



Tri-Cities  
Homelessness  
& Housing  
Task Group

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>. 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://tricityhomelessness.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

January 2019