

EXTREME WEATHER RESPONSE: COLD WEATHER PLAN

VERNON BC | WINTER 2024-25

Presented by:

Annette Sharkey, Executive Director

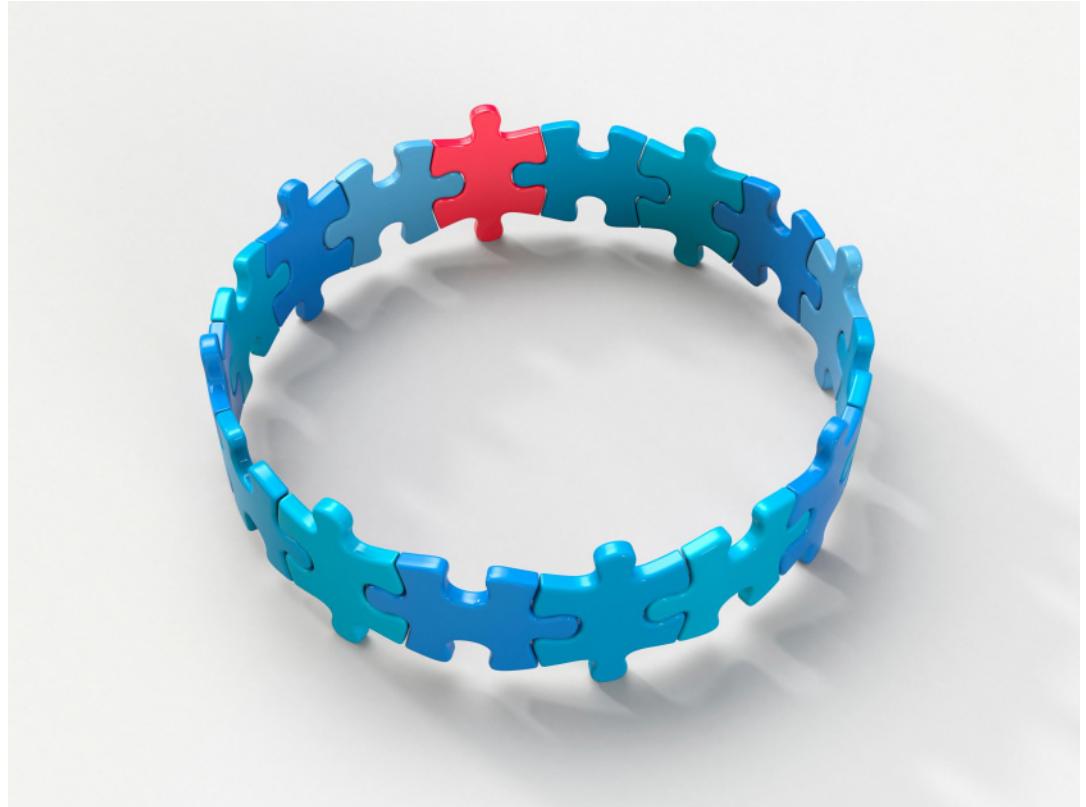
October 28, 2024



Social Planning Council
for the North Okanagan

COOL TEAM

- Bylaw Department
- RCMP Downtown Enforcement Unit
- Outreach Teams



Historical Data: Homelessness

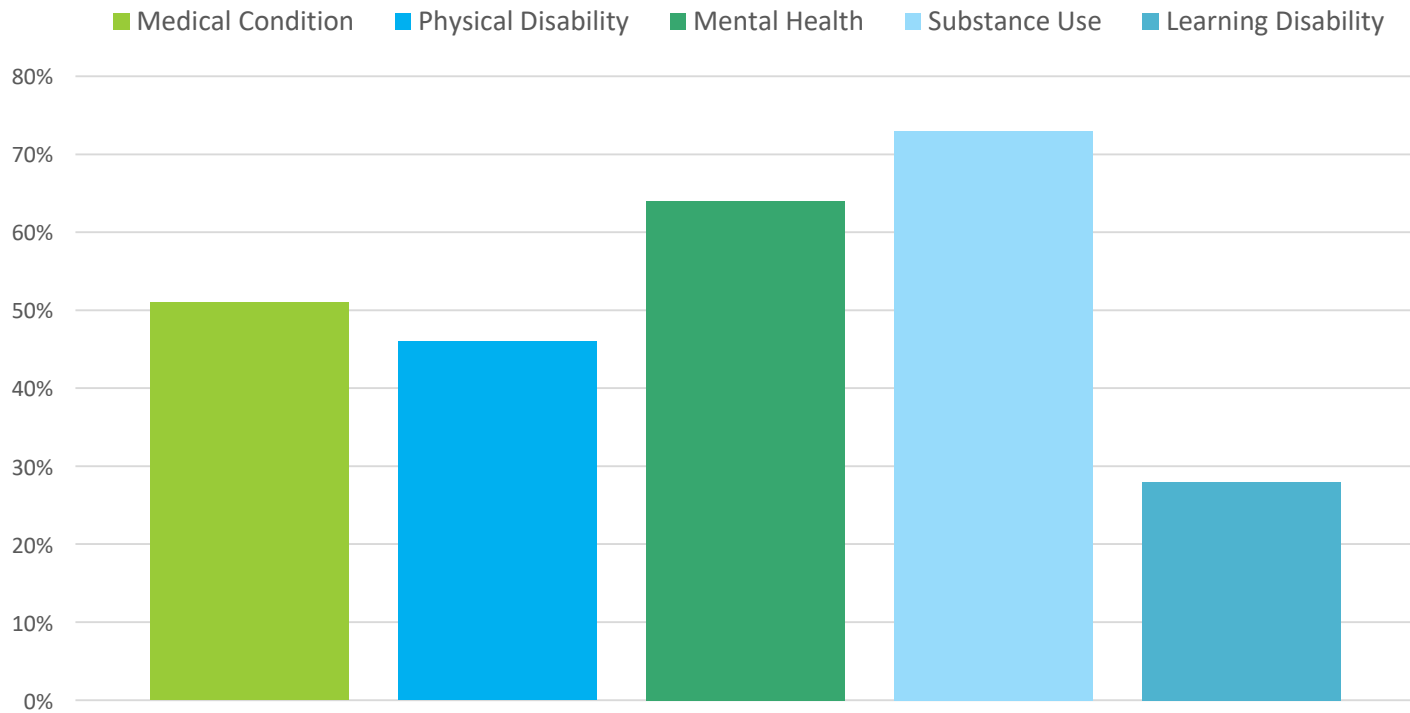


Number of Different Individuals Accessing Services (2020 -2023)

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Province of BC: Point in Time Count (Early May)		224		279
TPC Main Shelter (Annual Statistics)	232	501	445	*341
TPC Our Place (Annual Statistics)				*98

*In 2023 the TPC Main Shelter went from 86 pods to 60 pods. To ensure access to the same number of shelter beds, the capacity at Our Place was increased to 26 beds. There is overlap between people staying at the Main Shelter and Our Place.

Health Concerns: Homelessness



Shelter Inventory: Homelessness



Number of Shelter Beds (November 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025)

TPC Main Shelter	60 pods
TPC Our Place	26 beds
TPC Motel Program	26 beds
URM Winter Shelter	20 beds

TOTAL 132 beds

Additional Shelter Beds/Warming Bus Seats (temperature/wind chill at -10 degrees)

TPC Main Shelter	Additional 10 beds
URM Winter Shelter	Additional 5 beds
Warming Bus	25 seats

SUB TOTAL: 40 beds/seats

TOTAL: 172 beds/seats

Access to Meals: Homelessness



Emergency Meal Programs:								
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Stat Holiday
Breakfast	URM	URM	URM	URM	URM			
Lunch				Common Threads		Street Lunch	Street Church	Street Church
Early Supper	URM	URM	URM	URM	URM	URM	URM	
Later Dinner	POH							FTS

Sponsors:

URM | Upper Room Mission

Saturday Street Lunch | Partnership of Various Faith Groups located at the Anglican Church

Street Church | North Okanagan Community Chaplaincy

FTS (Feed the Streets) | Faith Group Volunteers

POH (Packman Opens Hearts) | Private Citizen Volunteers

Common Threads | Alliance Church

Access to Warm Space: Homelessness



URM and Okanagan Regional Library Hours are Highlighted – November 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Stat Holiday
9am	Highlighted					Highlighted		
10am	Highlighted					Highlighted		
11am	Highlighted					Highlighted		
12pm	Highlighted					Highlighted		
1pm	Highlighted					Highlighted		
2pm	Highlighted					Highlighted		
3pm	Highlighted					Highlighted		
4pm	Highlighted					Highlighted		
5pm	Highlighted					Highlighted		
5:30pm	Highlighted					Highlighted		
6pm		Highlighted				Highlighted		
7pm		Highlighted				Highlighted		
8pm		Highlighted				Highlighted		
9pm		Highlighted				Highlighted		

Identified Gaps: Homelessness



- Shelter, Supported Housing, Complex Care, Affordable Market Housing.
- Warm Spaces to Hang Out:
 - Mornings and Evenings (Particularly from Friday to Sunday) and on Statutory Holidays.
- Shower and laundry services are limited to weekdays.
- Public Washrooms close overnight.
- Storage for belongings during the day.
- Security concerns in public spaces overnight, particularly Polson Park.

Challenges, Strengths and Opportunities: Homelessness



Challenge:

- Lack of consistent and easily accessible funding for cold weather planning

Strengths:

- Community partnerships and collaboration
- Community donations of cold weather supplies

Opportunities:

- Community partners expanding services during the winter months and/or during extreme weather events

Appreciating Community Collaborators: Homelessness



Questions:

