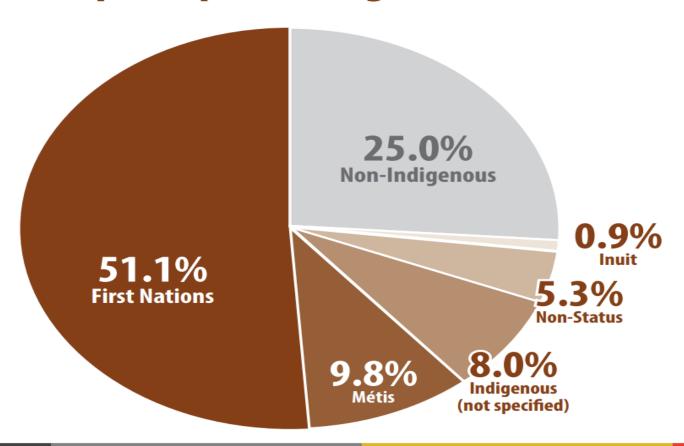
Many more are experiencing homelessness but were not surveyed.





### Homelessness in Winnipeg Continued

### Figure 3: Indigenous Status and Identities of People Experiencing Homelessness





### Homelessness in Winnipeg Continued

### Table 3: Respondents' with Experience in Foster Care, Group Homes, or Another CFS Placement

	Frequency	Percentage
Not Indigenous	27	7.7%
First Nations – Status	244	69.5%
First Nations – Non Status	31	8.8%
Métis – Self-Declared	29	8.3
Métis – Citizenship/Membership Card	18	5.1%
Inuit	2	0.6%
Total	351	100%

### **Table 5: Causes of Housing Loss (Most Recent Time)**

	Frequency	Percentage
Not Enough Income for Housing	175	29.2 %
Mental Health Issue	38	6.3 %
Physical Health Issue	20	3.3 %
Substance Use Issue	110	18.3 %
Conflict with: Partner, Friend, Family, CFS, other	153	25.5 %
Conflict with: Roommate, Landlord / Complaint / Building Sold, Renovation	104	17.3 %
Experienced Abuse by: Partner, Family	16	2.7 %
Experienced Discrimination / Intergenerational Effects of Residential School	9	1.5 %
Unsafe Housing	46	7.7 %
Incarceration	36	6.0 %
Left the Community / Relocated / My Choice / End of Lease	36	6.0 %
Pandemic	15	2.5 %
Hospitalization / Treatment Program	10	1.7 %

### Homelessness Reduction/Prevention Initiatives in Winnipeg

- The Village Project, a 22-unit low-barrier permanent supportive housing project, was launched in Nov 2022
- Collaborating with local shelters to focus more on housing
- Partnering with Wahbung Abinoonjiiag and other organizations to develop a 26-unit transitional house for children and women
- Shawenim Abinoojii opened an 18-unit transitional house in Apr 2022
- Development of 300 affordable housing units by Southern Chiefs Organization



### Homelessness Reduction/Prevention Initiatives in Winnipeg

- Canada Manitoba Housing Benefit supports over 700 Winnipeggers every month
- Launched Coordinated Access in March 2022
- Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association introduced their Rent Bank in Spring 2021
- Through Kíkinanaw Óma, we have been supporting those who live unsheltered
- N'Dinawemak, an Indigenous-led 24/7 safe space, opened in Dec 2021





### N'Dinawemak

- Population served:
  - Gender: Males (66%), females (32%), and 2SLGBTQ+ (2%)
  - Ethnicity (self-identified): First Nation with status (65%),
     non-status First Nation (1%), Métis (4%), and non-Indigenous (30%)
  - Age: 18 to 25 years (7%), 26 to 35 years (26%), 36 to 49 years (38%), and 50+ (29%)
- Bed capacity and usage:
  - Available beds: 84 for males and 50 for females
  - Average monthly bed usage/occupancy rate: 97% for females and 100% for males
- Cost-savings:
  - Over 1,500 critical incidents were de-escalated from Dec 2021 to Oct 2022, saving the Winnipeg Police Services over \$705,000
- Conversion into transitional housing

### **Background of N'Dinawemak**

- N'Dinawemak opened in ceremony and was gifted its name N'Dinawemak "Our Relatives Place" by Elder Wally Swain.
- Winnipeg's first Indigenous-Led Warming Shelter opened on December 1, 2021.
- End Homelessness Winnipeg, The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) - First Nation Family Advocate Office (FNFAO) and Eagle Urban Transition Centre (EUTC) - partnered along side with Aboriginal Health and Wellness (AHW), Sabe Peacewalkers, Community Helpers Unite (CHU), Downtown Community Safety Partnership (DCSP) worked together to begin the first stages of providing much needed supports at N'Dinawemak for Winnipeg's unsheltered population.









### **N'Dinawemak Services and Supports**

#### **Services Offered:**

- Advocacy for Relatives
- Housing navigation
- Men's haircuts
- Women's Wellness
- Men's Group
- Know Your Rights
- Identification
- Men's and Women's Showers
- Rites of Passage for Youth
- Women's Sharing Circle
- Access to Mental Health Nurses
- Access to Medical Care Professional such as Doctors, Public Health Nurses, etc.
- Laundry services
- Job Mentorship and Leadership Roles for Relatives to gain experience

#### **Monthly Activities:**

- Karaoke Nights (favourite activity for Relatives
- Women's Self Care Day
- Ceremonies
  - Feasts
  - Sacred Fires
  - Memorials
- Crafts and Art Activities to support and display at Events
- Movie nights
- Entertainment such as special live concerts for Relatives
- BBQs and special feasts









#### N'Dinawemak Supports and Services

Between May 1, 2022 to January 19, 2023, N'Dinawemak has completed the following:

#### 279 Intakes including:

- 163 First Nations (Status) Relatives
- 15 First Nations (Non-Status) Relatives
- 4 Inuit Relatives
- o 36 Métis Relatives
- o 61 non-Indigenous Relatives









#### **N'Dinawemak Supports and Services**

Between May 1, 2022 to January 19, 2023, N'Dinawemak has supported the following interventions:

- 90 Relatives housed
- 50 Relatives connected to Mental Health counselling or connected with a school counsellor to complete their education
- 162 Relatives assisted with securing Employment and Income Assistance (EIA)
- 354 visits for Relatives seeking Medical Care
- 12 Relatives seeking advocacy within the Child and Family Services (CFS) system
- 157 Relatives were assisted in obtaining Identification (ID)
- 140 Relatives were assisted with Advocacy (EIA, Medical, Addictions Treatment)
- 111 Relatives sought Detox/Treatment

In Addition, N'Dinawemak Staff have also practiced life-saving skills and prevented the loss of lives:

- 47 Relatives saved from overdose by using a combination of Naloxone and CPR (including 3 Relatives saved more than once); and
- 8 Relatives attempted suicide and were saved by staff utilizing their suicide prevention skills.









### **Barriers and Challenges for Relatives at N'Dinawemak**

#### **Addictions Crisis:**

- High prevalence of substance usage
- Wait times with accessing detox and treatment
- High need for harm reduction supplies

#### Mental Health

- Relatives are at an increased risk of experiencing mental health issues induced by trauma or pre-existing conditions from:
  - limited access to clinicians and services, living in poverty
  - Psychosis resulting from easily accessible illicit drugs
  - Not having medication or diagnosis to reduce mental health effects

#### Lack of Accessible, Affordable and Safe Housing

- Difficulty in finding suitable accommodations to live in
- Low-income housing options have several restrictions and strict policies that prevent and limit opportunities to access safe housing









### A Rights-based Approach to Housing

- Everyone has a right to safe, suitable, and affordable housing
- It is the government's responsibility to ensure that this need is met
- We use the rights-based approach in advocacy
- Also, one of the core principles of Kíkinanaw Óma



#### Data Sovereignty - OCAP

 Data are not just numbers, they are the key to making informed decisions.

 With HIFIS, we can use data to drive smarter decisions, identify gaps and trends, and advocate for better economic outcomes, health, and housing conditions.



#### Further Research

- The 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness in Winnipeg (2014)
- <u>5-Year Plan, 2020-2025</u>
- . 2022 Winnipeg Street Census Final Report
- 2022 Winnipeg Street Census Recommendations
- Our website: <a href="https://endhomelessnesswinnipeg.ca/">https://endhomelessnesswinnipeg.ca/</a>



## Maarsii, Miigwetch, Thank you



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### NETWORKING AND TRADESHOW BREAK

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### UNDA Engagement Session

Caleb Behn
Director of Rights, Assembly of First Nations

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### THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

Please make your way back to the Churchill Ballroom for the Closing Ceremony