COMMUNITY HOMELESSNESS REPORT SUMMARY
City of Abbotsford   **2022-2023**

The Community Homelessness Report (CHR) is an annual Reaching Home reporting deliverable that supports communities to prevent and reduce homelessness using a more coordinated, systems-based and data-driven response. The CHR was designed to support local discussions and decision making, using all of the information about homelessness currently available at the community level. Communities are encouraged to use their CHR data to develop clear plans of action that help them to reach their homelessness reduction targets and to leverage the collective efforts of service providers working across the community, regardless of how they are funded.

This is a summary of the CHR for the 2022-23 reporting cycle. It shows the community's self-assessment of Reaching Home implementation, which includes the following key components:
 • meaningful collaboration between Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners (see Section 1);
 • community-level governance, coordinated service delivery (Coordinated Access) and use of a Homelessness Management Information System or HMIS (see Section 2); and,
 • an outcomes-based approach (tracking community-level outcomes and progress against targets using a Unique

dentifier or By-Name List, referred to as a List; see Section 3).
If the community was able to report on outcomes and targets, this CHR Summary also includes results for each of the five core outcomes of Reaching Home (see Section 4).

Section 1. Community Context – Collaboration between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Partners	
Does your community, as a Designated Community (DC), also receive Reaching Home Indigenous Homelessness (IH) funding?	No – only DC funding is available
Specific to Coordinated Access and the HMIS, has there been ongoing, meaningful collaboration between the DC or Territorial Homelessness (TH) CE and local Indigenous organizations over the reporting period?	Yes
Describe this collaboration in more detail.	

The Coordinated Access Specialist (hired November 2022), has started an Indigenous Coordinated Access System (CAS) consultation table known as the SUMMA Table (Sumas, Urban Métis, Matsqui, Abbotsford). The table meets bi-weekly to consult on all aspects of developing the CAS and participates in information and training sessions related to CAS and HIFIS. There is representation from Sumas First Nation, Fraser Valley Métis Association, the Indgenous Outreach Peer Program for Pacific Community Resource Society, First Nation Health Authority (FNHA) Mental Health, the Indigenous Outreach program for the Rapid Acccess to Addiction Care Clinic (Fraser Health), Fraser Valley Aboriginal Child & Family Services Society, and Raven's Moon (Indigenous Housing Program). A relationship is also being developed with the Matsqui First Nation to ensure they are included in the consultation process, and elders from different local Indigenous communities will be invited when it comes to making specific decisions at the SUMMA Table. While still in the early stages of the development of the CAS, the SUMMA Table has provided consultation on information sharing and privacy policies, BC Housing documents, the role of HIFIS in the CAS, how information of Indigenous participants should and should not be accessed in HIFIS, prioritization protocols in Indidgenous and non-Indigenous programs, involvement in the Situation Table, creating non-identifying names for HIFIS, identifying Indigenous participants for Lived Experience Consultation Table, vacancy matching, and how to support people who are chronically homeless at the same time as supporting those who need prevention and diversion services. The Designated Communities (DC) CAB also has Indigenous representaion from the Sumas First Nation, and the Fraser Valley Métis Association that have been involved in all CAS related conversations.

With respect to the completion of the Community Homelessness Report (CHR), was there ongoing, meaningful collaboration between local Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations and, where applicable, the IH CE and/or IH CAB?	No
What is the plan to ensure meaningful collaboration occurs during next year's CHR process?	

The SUMMA Table has only been funcitoning for a few months and has been consulting on several urgent matters related to the CAS as well as learning about the CAS/HIFIS at the same time. As a result, we did not have time to review the CHR with the SUMMA Table this year. It is still possible that some aspects of it could be reviewed before the deadline, but next year we will have more time to develop the CHR with the SUMMA Table.

Section 2. Coordinated Access and Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) Self-Assessment
Summary Tables
The table below provides a summary of the work your community has done so far to meet the Reaching Home minimum requirements for Coordinated Access and an HMIS.

	Met	Started	Not Yet Started
Number of minimum requirements	3	15	0

The table below shows the percentage of minimum requirements completed for each core Coordinated Access component.

Governance	HMIS	Access Points to Service	Triage and Assessment	Coordinated Access Resource Inventory	Vacancy Matching and Referral
67%	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%

Summary Comment
Are there particular efforts and/or issues that you would like to highlight for this reporting period related to your community's work to achieve the Reaching Home minimum requirements?

* Efforts to implement a broader Coordinated Access system under Reaching Home, including building on the existing provincial CAA process that coodinates access to supportive housing funded by BC Housing: We have been in conversation about adapting the CAA to include community prioritization protocols once those have been developed, as well as using the HIFIS By-Name List (BNL) to draw referrals for vacancies once HIFIS has been rolled out in Abbotsford. So far those talks have been positive. The CAS Working Group as well as the SUMMA Table have been meeting regularly to build buy-in to the CAS and most partners are positive on moving forward. Multiple aspects of the CAS are being rolled out in as much as they can without HIFIS. The Abbotsford Situation Table is about to launch, the Integrated Outreach Meeting is formalizing their meeting structure and common case management processes, we are looking at embedding prevention/diversion outreach staff at Food Banks and community meals for those experiencing or at risk of homelessness, we are working on policies related to the CAS with CAS Working Group and SUMMA Table, and the System Map is almost complete.

* Efforts to plan for HIFIS implementation by leveraging BC Housing's license or requesting a DC-led license: We continue to meet BCH around HIFIS on a bi-weekly basis with other CEs and on a one-on-one basis as needed. As previously mentioned, the System Map will be completed soon and we are inviting all community stakeholders to participate in HIFIS orientation to aid in the process of buy in and decision making. However, BC Housing is taking a very long time to come with documents for community review and at times seems to be taking an approach where they are looking for a uniform version of HIFIS for all CEs, and this does not seem like it will work.

* Participation in any meetings about Coordinated Access or HIFIS with other communities across BC, as well as provincial and/or federal partners; See above.

* Information about how people with lived experience of homelessness (current or former clients) are being engaged or will be engaged in one or more aspects of Coordinated Access (e.g., are they included in the governance model): The CAS Working Group and SUMMA Table have been asked to provide names for a Lived Experience Consultation Table that will be formed in the comming months.

Section 3. Outcomes-Based Approach Self-Assessment

Summary Tables - Minimum Requirement

The tables below provide a summary of the work your community has done so far to transition to an outcomes-based approach under Reaching Home.

Step 1: Has a List	Step 2: Has a real-time List	Step 3: Has a comprehensive List
Not yet	Not yet	Not yet

Step 4: Can report <u>monthly</u> outcomes and set targets using data from the List (reporting in Section 4 is mandatory for 2023-24 CHRs, if not earlier)

List was in place as of January 1, 2023 (or earlier)	Can generate monthly data	Has set targets	Has an outcomes-based approach in place
No	Outcome 1: No	Outcome 1: No	No
	Outcome 2: No	Outcome 2: No	
	Outcome 3: No	Outcome 3: No	
	Outcome 4: No	Outcome 4: No	
	Outcome 5: No	Outcome 5: No	

Step 4: Can report <u>annual</u> outcomes and set targets using data from the List (reporting in Section 4 is mandatory once annual data can be generated)

List was in place as of April 1, 2022 (or earlier)	Can generate annual data	Has set targets	Has an outcomes-based approach in place
No	Outcome 1: No	Outcome 1: No	No
	Outcome 2: No	Outcome 2: No	
	Outcome 3: No	Outcome 3: No	
	Outcome 4: No	Outcome 4: No	
	Outcome 5: No	Outcome 5: No	

Summary Comment
Are there particular efforts and/or issues that you would like to highlight for this reporting period related to your community's work to transition to an outcomes-based approach under Reaching Home?
We cannot move forward with this seciton until BC Housing allows CE's to develop HIFIS for their own communities in a way that takes in consideration the uniqueness of each community, the agencies that serve people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, the local Indigenous communities, and those who are themselves experiencing or at risk of homelessness. At this time, it still seems that BCH is trying to create a uniform approach to all aspects of HIFIS (DPA's, Access Templates, Modules, etc.) for all CE's and we just do not see this working. Every CE needs their own ability to customize how HIFIS will work in their own community.

More information about the Unique Identifier List

Step 1. Have a List

Where does data for the List come from?	☐ HIFIS ☐ Excel ☐ Other HMIS ☐ Other data source(s) ☐ Not applicable – Do not have a List yet

Step 1. Have a List (cont.)

For the List, does the community have…

A written policy/protocol that describes how interaction with the homeless-serving system is documented	Not yet
A written policy/protocol that describes how housing history is documented	Not yet

Chronic homelessness

	Federal definition
	Local definition

From the List, can the community get data for…

Newly identified on the List	Not yet
Activity and inactivity	Not yet
Housing history	Not yet

From the List, can the community get demographic data for…

Age	No	Indigenous identity	No
Household type	No	Veteran status	No
Gender identity	No		

Step 2. Have a real-time List

Step 3. Have a comprehensive List

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Step 4. Track outcomes and progress against targets using data from the List

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Section 4. Community-Level Outcomes and Targets – Monthly

Based on the information provided in the Community Homelessness Report, the community does not have to report monthly community-level outcomes for the reporting period.

Section 4. Community-Level Outcomes and Targets – Annual

Based on the information provided in the Community Homelessness Report, the community does not have to report annual community-level outcomes for the reporting period.