Making the Shift

Youth Homelessness Social Innovation Lab

Impact Report 2021 - 2022

MAKING THE SHIFT INC

canadian observatory on homelessness

A WAY HOME VERS UN CHEZ-SOI CANADA

Toronto Centre of Excellence on Youth Homelessness Prevention at York University

education | YORK UNIVERSITÉ UNIVERSITY

Co-led by the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, A Way Home Canada and our Making the Shift Youth Homelessness Social Innovation Lab, the Toronto Centre of Excellence (TCE) on Youth Homelessness Prevention at York University provides an opportunity to work internationally to contribute to the transformation of how we respond to and prevent youth homelessness.

Canada

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Employment and Social Development Canada | Emploi et Développement social Canada

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Who We Are

Preventing and Ending Youth Homelessness

Making the Shift is a Youth Homelessness Social Innovation Lab, co-led by the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness and A Way Home Canada. Working in collaboration with researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and advocates, the Lab conducts, funds, and mobilizes cutting-edge research and prototypes promising program models in communities across Canada to prevent and end youth homelessness.

Here's how Making the Shift is transforming Canada's response to youth homelessness:

- → Funding cutting-edge, prevention-focused research projects
- → Building capacity for prevention across sectors through training, one-on-one coaching, program support, and facilitating dedicated communities of practice
- → Prototyping and evaluating the effectiveness of evidence-informed program models through community-based Demonstration projects (MtS DEMS)
- → Mobilizing research findings to create sector-friendly policy, practice, and advocacy tools and resources
- → Expanding the network of researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and advocates who are committed to youth homelessness prevention
- → Mentoring the next generation of scholars working to prevent youth homelessness
- → Advancing an action-oriented research agenda focused on prevention
- → Leveraging our international community to exchange research knowledge, experience and best practices through our Toronto Centre of Excellence (TCE) designation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Board Chair and Directors Letter

Dear supporters and Network Members,

On behalf of the Making the Shift Board of Directors, I am pleased to report the Network continues its forward momentum funding high-quality research, prototyping promising practices, and building capacity across sectors towards preventing and ending youth homelessness in Canada. From organizing the final open research call for proposals, to celebrating innovative practices in our communities with the newly launched Making the Shift Youth Homelessness Prevention Awards, the Network continues to grow and remain strong in 2021-22. Some highlights from this year include:

- **Moved forward investments in high-quality, community-engaged research:** In 2021-22, we saw 3 funded projects come to completion. 2 new research projects were added to the MtS Network envelope in 2021-22, bringing our total research investment to date to $6,956,931, or 67% of the total research funding budget, which stands at $10.4 million. Launched the final MtS open call for proposals, resulting from our revised Research Funding Strategy.
- **Increased the support for the Scholars with Lived Experience Network (LivEx):** We increased the investment in LivEx by creating a coordinator role to be filled by someone with lived experience, ensuring the network can truly be by and for people with lived experience. The LivEx Bursary was launched with support from a donation from KPMG and awarded five scholars with $3,000 each. LivEx members were supported to present at the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness Conference, and provided consultation both internally to MtS as well as externally to groups such as The Home Depot. Membership doubled over the last year, including our first international member.
- **Launched the Toronto Centre of Excellence (TCE) on Youth Homelessness Prevention:** In June 2021, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Charter Centre of Excellence was officially established. The TCE functions as an 'international megaphone' for mobilizing and adapting Canadian and international innovations, leadership and knowledge on youth homelessness prevention.

- **Launched the Making the Shift Youth Homelessness Prevention Awards:** The awards program launched its inaugural year to celebrate innovative examples of youth homelessness prevention across Canada. Making the Shift's investment is matched by an initial two-year grant from Canada Life. Two programs were given awards and recognized at a virtual ceremony in Fall 2022: Upstream Canada and The York Region Youth Homelessness Prevention and Housing Stabilization Strategy.

Housing unaffordability has continued to climb in this country. It has been a year of economic instability, with the impacts of global events along with the ongoing pandemic continuing to affect the most vulnerable here at home.

At the same time, Canada is now in its third year of legally recognizing the human right to adequate housing, and we are pleased to see this year's appointment of Canada's first Federal Housing Advocate. This is important progress as we continue the work to advance our agenda to prevent and end youth homelessness in Canada. We will continue to support the shift to prevention across policy, planning and practice by mobilizing the results that emerge from our funded projects, and building partnerships nationally and internationally that promote the uptake of evidence-based practices that work.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth McIsaac, Board Chair, Making the Shift

Dear Supporters and Network Members,

We are pleased to have the opportunity to once again report on the progress of the Making the Shift Youth Homelessness Social Innovation Lab. This is our third annual report, and even though we're still in a global pandemic, we've been able to move the important work of Making the Shift forward across all domains.

We've been hard at work with our Research Management Committee and Board of Directors to release additional funding for quality research to several Canadian universities. One highlight includes the ongoing work with the Endaayaang Demonstration Project in Hamilton, ON. Endaayaang is an Indigenous Adaptation of Housing First for Youth led by the Hamilton Regional Indian Centre. The Waakebiness-Bryce Institute for Indigenous Health is the research entity, led by Dr. Suzanne Stewart. This project offers critical learnings on how to support Indigenous youth through cultural reconnection and healing to prevent and sustain successful exits from homelessness.

In addition, we're really excited about our grant to Dr. Yale Belanger and Robyn Blackadar and teams at the University of Lethbridge and PolicyWise for Children & Families to work alongside key stakeholders to develop a data and knowledge infrastructure roadmap. The roadmap aims to improve data and research collaboration in the sector by enabling timely access to data insights and facilitating improved operations for coordinated service delivery and research collaboration.

Also underway is a multi-site study on youth homelessness shelter diversion, led by Dr. Katrina Milaney and team at the University of Calgary. This is a longitudinal, multi-site research project that aims to assess key aspects of shelter diversion programs in five Canadian communities (Calgary, Niagara, Guelph, Cambridge, and Toronto). This is the first study of its kind in Canada to explore different approaches to shelter diversion, an essential prevention strategy. The project aims to generate real-world strategies for changes to organizational policies and practices for shelters and other service providers and to develop an evidence-based service model for shelter diversion.

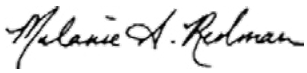
As we enter our fourth year of the six-year grant, our activities and attention have shifted from rolling out calls for proposals to fund original research, to a focus on knowledge mobilization as the results of the research begin to fully emerge. We must set the stage to make research matter in terms of legal and justice issues, public policy, community-based systems planning, service organization practices, all within available funding frameworks. Equipped with a broad range of research outputs and a robust knowledge mobilization strategy, we will be undertaking several activities including in-person events that will bring together key stakeholder groups to consider research findings emerging from Making the Shift, and implications and opportunities for impact. We are also enhancing our community and government relations strategies in order to increase the uptake of the knowledge we are producing.

One of our key knowledge mobilization platforms is our designation as a Geneva UN Charter Centre of Excellence, known as the "Toronto Centre of Excellence (TCE) on Youth Homelessness Prevention at York University". The TCE is not only our international mega-phone for the work of Making the Shift, but it's also a key platform for knowledge exchange across UNECE Member States. We're fortunate to have the support of York University to maximize this important designation.

As with all of the work of Making the Shift, we couldn't do it without the support of the NCE Secretariat at the Government of Canada's Research Tri-Council, as well as the myriad of Board, Committee Members and staff who have stepped up to help us realize this vision. Finally, thank you to the Making the Shift Research Network, including the Scholars With Lived Experience Network, who are not only creating new knowledge but are also infusing our work with lived expertise.

Stephen Gaetz, Scientific Director

Melanie Redman, Partnership and Implementation Director



2021-2022 Impact and Highlights

By the Numbers

30 total MtS research projects to date, research funding investment totalling $6.95 million.

60% increase in MtS Network Affiliates over 2021-22 fiscal year.

1,164 users completed self-directed e-learning built from emerging evidence from the MtS Demonstration Lab on the Homelessness Learning Hub.

37 applications submitted to the inaugural year of first-of-its-kind MtS LivEx Bursary Program and bursaries awarded to five scholars and students with lived experience of youth homelessness across Canada at $3,000 each.

1,191 young people have achieved housing stability to date through MtS Demonstration projects.

Funding cutting-edge research

Launched a final open call for proposals that responds to 7 areas where more research is needed in the national youth homelessness prevention evidence base, identified in a revised MtS Research Funding Strategy created in 2021.

2 new research projects awarded a total of $588,914 in funding over 2021-22.

First 3 MtS-funded research projects completed over 2021-22, contributing to our evidence base for preventing and ending youth homelessness.

Mobilizing knowledge

Developed robust knowledge mobilization and government relations strategies to share emerging research findings from funded projects with policymakers, practitioners, and allied organizations.

MtS Funded research projects developed 82 knowledge mobilization products to date, including 10 webinars, 21 presentations including for conferences, and 9 media articles.

Hosted 178 attendees for the MtS In Conversation webinar, "The State of Canadian Child Wellbeing and The Role of Natural Supports in Youth Homelessness Prevention", the highest attendance to date.

Launched the MtS Youth Homelessness Prevention Awards, sponsored by Canada Life, to unearth promising practices in communities across Canada for future potential scaling.

Expanding and supporting our Network

60% increase in MtS Network Affiliates over the 2021-22 fiscal year.

Received the Geneva UN Charter Centre of Excellence designation as the Toronto Centre of Excellence (TCE) on Youth Homelessness Prevention at York University, with the support of the MtS International Advisory Committee and other MtS international partners.

Supported the start-up of an international community of practice on Housing First for Youth (HF4Y) and a week-long Study Session on the HF4Y program model, led by the Housing First Europe Hub and FEANTSA Youth.

Doubled MtS Scholars with Lived Experience membership since 2020-21.

Launched the LivEx Bursary program with support from KPMG. This is the first known bursary of its kind for students with lived experience of youth homelessness. Received 37 applications in its first year and awarded bursaries to five scholars across Canada with $3,000 each.

FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECT

COVID-19 highlights what it would take to shift towards prevention of youth homelessness in City of Toronto

In Toronto, Ontario, the COVID-19 pandemic placed an already-strained homelessness shelter system under even greater pressure. With shelters forced to decrease their capacity by 35%, a group of youth-focused service providers worked with the City of Toronto to move 70 young people experiencing homelessness from shelters into a downtown hotel.

Making the Shift Principal Investigators Dr. Amanda Noble and Dr. Naomi Thulien looked at how young people in downtown Toronto were faring during the pandemic over 2021. They listened to the experiences of youth using downtown shelters and youth participating in the hotel pilot. They also set out to answer the question: how does collaboration between service providers and the City point to opportunities to shift towards the prevention of youth homelessness in the future? "The pandemic showed us that [the emergency shelter system] is not a model that can be sustainable or that can help ward off a public health crisis," said Dr. Noble.

How have young people experiencing homelessness been faring throughout the pandemic, within the shelter system and in the hotel pilot?

Dr. Noble noted that many youth cited loneliness, isolation and boredom throughout the pandemic. There was increased substance use, and mental health challenges became more acute. Some youth appreciated the respite from the regular demands of life. For others, Dr. Noble recalled a young person sharing, "I'm just living day by day at this point, and that's the shitty part. That's what makes me feel like I'm a shelter kid and I hate that. I feel like I'm in a revolving door and COVID definitely made it spin a lot faster."

"What we didn't expect to be a major theme in the research was the tremendous impact the pandemic had on staff as well, which trickles down to the young people," said Dr. Noble. *"An increased need with decreased services can be quite catastrophic."*

The hotel pilot has shifted Toronto's response to homelessness, but more support is needed.

The hotel pilot itself was small in scope, and moved less than half of those who were in shelter. However, Dr. Noble believes it has changed the dynamics of how Toronto responds to youth homelessness. *"Some of the shelters have begun working together more collaboratively,"* Dr. Noble described. *"The City of Toronto hired someone who has youth homelessness specifically within their portfolio, because youth do really require a unique approach."*

Dr. Noble noted a challenge with building on this momentum to increase prevention-based responses: the scale and complexity of players in a large urban setting. "*There are so many stakeholders – where do we even start? For example, there are different subdivisions of the municipal government where one is about shelter and one is about housing. We have different school boards, as well. It's a really big struggle."*

"Toronto needs support from the provincial and federal government. The pandemic made it clear that you can't keep 10,000 people without a home and expect them to be safe from a pandemic, and that the only real solution is to shift towards more preventative services and supports. It's actually costing us more money now to run the hotels and shelters."

At the time of this interview, the final report, including recommendations, was in progress.

Dr. Amanda Noble, MtS Principal Investigator

Dr. Naomi Thulien, MtS Principal Investigator

DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

Enhancing Family and Natural Supports (FNS)

Unfortunately, a large number of young people enter into homelessness because of challenges they experienced within their families. Despite this, the *Without a Home study* found that most of the youth surveyed were still in contact with a family member at least once a month, and 77.3% would like to improve their relationships with family. Helping to strengthen connections with family[1] and other supportive adults in the community can play a critical role to prevent a young person from experiencing homelessness. This is the goal of the Family and Natural Supports (FNS) MtS Demonstration projects.

Together with seven communities across Canada, MtS has co-created the Family and Natural Supports framework, and collectively are continuing to demonstrate its effectiveness as a philosophy, approach and a program model. From July 2021 to March 2022, 396 family members received support through the FNS projects, resulting in 246 young people finding housing stability.

At the core of FNS, as with all MtS program models, is the need for young people to have relationships with supportive adults beyond frontline staff at service organizations. Youth and their families have invited practitioners into their lives for a period; they are not permanent. A young person's connection to home and community is an essential need, just like food and water. By supporting youth to mediate conflicts, strengthen and rebuild relationships, and nurture natural supports, they are better able to move forward with their lives, stay in school or access training and employment, and transition successfully into adulthood.

Despite the hardships of the COVID-19 pandemic, this unprecedented time has also served as a starting point for many youth to reunite with their families. Young people have continued to share how important and valuable their family and natural supports are in times of uncertainty. The youth shared that they more readily had family members reach out to check in and make sure they were safe and in turn, the youth reciprocated these gestures – a first in a long time for many of them.

Through our FNS Demonstration projects, some key practices have been further confirmed. Family members and natural supports want to learn, make changes and support their young people in a helpful way. Practitioners can best support them to do this by reaching out regularly, listening to their thoughts and feelings, and sharing key information whenever possible. Practitioners can also support positive relationships with family members, by supporting young people to establish and maintain boundaries, allowing the young person to engage in a way that is comfortable to them and to the extent they feel is safe.

The MtS investment in the FNS Demonstration projects will continue to assess the effectiveness of the FNS framework as we continue the cycle of research to practice.

1. Stephen Gaetz, Bill O'Grady, Sean Kidd & Kaitlin Schwan. (2016). Without a Home: The National Youth Homelessness Survey. Toronto: Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Press

INTERNATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

Leveraging our international network of allies for greater impact at home

There's no doubt about it - when it comes to shifting to preventing youth homelessness in Canada, there is significant work to be done. So why bother engaging with people from around the world when we haven't gotten things sorted in our own backyard? When we take a step back to understand the nature of transformative social innovation, the importance of growing an international network of peers and allies becomes clear. From the beginnings of the work by MtS Directors Dr. Stephen Gaetz and Melanie Redman to define what youth homelessness prevention means in Canada, to the development and uptake of program models, to the ability to inform policy and systems/structural change, international collaboration has and continues to be a vital component throughout.

In 2021, we were thrilled to have the collective body of work of Making the Shift, A Way Home Canada and the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness designated as a Geneva UN Charter Centre of Excellence, known as the "Toronto Centre of Excellence on Youth Homelessness Prevention at York University" (TCE). The TCE will serve as our platform for amplifying our bi-directional knowledge mobilization between efforts here in Canada, and what is happening internationally.

International knowledge exchange and mobilization as a key driver of youth homelessness social innovation

International examples of youth homelessness interventions have been critical in shaping our collective research agenda and Demonstration projects since its beginnings. MtS Scientific Director Dr. Stephen Gaetz recalls observing youth homelessness programs in London, UK in 2005:

"Their philosophy around the work was totally different from anything I'd seen in Canada. The way they were thinking about well-being as important... I'd never heard anything like it. For me, the biggest paradigm-shifting moments [in our collective work] have come through international engagement where you engage people and communities and governments doing and thinking very differently."

Since then, MtS Demonstration projects have drawn on examples of school-based interventions in Australia with The Upstream Project, as well as family reunification with Youth Reconnect. Our approaches have also been impacted by program models such as Nightstop in the UK providing alternative emergency accommodations, and the legislative framework Duty to Assist in Wales.

Many countries are also looking to Canada as a leader in conceptualizing prevention approaches to youth homelessness. Melanie points to the influence we've had promoting both a Collective Impact and rights-based approach to youth homelessness, which has resulted in numerous international A Way Home coalitions forming. On a recent trip to Belgium, Redman and Dr. Gaetz were informed of 13 local A Way Home coalitions within the Flanders region of Belgium alone.

At the practice level, Housing First for Youth (HF4Y), developed in collaboration between MtS co-lead organization the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness (COH), the Street Youth Planning Collaborative (Hamilton, ON) and A Way Home's National Learning Community on Youth Homelessness, is a notable example of a Canadian approach flourishing in numerous European countries. After giving a presentation on Canadian learnings on HF4Y at a FEANTSA event for practitioners in Europe from over 20 EU countries in 2015, a ripple effect occurred. Participants took the idea of HF4Y back to Ireland, Scotland, the Netherlands and elsewhere: *"In all of those places they took the idea, they implemented it with fidelity, but they also adapted it to local contexts,"* Dr. Gaetz shared.

In 2021, the widespread interest and capacity to take up HF4Y in European countries has resulted in an international community of practice on HF4Y led by the Housing First Europe Hub. Heidi Walter from A Way Home Canada has been actively engaged in this community of practice from its inception and has been invited to support the development of a week-long Study Session on the HF4Y program model and philosophy in October 2022. MtS is considering replicating the Study Session model in Canada as a way to mobilize knowledge within the youth homelessness sector. This is a powerful example of the impact of the bidirectional flow of knowledge both to and from Canada and our international partners and collaborators.

Having a good idea is not enough to enact lasting, transformational change. The momentum for social innovation and change can be threatened by numerous factors, such as a lack of leadership buy-in and/or political will within Canada's borders. That's where international collaboration comes in. The TCE has big plans to harness the potential of this work for positive transformational change at home and abroad. It's more important than ever that we pay attention to these relationships and connections and the value they can bring to us individually and as a collective.

FIRST LOOK: RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Data-Informed Solutions to Support Communities Across Canada

In the youth homelessness sector, data collection and data use is an emerging area of focus. One of the Making the Shift *Leveraging Data & Technology*-themed research projects is contributing to knowledge in this space. We sat down with Robyn Blackadar, President & CEO of PolicyWise for Children & Families and Dr. Yale Belanger, Professor of Political Science at Lethbridge University, about their three-year project, "Co-creating a data and knowledge roadmap to support youth homelessness research, operations, and policy in Canada."

We started by discussing how they describe their research project to the average person. Dr. Belanger noted that this is a challenge, sharing that,

"The idea is to try and make sense of a wealth of data that we can ultimately help to translate for folks in service agencies. We also want to act as an intermediary that can enter into this world of data, and help map it out and provide people with pathways to understanding. We want to help people with their prevention strategies. We're focusing on youth which again, whittles it down to a very specific group."

Dr. Belanger and Blackadar go on to explain that as a "*map*" there is a direction that provides users with a strategic pathway on how they use insights to take evidence-informed actions while maintaining a relevant view of the larger landscape of information. The goal of this work is to centralize data to save time and to help quickly address the important questions within their research and programming.

Blackadar noted that "*we would like to see how our approach and some of our ideas might lead to more collaboration between provinces or even between countries around how they are able to pool their expertise and efforts around a data initiative."*

The team has developed a heightened awareness of the necessity of cross-sector engagement happening across all stages of the project. There are a number of reasons for this. Firstly, the research team is building on existing infrastructure in other areas (e.g., education, health, justice) and therefore needs to understand how things currently operate to know how to harness it for the prevention of youth homelessness. Secondly, the team is creating a single roadmap that must integrate diverse stakeholder needs and when completed be considered useful by those same stakeholders. As such, the researchers are emphasizing a co-development process with stakeholders that creates buy-in as they go and creates something everyone is excited to stand behind and implement.

The project is in its first year and will conclude at the end of May 2024.

Dr. Yale Belanger, MtS Principal Investigator

Robyn Blackadar, MtS Principal Investigator

Funded Research Projects and Network Members

Listing of all research projects

There are a total of thirty cutting-edge research projects, with new projects slated to launch in Fall 2022. For more information about these projects and their impact, visit our website project page.

> **The Impacts Of COVID-19 On LGBTQ2S Youth At-Risk Of, And Experiencing, Homelessness**
> Alex Abramovich, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

> **Co-creating a data and knowledge roadmap to support youth homelessness research, operations, and policy in Canada**
> Yale Belanger, Robyn Blackadar, University of Lethbridge

> **Understanding young women's experiences of loneliness and isolation during COVID-19 and beyond: Participatory research to envision a way forward**
> Erin Dej, Wilfrid Laurier University

> **Preventing youth homelessness: A life journey approach using linked multi-sector administrative data and community engagement**
> Jino Distasio, University of Winnipeg

> **Preventing Discharge to No Fixed Address - Youth (NFA-Y)**
> Cheryl Forchuk, Lawson Health Research Institute

> **Exploring frameworks and processes for tracking and monitoring service and housing wait times relevant to the prevention and exit from youth homelessness**
> Tyler Frederick, University of Ontario Institute of Technology

Examining long term trajectories in the transition away from youth homelessness in four cities across Canada
Tyler Frederick, University of Ontario Institute of Technology

Understanding Black youth's experiences of homelessness and the role of prevention
Stephen Gaetz, York University

Youth Homelessness Data Infrastructure (YHDI)
Martin Goyette, École nationale d'administration publique

Establishing and Mitigating Youth Housing Stability in Response to COVID-19: Engaging with the BC Interior
John Graham, Jordan Babando, University of British Columbia

Opportunities for Innovation: Indigenous youth coping with homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic in the Kenora region
Joanna Henderson, Jennifer Dreaver, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

On the Move: A Mixed Methods Study of Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Homelessness and Migration in Northeastern Ontario
Carol Kauppi, Laurentian University

Looking South (and slightly North-East) for school-based prevention ideas: an international comparative policy and practice analysis in Canada, Australia, Wales, and the United States
Jaqueline Kennelly, Carleton University

A National Study of Tertiary Prevention Models for Youth Exiting Homelessness
Sean Kidd & Chris Mushquash, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

Examining the effectiveness of an integrated housing, mental health and addiction service model for youth experiencing homelessness
Maritt Kirst, Wilfrid Laurier University

Using Administrative Data to Understand and Provide Effective Response to Youth Homelessness
Ron Kneebone, University of Calgary

The Upstream Project Canada: Implementation lessons from three demonstration sites and implications for scaling
Rachel Laforest & Jacqueline Sohn, Queen's University

Making the Prevention Shift in Québec: Prévention Itinérance Jeunesse (PIJ)
Sue-Ann MacDonald, Université de Montréal

Using Health and Community Data to Prevent Youth Homelessnes
Geoffrey Messier, University of Calgary

Making the Shift Youth Homelessness Shelter Diversion Study
Katrina Milaney, University of Calgary

Improving Frontend User Experiences by Mapping the Backend Architecture: A cross-sectoral data and infrastructure audit
Naomi Nichols, Trent University

Responding to youth homelessness in the midst of a pandemic: Shifting to collaborative, prevention-based services in a large urban setting
Amanda Noble, Naomi Thulien, University of Toronto

Youth Homelessness and Sex Trafficking in Canada
Amanda Noble, University of Toronto

EQUIP Housing: Enacting Culturally Safe Housing Stability for Indigenous Youth Finding Home
Abe Oudshoorn, Western University

Decolonizing Transitions from Care for Indigenous Youth
Cynthia Puddu, MacEwan University

Youth Transition from Child Welfare to Precarious Living Conditions: A Mixed Methods Longitudinal Study of Risk and Protective Factors in Nova Scotia
Michael Ungar, Dalhousie University

Ai'aoskiikowaata (providing guidance to youth): Supporting healthy transitions from government care to independent living
Janice Victor, University of Lethbridge

Post-Secondary Student Homelessness (PSSH) in Canada: Informing Prevention Through Qualitative Analysis
Eric Weissman, University of New Brunswick Saint John

One House Many Nations: A community first approach to address homelessness amongst First Nation youth
Alex Wilson, University of Saskatchewan

First Nations Interventions
Alex Wilson, University of Saskatchewan

List of Demonstration Projects

14 Demonstration projects in 12 communities are implementing and testing four models: Housing First for Youth and Aftercare project, Family and Natural Supports, Youth Reconnect, and Upstream. For more information about the Demonstration projects and their impact, visit our website project page.

KELOWNA
BGC - Okanagan
Upstream

ST. JOHNS
Choices for Youth
Upstream

TORONTO
Covenant House
Enhancing Family and Natural Supports

HAMILTON
Good Shepherd Centres
Youth Reconnect

HAMILTON
Hamilton Regional Indian Centre (HRIC)
Housing First for Youth

EDMONTON
Homeward Trust in partnership with the YMCA of Northern Alberta
Enhancing Family and Natural Supports

MEDICINE HAT
McMan (South) Youth, Family and Community Services
Enhancing Family and Natural Supports

RED DEER
McMan (Central) Youth, Family and Community Services
Enhancing Family and Natural Supports

FORT MCMURRAY

Stepping Stones (Wood's Homes)

Enhancing Family and Natural Supports

GRAND PRAIRIE

Sunrise House (Grande Prairie Youth Emergency Shelter)

Enhancing Family and Natural Supports

CALGARY

Trellis (formerly Boys and Girls Club of Calgary)

Enhancing Family and Natural Supports

TORONTO

WoodGreen Community Services

Housing First for Youth (Youth leaving child protection)

LETHBRIDGE

Wood's Homes

Enhancing Family and Natural Supports

OTTAWA

Youth Service Bureau (YSB) in partnership with John Howard Society and the Canadian Mental Health Association

Housing First for Youth and Aftercare project

List of Network Partners

In addition to the committees listed here, the Making the Shift team is appreciative of the ongoing work, advice and partnerships provided by the MtS Scholars with Lived Experience (LivEx) Network, Indigenous, and International Advisories.

Board Members

- **Elizabeth McIsaac (Chair)**
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  Assistant Professor, Department of Social Science, University of New Brunswick

- **Veniecia Laylor**
  Policy and Research Associate, Aspire Oxfordshire
- **Pascal Marchand**
  Senior Program Manager, Networks of Centres of Excellence

Research Management Committee

- **Stephen Gaetz (Chair)**
  President and CEO, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness - York University
- **Melanie Redman**
  President and CEO, A Way Home Canada
- **Cheryl Forchuk**
  Theme 1 Lead (Shifting to Prevention and Early Intervention), Scientist, Assistant Director, Lawson Health Research Institute
- **Katrina Milaney**
  Theme 2 Lead (Sustaining Successful Exits from Homelessness), Assistant Professor in Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies, University of Calgary
- **Maritt Kirst**
  Theme 3 Lead (Enabling Health, Well-Being, and Inclusion), Assistant Professor and Co-Program Coordinator, Community Psychology Program, Department of Psychology Co-Director, Centre for Community Learning, Research and Action (CCRLA), Wilfrid Laurier University
- **Victoria Smye**
  Theme 4 Lead (Enhancing Outcomes for Indigienous Youth) Director & Associate Professor, Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing, Western University
- **Nicole Kozloff**
  Theme 5 Lead (Leveraging Data and Technology to Drive Policy and Practice), Clinician-Scientist, Slaight Family Centre for Youth in Transition, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)
- **Kathleen Worton**
  Senior Specialist, Research, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)
- **Patrick Hunter**
  Manager of Data Analysis & Reporting, Infrastructure Canada

- **Duncan Farthing-Nichol**
  Litigation and Policy Manager, Indigenous Services Canada
- **Matt Morton**
  Research Fellow, Chapin Hall
- **Jayne Malenfant**
  Doctoral Candidate, McGill University and MtS LivEx Member
- **Charlotte Smith**
  Master's Student, University of Ottawa and MtS LivEx Member

Implementation Management Committee

- **David Phipps (Co-Chair)**
  Assistant Vice-President, Research Strategy & Impact, York University
- **Melanie Redman (Co-Chair)**
  President and CEO, A Way Home Canada
- **David French**
  Managing Director, A Way Home Canada
- **Bruce Pearce**
  (Retired) Vice President and General Manager, End Homelessness St. John's
- **Michael Nowina**
  Partner, Baker McKenzie
- **Mike Gawliuk**
  Director, Service Delivery and Program Innovation, CMHA Kelowna
- **Lisa Wolff**
  Director, Policy and Research, UNICEF Canada
- **Stephen Gaetz**
  President & CEO, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, York University
- **Amy Bilodeau**
  Senior Manager, Community Investment, The Home Depot Canada
- **Alex Nelson**
  Doctoral Candidate, Western University and MtS LivEx Member

Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Position as of March 31, 2022

	2022	2021
ASSETS CURRENT		
Funds available for use	$10,960,063	$10,335,375
Accounts receivable	$20,640	$534
Funding advanced	$1,487,166	$1,183,415
	$12,467,869	**$11,519,324**
LIABILITIES CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$175,351	$322,967
Deferred revenues	$12,292,518	$11,196,357
	$12,467,869	**$11,519,324**
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	-	-
	$12,467,869	$11,519,324

Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets Year Ended March 31, 2022

	2022	2021
REVENUES	**-**	**-**
	$2,565,121	**$1,393,229**
EXPENSES		
Research	$1,252,190	$680,779
General and administrative	$634,948	$502,945
Training	$448,024	$24,084
Knowledge mobilization and communication	$229,959	$185,421
	$2,565,121	**$1,393,229**
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	-	-
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF PERIOD	-	-
NET ASSETS - END OF PERIOD	-	-

MAKING THE SHIFT INC

canadian
observatory on
homelessness

A WAY HOME
VERS UN CHEZ-SOI
CANADA

Toronto Centre of Excellence on
Youth Homelessness Prevention
at York University