



2023 GREATER VICTORIA POINT-IN-TIME
HOMELESS COUNT AND HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

TECHNICAL APPENDIX





This document is a technical appendix to the *2023 Greater Victoria Point-in-Time Homeless Count and Needs Survey: Community Report*.

2023 GREATER VICTORIA POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS COUNT AND NEEDS SURVEY

Technical Appendix / July 2023

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Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness: Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi, Executive Director; Dr. Filip Ani, Indigenous Engagement Coordinator.

Volunteer Victoria: Volunteer Coordination; Lisa Mort-Putland; Paulina Trejo.

University of Victoria: Nicole Chaland, Lived Experts Advisory Partner, The Housing Justice Project; Dr. Bernie Pauly, Scientist, UVic Right to Housing Research Collective and The Housing Justice Project, Research and Ethics Advisor.

The 2023 PiT Count was conducted within the traditional territories of many First Nations. We would like to acknowledge the First Nations governments across this region — BOKÉĆEN (Pauquachin), MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat), P'a:chi:da?ah (Pacheedaht), Pune'laxutth' (Penelekut), Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay), Songhees, STÁUTW (Tsawout), T'Sou-ke, WJOLÉLP (Tsartlip), WSIKEM (Tseycum), and x^wsepsəm (Esquimalt) Nations — all of whom have a long standing relationship with the land and waters from time immemorial, that continues to this day.

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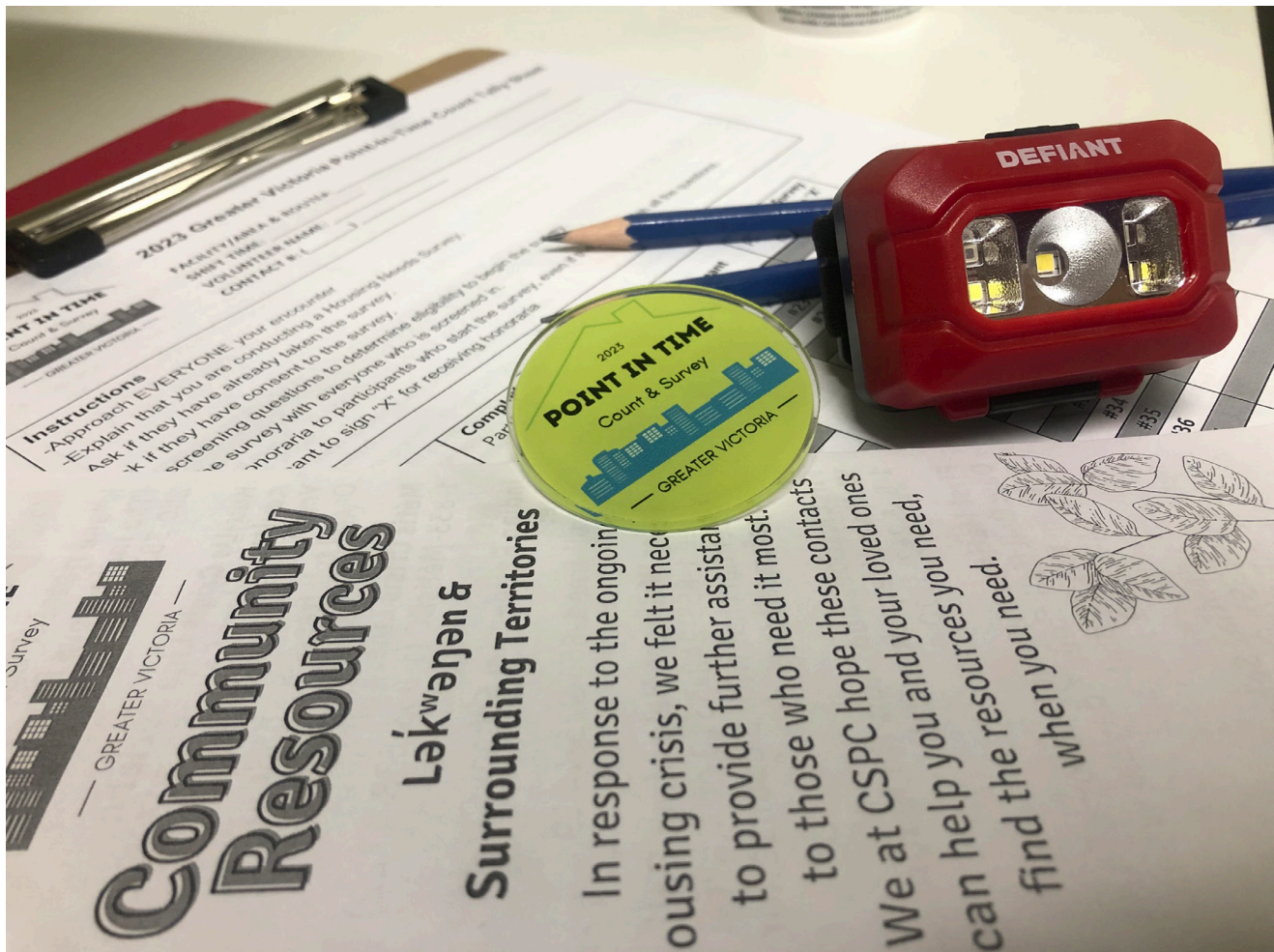
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INTRODUCTION

This Supplementary Technical Report has been prepared to accompany the 2023 Greater Victoria Point-in-Time (PiT) Count and Survey Community Report. This Technical Report provides an in-depth overview of the PiT project methodology, including the research ethics, survey and enumeration development and application, volunteer recruitment and training, participating facilities and agencies, data collection tools, and the data table sets.

Reading this Supplementary Technical Report alongside the 2023 Greater Victoria PiT Community Report will provide the appropriate context and information about the Greater Victoria Point in Time Homeless Count and Survey.



KEY COMMUNITY PARTNERS

COMMUNITY ADVISORY TEAM

The Community Advisory Team was made up of researchers, local homeless serving agencies, government, and people with lived experience. This team met six times (five times before March 7 and once afterwards). The team helped to advise the PiT project methodology and data collection tools. Members include:

- Capital Regional District, Jerry Michael and Gina Dolinsky
- Island Health, Echo Kulpas and Curtis Hart
- Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness, Janine Theobald, Sylvia Caecero, and Michelle Vanchu-Orosco
- Victoria Police Department, Cst. Mark Jenkins
- Victoria Cool Aid Society, Tracey Robertson
- Our Place, Jordan Cooper
- City of Victoria, Tanya Patterson
- Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Society, Asiyah Robinson
- Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness, Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi, Brielyn Ramsay, Filip Ani
- Victoria Native Friendship Centre, Katherin Cooper
- Cridge Transition House, Rochelle Esterhuizen and Amber Bell
- Beacon Community Services, Jen Mortimer
- Existence Project, Sinan Demirel
- Threshold Housing Society, Mary McBride
- Sooke Shelter Society, Sherry Thompson and Kristie Miller
- BC Housing, Michelle Powell
- Volunteer Victoria, Lisa Mort-Putland
- University of Victoria, Marshall Kilduff
- Lived Experience, Hilary Marks

LIVED EXPERIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Lived Experience Advisory Committee began meeting in January 2023 to advise on all aspects of the PiT project planning. This team reviewed and piloted the survey, and advised on appropriate indoor and outdoor survey locations, and on data verification and interpretation. The Lived Experience Committee participated in survey routes on the day of the PiT Count.

- Hilary Marks
- Kesu Beaton
- Jennifer Johnson
- Michelle Ferris
- La Vonn Cham
- M. Riffle

SIGNIFICANT IN-KIND SUPPORT AND SPONSORS

- City of Victoria Councillor Thompson
- City of Victoria Councillor Loughton
- Monk Office Supplies
- Viveka Foundation Fund
- Cool Aid Society – Downtown Community Centre

THANK YOU to all of the sponsors and donors who generously donated food and gifts for the magnet events and volunteers: Canadian Tire, Sticker Mule, Country Grocer, Fantastico Coffee, Salvation Army, Save On Foods, Fairway Markets, Thrifty Foods, Fired Up Pizza, Cobbs Bakery, Valhalla Pure, Habit Coffee, Big Wheel Burger.

RESEARCH ETHICS

Ethics approval was obtained from the University of Victoria and Island Health's joint institutional ethics review board review. The 2023 Greater Victoria Point-in-Time survey methodology involves gathering data directly from human participants by asking homeless individuals questions. Because the PiT project collects sensitive data from a vulnerable population, the PiT project places a high priority on research ethics, confidentiality and safeguarding personal information and informed consent. To ensure this, the research ethics process was overseen by Dr. Bernie Pauly, RN, who is a Professor at the School of Nursing at the University of Victoria, Scientist at the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research (CISUR), and research lead of the Right to Housing Research Collective.

The PiT project methodology ensures that survey participants are provided with the opportunity to give voluntary, informed consent to participate. All volunteers and staff who conducted surveys were provided with a 1.5 to 2-hour training session to ensure surveys were conducted with minimal risk to participants. A script was provided to each surveyor and was read aloud to each potential participant before asking if they were willing to participate in the survey. The script explained what the survey was about, why the data was being collected and how it would be used. The potential participant was then informed that participation was voluntary and that their name would not be recorded. Data was collected anonymously, with no direct identifying information recorded (no initials, no date of birth, etc.). The survey included questions that were personal and possibly even traumatic, so participants were told at the beginning, and then reminded, that participation was voluntary and that they could choose to skip any questions or stop the interview at any time. Counseling supports were made available for both survey volunteers and participants.

Names were not recorded as a part of the data collection process (due to the personal nature of the information collected); however, it is possible to identify individuals through certain types of information. Therefore, any data release of information relating to the PiT project will ensure that privacy, anonymity, and confidentiality of individuals is maintained.

To act in accordance with the ethical approval of this project. Any community data requests must engage in a data sharing agreement with the data holders and ensure compliance with the Ethics approval. The full dataset will never be shared but specific requests of data may be shared when parties enter into a data sharing agreement.

DETAILED PIT METHODOLOGY

The Greater Victoria Point-in-Time count and survey took place over a 24-hour period, providing a snapshot of homelessness across the region for that particular night. A PiT enumeration is always in reference to a single night, which means that the enumeration of sheltered locations (emergency shelters, transitional housing, institutional facilities), is based on occupancy on the night of March 7, 2023. The PiT project includes people staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing, on the streets, staying in public systems without permanent housing, and people experiencing hidden homelessness such as couch surfing or staying with family and friends because they have nowhere else to go.

The national Point-in-Time method offers a local, provincial, and federal snapshot of homelessness at a given point in time, and, if used consistently, can help communities gain a better understanding of the nature and extent of homelessness, as well as the characteristics and service needs of the homeless population in a particular region. The success and accuracy of the numbers and information gathered using the PiT method depends on the thoroughness of the method and community participation. In order to comply with the federal standards for participating in PiT Counts, the 2023 Greater Victoria PiT project used three methodological sources: the federal governments webpage on Standards for Participation in Point in Time Counts, ESDC's (2019) *Everyone Counts: A Guide to Point-in-Time Counts in Canada* and the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness' *Point-in-Time Count Toolkit*.

Aligning with the national and provincial strategy to collect data on homelessness, the 2023 Greater Victoria PiT Method consists of two components:

- 1. ENUMERATION** – A count of the number of people experiencing homelessness in shelters, transition homes, and on the street for a given point in time.
- 2. HOMELESS NEEDS SURVEY** – Collects community information about the demographics, history, and service needs of those experiencing homelessness.

Throughout this Technical Report, the PiT method typically refers to both the enumeration and the survey, unless otherwise specified. In that case, the specific source of the data is indicated as either enumeration data or survey data.

PAST RESEARCH

This is Greater Victoria's fourth PiT project using Canada's Nationally Coordinated Point-in-Time Homeless Count methodology. A PiT enumeration and survey was conducted in Greater Victoria in February 2016 alongside other communities in Canada. Previous to the first Nationally Coordinated PiT project in 2016, a Facility Count was undertaken to provide a one-night count of those staying in emergency shelters and temporary accommodation. The Greater Victoria's 2023 PiT project used a similar methodology to the one used in the previous Greater Victoria PiT projects, informed by national and provincial guidelines.

PURPOSE OF THE PIT PROJECT

- An enumeration, or count, of people experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness: intended to identify how many people in the region experience homelessness in shelters and on the streets at a given time. If conducted over subsequent years using a consistent method, the enumeration can be used to track progress in reducing homelessness.
- A survey of the homeless population: intended to provide an understanding of who is experiencing homelessness, the barriers to housing, and local service needs.

A PiT project is not intended to:

- Be a measure of everyone who is experiencing homelessness in a community over time.
- Be a complete count of hidden homelessness (i.e. people who are “couch-surfing”). While the focus of the PiT enumeration is on those experiencing absolute homelessness (sheltered, unsheltered and provisionally accommodated), the Greater Victoria PiT method includes individuals experiencing hidden homelessness in the survey in order to provide information on the service needs and characteristics of this particular population and type of homelessness.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE GREATER VICTORIA REGION

The Capital Regional District is the Community Entity for funding from the Government of Canada’s Reaching Home: Canada’s Homelessness Strategy; however, due to funding requirements, the Point-in-Time project for Greater Victoria actually refers to the Victoria Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), which excludes the Gulf Islands.

The Victoria CMA includes 13 municipalities and one electoral area:

1. City of Colwood
2. City of Langford
3. City of Victoria
4. District of Central Saanich
5. District of Highlands
6. District of Metchosin
7. District of North Saanich
8. District of Oak Bay
9. District of Saanich
10. District of Sooke
11. Town of Sidney
12. Town of View Royal
13. Township of Esquimalt

This Point-in-Time Count does not include the nine First Nations reserve lands within Greater Victoria. However, there was a close collaboration with urban Indigenous partner agencies. Members of the local Indigenous communities may have participated in the PiT enumeration and survey in 2023.

WHO IS COUNTED AND SURVEYED IN THE GREATER VICTORIA PiT PROJECT?

CORE POPULATION: Following the federal standards for participation, the core Population ensures that communities across Canada measure homelessness in a consistent way. The Greater Victoria PiT project aligns with the widely-accepted Canadian Observatory on Homelessness' definition and categories of homelessness.

- **Unsheltered homelessness:** includes people who are sleeping in places not intended for human habitation (streets, alleys, parks and other public locations, abandoned buildings, doorways, ravines, vehicles, tents and makeshift shelters, etc.).
- **Emergency sheltered homelessness:** includes people sleeping in overnight shelters for people who are homeless or impacted by family violence such as emergency shelters, seasonal shelters, extreme weather shelters, and Violence Against Women shelters.

ADDITIONAL POPULATIONS: Since the 2016 PiT project, Greater Victoria has included additional populations within its enumeration and survey.

- Provisionally accommodated
 - o **Transitionally sheltered homelessness:** Includes people staying at transitional housing. Transitional housing is temporary housing (with a maximum stay of three years) intended to transition individuals from homelessness to permanent housing (residents may pay a small amount relative to their income, but this is not considered a true rent. Transitional housing does not provide security of tenure to residents).
 - o **People in institutional care who lack permanent housing arrangements:** This includes hospitals, corrections centers, mental health facilities, and supportive recovery detox facilities. This population has been included in the enumeration since 2016. In previous years, surveys were conducted in some institutional facilities (mental health/treatment facilities); however, for the 2023 PiT project, only enumeration data was pulled from these facilities. Institutional facilities reported capacity challenges and were unable participate in the survey, but were able to conduct enumerations. Conversely, we had three new Island Health facilities participate in the enumeration this year, so while we had fewer surveys from these locations than in previous years, we had a larger number of facilities participate by providing administrative data for the enumeration.
 - o **People living temporarily with others, but without guarantee of continued residency or immediate prospects for access to permanent housing (i.e. couch-surfing):** It is not possible to enumerate every individual couch-surfing in a community, as they often don't use the same services as the general homeless. Enumerating this population is a gross undercount and can provide a false perspective of homelessness in the region. This population has been included in the Greater Victoria PiT survey since 2016. While we do enumerate these individuals, we ensure to keep the number of people couch-surfing separated from the enumeration of the core population.

WHO IS NOT INCLUDED: Those that fall under the Canadian definition category of 'at risk of homelessness' are not counted (i.e. facing eviction, violence/abuse, precarious employment), and people who have security of tenure, who are in Housing First programs, or social/subsidized housing.

ENUMERATION METHOD

The PiT enumeration provides the minimum number of people who were unsheltered, emergency sheltered, and provisionally accommodated on a single night at a certain point in time.

The final PiT project enumeration is comprised of three main elements:

1. **SHELTER AND TEMPORARY HOUSING FACILITY ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:** Administrative data and basic demographic information (age category and gender) were collected from 29 emergency shelters and transitional housing facilities. In the week leading up to the PiT Count, enumeration forms (provided at the end of this Technical Report) were emailed to participating emergency shelters, transitional shelters, and institutional facilities. Facility staff were instructed to fill out the form with the total number of individuals who spent the night of Tuesday, March 7, 2023, without permanent housing of their own.
2. **UNSHelterED DATA:** PiT project volunteer teams walked around “known” outdoor locations across the region, surveying people experiencing homelessness during the day and evening of March 8. If survey respondents reported that they stayed in an unsheltered area (outdoors, vehicle, etc.), or with someone else the previous night (March 7), then these individuals were included in the enumeration.
3. **SYSTEMS DATA:** Administrative data was collected from 23 various institutional settings, including hospitals, corrections centers, mental health facilities, and supportive recovery detox facilities. These facilities were asked to provide the number of people staying at these facilities on the night of Tuesday, March 7, 2023, without a permanent address to return to once they are discharged.

LIMITATIONS OF THE ENUMERATION METHOD

The enumeration is not meant to reflect the experiences of homelessness throughout a year, or the complete scope of homelessness within the region. Homelessness is a fluid experience where one’s circumstances and options can change quite dramatically night-to-night due to personal and external factors, and one may move in and out of homelessness over time. People experiencing homelessness may not always identify as homeless, may not access typical shelters or services designed for homeless populations, and may not be outdoors on the night of a PiT project. This can make it challenging to count and survey every person experiencing homelessness in the community.

Because of these limitations, interpretation of trends and differences in the types of homelessness from year to year in the region is not recommended without taking into account a variety of contextual factors. Fluctuations in numbers might, in some part, be driven by methodological changes or other external factors that have caused a higher or lower number of individuals being enumerated or participating in the survey.

HOMELESS NEEDS SURVEY METHOD

The Homeless Needs Survey aims to connect with as many people as possible that were experiencing homelessness on the night of the PiT enumeration. Basic demographic information, such as age, gender, sexual orientation and Indigenous status, reasons for homelessness, and identified service needs, are collected through the survey.

A team of 138 trained community volunteers, people with lived experience, service providers and homelessness outreach workers conducted surveys from early morning to late evening on March 8 in various indoor and outdoor locations across the Greater Victoria region. The eligibility of survey respondents included those whose sleeping locations fall within the PiT project's definition of homelessness.

Volunteers and staff conducted surveys in pairs in the following primary locations:

1. **OUTDOOR LOCATIONS:** Volunteers walked, biked, transited, or drove 49 outdoor routes across 16 areas within the Greater Victoria region on March 8th from 12:00 to 11:30 pm. 23 of the routes, and 9 of the areas, were located in downtown Victoria, with the remaining routes located throughout other municipalities in the region.
2. **HOUSING FACILITIES AND SHELTERS:** Volunteers and staff conducted surveys at 19 participating homeless shelters and transitional housing facilities.
3. **SERVICES:** Surveys were conducted at homeless and non-homeless-serving agencies during the day on March 8, with people experiencing homelessness defined within the scope of the PiT project. Surveys were conducted at 7 various food banks, meal programs, harm reduction services, employment services, Indigenous services, and drop-in day program locations across the Greater Victoria Region.
4. **MAGNET EVENT:** Two events serving food were organized to conduct surveys with individuals who may be experiencing hidden homelessness or may not be accessing typical homeless-serving agencies and shelters.

The core questions of the survey include screening questions that determine the eligibility of survey participant and standard survey questions. The screening questions are intended to correctly identify people as experiencing homelessness. The screening questions are broad enough to include people who are experiencing unsheltered homelessness during the count, but restrictive enough to exclude people who are not truly experiencing homelessness.

Survey questions are intended to provide more information about the population and their needs. In addition to the 15 Core questions mandated within the Government of Canada's Nationally Coordinated PiT survey methodology, we included additional questions developed through extensive stakeholder engagement. Minor changes were made to the additional survey questions this year, at the request and suggestion of local homelessness service providers, the Community Advisory Committee, the Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness, and the research and ethics advisor, Bernie Pauly. The 2023 Greater Victoria Point in Time survey is provided at the end of this Supplementary Technical Report.

LIMITATIONS OF SURVEY METHOD

The number of surveys completed can result from various factors, such as a lack of volunteers, respondent's unwillingness to participate, and changes to survey locations. The number of survey responses can directly impact the enumeration; therefore, if we are unable to connect with people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, it will be reflected in the enumeration.

Collecting ample survey data is essential to homelessness program planning and prevention strategies. There are possibilities for underserved subpopulations of people experiencing homelessness (e.g. youth, people living in rural locations, people who are couch-surfing), to be underrepresented in the survey data as these groups can be challenging to connect with when conducting the survey.

It is important to note that some respondents experiencing homelessness may have declined to answer the survey. The methodology is such that volunteers were instructed not to visually profile individuals, and those who chose not to participate and were not screened through the initial interview were not counted.

VOLUNTEERS

Community volunteers play a significant role in the Greater Victoria PiT project. Volunteers help to prepare in the days leading up to the PiT project, provide assistance at volunteer headquarters on the day of the Count, and conduct surveys with people experiencing homelessness. The Community Social Planning Council partnered with Volunteer Victoria to assist with volunteer recruitment, training, and organization. Volunteer Victoria began volunteer recruitment in December 2022, using their resources and networks. Over 200 community members registered and attended an online, or a face-to-face for two-hour training session to volunteer for the 2023 Greater Victoria PiT project. The training included an overview of the project, the survey, and training on confidentiality and informed consent.

An additional 15 to 20 staff from homeless shelters and agencies participated in a 1.5 online training webinar to conduct surveys with clients. Staff volunteers were recruited via the PiT Facilities Coordinator. All training sessions and materials were designed and administered by the Community Social Planning Council PiT Project Coordinator, using materials and guides from the Point-in-Time Count toolkit, and input and assistance from the Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness. Partner agency staff completing enumeration forms were not required participate in training sessions.

Through our partnership with the University of Victoria, four people from the lived experts advisory committee were recruited and trained to support volunteers with conducting surveys.

On the day of the count, volunteers met at the volunteer headquarters to sign in and gather their supplies before heading to their designated route or facility. The volunteer headquarters was located in the gym of Cool Aid Society's Downtown Community Centre (DCC). Following COVID-19 protocols, hand sanitizing stations were set up, food and beverages were supplied by a Foodsafe trained individual wearing gloves, and all surfaces were wiped down with disinfecting wipes frequently.

HONORARIUM

In line with previous regional PiT projects, survey participants received a cash honorarium to recognize and thank them for the time they took to participate in the survey. This year the cash honorarium was \$10 per survey participant.

The value of honoraria should be determined based on the nature of the research. The homeless needs survey is short (approximately 15 minutes in length) but it is necessary to recognize the time participants took to speak with the volunteers. After researching other PiT projects, and consulting with the Community Entity, the PiT project Ethics and Research Advisor, and the Lived/Living Experience Committee, the decision was made to keep the honorarium to \$10 per person. This complies with the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness recommendations that PiT project honoraria should never exceed a value of \$10. An amount greater than \$10 increases the likelihood of individuals completing the survey more than once and minimizes the risks of volunteers carrying large sums of cash (Keohane, 2017).

Careful consideration and volunteer training were provided to ensure that the cash honoraria was not used to incentivize and coerce people to participate in the homeless needs survey. The honoraria amount was not announced before the day of the PiT homeless needs survey, and all surveyors were instructed only to inform survey participants of the honoraria after the screening process (once the survey participant was deemed eligible and provided informed consent).

To ensure that survey respondents received their honorarium after participating in the survey, participants were asked to indicate that they received their honorarium by marking an "X" on the Honorarium Tracking Form (participants were encouraged not to write their names to preserve the anonymity of participation).

THE DAY OF THE PIT ENUMERATION AND SURVEY

Weather conditions may affect the number of people sheltering outdoors on the night of the enumeration in PiT counts. On the night of March 7, 2023, the Emergency Weather Protocol (EWP) was not activated; therefore, EWP mats were not available. The weather conditions were reasonably mild that night, reaching a low of approximately 5 degrees Celsius, with winds reaching 20 km/h and no precipitation. The weather conditions during the outdoor survey conducted the following day can also affect the number of people volunteers are able and willing to survey while walking their outdoor survey routes. On the evening of March 8, 2023, weather conditions were cooler, reaching a low of 2-3 degrees Celsius, with winds reaching 21 km/h and no precipitation. All of the outdoor volunteer routes were filled and completed.

DATA CLEANING, CODING, AND ANALYSIS

On the day of the count, the surveys were reviewed with surveyors upon their return to the PiT headquarters to ensure the responses were clear and legible. BC Housing paid to have data entry outsourced to a company in Vancouver, BC, to ensure a coordinated data entry effort across British Columbia.

A data entry codebook was developed with assistance from BC Housing and approved by the Government of Canada's Reaching Home PiT project team. This codebook was provided to the data entry team to ensure

consistent data entry. The days following the Greater Victoria PiT project, surveys were briefly reviewed and organized to be sent to Vancouver the following week. A data-sharing agreement was signed with BC Housing to ensure data privacy and confidentiality between the Capital Regional District, BC Housing, and third parties (i.e. Data Express.). Approximately 7 weeks after the PiT count, Data Express provided the Community Social Planning Council and BC Housing with an Excel workbook of the raw survey data and sent the paper surveys back to the Community Social Planning Council.

Data coding and cleansing were performed in Excel once the data was received back from Data Express. The PiT project researchers made every effort to minimize duplicates through data cleaning. 805 surveys were initially collected during the count, and 40 surveys were removed, for a final total of 765 surveys. Before duplicates were removed, data that appeared in the duplicate surveys but not in the original were transferred over to complete the data set. Once data was cleansed, tabulation and analysis were conducted in Excel. To stay consistent with PiT Count methodology, data is cleaned using a de duplication approach to ensure surveys with many similarities were removed.

METHODOLOGICAL CHANGES AND EXTERNAL FACTORS THAT COULD HAVE IMPACTED PIT RESULTS

Survey participants were asked, “Where did you sleep last night?” instead of “where are you sleeping tonight?”, which was asked in regional PiT projects prior to 2020. While this significant methodological change did not have a substantial impact on the overall numbers, it could be a contributing factor to the shift in where people say they slept. The 2023 PiT researchers, Community Entity, community partners and stakeholders agreed to keep the methodological change of asking, “where did you sleep last night?” to allow a more precise picture of where the homeless population is sheltering.

In 2020, the Vancouver Island Regional Correctional Centre (VIRCC) was not included due to capacity issues. This year, the team at VIRCC completed the systems data using a no fixed address (NFA) methodology. Enumerations of prisons can be particularly challenging, as people serving long-term sentences are often without a permanent address. They also may lose housing during their sentence which may not be updated in the current records. Homelessness, incarceration, and criminal records are interrelated, and collecting data on this population is essential to help address homelessness. With that being said, conducting surveys in a prison to accompany an enumeration, might provide a more accurate look at the number of homeless individuals who have been incarcerated.

Minor changes were made to outdoor survey routes based on feedback from the previous PiT project team and Community Advisory members to try and maximize outreach while minimizing duplication. While the overall survey area stayed consistent with prior counts, some individual areas and routes were reworked based on feedback from the previous PiT project team and Community Advisory members.

Several facilities that participated in the enumeration and survey during the 2020 PiT project could only participate in the enumeration during the 2023 PiT project due to a decrease in staff capacity to assist volunteers and/or facilitate the surveys. This could account for the 85 fewer surveys were completed.

When completing enumeration forms, facilities were directed to self-identify their facility type. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, there were quite a few hotels that were repurposed into housing

facilities (primarily transitional and supportive housing). Although initially thought of as temporary housing facilities, there are many hotels that were designated as permanent housing by BC Housing or other housing providers. To capture these, we reached out to the operating organizations and let them self-identify their facility type. Some organizations classified these facilities as supportive housing and thus were not included, whereas others classified their facilities as transitional housing and were included.

Lastly, upon receiving the completed enumeration forms back from the participating facilities, we learned that a few of the facilities were not at capacity. Reasons for this include recent move outs, units undergoing maintenance/renovations, staffing and systemic challenges, and two facilities closing this year (Our Place Society's Russell Street Transitional Shelter and Tiny Homes Village).

KEY ENUMERATION AND SURVEY LOCATION DIFFERENCES

	PiT PROJECT 2018 March 15–16, 2018	PiT PROJECT 2020 March 11–12, 2020	PiT PROJECT 2023 March 7–8, 2020
Unsheltered/surveys	16 outdoor and 49 indoor locations visited	18 outdoor and 33 indoor locations visited	16 outdoor and 26 indoor locations visited
Emergency sheltered			
Emergency shelters	11 emergency shelters were enumerated	10 emergency shelters were enumerated	13 emergency shelters were enumerated
Emergency weather protocol	No EWP mats were open	No EWP mats were open	No EWP mats were open
Provisionally accommodated			
Transitional housing	Enumeration data collected from 32 transitional facilities	Enumeration data collected from 30 transitional facilities	Enumeration data collected from 16 transitional facilities
Institutional setting – health and treatment facilities	Enumeration data collected from 9 health/treatment facilities	Enumeration data collected from 15 health/treatment facilities	Enumeration data collected from 19 health/treatment facilities
Institutional setting – corrections and halfway houses	Enumeration data collected from two correctional halfway houses and one regional correctional centre	Enumeration collected from two correctional halfway houses (Vancouver Island Regional Correctional Centre was not able to provide admin data this year)	Enumeration data collected from three correctional halfway houses and 1 Regional Correctional Centre
Couch surfing/hidden homelessness	Volunteers conducted surveys at a youth magnet event	Volunteer conducted surveys at youth magnet event, rural magnet event, and included specific Indigenous outreach	Volunteers conducted surveys at youth magnet event, rural magnet event, and included specific Indigenous outreach events

FACILITIES AND CLASSIFICATIONS

FACILITY CLASSIFICATION DEFINITIONS:

- **EMERGENCY WEATHER PROTOCOL MATS:** Cold/wet weather services include shelter facilities and services that operate and/or are funded on a seasonal basis. Shelters add cold wet weather beds (seasonal beds and mats) to provide the option of a warm, dry place to sleep for people who are homeless as winter weather sets in and the need increases. Please note: The EWP was not called the night of March 7, 2023; therefore, EWP mats were not included in the PiT enumeration.
- **EMERGENCY SHELTER:** Short-stay accommodation of 30 days or less. Emergency shelters provide single or shared bedrooms or dorm-type sleeping arrangements, with varying levels of support to individuals.
- **SEASONAL EMERGENCY SHELTER:** Short-stay accommodation of 30 days or less in facilities that operate for a certain time frame within the year. Emergency shelters provide single or shared bedrooms or dorm-type sleeping arrangements, with varying levels of support to individuals.
- **TRANSITIONAL SHELTER AND HOUSING:** Stays from 30 days to 3 years in facilities that include the provision of support services, on or off-site, to help people move towards independence and self-sufficiency.
- **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN SHELTER:** shelters that help women seek safety from violence and abuse. Most shelters will also allow accompanying children.
- **TREATMENT:** Hospitals, mental health facilities, supportive recovery, and treatment/substance use facilities for individuals who have no fixed address.
- **CORRECTIONAL:** Correctional facilities, including only individuals with no fixed address, and community residential facilities / halfway houses.

ENUMERATION FACILITY LOCATIONS

The following facilities provided administrative data on the number of people staying at each location on the night of March 7, 2023. Facilities in blue are new to enumeration since the 2020 PiT enumeration.

Organization	Facility name	Municipality
SHELTERS/TRANSITIONAL HOUSES		
EMERGENCY SHELTERS		
Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness	Culturally Supportive House	Victoria
Beacon Community Services	Out of the Rain Youth Shelter	Victoria
Cool-Aid Society	Rock Bay Landing	Victoria
Cool-Aid Society	Sandy-Merriman House	Victoria
Our Place Society	Night Shelter at 919 Pandora (formerly First Met Night Shelter)	Victoria
PHS Community Services	The Arbutus Shelter	Victoria
Saint Vincent de Paul	Rosalie's Village Short Term Stays	Victoria
Salvation Army	ARC Residential Department—Emergency Shelter	Victoria
Victoria Youth Empowerment Society	Kiwanis Emergency Youth Shelter (KEYS)	Victoria
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING		
Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness	SPAKEN House	Victoria
Anawim Companions Society	Anawim House	Victoria
Beacon Community Services	The Lighthouse	Victoria
Cool-Aid Society	Next Steps Transitional Shelter	Victoria
Cool-Aid Society	Rock Bay Landing—Foundations Transitional Program	Victoria
Our Place Society	919 Transitional Housing	Victoria
Our Place Society	Capital City Centre	Victoria
Our Place Society	Muncey Place	Victoria
Our Place Society	MyPlace Transitional Shelter	Victoria
Our Place Society	Russell Street Transitional Shelter	Victoria
Our Place Society	Tiny Homes Village	Victoria
Salvation Army	Addictions and Rehabilitation Centre, Transitional Units	Victoria
SMVIZ Veterans Housing Society	Cockrell House	Westshore
The Cridge Centre for the Family	The Cridge Supportive Transitional Housing Program	Victoria
YM/YWCA of Greater Victoria	Y's Pandora Youth Transitional Apartments	Victoria
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING - SUPPORTIVE RECOVERY FACILITIES		
Island Health	Coastal Sage Healing House	
Island Health	Comerford Apartments	
Island Health	Garden House—Mental Health Stabilization Unit	

Organization	Facility name	Municipality
Island Health	Glengarry Transitional Care Unit	
Island Health	Holly Place Supportive Recovery Home	
Island Health	Rockland—Mental Health Stabilization Unit	
Island Health	The Grove Supportive Recovery Home	
PHS Community Services	Douglas Street Community	
Salvation Army	Drug & Alcohol Recovery Program	
The Cridge Centre for the Family	Bridge Brain Injury Program (Mary Cridge)	
The Cridge Centre for the Family	Macdonald House	
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN SHELTERS		
Greater Victoria Women's Shelter Society	Margaret Laurence House	Victoria
Sooke Transition House Society	Annie's Place Transition House	Sooke
The Cridge Centre for the Family	The Cridge Transition House for Women	Victoria
Victoria Women's Transition House Society	The Shelter Transitional Home	Victoria
INSTITUTIONAL SETTINGS		
CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES/HALFWAY HOUSES		
BC Corrections	Vancouver Island Regional Correctional Centre	
John Howard Society	Manchester House	
Laren Society	Bill Mudge Residence	
Salvation Army	Community-based Residential Facility (CRF)	
HOSPITALS		
Island Health	Royal Jubilee Hospital Psychiatry Emergency	Victoria
Island Health	Royal Jubilee Hospital Emergency Department	Victoria
Island Health	Saanich Peninsula Hospital Emergency Department	Saanichton
Island Health	Victoria General Hospital Emergency Department	View Royal
DETOX CENTRES		
Island Health	Victoria Medical Detox Unit (formerly EMP 5A Detox)	Victoria
Island Health	Sobering and Assessment Centre	Victoria
Victoria Youth Empowerment Society	Specialized Youth Detox (SYD)	Victoria
MENTAL HEALTH		
Island Health	McClure Stabilization	Victoria
Island Health	Seven Oaks Tertiary Mental Health Facility	Victoria

SURVEY LOCATIONS

Teams of volunteers were assigned to known locations where people experiencing homelessness might shelter or access services. Survey locations were based on routes and locations from the 2020 PiT project, staff and volunteer feedback from the 2020 Count, Community Advisory Board input (including people with lived/living experience), and engagement with municipal community supporters (municipal bylaw officers, police departments, and RCMP).

OUTDOOR SURVEY LOCATIONS

Areas 1 through 10 were conducted at night from approximately 8:00 PM to 11:00 PM. The remaining outdoor routes were scheduled to be visited during midafternoon to early evening (12:00 PM to 7:00 PM) because locations were identified to be dark and remote, or to likely have individuals sheltering in those locations during those hours. These specific times were determined in consultation with supporters of the mapping process.

- Area 1 James Bay
- Area 2 South Downtown West
- Area 3 South Downtown East
- Area 4 Downtown - Pandora
- Area 5 Central Downtown West
- Area 6 Central Downtown
- Area 7 Central Downtown East
- Area 8 North Park
- Area 9 North Downtown East
- Area 10 Fairfield Gonzales
- Area 11 Vic West/Esquimalt
- Area 12 Burnside Gorge/Uptown
- Area 13 Uplands
- Area 14 Langford/Westshore/View Royal
- Area 15 Saanich Peninsula
- Area 16 Sooke
- Youth Magnet event—Victoria Youth Empowerment Society - The Alliance Club
- Rural Magnet event—Sooke Shelter Society—Hope Center
- Indigenous Magnet events—Centennial Square and ACEH Broughton Street office

DATA COLLECTION FORMS

FACILITY ENUMERATION FORM (4 PAGES)



To Participating Agencies:

On **Tuesday, March 7, 2023**, a Point-in-Time Count of both unsheltered and sheltered individuals is being conducted by the Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria on behalf of the Capital Region District.

This form is a part of the count that will enumerate the number of people accessing temporary shelter in the region. The purpose, principles, and definitions for this project are outlined below. The attached enumeration form was developed in collaboration with participating community agencies and is being provided to agencies who have agreed to participate in this count. Completion and submission of the attached form confirms consent for your agency to participate in this project.

In reporting the findings of this project, your agency will not be identified. This information will be reported as a part of the 2023 Greater Victoria Point-in-Time Count Report. Individual forms will be returned to and kept in a secure location at the office of the Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria. All data will be reported in aggregate form. This means the data will be reported for all participating agencies as a group. Individual agencies have until March 17th, 2023 to withdraw their data from the Point-in-Time Count.

You may verify the ethical approval of this study, or raise any concerns you might have, by contacting the Human Research Ethics Office at the University of Victoria at 250 472-4545 or ethics@uvic.ca.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Lauren Davis at 250-217-7484

Purpose:

- Estimate the number of people who are experiencing homelessness in Greater Victoria.
- Identify the characteristics of local people who are homeless.
- Increase capacity to undertake a local needs assessment for people who are homeless.
- Enhance system planning and program development.
- Measure progress towards ending homelessness.
- Enhance the ability to test the usefulness of programs and interventions aimed at ending homelessness.

Key Principles:

- **The sheltered count** will be similar to the Facility Counts previously conducted by the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness in the region by having facility staff provide anonymous administrative data on the number of people using their facilities on the night of the count.
- **The unsheltered count** will be conducted by volunteers set up at locations where people experiencing unsheltered homelessness go to access resources and support as well as known areas where people who are experiencing homelessness are likely to be during the count.

★ *Types of facilities: Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing, Hospitals, Correctional Facilities, Treatment (e.g. Recovery and Detox) Facilities, and other overnight services (including motels)*

★ *Who is enumerated: Individuals or families in temporary accommodation on the night of **March 7, 2023**.*

2023 Point-in-Time Count
Shelter Enumeration Form



1. Facility Contact and Type

★ **Important:** if you have more than one program/location, please use more than one form!

Agency Name:	
Facility/Program Name:	
Municipality:	
Name of Agency contact:	
Position:	
Contact phone number:	
Contact email:	

Facility/bed type (check one):

<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Shelter (stays of 30 days or less)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital / Emergency
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Weather Protocol mats	<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel/Motel
<input type="checkbox"/> Violence Against Women Shelter	<input type="checkbox"/> Corrections
<input type="checkbox"/> Transitional Housing (housing for 30 days to 3 years)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<input type="checkbox"/> Treatment: _____	_____

See Definitions page for facility/bed type definition (p. 4)

Target Group (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth
<input type="checkbox"/> Men	<input type="checkbox"/> Families
<input type="checkbox"/> Women	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____

Please fill out the following based on your records of people staying overnight in your facility on the night of March 7, 2023.

Note: This information is confidential and anonymous. Responses will be aggregated and presented in a way so as not to identify an individual facility.

Please SUBMIT THIS FORM (2 pages) **NO LATER THAN 4PM on Friday, March 10, 2023.** Please submit using ONE of the following methods:

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email completed form to dani@communitycouncil.ca • Confidential fax to CSPC at 250-479-9411 • Call to arrange pick-up: 416-818-1174 |
|---|

2023 Point-in-Time Count Shelter Enumeration Form



For the purpose of the Homeless Count, please use the following definitions and fill in the information:

- **Adult:** 25 years of age or older
- **Unaccompanied Youth:** age 16-24 years of age and unaccompanied by guardian or parent
- **Accompanied Children:** individuals sheltered in facilities designated for families, staying with a family member/guardian, regardless of age.
- **Capacity:** Number of beds/mats/spaces available as per your operational guidelines.
 - Some facilities may have dedicated youth/children’s beds/spaces.
 - Some facilities may have additional Extreme Weather Protocol mats
 Please indicate dedicated spaces below:

2. Facility Capacity:

The **total** capacity of this program is _____ beds (excluding Extreme Weather Protocol mats).
 Of these, _____ beds are reserved only for Adults
 Of these, _____ beds are reserved only for Unaccompanied Youth
 Of these, _____ beds are reserved only for Accompanied Children
 Of these, _____ best are reserved only for families
 The number of additional Extreme Weather Protocol Mats (if applicable): _____

3. Enumeration for March 7, 2023:

a) How many individuals stayed in your facility on the night of March 7th? Please complete the following chart for ALL individuals in your facility.

Total by age group	By Gender (if known)		
# of adults >25 (total):	Male:	Female:	Other:
# of youth ¹ (total):	Male:	Female:	Other:
# of children ² (total):	Male:	Female:	Other:

¹ Youth are those aged 15-24 OR individuals sheltered in facilities designated for youth, regardless of age.
² Children are individuals sheltered in facilities designated for families, staying with a family member/guardian, regardless of age.

b) How many families³ stayed in your facility on the night of March 7th?

Number of families:

³ family is any combination of a parent/guardian and dependent staying at the same facility. Family refers to the group of people that make up a family as one single unit, rather than the number of individuals.

4. Other information

Any unusual circumstances that may have affected the count?

Additional comments:

Instructions and Definitions:

Please note that not all fields will apply to all facilities. If field does not apply, please *leave field blank*. Additional notes on blank fields can be recorded in “additional comments” field at the end of the form.

1. Facility Contact and Type

- **Type of beds:** Check one; see below for bed types. **If your facility provides more than one type of bed (i.e. a facility with emergency shelter beds and transitional housing beds), please fill out separate forms for each type of bed.** If type not listed, please check “other” and specify.
 - **Emergency Shelter:** Short-stay accommodation of 30 days or less. Emergency shelters provide single or shared bedrooms or dorm-type sleeping arrangements, with varying levels of support to individuals.
 - **Emergency Weather Protocol mats:** Cold/wet weather services include shelter facilities and services that operate and/or are funded on a seasonal basis. Shelters add cold wet weather beds (seasonal beds and mats) to provide the option of a warm, dry place to sleep for people who are homeless as winter weather sets in and the need increases.
 - **Transitional Housing:** Housing from 30 days to three years that includes the provision of support services, on- or off-site, to help people move towards independence and self-sufficiency. Transitional housing is often called second-stage housing, and includes housing for women fleeing abuse.
 - **Violence Against Women Shelter:** shelters that help women seek safety from violence and abuse. Most shelters will also allow accompanying children.
 - **Treatment:** Substance use and/or mental health treatment, including: detox, recovery
- **Target group:** Are the beds in your facility designated or intended for a specific demographic? Beds need not be exclusively used for that group, but organizational mandate suggests that a certain demographic be targeted for those beds. Please check all that apply.

2. Other information

- **Any unusual circumstances:** this field is to record any exceptional circumstances about the night of March 7th, 2023. This may include, but is not limited to, the following: staffing shortages, facility circumstances (e.g. units closed because repairs required, etc.)
- **Additional comments:** please record any additional comments you may have, including reason fields may have been left blank (e.g. reason field does not apply).

SURVEY AND SCREENING SHEET (7 PAGES)

2023 Greater Victoria PiT Count SURVEY [Screening Questions]

“Hello, my name is _____ and I’m a volunteer for the **Greater Victoria Point in Time Count and Survey**. We are conducting a survey to provide better programs and services to people experiencing homelessness.”

A. Have you answered this survey with a person with this button?

[YES: Thank & end] [NO: Go to B]

CONFIDENTIALITY AND INFORMED CONSENT SCRIPT – read the follow:

- The survey takes about 15-20 minutes to complete.
- **Participation is voluntary and your name will not be recorded.**
- You can choose to **skip any question** or to **stop the interview at any time.**
- Results will contribute to the understanding of homelessness across Canada and will help with research to improve local services.

B. Are you willing to participate in the survey?

[YES: Go to C] [NO: Thank & end]

C. Where did you stay last night [DO NOT READ CATEGORIES]

a. DECLINE TO ANSWER b. OWN APARTMENT / HOME	}	[THANK & END SURVEY]
c. SOMEONE ELSE’S PLACE d. MOTEL/HOTEL (SELF FUNDED) e. HOSPITAL f. TREATMENT CENTRE g. DETOX CENTRE h. SOBERING CENTRE i. JAIL, PRISON, REMAND CENTRE	}	C1. Do you have access to a permanent residence where you can safely stay as long as you want? a. Yes [THANK & END] b. No (not permanent AND/OR not safe) [BEGIN SURVEY] c. Don’t Know [BEGIN SURVEY] d. Decline to answer [THANK & END]
j. HOMELESS SHELTER (EMERGENCY, FAMILY OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER) k. HOTEL/MOTEL (FUNDED BY HOMELESS PROGRAM) l. TRANSITIONAL SHELTER/HOUSING m. UNSHELTERED IN A PUBLIC SPACE (E.G. STREET, PARK, BUS SHELTER n. ENCAMPMENT (E.G. GROUP OF TENTS, MAKESHIFT SHELTERS OR OTHER LONG-TERM OUTDOOR SETTLEMENTS) o. SQUATTING (E.G. ABANDONED BUILDING) p. VEHICLE (CAR, VAN, RV, TRUCK, BOAT) q. UNSURE: INDICATE PROBABLE LOCATION _____ (b. – q.)	}	[BEGIN SURVEY]

“Thank you for agreeing to participate. You will receive \$10.00 for participating in the survey”

★ **FILL IN TOP OF SURVEY (participant’s sleeping location AND your contact information) THEN BEGIN SURVEY**

SURVEY NUMBER:

SURVEY

Location/Facility: _____ **Time:** _____ [CIRCLE ONE] AM | PM
Interviewer: _____ **Contact #:** _____

- PLEASE CLEARLY CIRCLE WHERE PARTICIPANT STAYED LAST NIGHT:** [Night of March 7th. Select **ONE** location only.]
- a. SOMEONE ELSE'S PLACE
 - b. HOTEL/MOTEL (SELF FUNDED)
 - c. HOTEL/MOTEL (FUNDED BY HOMELESS PROGRAM)
 - d. HOSTEL
 - e. HOSPITAL
 - f. TREATMENT CENTRE
 - g. SOBERING CENTRE
 - h. DETOX CENTRE
 - i. ENCAMPMENT (FOR EXAMPLE GROUP OF TENTS, MAKESHIFT SHELTERS OR OTHER LONG-TERM OUTDOOR SETTLEMENTS)
 - j. TRANSITIONAL SHELTER/HOUSING
 - k. HOMELESS SHELTER (EMERGENCY, FAMILY OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER)
 - l. UNSHELTERED IN A PUBLIC SPACE (FOR EXAMPLE, STREET, PARK, BUS SHELTER, FOREST)
 - m. SQUATTING (FOR EXAMPLE, ABANDONED BUILDINGS)
 - n. VEHICLE (CAR, VAN, RV, TRUCK, BOAT)
 - o. JAIL, PRISON, REMAND CENTRE
 - p. OTHER: INDICATE PROBABLE LOCATION _____ (c. - l.)

BEGIN SURVEY

1. Did you have any family members or anyone else who stayed with you last night?

[On the night of March 7th. Indicate survey # for partners. **Select all that apply.**]

<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHERS [Can include other chosen family or friends]							
<input type="checkbox"/> PARTNER - Survey #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER							
<input type="checkbox"/> CHILD(REN)/DEPENDENT(S)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
[indicate gender and age for each]								
GENDER								
AGE								

2. How old are you? [OR] What year were you born? [If unsure, ask for best estimate.]

AGE _____ **OR** YEAR BORN _____ DON'T KNOW DECLINE TO ANSWER

➔ **“For this survey, ‘homelessness’ means any time when you have been without a permanent and secure place to live, including sleeping in shelters, on the streets, or living temporarily with others without having your own permanent housing (for example, couch surfing).”**

3. How old were you the first time you experienced homelessness? [If unsure, ask for best estimate.]

AGE _____ DON'T KNOW DECLINE TO ANSWER

4. In total, for *how much time* have you experienced homelessness over the PAST YEAR (the last 12 months)? [If unsure, ask for best estimate.]

LENGTH _____ [CIRCLE ONE] DAYS | WEEKS | MONTHS DON'T KNOW DECLINE TO ANSWER

5. Have you stayed in a homeless shelter in the past year? “For example, Sandy Merriman House or Rock Bay Landing.” [This question refers to short term stays without program agreements.]

YES NO DON'T KNOW DECLINE TO ANSWER

5b. Is there a reason you would not stay in a homeless shelter in the Greater Victoria area?

<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER	(IF YES) What are the main reasons? [Do not read categories; <u>select all</u> that apply.]		
	<input type="checkbox"/> TURNED AWAY (SHELTERS ARE FULL)	<input type="checkbox"/> CROWDING	<input type="checkbox"/> RACISM
	<input type="checkbox"/> TURNED AWAY (BANNED)	<input type="checkbox"/> SICKNESS	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBILITY OR CHRONIC HEALTH ISSUES
	<input type="checkbox"/> LACK OF TRANSPORTATION	<input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANCE USE	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T WANT TO STAY INSIDE
	<input type="checkbox"/> FEAR FOR SAFETY	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT WOMEN FRIENDLY	<input type="checkbox"/> PET(S)
	<input type="checkbox"/> CLEANLINESS/BUGS/PESTS	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT CHILD FRIENDLY	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> STIGMA	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT 2SLGBTQIA+ FRIENDLY	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER	
<input type="checkbox"/> NOISE	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT SINGLE MEN FRIENDLY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____	

6. Are you aware of when extreme weather response shelters are open?

<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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7. How long have you been in Greater Victoria?

<input type="checkbox"/> LENGTH _____ DAYS / WEEKS / MONTHS / YEARS -----> <input type="checkbox"/> ALWAYS BEEN HERE <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER	If LENGTH: Where did you live before you came here? <input type="checkbox"/> CITY / RURAL AREA: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> PROVINCE/TERRITORY/COUNTRY: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
--	--

[If answered, "always been here," "don't know," or "decline to answer," skip 7b.]

7b. What is the main reason you came to Greater Victoria [Do not read categories; select one.]

<input type="checkbox"/> TO ACCESS EMERGENCY SHELTER(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYMENT (SEEKING)	<input type="checkbox"/> LEAVING RESERVE TO PURSUE ECONOMIC MOBILITY
<input type="checkbox"/> TO ACCESS SERVICES AND SUPPORTS	<input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYMENT (SECURED)	<input type="checkbox"/> LACK OF HOUSING ON RESERVE
<input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY MOVED HERE	<input type="checkbox"/> FOR THE 2SLGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY	<input type="checkbox"/> VIOLENCE ON RESERVE
<input type="checkbox"/> TO VISIT FRIENDS/FAMILY	<input type="checkbox"/> WANTED A CHANGE IN LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> INCREASED DISCOMFORT IN HOME COMMUNITY
<input type="checkbox"/> TO FIND HOUSING	<input type="checkbox"/> FEAR FOR SAFETY	<input type="checkbox"/> CLIMATE CHANGE/NATURAL DISASTERS
<input type="checkbox"/> LEAVING AN UNHEALTHY LIVING ENVIRONMENT (FOR EXAMPLE, MOLD, OVERCROWDING)	<input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY CONFLICT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> RENOVICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLEEING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> TO ATTEND SCHOOL	<input type="checkbox"/> LEAVING AN UNHEALTHY LIVING ENVIRONMENT ON RESERVE (FOR EXAMPLE, MOLD, OVERCROWDING)	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

→ "The next questions relate to your personal and ancestral history. I just want to repeat that the questions are voluntary, and you can choose to skip any of these questions."

8. Did you come to Canada as an immigrant, refugee, or a refugee claimant? "For example, applied for refugee status after coming to Canada."

<input type="checkbox"/> YES, IMMIGRANT -----> <input type="checkbox"/> YES, REFUGEE -----> <input type="checkbox"/> YES, REFUGEE CLAIM IN CANADA -----> <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____	If YES: How long have you been in Canada? <input type="checkbox"/> LENGTH: _____ [CIRCLE ONE] DAYS WEEKS MONTHS YEARS OR DATE: ____/____/____ DAY / MONTH / YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
--	---

9. What racial identity or ethnic group (for example, family background) do you identify yourself as?

[Do not read categories; select all that apply.]

<input type="checkbox"/> INDIGENOUS	<input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-WEST (EX. IRANIAN, AFGHAN)	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> ARAB (EX. SYRIAN, EGYPTIAN, YEMENI)	<input type="checkbox"/> BLACK-CANADIAN OR AMERICAN	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-EAST (EX. CHINESE, KOREAN, JAPANESE)	<input type="checkbox"/> BLACK-AFRICAN (EX. GHANAIAAN, ETHIOPIAN, NIGEERIAN)	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-SOUTH-EAST (EX. FILIPINO, VIETNAMESE, CAMBODIAN, MALAYSIAN, LAOTIAN)	<input type="checkbox"/> BLACK-AFRO-CARIBBEAN OR AFRO-LATINX (EX. JAMAICAN, HAITIAN, AFRO-BRAZILIAN)	
<input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-SOUTH OR INDO CARIBBEAN (EX. INDIAN, PAKISTANI, SRI LANKAN, INDO-GUYANESE, INDO-TRINIDADIAN)	<input type="checkbox"/> LATIN AMERICAN (EX. BRAZILIAN, MEXICAN, CHILEAN, CUBAN)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> WHITE (EX. EUROPEAN, FRENCH, UKRAINIAN, EURO-LATINX)	

10. Do you identify as Indigenous, Black, or a Person of Colour?

<input type="checkbox"/> INDIGENOUS	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> BLACK	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
<input type="checkbox"/> PERSON OF COLOUR	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> LOST CONNECTION WITH COMMUNITY	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

[If the participant has answered "Indigenous" to question 10, ask question 11, otherwise skip question 11.]

11. Do you identify as First Nations (with or without status/membership), Métis, or Inuit?

<input type="checkbox"/> YES, FIRST NATIONS (PLEASE SPECIFY STATUS/MEMBERSHIP) <input type="checkbox"/> WITH STATUS <input type="checkbox"/> WITH MEMBERSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> WITHOUT STATUS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES, INUIT <input type="checkbox"/> YES, MÉTIS	<input type="checkbox"/> NO, OTHER INDIGENOUS ANCESTRY: _____
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[If the participant has answered “No, Other Indigenous Ancestry” to question 11, skip 11b – 11g.]

11b. What Indigenous community are you from?

<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY/RESERVE NAME _____	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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11c. Are you currently on a housing waitlist in your on-reserve home community?

<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> NO, DON'T QUALIFY	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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[If the participant has answered “No”, “No, Don’t Qualify”, “Don’t Know”, or “Decline to Answer” to question 11c, skip 11d.]

11d. How long have you been on the waitlist?

<input type="checkbox"/> 0 – 11 MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 2 YEARS	<input type="checkbox"/> 2+ YEARS	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
--	--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--

11e. Have you submitted an application for urban Indigenous housing (including Indigenous Culturally Supportive Housing)? “For example, Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness Society, M’akola Housing, Siem Lelum.”

<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> NO, DON'T QUALIFY	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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[If the participant has answered “No”, “No, Don’t Qualify”, “Don’t Know”, or “Decline to Answer” to question 11e, skip 11f.]

11f. How long has it been since you submitted an application?

<input type="checkbox"/> 0 – 11 MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 2 YEARS	<input type="checkbox"/> 2+ YEARS	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
--	--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--

➔ “The next question is about residential and day schools, may I proceed?”

[If the participant has answered “No” to this, skip to question 12.]

11g. Did you, a parent, or grandparent have experience with residential or day school?

[If yes, please follow up to specify and check all that apply.]

<input type="checkbox"/> YES – AT LEAST ONE GRANDPARENT HAS EXPERIENCE WITH RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL	<input type="checkbox"/> YES – AT LEAST ONE GRANDPARENT HAS EXPERIENCE WITH DAY SCHOOL	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
<input type="checkbox"/> YES – AT LEAST ONE PARENT HAS EXPERIENCE WITH RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL	<input type="checkbox"/> YES – AT LEAST ONE PARENT HAS EXPERIENCE WITH DAY SCHOOL	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> YES – I HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL	<input type="checkbox"/> YES – I HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH DAY SCHOOL	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

12. As a child or youth, were you ever in foster care or in a youth group home? “For example, foster care, youth group home, youth agreement, or ward of the state?”

[This question applies specifically to child welfare programs.]

<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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[If answered ‘yes’ to question 12, then ask questions 12b – 12c, otherwise skip to question 13.]

12b. Approximately how long after leaving foster care/group home did you experience homelessness?

<input type="checkbox"/> LENGTH _____ [CIRCLE ONE] DAYS WEEKS MONTHS YEARS	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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12c. Do you think that Child Protection Services was helpful in transitioning you to independence after leaving foster care/group home?

<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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13. Have you ever served in the Canadian Military or RCMP? [Military includes Canadian Navy, Army, or Air Force.]

<input type="checkbox"/> YES, MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH MILITARY AND RCMP	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> YES, RCMP	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

[If answered 'no' to question 13, then skip to question 14.]

13b. Are you, or have you been, supported by Veterans Affairs Canada?

<input type="checkbox"/> YES – CURRENTLY	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
<input type="checkbox"/> YES – PREVIOUSLY	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

14. Do you identify as having any of the following health challenges at this time:

ILLNESS OR MEDICAL CONDITION [for example, injury, long COVID, diabetes, arthritis, TB, HIV]	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
PHYSICAL DISABILITY [for example, an issue with mobility, capacity, or sensory]	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
DIVERSE ABILITY [for example, learning disabilities, cognitive limitations, ADHD, dyslexia, autism spectrum disorder, brain injury, fetal alcohol syndrome]	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE [for example, stigma, depression, PTSD, bipolar disorder]	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
SUBSTANCE USE ISSUE [for example, alcohol, opioids, etc.]	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

14b. Do you identify as having an acquired brain injury that happened after birth? "For example, from an injury related to an accident, violence, overdose, a stroke, or brain tumor."

<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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→ "May I ask you a question about your gender identity?"

15. What gender do you identify with? [Show list or read list. Select all that apply.]

<input type="checkbox"/> MAN	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANS WOMAN	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> WOMAN	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANS MAN	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> TWO-SPIRIT	<input type="checkbox"/> NON-BINARY (GENDERQUEER)	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

→ "May I ask you a question about your sexual orientation?"

16. How do you describe your sexual orientation? "For example, straight, gay, lesbian."

[Show list or read list. Select all that apply.]

<input type="checkbox"/> STRAIGHT/HETEROSEXUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> BISEXUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> ASEXUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GAY	<input type="checkbox"/> TWO-SPIRIT	<input type="checkbox"/> QUEER	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> LESBIAN	<input type="checkbox"/> PANSEXUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> QUESTIONING	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

17. What happened that caused you to lose your housing most recently?

[Do not read the options. Check all that apply. "Housing" does not include temporary arrangements (e.g., couch surfing) or shelter stays. Follow up for the reason if the respondent says "eviction" or that they "chose to leave".]

A: HOUSING AND FINANCIAL ISSUES	B: INTERPERSONAL AND FAMILY ISSUES	C: HEALTH OR CORRECTIONS
<input type="checkbox"/> NOT ENOUGH INCOME FOR HOUSING (FOR EXAMPLE, LOSS OF BENEFIT, INCOME, OR JOB)	<input type="checkbox"/> CONFLICT WITH: SPOUSE / PARTNER	<input type="checkbox"/> PHYSICAL HEALTH ISSUE
<input type="checkbox"/> UNFIT/UNSAFE HOUSING CONDITION	<input type="checkbox"/> CONFLICT WITH: PARENT / GUARDIAN	<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE
<input type="checkbox"/> UNFIT/UNSAFE HOUSING CONDITION ON RESERVE	<input type="checkbox"/> CONFLICT WITH: OTHER _____	<input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANCE USE ISSUE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING SOLD OR RENOVATED	<input type="checkbox"/> CONFLICT ON RESERVE	<input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITALIZATION OR TREATMENT PROGRAM
<input type="checkbox"/> OWNER MOVED IN	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: SPOUSE / PARTNER	<input type="checkbox"/> INCARCERATION (JAIL OR PRISON)
<input type="checkbox"/> LANDLORD/TENANT CONFLICT	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: PARENT / GUARDIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> COMPLAINT (FOR EXAMPLE, PETS/NOISE/DAMAGE)	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: OTHER _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> LEFT THE COMMUNITY/RELOCATED	<input type="checkbox"/> DEPARTURE OF FAMILY MEMBER	
<input type="checkbox"/> RENT INCREASE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED CULTURAL AND/OR RACIAL DISCRIMINATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> EVICTION	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND/OR GENDER IDENTITY DISCRIMINATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRE AND WATER DAMAGE		
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER REASON: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

17b. How long ago did you most recently lose your housing? [If unsure, ask for best estimate.]

LENGTH _____ DAYS | WEEKS | MONTHS | YEARS DON'T KNOW DECLINE TO ANSWER

17c. Was your most recent housing loss related to the COVID-19 Pandemic? "For example, an inability to pay rent due to COVID (income loss, disability, etc.), or loss of COVID benefits."

YES NO DON'T KNOW DECLINE TO ANSWER

18. In the last year, have you been discharged or evicted into homelessness?

[Reminder that this survey is anonymous. **Show** list or **read** list. Select all that apply.]

<input type="checkbox"/> YES – EMERGENCY ROOM	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
<input type="checkbox"/> YES – MENTAL HEALTH/SUBSTANCE USE RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> YES – SUBSIDIZED HOUSING	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<input type="checkbox"/> YES – DISCHARGE FROM CORRECTIONS	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES – TRANSITIONAL HOUSING (LIMITED TERM STAY)	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES – SUPPORTIVE HOUSING (ONGOING STAY)	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES – SHELTER (EMERGENCY USE)	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES – OTHER: _____	

19. What are your sources of income?

[Reminder that this survey is anonymous. **Show** list or **read** list. Select all that apply.]

<input type="checkbox"/> FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> CHILD AND FAMILY TAX BENEFITS
<input type="checkbox"/> PART TIME EMPLOYMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DISABILITY BENEFIT/DISABILITY ASSISTANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> GST/HST REFUND
<input type="checkbox"/> CASUAL EMPLOYMENT (FOR EXAMPLE, CONTRACT WORK)	<input type="checkbox"/> SENIORS BENEFITS (FOR EXAMPLE, CPP, OAS, GIS)	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER MONEY FROM A SERVICE AGENCY
<input type="checkbox"/> INFORMAL INCOME SOURCES (FOR EXAMPLE, BOTTLE RETURNS, PANHANDLING)	<input type="checkbox"/> WELFARE/INCOME ASSISTANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER SOURCE: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> MONEY FROM FAMILY/FRIENDS	<input type="checkbox"/> VETERAN/VAC BENEFITS	<input type="checkbox"/> NO INCOME
	<input type="checkbox"/> STUDENT FUNDING (FOR EXAMPLE, LOANS, GRANTS, BURSARIES, SCHOLARSHIPS)	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
		<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

20. Are you attending school? [Show list or read list. Select all that apply.]

<input type="checkbox"/> YES – ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
<input type="checkbox"/> YES – HIGH SCHOOL	<input type="checkbox"/> NO – WOULD LIKE TO
<input type="checkbox"/> YES – UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> YES – ADULT UPGRADING	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<input type="checkbox"/> YES – EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM/VOCATIONAL TRAINING	

21. Do you want to get into housing?

YES NO DON'T KNOW DECLINE TO ANSWER

22. What challenges or problems have you experienced when trying to find housing?

[Show list or read list. Select all that apply.]

<input type="checkbox"/> LOW INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> DOMESTIC OR SEXUALIZED VIOLENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> NO IDENTIFICATION
<input type="checkbox"/> NO INCOME ASSISTANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> HEALTH/DISABILITY ISSUES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO PREVIOUS LANDLORD REFERENCES
<input type="checkbox"/> RENTS TOO HIGH	<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES	<input type="checkbox"/> CHILDREN
<input type="checkbox"/> LACK OF AVAILABLE OPTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> ADDICTION	<input type="checkbox"/> CRIMINAL HISTORY
<input type="checkbox"/> POOR HOUSING CONDITIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> PETS	<input type="checkbox"/> DISCRIMINATION
<input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY BREAKDOWN/CONFLICT	<input type="checkbox"/> SEXISM	<input type="checkbox"/> NO BARRIERS TO HOUSING
<input type="checkbox"/> RACISM	<input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYMENT CONFIRMATION/ REFERENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> CREDIT SCORES		<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<input type="checkbox"/> LACK OF TECHNOLOGY		<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY): _____

23. I'm going to read a list of services that you may or may not need. Let me know which of these apply to you. Do you have a need for services related to: [Show list or read list. Select all that apply.]

<input type="checkbox"/> PRIMARY CARE SERVICES (FOR EXAMPLE, GP, PHARMACY, DENTIST, OPTOMETRY, ETC.)	<input type="checkbox"/> LEARNING DISABILITY	<input type="checkbox"/> IDENTIFICATION SERVICES
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDICTION OR SUBSTANCE USE (TREATMENT SERVICES)	<input type="checkbox"/> HARM REDUCTION	<input type="checkbox"/> FINANCIAL COUNSELLING
<input type="checkbox"/> SPIRITUAL WELLNESS SUPPORTS	<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH (FOR EXAMPLE, COUNSELLING, TREATMENT, ETC.)	<input type="checkbox"/> EMOTIONAL WELLNESS SUPPORTS
<input type="checkbox"/> FAITH-BASED SUPPORTS AND SERVICES	<input type="checkbox"/> FOOD SECURITY SUPPORTS	<input type="checkbox"/> YOUTH SERVICES
<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS SUPPORTS AND SERVICES	<input type="checkbox"/> INDIGENOUS TREATMENT & SUPPORT (FOR EXAMPLE, DECOLONIZED HARM REDUCTION)	<input type="checkbox"/> PREGNANCY
	<input type="checkbox"/> CULTURALLY SENSITIVE SERVICES	<input type="checkbox"/> NEWCOMERS SUPPORT/SETTLEMENT SERVICES
	<input type="checkbox"/> GENDER-SPECIFIC HOUSING SERVICES	<input type="checkbox"/> LIFE SKILLS
	<input type="checkbox"/> JUSTICE NAVIGATION	<input type="checkbox"/> NONE OF THE ABOVE
	<input type="checkbox"/> INDIGENOUS JUSTICE NAVIGATION	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
		<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____

→ **"Thank you for participating in the Survey!"** [Give participant \$10 honorarium and resource pamphlet.]

NOTES:

PIT 2023 SURVEY RESULTS

DATA TABLES

SCREENING: WHERE DID YOU STAY LAST NIGHT?

Stay	# of respondents	% of respondents
Transitional shelter/housing	203	26.5%
Unsheltered	178	23.3%
Homeless shelter	115	15.0%
Couch surfing	82	10.7%
Hotel/motel (funded by city)	59	7.7%
Encampment	45	5.9%
Vehicle	13	1.7%
Sobering centre	10	1.3%
Squatting	6	0.8%
Jail, prison, remand centre	<6	<1%
Hotel/motel – self-funded	<6	<6
Treatment centre	<6	<6
Hospital	<6	<6
Hostel	<6	<6
Unknown	45	5.9%
Total	765	100%

1. DID YOU HAVE ANY FAMILY MEMBERS OR ANYONE ELSE STAY WITH YOU LAST NIGHT?

Response	# of respondents
No	626
Yes	119
Don't know/Decline to answer	20
Total	765

Household	# of respondents	% of respondents
Alone	626	81.8%
With Other	62	8.1%
With Partner	54	7.1%
With Child	<6	<1%
Don't know/Decline to answer	18	2.3%
Total	765	100%

2. HOW OLD ARE YOU?

Age Group	# of respondents	% of respondents
18 & Under	19	2.5%
19-24	40	5.2%
25-39	225	29.4%
40-54	272	35.6%
55+	190	24.8%
Don't Know/Decline to answer	19	2.5%
Total	765	100%

3. HOW OLD WERE YOU THE FIRST TIME YOU EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS?

Age Range	# of respondents	% of respondents
18 & Under	273	35.7%
19-24	95	12.4%
25-39	157	20.5%
40-54	141	18.4%
55+	57	7.5%
Don't Know/No answer	42	5.5%
Total	765	100%

4. IN TOTAL, FOR HOW MUCH TIME HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS OVER THE PAST YEAR (THE LAST 12 MONTHS)?

Months over the past year	# of respondents	% of respondents
0–3 months	54	7.1%
3–6 months	52	6.8%
6–9 months	86	11.2%
9–12 months	430	56.2%
Don't know/decline to answer	143	18.7%
Total	765	100%

5. HAVE YOU STAYED IN A HOMELESS SHELTER IN THE PAST YEAR?

Shelter stay?	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	492	64.3%
No	237	31.0%
Don't know/Decline to answer	36	4.7%
Total	765	100%

5b. Is there a reason you would not stay in a homeless shelter in the Greater Victoria area?

Reason to not stay?	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	344	62.9%
No	203	37.1%
Total	547	100%
Don't know/Decline to answer	218	

Reason	# of respondents	% of respondents
Turned away (shelters full)	186	54.1%
Turned away (banned)	127	36.9%
Lack of transportation	123	35.8%
Fear for safety	102	29.7%
Cleanliness/bugs/pests	101	29.4%
Stigma	73	21.2%
Noise	61	17.7%
Crowding	49	14.2%

Reason	# of respondents	% of respondents
Sickness	32	9.3%
Substance use	28	8.1%
Not women friendly	27	7.8%
Not child friendly	24	7.0%
Not 2SLGBTQIA+ friendly	23	6.7%
Not single men friendly	22	6.4%
Racism	17	4.9%
Accessibility/chronic health issues	13	3.8%
Don't want to stay inside	12	3.5%
Pet(s)	<6	<2%
Don't know/Decline to answer	17	4.9%
Other	123	35.8%

6. ARE YOU AWARE OF WHEN EWR SHELTERS ARE OPEN?

Response	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	544	76.7%
No	165	23.3%
Total	709	100%
Don't know/Decline to answer	56	

7. HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN GREATER VICTORIA?

Amount of time	# of respondents	% of respondents
Less than one year	102	14.5%
1–5 years	90	12.8%
Longer than 5 years	364	51.7%
Always been here	148	21.0%
Total	704	100%
Don't know/Decline to answer	61	

7B. WHAT IS THE MAIN REASON YOU CAME TO GREATER VICTORIA?

Reason	# of respondents	% of respondents
Family moved here	137	17.9%
Wanted a change in life	80	10.5%
To visit friends/family	78	10.2%
Employment (seeking)	41	5.4%
Leaving an unhealthy living environment	39	5.1%
To access services and supports	35	4.6%
To find housing	27	3.5%
Employment (secured)	21	2.7%
Family conflict	19	2.5%
To access emergency shelters	18	2.4%
Fear for safety	15	2.0%
Leaving an unhealthy living environment on reserve	13	1.7%
Increased discomfort in home community	13	1.7%
Climate change/natural disasters	13	1.7%
To attend school	12	1.6%
Fleeing domestic violence	6	0.8%
Lack of housing on reserve	<6	<1.0%
Violence on reserve	<6	<1.0%
For the 2SLGBTQIA+ community	<6	<1.0%
Leaving reserve to pursue economic mobility	<6	<1.0%
Other	190	24.8%
Total	765	100%

8. DID YOU COME TO CANADA AS AN IMMIGRANT, REFUGEE OR A REFUGEE CLAIMANT (I.E. APPLIED FOR REFUGEE STATUS AFTER COMING TO CANADA)?

Response	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	49	6.4%
No	637	83.3%
Don't know/Decline to answer	79	10.3%
Total	765	100%

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN CANADA?

Length of time	# of respondents	% of respondents
12 years or less	6	12.2%
More than 12 years	29	59.2%
Don't know/Decline to answer	14	28.6%
Total	49	100%

9. WHAT RACIAL IDENTITY OR ETHNIC GROUP (FOR EXAMPLE, FAMILY BACKGROUND) DO YOU IDENTIFY YOURSELF AS?

Race/ethnicity	# of respondents	% of respondents ¹
White	478	62.5%
Indigenous	237	31.0%
Other racial identity/ethnic group ²	44	5.8%
Race not listed	49	6.4%
Don't know/Decline to answer	35	4.6%

¹Percentages do not total 100 as more than one response was possible.

²"Other racial identity/ethnic group" includes: Arab, Asian-East, Asian-South-East, Asian South or Indo Caribbean, Asian-West, Black-Canadian or American, Black-African, Black-Afro-Caribbean or Afro-Latinx, and Latin American

10. DO YOU IDENTIFY AS INDIGENOUS, BLACK, OR A PERSON OF COLOUR?

Identify as IBPOC	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	278	36.3%
No	402	52.5%
Don't know/Decline to answer	85	11.1%
Total	765	100%

11. DO YOU IDENTIFY AS FIRST NATIONS (WITH OR WITHOUT STATUS/MEMBERSHIP), MÉTIS, OR INUIT?

Identify as Indigenous	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	252	32.9%
No	513	67.1%
Total	765	100%

Indigenous identity	# of Indigenous respondents	% of Indigenous respondents
First Nations with status	114	45.2%
First Nations with membership	9	3.6%
First Nations without status	66	26.2%
Inuit	6	2.4%
Métis	57	22.6%
Total Indigenous respondents	252	100%

11B. WHAT INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY ARE YOU FROM?

Indigenous community	# of Indigenous respondents	% of Indigenous respondents
Answered community	211	83.7%
Don't know/Decline to answer	41	16.3%
Total Indigenous respondents	252	100%

Indigenous community*		
Coast Salish (47 respondents)	Kwakwakaw'akw (11 respondents)	Nuu-chah-nulth (23 respondents)
Coast Salish Cowichan Tribes K'omox First Nation Lyackson First Nation Malahat First Nation Pacuquachin First Nation Scia'new First Nation Songhees Nation Stz'uminus First Nation Tsartlip First Nation Tsawout First Nation T'Sou-ke Nation	Gwa'Sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations Kwakiutl First Nation Namgis First Nation Wei Wai Kum First Nation	Ahousaht First Nation Ditidaht First Nation Hupačasath First Nation Huu-ay-aht First Nations Nuchatlaht First Nation Pacheedaht First Nation Tla-O-Qui-Aht First Nation Toquaht Nation Tseshaht First Nation Yuułu?ił?ath Government - Ucluelet First Nation

*The number of people in each community is too small to list and runs the risk of unintentionally identifying specific survey participants; therefore, the number of survey respondents for each community has been left out.

Community location	# of Indigenous respondents	% of Indigenous respondents
Vancouver Island	81	32.1%
Within BC*	30	11.9%
Outside of BC	73	29.0%
Unclear location	27	10.7%

*Excludes communities located on Vancouver Island.

11C. ARE YOU CURRENTLY ON A HOUSING WAITLIST IN YOUR ON-RESERVE COMMUNITY?

On-reserve community housing waitlist	# of Indigenous respondents	% of Indigenous respondents
Yes	54	21.4%
No / No, don't qualify / Don't know / Decline to answer	198	78.6%
Total Indigenous respondents	252	100%

11D. HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN ON THE WAITLIST?

Length of time	# of Indigenous respondent	% of Indigenous respondents
0-11 Months	14	25.9%
1-2 years	14	25.9%
2+ years	26	48.1%

11E. HAVE YOU SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION FOR URBAN INDIGENOUS HOUSING (INCLUDING INDIGENOUS CULTURALLY SUPPORTIVE HOUSING)?

Application for urban Indigenous housing	# of Indigenous respondents	% of Indigenous respondents
Yes	81	32.1%
No/No, don't qualify/Don't know/Decline to answer	171	67.9%
Total Indigenous respondents	252	100%

11F. HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION?

Length of time	# of Indigenous respondents	% of Indigenous respondents
0–11 months	25	26.6%
1–2 years	33	35.1%
2+ years	36	38.3%

11G. DID YOU, A PARENT, OR GRANDPARENT HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH RESIDENTIAL OR DAY SCHOOL?

Residential or Day School Experience	# of Indigenous respondents	% of Indigenous respondents*
Yes — at least one grandparent attended residential school	100	39.7%
Yes — at least one parent attended residential school	66	26.2%
Yes — I attended residential school	13	5.2%
Yes — at least one grandparent attended day school	10	4.0%
Yes — at least one parent attended day school	9	3.6%
Yes — I attended day school	10	4.0%
No	84	33.3%
Don't know/decline to answer	68	27.0%

*Percentages do not total 100 as more than one response was possible.

12. AS A CHILD OR YOUTH, WERE YOU EVER IN FOSTER CARE OR IN A YOUTH GROUP HOME?

Foster care	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	246	32.2%
No	470	61.4%
Don't Know/Decline to answer	49	6.4%
Total	765	100%

12B. APPROXIMATELY HOW LONG AFTER LEAVING FOSTER CARE/ GROUP HOME DID YOU EXPERIENCE HOMELESSNESS?

Length of Time	# of foster care respondents	% of foster care respondents
0 days	14	5.7%
1 day – 1 year	53	21.5%
1–10 years	40	16.3%
More than 10 years	37	15.0%
Don't know/Decline to answer	102	41.5%
Total foster care respondents	246	100%

12C. DO YOU THINK THAT CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES WAS HELPFUL IN TRANSITIONING YOU TO INDEPENDENCE AFTER LEAVING FOSTER CARE/GROUP HOME?

Child Protection Services Helpful	# of foster care respondents	% of foster care respondents
Yes	34	13.8%
No	186	75.6%
Don't know/Decline to answer	26	10.6%
Total foster care respondents	246	100%

13. HAVE YOU EVER SERVED IN THE CANADIAN MILITARY OR RCMP?

Veterans	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	51	6.7%
No	659	86.1%
Don't know/Decline to answer	55	7.2%
Total	765	100%

13B. ARE YOU, OR HAVE YOU BEEN, SUPPORTED BY VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA?

Support from Veterans Affairs Canada	# of veteran respondents	% of veteran respondents
Yes, currently	6	11.8%
Yes, previously	<6	<4%
No	21	41.2%
Don't know/Decline to answer	22	43.1%
Total veteran respondents	51	100%

14. DO YOU IDENTIFY AS HAVING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING HEALTH CHALLENGES AT THIS TIME?

Health challenge	# of respondents	% of respondents*
Illness of medical condition	346	45.2%
Physical disability	347	45.4%
Diverse ability	339	44.3%
Mental health issue	468	61.2%
Substance use issue	516	67.5%

*Percentages do not total 100 as more than one response was possible.

14b. Do you identify as having an acquired brain injury that happened after birth?

Acquired brain injury	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	249	32.5%
No	435	56.9%
Don't know/Decline to answer	81	10.6%
Total	765	100%

15. WHAT GENDER DO YOU IDENTIFY WITH?

Gender identity	# of respondents	% of respondents
Man	494	64.6%
Woman	208	27.2%
Gender diverse	22	2.9%
Don't know/Decline to answer	41	5.4%
Total	765	100%

16. HOW DO YOU DESCRIBE YOUR SEXUAL ORIENTATION?

Response	# of respondents	% of respondents
Straight/Heterosexual	598	78.2%
LGBTQIA+	91	11.9%
Not listed	6	0.8%
Multiple responses selected	7	0.9%
Don't know/Decline to answer	63	8.2%
Total	765	100%

17. WHAT HAPPENED THAT CAUSED YOU TO LOSE YOUR HOUSING MOST RECENTLY?

Recent reason for losing housing	# of respondents	% of respondents
Housing and financial issues		
Not enough income for housing (e.g. loss of benefit, income, or job)	181	23.7%
Eviction	111	14.5%
Unfit/unsafe housing condition	76	9.9%
Landlord/tenant conflict	75	9.8%
Rent increase	34	4.4%
Building sold or renovated	29	3.8%
Complaint (e.g. pets/noise/damage)	21	2.7%
Left the community/relocated	20	2.6%
Fire and water damage	15	2.0%
Owner moved in	<6	<1%
Unfit/unsafe housing condition on reserve	<6	<1%
Interpersonal and family issues		
Conflict with spouse/partner	88	11.5%
Conflict with other	66	8.6%
Conflict with parent/guardian	34	4.4%
Experienced abuse by spouse/partner	25	3.3%
Experienced abuse by other	19	2.5%
Death or departure of family member	15	2.0%
Experienced abuse by parent/guardian	9	1.2%
Experienced cultural or racial discrimination	9	1.2%
Experienced sexual orientation and/or gender identity discrimination	<6	<1%
Conflict on reserve	<6	<1%
Health or corrections		
Substance use issue	130	17.0%
Mental health issue	53	6.9%
Incarceration (jail or prison)	40	5.2%
Physical health issue	34	4.4%
Hospitalization or treatment program	24	3.1%
Other	133	17.4%
Don't know/Decline to answer	64	8.4%

17B. HOW LONG AGO DID YOU MOST RECENTLY LOSE YOUR HOUSING?

Recent Housing Loss	# of respondents	% of respondents
4 years or less	496	64.8%
5–10 years	83	10.8%
More than 10 years	54	7.1%
Don't know/Decline to answer	132	17.3%
Total	765	100%

17C. WAS YOUR MOST RECENT HOUSING LOSS RELATED TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC?

COVID-19 Housing Loss	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	87	11.4%
No	566	74.0%
Don't know/Decline to answer	112	14.6%
Total	765	100%

18. IN THE LAST YEAR, HAVE YOU BEEN DISCHARGED OR EVICTED INTO HOMELESSNESS?

Response	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes – emergency room	72	9.4%
Yes – mental health/substance use residential treatment	27	3.5%
Yes – subsidized housing	12	1.6%
Yes – corrections	38	5.0%
Yes – transitional housing (limited term stay)	27	3.5%
Yes – supportive housing (ongoing stay)	26	3.4%
Yes – shelter (emergency use)	54	7.1%
Yes – other	65	8.5%
No	431	56.3%
Don't know/Decline to answer	63	8.2%

*Percentages do not total 100 as more than one response was possible.

19. WHAT ARE YOUR SOURCES OF INCOME?

Sources of Income	# of respondents	% of respondents*
Government transfers		
Disability benefits	354	46.3%
Welfare/Income assistance	205	26.8%
Seniors' benefits (CPP, OAS, pensions etc.)	53	6.9%
GST/HST refund	22	2.9%
Employment Insurance	13	1.7%
Veteran/VAC benefits	<6	<1%
Child & family tax benefits	0	0.0%
Student funding (e.g., loans, bursaries, etc.)	0	0.0%
Employment		
Casual employment (contract work etc.)	41	5.4%
Part time employment	31	4.1%
Full time employment	24	3.1%
Other Sources		
Other sources not listed	56	7.3%
Informal sources (bottle return, panhandling etc.)	44	5.8%
Money from family/friends	23	3.0%
Other money from a service agency	9	1.2%
No Income	44	5.8%
Don't know/Decline to answer	29	3.8%

*Percentages do not total 100 as more than one response was possible.

20. ARE YOU ATTENDING SCHOOL?

School Attendance	# of respondents	% of respondents*
Yes – elementary	0	0.0%
Yes – high school	7	0.9%
Yes – university/college	6	0.8%
Yes – adult upgrading	8	1.0%
Yes – employment program/vocational training	11	1.4%
No – would like to	104	13.6%
No	599	78.3%
Don't know/Decline to answer	35	4.6%

*Percentages do not total 100 as more than one response was possible.

21. DO YOU WANT TO GET INTO HOUSING?

Interested in housing	# of respondents	% of respondents
Yes	664	86.8%
No	36	4.7%
Don't know/Decline to answer	65	8.5%
Total	765	100%

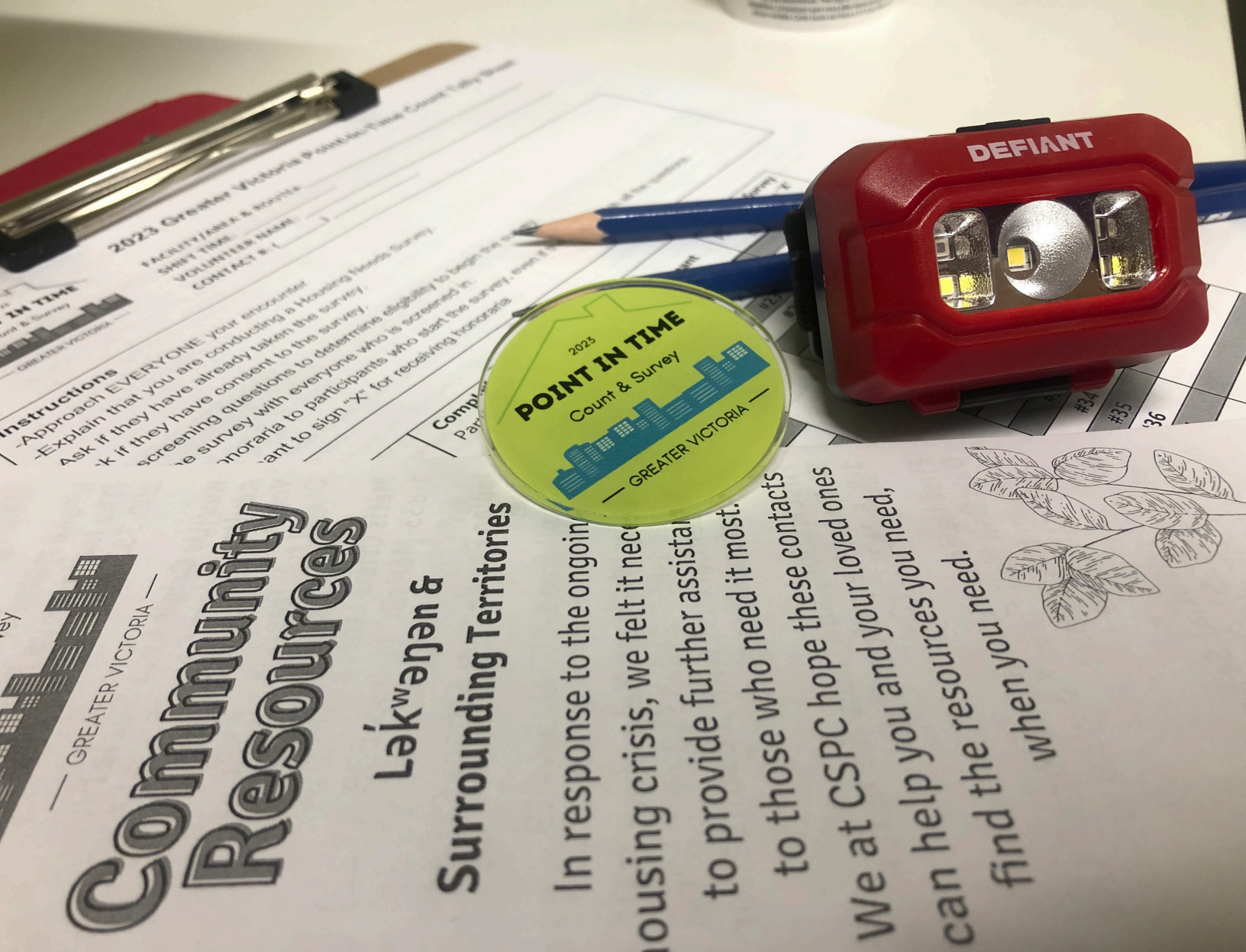
22. WHAT CHALLENGES OR PROBLEMS HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED WHEN TRYING TO FIND HOUSING?

Housing challenges	# of respondents	% of respondents*
Rents too high	429	56.1%
Low income	405	52.9%
Lack of available options	374	48.9%
Addiction	192	25.1%
No identification	174	22.7%
Mental health issues	143	18.7%
Discrimination	143	18.7%
Poor housing conditions	125	16.3%
Credit scores	122	15.9%
Health/disability issues	113	14.8%
No previous landlord references	112	14.6%
Employment confirmation/reference	95	12.4%
Criminal history	93	12.2%
No income assistance	83	10.8%
Family breakdown/conflict	68	8.9%
Pets	63	8.2%
Lack of technology	62	8.1%
Racism	54	7.1%
Domestic or sexualized violence	36	4.8%
Sexism	24	3.1%
Children	20	2.6%
Other	109	14.2%
No barriers to housing	9	1.2%
Don't know/Decline to answer	56	7.3%

*Percentages do not total 100 as more than one response was possible.

23. I'M GOING TO READ A LIST OF SERVICES THAT YOU MAY OR MAY NOT NEED. LET ME KNOW WHICH OF THESE APPLY TO YOU. DO YOU HAVE A NEED FOR SERVICES RELATED TO...?

Service Needs	# of respondents	% of respondents
Primary care services	447	58.4%
Food security supports	387	50.6%
Identification services	349	45.6%
Mental health supports	346	45.2%
Addictions services	335	43.8%
Emotional wellness supports	259	33.9%
Harm reduction supports	246	32.2%
Financial counselling	238	31.1%
Spiritual wellness supports	233	30.5%
Life skills	202	26.4%
Learning disability supports	149	19.5%
Justice navigation	146	19.1%
Indigenous treatment and support	119	15.6%
Culturally sensitive services	107	14.0%
Faith based supports and services	98	12.8%
Religious supports and services	90	11.8%
Indigenous justice navigation	63	8.2%
Youth services	49	6.4%
Gender specific housing services	43	5.6%
Newcomers support/ settlement services	35	4.6%
Pregnancy supports	16	2.1%
Other	35	4.6%
None of the above	44	5.8%
Don't know/Decline to answer	48	6.3%



Lək̓ʷəŋən & Surrounding Territories

In response to the ongoing housing crisis, we felt it necessary to provide further assistance to those who need it most. We at CSPC hope these contacts can help you and your loved ones find the resources you need, when you need.

