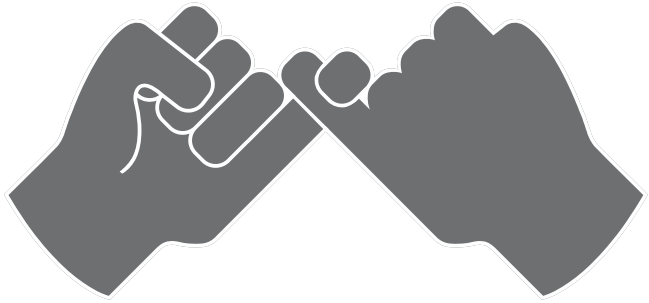
Leadership Lessons



THE PROMISE PROJECT

Leadership Lesson # 1 – Causes of Homelessness

Agenda:

1. Homelessness Across Canada (Background)
2. Causes of Homelessness
3. Structural Factors
4. Systems Failures
5. Individual & Relational Factors
6. Demographics Groups at Increased Risk of Homelessness

THE PROMISE PROJECT

Homelessness Across Canada



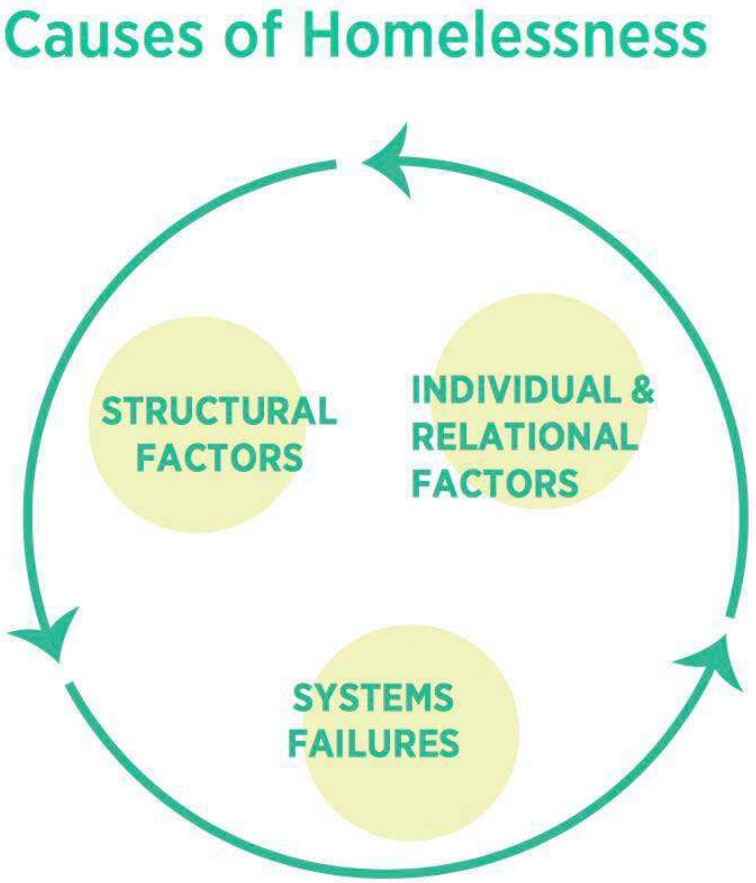
Historically, individuals experiencing homelessness in Canada were older, single men. The homelessness crisis we see today is much more diverse. More women, families and youth are experiencing homelessness than in the past.

(Gaetz et. al, 2016 p. 5)

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Causes of Homelessness

The causes of homelessness are divided into three main categories:



(Gaetz & Dej, 2017, p. 17)

THE PROMISE PROJECT

Structural Factors

Structural Factors:
"are broad systemic economic and societal issues that occur at a societal level that affect opportunities, social environments, and outcomes for individuals." (Gaetz & Dej, 2017, p. 18)

For example:
Poverty
Discrimination
Lack of affordable housing
Impact of colonialism on Indigenous peoples
(Gaetz & Dej, 2017)

THE PROMISE PROJECT

Systems Failures

Systems Failures:
"…those situations where inadequate policy and service delivery contribute to the likelihood that someone will become homeless." (Gaetz & Dej, 2017, p. 20)

For Example:

- Experiencing barriers to accessing public systems (such as; health, legal and/or social services)
- Failed transitions from public institutions (such as; discharge from child welfare, corrections or health care system without an adequate housing plan established prior)
- Gaps in services and/or silos of services resulting in the system being unable to meet the needs of individuals
  (Gaetz & Dej, 2017)

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Individual & Relational Factors

Individual & Relational Factors:
"…the personal circumstances that place people at risk of homelessness". (Gaetz & Dej, 2017, p. 21)

For Example:

- Crisis
- Housing Insecurity
- Interpersonal Relationship Problems
- Interpersonal violence
- Trauma

(Gaetz & Dej, 2017)

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Demographics Groups at Increased Risk of Homelessness

The over representation of specific demographic groups within the homelessness populations help to illustrate the causes of homelessness at play.

For example:

Structural Factors (i.e. racism and colonialism) – Indigenous peoples

Systems Failures (i.e. child protection) – Youth transitioning from care

Individual & Relationship Factors- Youth caught in family breakdown and Women fleeing domestic violence

THE PROMISE PROJECT

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Self-Directed Learning Exercise - Causes of Homelessness

We recognize that teachers' and leaders' time is very valuable, thus we have kept these exercises quick and easy to complete. Each self-directed learning exercise has three simple steps and is designed to take 15-30 min to complete.

Prior to exploring these leadership lessons, it is important to have an understanding of your own understanding and assumptions on the issue of homelessness. This attitudes survey is an opportunity for you to take your own pre & post assessment for your learning journey through this toolkit. Please ensure this is the first & last activity you complete in the toolkit.

Step 1:

Complete the attached attitude survey prior to all of the leadership lessons in this toolkit

Step 2:

Upon completion of the leadership lessons complete a fresh copy of the attitude survey.

Step 3:
Compare your responses from your pre & post assessments. Identify any major learnings that have taken place.

Bonus Step!
Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZkDaKKkFi6Y

If you are inspired by Brene Brown's quote 'vulnerability is our greatest measure of courage', consider sharing your learnings with your students or team members.

Homelessness Across Canada: Attitude Survey

Who experiences homelessness across Canada?

Which demographic groups are most at risk of homelessness across Canada?

Please list some common causes of homelessness.

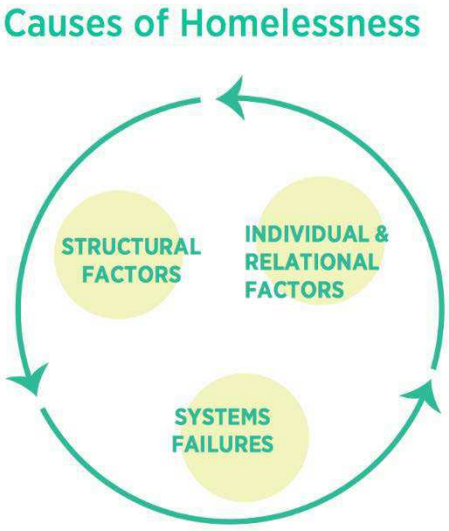
Do you think it is possible to end homelessness across Canada? (Yes / No)

Why or why not?

What do you believe is the best way to address homelessness across Canada?

Quick Fact Sheet- Causes of Homelessness

The causes of homelessness are divided into three main categories:



(Gaetz & Dej, 2017, p. 17)

Structural Factors:
"are broad systemic economic and societal issues that occur at a societal level that affect opportunities, social environments, and outcomes for individuals." (Gaetz & Dej, 2017, p. 18)

For example:
- Poverty
- Discrimination
- Lack of affordable housing
- Impact of colonialism on Indigenous peoples

(Gaetz & Dej, 2017)

Systems Failures:
"…those situations where inadequate policy and service delivery contribute to the likelihood that someone will become homeless." (Gaetz & Dej, 2017, p. 20)

For Example:
- Experiencing barriers to accessing public systems (such as; health, legal and/or social services)
- Failed transitions from public institutions (such as; discharge from child welfare, corrections or health care system without an adequate housing plan established prior)
- Gaps in services and/or silos of services resulting in the system being unable to meet the needs of individuals

(Gaetz & Dej, 2017)

Individual & Relational Factors:
"…the personal circumstances that place people at risk of homelessness". (Gaetz & Dej, 2017, p. 21)

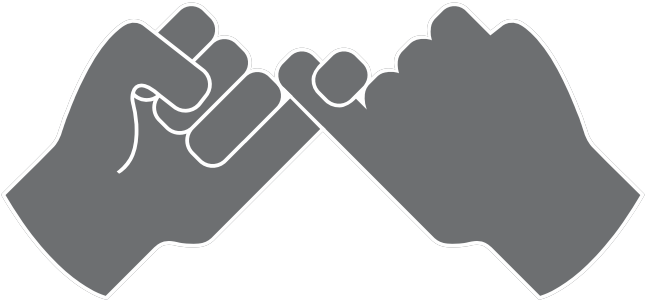
For Example:
- Crisis
- Housing Insecurity
- Interpersonal Relationship Problems
- Interpersonal violence
- Trauma
- Lack of natural supports

(Gaetz & Dej, 2017)

References:

Gaetz, S. & Dej, E. (2017). A New Direction: A Framework for Homelessness Prevention. Toronto: Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Press.

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THE PROMISE PROJECT

Leadership Lesson # 2 – Indigenous Ways of Knowing

Agenda

1. What are Indigenous Ways of Knowing?
2. Who can exercise Indigenous Ways of Knowing?
3. All My Relations
4. Role in Ending Indigenous Homelessness
5. Role in Preventing and Ending All Forms of Homelessness

THE PROMISE PROJECT

What are Indigenous Ways of Knowing ?

“Indigenous knowledges are living ways of making sense of the world embedded in community practices, rituals, and relationships.” (Indigenous Ways of Knowing, 2019)



*Click the photo to watch

Definitions of Indigenous knowledge can be problematic because they often use the (dominant) Western knowledge system as a frame of reference.
(Indigenous Ways of Knowing, 2019)

THE PROMISE PROJECT

Who can exercise Indigenous Ways of Knowing?

There are sources and characteristics that are shared among diverse Indigenous peoples and nations however, defining this in one can be limiting. (Indigenous Ways of Knowing, 2019)

Any person who identifies as Indigenous can exercise Indigenous ways of knowing.

These ways of knowing vary between traditional territories, nations and individuals.



*Click the photo to watch

THE PROMISE PROJECT

All My Relations

“All My Relations” is a phrase that encompasses the view that all things are connected, linked to their families, communities, the lands that they inhabit and the ancestors who came before them. Therefore, all beings—animate and inanimate—are viewed as worthy of respect and care and in possession of a purpose are related.” (Thistle, 2017, p. 2)



*Click the photo to watch

THE PROMISE PROJECT

Role in Ending Indigenous Homelessness



The dimensions are complex and are often experienced in combination.

It is important to honour the the 12 Dimensions of Indigenous Homelessness and Indigenous Ways of Knowing.

(Thistle, 2017, p. 9-12)

THE PROMISE PROJECT

Role in Preventing and Ending All Forms of Homelessness

- The creation of the Indigenous definition of homelessness, specifically the 12 dimensions of Indigenous homelessness was a watershed moment in the homelessness sector.

- When we change our understanding of homelessness to include a variety of different experiences, it began to transform the way in which we end homelessness across Canada.

- The 12 Dimensions can be applied to both the experiences of Indigenous peoples and settlers on this land.

- By viewing homelessness through this far more inclusive lens, we can begin to build new responses to the issue.

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Self-Directed Learning Exercise- Indigenous Ways of Knowing

We recognize that teachers' and leaders' time is very valuable, therefore we have kept these exercises quick and easy to complete. Each self-directed learning exercise has three simple steps and is designed to take 15-30 min to complete.

Turtle Island is made up of many traditional territories of Indigenous, First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples. It is important to recognize that the cultures, belief systems, and governance structures vary widely across this land.

Step 1:
Use the link below to discover which traditional treaty territory you presently reside on.

https://guides.library.ualberta.ca/first-nations-metis-inuit/treaty-map-of-canada

Step 2:
Identify the Indigenous/ First Nations/ Metis/ Inuit peoples of the traditional territory.

Step 3:

Research and identify one indigenous way of knowing that is a new learning for you.

Bonus Step!

Are you interested in learning more about Indigenous ways of knowing? If so, please check out this online learning module.

https://www.oise.utoronto.ca/abed101/indigenous-ways-of-knowing/

Quick Fact Sheet - Indigenous Ways of Knowing

"Indigenous knowledges are living ways of making sense of the world embedded in community practices, rituals, and relationships." (Indigenous Ways of Knowing, 2019)

Definitions of Indigenous knowledge can be problematic because they often use the (dominant) Western knowledge system as a frame of reference. (Indigenous Ways of Knowing, 2019)

There are sources and characteristics that are shared among diverse Indigenous peoples and nations however, defining this in one can be limiting. (Indigenous Ways of Knowing, 2019)

"All My Relations" is a phrase that encompasses the view that all things are connected, linked to their families, communities, the lands that they inhabit and the ancestors who came before them. Therefore, all beings—animate and inanimate—are viewed as worthy of respect and care and in possession of a purpose are related." (Thistle, 2017, p. 2)

Watch:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=STus-mw1BLs

Reflection Questions:

- Where do you get your knowledge from? How can you be sure your knowledge is correct?

- How do you choose your sources of knowledge? Are some sources more trustworthy than others?

- What value systems underline your opinions?

Jesse Thistle (2017) encouraged readers to confront their belief systems when writing the "Definition of Indigenous Homelessness in Canada."

When examining Indigenous Homelessness across Canada it is important to agree on some difficult truths:

1. Indigenous people do not choose to be homeless;
2. The experience is negative, stressful and traumatic;
3. Homelessness itself forces a disproportionate number of Indigenous people into activities deemed criminal by the state; and
4. The higher mortality rate in First Nations, Métis and Inuit have been ignored too long. (Thistle, 2017)

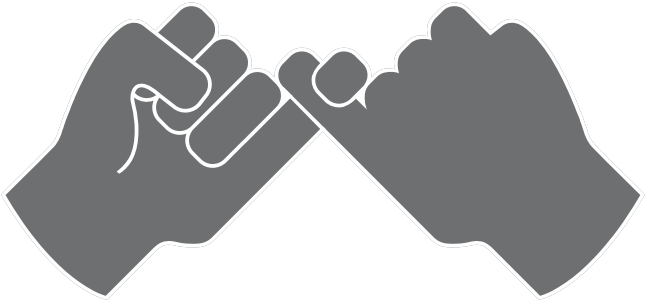
Most importantly, because a lack of a home, much as a sense of place or home place, is a culturally understood experience. (Thistle, 2017)

References:

Carr-Wiggin, A. (2019). Treaty Map of Canada. Edmonton: University of Alberta Libraries. Retrieved July 3, 2019 from:https://guides.library.ualberta.ca/first-nations-metis-inuit/treaty-map-of-canada

Restoule, J.P. (2019). Indigenous Ways of Knowing. Toronto: University of Toronto Ontario Institute of Studies in Education. Retrieved on June 30, 2019 from: https://www.oise.utoronto.ca/abed101/indigenous-ways-of-knowing/

Thistle, J. (2017.) *Indigenous Definition of Homelessness in Canada*. Toronto: Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Press.



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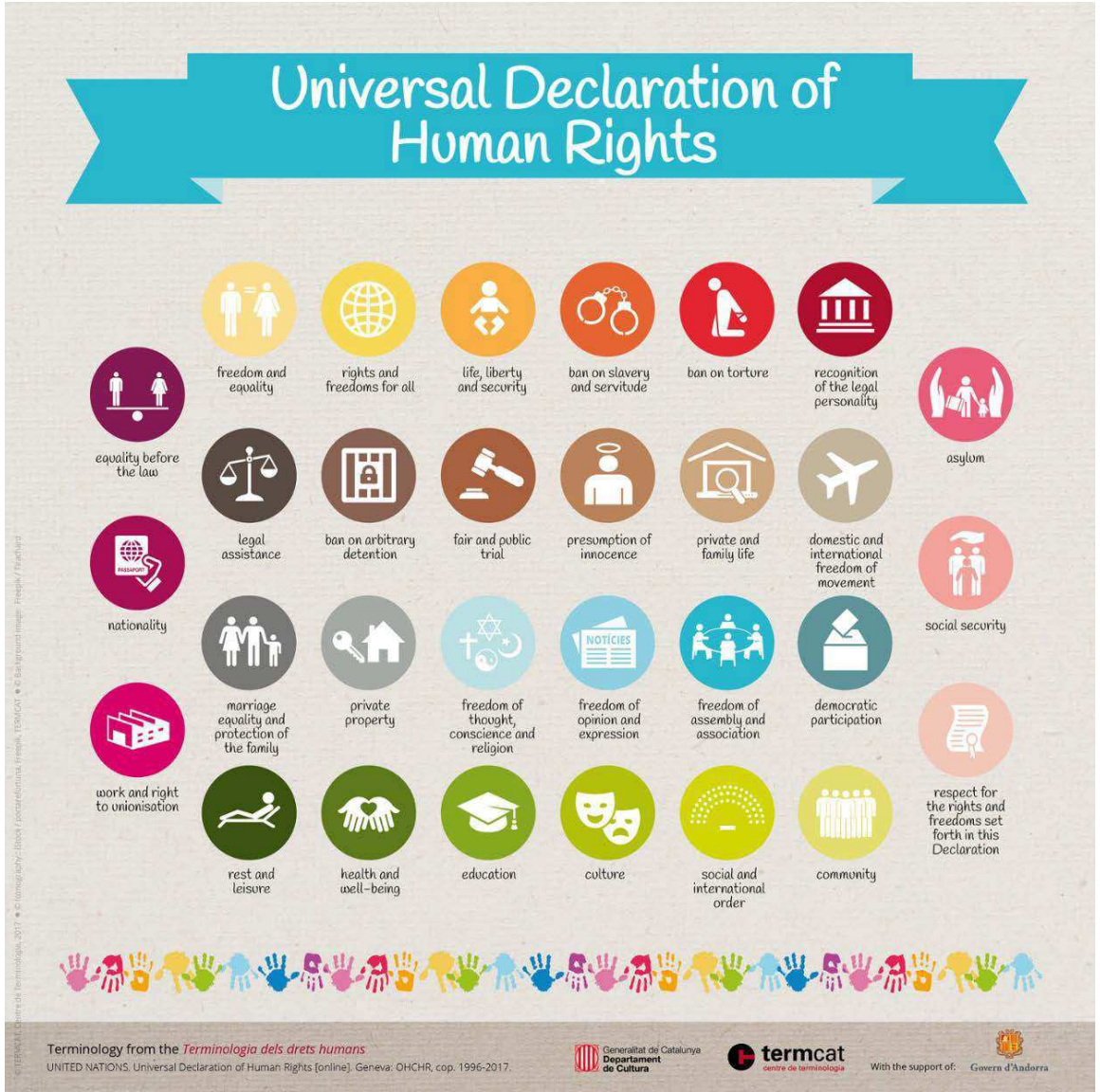
Leadership Lesson # 3 – The Human Right to Housing

Agenda:

1. Universal Declaration of Human Rights
2. Human Right to Housing
3. What does this mean across Canada?
4. What does this mean at the provincial & municipal level?
5. What does the right to housing look like in practice?

THE PROMISE PROJECT

Universal Declaration of Human Rights



As human beings, we all have rights. The **Universal Declaration of Human Rights** highlights 30 rights that we are all entitled to.

*Click the image to discover all our our fundamental human rights.

THE PROMISE PROJECT

Human Right to Housing

- Among these 30 human rights is the **right to housing**. What is the right to housing?

- According to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, “Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of [themselves] and of [their] family…” (Canadian human rights commission, n.d.).

- By the very nature of this definition, the **current homelessness crisis** is a human rights violation.

THE PROMISE PROJECT

What does this mean across Canada?

- On any given year, at least 235,000 people are homeless across Canada (Gaetz, Gulliver and Richter, 2014).Unfortunately, this implies that the right to housing is violated for many people.

- The good news, however, is that Canada is moving in the right direction. On June 21, the federal "National Housing Strategy Act" was passed by the Senate and received Royal Assent.

- The National Housing Strategy Act includes the right to housing legislation and a federal requirement to develop and maintain a National Housing Strategy that takes into account a rights-based approach.

- Passage of this law puts Canada amongst a small group of countries internationally who have taken a rights-based approach to housing.

THE PROMISE PROJECT

What does this mean at the provincial & municipal level?

- If you are paying rent, you are also protected by Tenant (or Renting) rights and responsibilities. These rights change according to which province or territory you live in.
- Each province or territory has a different system for managing these rights
- Each municipality has a different way of corresponding to complaints
- In addition, landlords have their own unique rights and responsibilities according to where they live. This can make the systems complex and hard to understand at times.
- It is important to learn your rights/responsibilities and how to make a complaint if need be, prior to signing a lease agreement or even starting to pay rent without a written contract.

THE PROMISE PROJECT

What does the right to housing look like in practice?

- Wales has taken the rights-based approach to housing and applied it to more effectively prevent homelessness. (Gaetz & Redman, 2019)
- The Welsh approach is a legal duty that requires municipal authorities to assist anyone who is at risk of homelessness, or who has become homeless, and seeks help. (Gaetz & Redman, 2019)
- In order to meet the demand, the practice prioritizes youth and families. (Gaetz & Redman, 2019)
- This model is called the Duty to Assist, and it is presently being adapted and trialed in the Canadian context. (Gaetz & Redman, 2019)

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THE PROMISE PROJECT

Self-Directed Learning Exercise - The Human Right to Housing

We recognize that teachers' and leaders' time is very valuable, so we have kept these excises quick and easy to complete. Each self-directed learning exercise has three simple steps that take 15-30 min to complete.

Step 1
Identify a city where you have recently used an Airbnb. If you haven't used Airbnb before, pick a popular tourist destination you would like to visit.

Once you have chosen a city, take a few minutes to research that City's policies around the management of Airbnb and short term rentals.

Quick Hint-
Try using these key words in your good search: 'short term rental rules'; 'airbnb rules'; 'fairbnb'; 'ghost hotels'

Step 2:

Watch:
https://globalnews.ca/video/3656347/rent-rising-due-to-commercial-properties-using-airbnb

Step 3:

Reflection Questions:

- Were you able to find the city's policies or rules for airbnbs? Was this process simple or complex?
- Does your city have regulations in place for short term rentals?
- Do short term rentals impact the rental vacancy rate for the city you have selected?
- How do you believe Airbnb impacts individuals human right to housing?
- Do you believe these two issues are interrelated? Why or why not?
- Is there a way to use short term rentals more responsibly?
- If you have used Airbnb in the past will you continue to do so? Why or why not?

Bonus Step:

Are you interested in learning more about the connection between short term rentals such as Airbnb and the connection to the human right to housing and the homelessness crisis?

Watch this video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4k0x6IOa08g

Quick Fact Sheet - The Human Right to Housing

What does 'Housing as a Human Right' mean?

As human beings, we all have rights. The **Universal Declaration of Human Rights,** http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/, highlights 30 rights that we are all entitled to.

Among these 30 human rights is the **right to housing**. What is the right to housing? According to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, "Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of [themselves] and of [their] family…" (Canadian Human Rights Commission, n.d.). By the very nature of this definition, the **current homelessness crisis**, see https://www.raisingtheroof.org/about-homelessness/, is a human rights violation.

Canadian Context

Like in many other countries, homelessness exists in Canada. In any given year, at least 235,000 people are homeless across Canada (Gaetz, Gulliver and Richter, 2014). Unfortunately, this implies that the right to housing of many people is violated. The good news, however, is that Canada is moving in the right direction.

On June 21, the federal "National Housing Strategy Act" was passed by the Senate and received Royal Assent.

The National Housing Strategy Act includes the right to housing legislation and a federal requirement to develop and maintain a National Housing Strategy that takes into account a rights-based approach. Passage of this law puts Canada amongst a small group of countries internationally who have taken a rights-based approach to housing.

What does this look like in practice?

Tenant Rights:

If you are paying rent, you are also protected by Tenant (or Renting) rights and responsibilities. These rights change according to which province or territory you live in. Each province or territory has a different system for managing these rights and corresponding complaints. In addition, landlords have their own unique rights and responsibilities according to where they live. This can make the systems complex and hard to understand at times.

It is important to learn your rights/responsibilities and how to make a complaint if need be, prior to signing a lease agreement or even starting to pay rent without a written contract.

Please see links below for further details:
Alberta
British Columbia
Manitoba
New Brunswick
Newfoundland & Labrador
Northwest Territories
Nova Scotia
Nunavut
Ontario
Prince Edward Island
Quebec
Saskatchewan
Yukon

What can I do?

Stay engaged and informed! As an individual entitled to human rights, it is important to recognize what is a violation of your rights and to advocate for the rights of others.

References:

Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (2018). Leilani Farha delivers keynote address on housing as a human right. Retrieved July 3, 2019 from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4k0x6IOa08g

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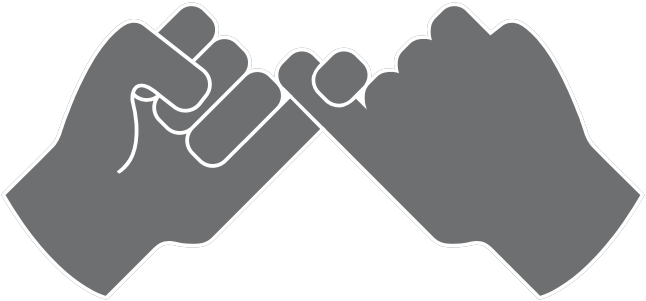
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Leadership Lesson # 4 – Interventions to Prevent and End Homelessness

Agenda:

1. Background
2. Political Context
3. Homelessness Prevention
4. How can we prevent homelessness?
5. Housing First
6. Harm Reduction

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Homelessness Prevention

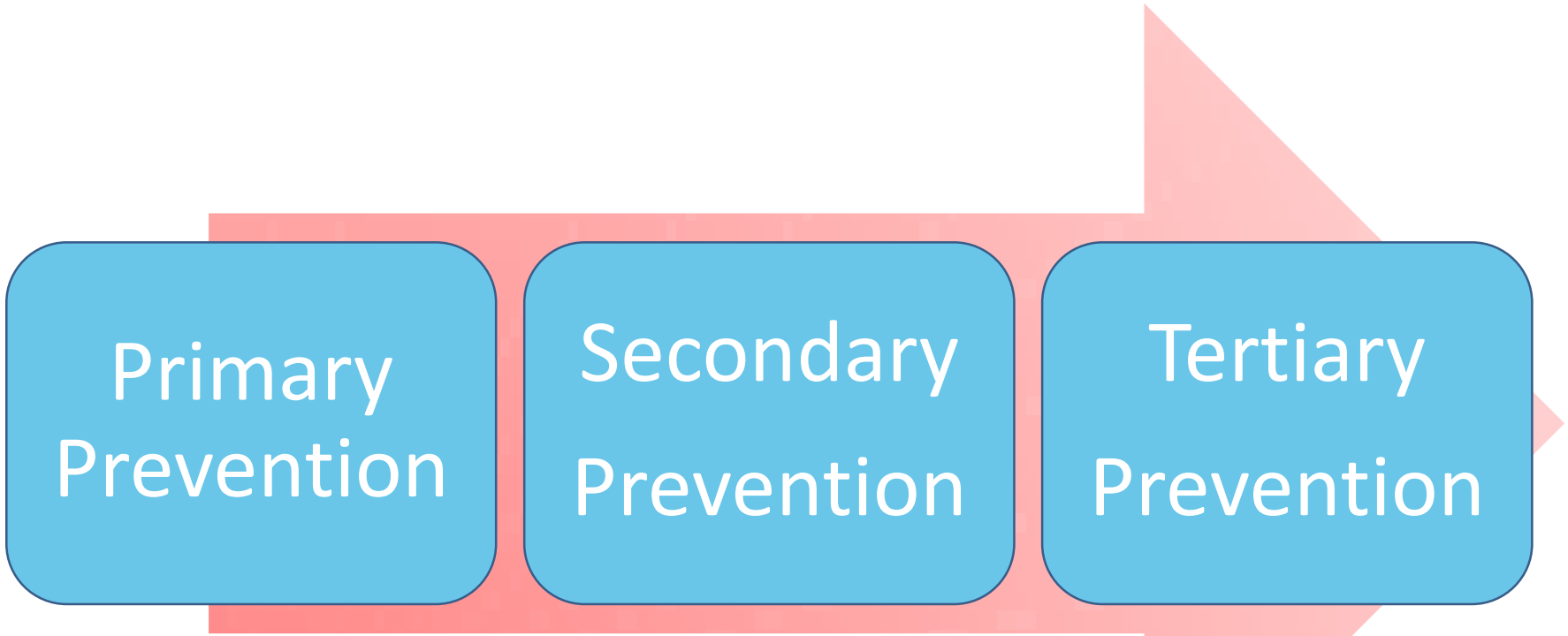
- In Canada, since the 1980s, the response to homelessness has been largely focused on emergency services.

- At present, there is a movement to shift our focus to homelessness prevention, addressing homelessness at the root causes.

> *"There is general consensus that prevention strategies are meant to eliminate or minimize the harm of being at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Prevention is made up of policies and strategies that impact homelessness at a structural level, as well as early intervention practices that address individual and situational factors." (Gaetz & Dej, 2017p.9)*

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Based on the public health model, we can break down homelessness prevention into three main categories:



Working upstream to change laws and policies which create risk of homelessness.

Early interventions to ensure people get the help they need before they experience homelessness.

Once someone is experiencing homelessness, provide them with the support they need to permanently end this experience.

(Gaetz & Dej, 2017)

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How can we prevent homelessness?

The Canadian Observatory on Homelessness has created a 5-part typology to describe how we can prevent homelessness across Canada.

1. Structural Prevention – Addressing structural and systemic factors that contribute to housing insecurity and expose individuals and families to the risk of homelessness. *(Gaetz & Dej, 2017)*

2. Systems Prevention – Addressing institutional and systems failures that either indirectly or directly contribute to the risk of homelessness *(Gaetz & Dej, 2017).*

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How can we prevent homelessness? Cont.

3. Early Intervention- programs and strategies designed to keep individuals and families at risk of eviction in their home and that helps them avoid entering into homelessness *(Gaetz & Dej, 2017).*

4. Eviction Prevention – focuses on housing supports, and includes landlord/tenant legislation and policy, rent controls and supplements, emergency funds, housing education, and crisis supports for people imminently at risk of eviction *(Gaetz & Dej, 2017).*

5. Housing Stability – initiatives and supports for people who have experienced homelessness so that people can exit homelessness in a timely way and never experience it again *(Gaetz & Dej, 2017).*

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Housing First

Housing First is focused on quickly moving people experiencing homelessness into independent and permanent housing and then providing additional supports and services as required (Homeless Hub[1], 2019).

> *"Housing is not contingent upon readiness, or on 'compliance' (for instance, sobriety). Rather, it is a rights-based intervention rooted in the philosophy that all people deserve housing, and that adequate housing is a precondition for recovery."*
> *(Homeless Hub[1], 2019).*



(Homeless Hub[2], 2019).

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Harm Reduction

To ensure the success of any of the interventions to end homelessness, a commitment to the Harm Reduction philosophy is vital.

> "Harm Reduction is an evidence-based, client-centred approach that seeks to reduce the health and social harms associated with addiction and substance use, without necessarily requiring people who use substances from abstaining or stopping."
> (Canadian Mental Health Association, 2019)



(Terhan Times, 2018)

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References

Canadian Mental Health Association. (n.d.) Harm Reduction. Retrieved on July 12, 2019 from: https://ontario.cmha.ca/harm-reduction/

CityNews [Carma Sa'd] (2017). Fighting for their Home [Brampton woman fights numerous eviction attempts Caryma Sa'd Toronto Criminal & Tenant Lawyer]. Retrieved on July 3, 2019 from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qeQ5tUzmfbA

Gaetz, S. & Dej, E. (2017). A New Direction: A Framework for Homelessness Prevention. Toronto: Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Press.

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Homeless Hub[1]. (n.d.) Housing First. Retrieved on July 12, 2019 from: https://www.homelesshub.ca/solutions/housing-accommodation-and-supports/housing-first

Homeless Hub[2]. (n.d.) The Housing First Equation. Retrieved on July 12, 2019 from: https://www.homelesshub.ca/gallery/housing-first-equation

Tehran Times (2018). Harm reduction prevents spread of HIV, says official. Retrieved on July 12, 2019 from: https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/426120/Harm-reduction-prevents-spread-of-HIV-says-official

THE PROMISE PROJECT

Self-Directed Learning Exercise - Homelessness Prevention

We recognize that teachers' and leaders' time is very valuable, thus we have kept these exercises quick and easy to complete. Each self-directed learning exercise has three simple steps and is designed to take 15-30 min to complete.

When it comes to homelessness, there are many complex factors which play a role in perpetuating the crisis. The causes of homelessness are often experienced in combination and may require multiple preventative measures to be effective.

Step 1:

Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qeQ5tUzmfbA

Step 2:

List some of the underlying causes of homelessness you believe are at play in Robyn Coates' story.

Step 3:

Based on the homelessness prevention typology, please list the levels of intervention you believe would be most effective in this case study and why:

1. Structural Prevention-

2. Systems Prevention-

3. Early Intervention-

4. Eviction Prevention-

5. Housing Stability-

*Hint- This case is not contained to evictions prevention. It is important to look at the factors at play before Robyn was given her first and second eviction notices.

Quick Fact Sheet - Homelessness Prevention

Why is homelessness prevention important?

In Canada, since the 1980s, the response to homelessness has been largely focused on emergency services. At present, there is a movement to shift our focus to homelessness prevention, addressing homelessness at the root causes.

> *"There is general consensus that prevention strategies are meant to eliminate or minimize the harm of being at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Prevention is made up of policies and strategies that impact homelessness at a structural level, as well as early intervention practices that address individual and situational factors."*
> *(Gaetz & Dej, 2017p.9)*

What is homelessness prevention?

Based on the public health model, we can break down homelessness prevention into three main categories:

Primary Prevention	Secondary Prevention	Tertiary Prevention
Working upstream to change laws and policies which create risk of homelessness.	Early interventions to ensure people get the help they need before they experience homelessness.	Once someone is experiencing homelessness, provide them with the support they need to permanently end this experience.

(Gaetz & Dej, 2017)

How can we prevent homelessness?

The Canadian Observatory on Homelessness has created a 5-part typology to describe how we can prevent homelessness across Canada.

1. Structural Prevention - This addresses structural and systemic factors that contribute to housing insecurity and expose individuals and families to the risk of homelessness. *(Gaetz & Dej, 2017)*

2. Systems Prevention - Addressing institutional and systems failures that either indirectly or directly contribute to the risk of homelessness *(Ga*

etz & Dej, 2017).

3. Early Intervention - programs and strategies designed to keep individuals and families at risk of eviction in their home and that helps them avoid entering into homelessness *(Gaetz & Dej, 2017).*

4. Eviction Prevention - focuses on housing supports, and includes landlord/tenant legislation and policy, rent controls and supplements, emergency funds, housing education, and crisis supports for people imminently at risk of eviction *(Gaetz & Dej, 2017).*

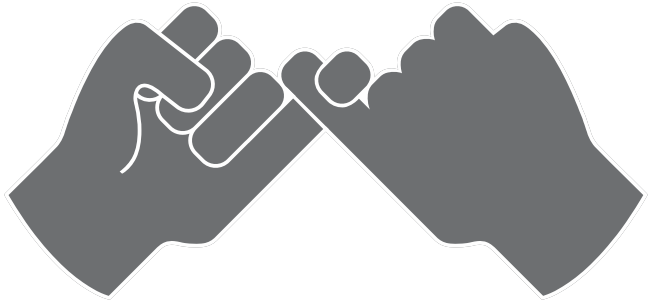
5. Housing Stability - initiatives and supports for people who have experienced homelessness so that people can exit homelessness in a timely way and never experience it again *(Gaetz & Dej, 2017).*

References:

CityNews [Carma Sa'd] (2017). Fighting for their Home [Brampton woman fights numerous eviction attempts Caryma Sa'd Toronto Criminal & Tenant Lawyer]. Retrieved on July 3, 2019 from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qeQ5tUzmfbA

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Leadership Lesson # 5 – The Promise Project

Agenda:

1. Who is Joe Roberts?
2. What is the Push for Change?
3. What is The Promise Project?
4. Important Dates and Deadlines
5. What if I need support with the project?

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Who are Joe and Marie Roberts?



*Click the photo to watch

PROMISE PROJECT

What is the Push For Change?



*Click the photo to watch

THE PROMISE PROJECT

What is the Promise Project?

- The Promise Project is the evolution of Joe Roberts' Push for Change
- The Promise Project aims to inspire, educate and empower youth and students in developing a project to address an issue affecting youth within their communities
- All youth across Canada (up to the age of 24) who are students of a public or private school, college or university or members of a local club or service agency can participate
- Students will have an opportunity to submit their ideas as part of a contest
- Teams can only submit one project; however, keen individuals may certainly choose to be on multiple (and different) project teams
- The Promise Project requires a minimum of three youth per team

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What is The Promise Project? Cont.

- Each team must be led by a teacher, school official, adult/club supervisor
- Teams with participants over the age of 19 (i.e. those no longer in high school) can elect one team leader
- Participants can submit their Community Involvement Hours form to The Push for Change to receive recognition for their volunteer hours
- Up to 10 teams will win a $5000 grant to support a Canadian Registered Charity of their choice (that aligns with their project) or, the grant can be used to further their project
- Winning teams will be selected according to this Criteria

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Important Dates and Deadlines

- Contest registration forms must be received before April 15, 2020
- The contest starts September 3, 2019 at 8:00 pm (PST) and ends May 15, 2020
- Winners will be selected by June 15, 2020 and announced by July 31, 2020

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What if I need support with the project?

- Use The Promise Project Toolkit, found on The Push for Change website
- Visit our Promise Ideas web page
- Visit the How-It-Works page to register your team for the Promise Project
- Please email promise@thepushforchange.com for further support
- All information is available at www.thepushforchange.com

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References

The Push For Change[ThePushForChange] (2017). What is The Push for Change? Retrieved on July 12, 2019 from: https://www.youtube.com/user/ThePushForChange

The Push For Change[ThePushForChange] (2017). Joe and Marie form The Push for Change in 2018. Retrieved on July 12, 2019 from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HZ39uBDdStk

THE PROMISE PROJECT

Self-Directed Learning Exercise - The Promise Project Contest

We recognize that teachers' and leaders' time is very valuable, thus we have kept these exercises quick and easy to complete. Each self-directed learning exercise has three simple steps is designed to take 15-30 min to complete.

In order to inspire, educate and empower Promise Project participants, we feel it is important that each project is youth-lead. However, for the purpose of this exercise, we are asking you to create your own ideas for a project.

It is important to note, that we do not recommend pre-formulating a project for teams prior to the project's commencement. We encourage all leaders to remain flexible and responsive to participants' ideas and directions.

Step 1:
Review the list of Promise Project starter ideas attached below. Select an idea from the list provided that you feel would be most appropriate for your participants.

Step 2:
Spend 3-5 minutes brainstorming some logistics to completing this project. Try to include as many details and logistics items as possible that would be required to execute this promise.

Complete these reflection questions to build in enough detail for your mock project:

- Would your students/participants find this idea engaging? Will it inspire, educate and empower them for success?
- Does this mock Promise Project appeal to your local community?
- Does your mock project speak to the root causes of the issue you are working on?
- What elements are the strongest within your mock Promise Project?
- What elements of your mock Promise Project need improvements?
- What is the best way to illustrate this project to an outside audience?
- Do you feel this could be an award-winning idea? Why or why not?

Step 3:
Once you have built a mock project, use the Scoring Rubric document found within The Promise Project Toolkit, to conduct your own self-assessment of the idea.

The Promise Project Starter Ideas

Primary Students	High School Students	University & College Students
- Learn about the causes of homelessness - Ask for help if me or my family need it - Talk about homelessness with my peers and family - If I know someone who needs help, I promise to help them get the support they need - Learn about the supports in my community - Write a letter to our Mayor, Premier or Prime Minister - Look for the 'signs' of homelessness - Make my school and community a safe space for LGTBQ2S people - End racism in my community - Promote equality in my community - Run a fundraiser in my community - Run a school challenge to raise funds for The Push for Change - Run a school wide Raising the Roof Toque campaign	- Learn about the causes of homelessness - Ask for help if me or my family need it - Talk about homelessness with my peers and family - If I know someone who needs help, I promise to help them get the support they need - Encourage friends to work to resolve conflict with their family members - Learn about the supports in my community - Reduce the stigma about mental health - Seek help for my own mental health - Support others who are struggling with mental illness - Write a letter to our Mayor, Premier or Prime Minister - Look for the 'signs' of homelessness - Make my school and community a safe space for LGTBQ2S people - End racism in my community - Promote equality in my community - Learn landlord tenant rights and responsibilities - Participate in a sleep out - Combat the stigma of homelessness - Vote - Learn about the housing platforms of my local candidates	- Learn about the causes of homelessness - To make my workspace and community LGTBQ2S positive - Eliminate racism in my workspace or community - Reduce the stigma about mental illness - Seek help for my own mental health - Support others who are struggling with mental health - Become a Host Home - Participate in a sleep out - Ensure my employer/company creates equal opportunities - Encourage my company to use the Hire Up platform to create employment opportunities for youth - Combat the stigma of homelessness - Vote - Learn about the housing platforms of my local candidates - Encourage my parents to become hosts if a host home program exists in my community - Encourage my workplace to join a Hockey Helps the Homeless tournament - If I have rental property, work with a local service provider to create affordable housing units - Learn landlord tenant rights and responsibilities

	- Encourage my parents to become hosts if a host home program exists in my community - Run a school wide Raising the Roof Toque campaign - Challenge a school close by to a fundraising challenge for The Push for Change	- Run a school wide Raising the Roof Toque campaign - Support businesses committed to ending youth homelessness (Home Depot, Starbucks, RBC) - Combat my own Not in My Backyard ism (NIMBYism)

Quick Facts - The Promise Project Contest

- The Promise Project is the evolution of Joe Roberts' Push for Change
- The Promise Project aims to inspire, educate and empower youth and students in developing a project to address an issue affecting youth within their communities
- Students will have an opportunity to submit their ideas as part of a contest
- Teams can only submit one project; however, keen individuals may certainly choose to be on multiple (and different) project teams
- All youth across Canada (up to the age of 24) who are students of a public or private school, college or university or members of a local club or service agency can participate
- The Promise project requires a minimum three youth per team
- Each team must be led by a teacher, school official, adult/club supervisor
- Teams with participants over the age of 19 (i.e. those no longer in high school) can elect one team leader
- Participants can submit their Community Involvement Hours form to The Push for Change to receive recognition for their volunteer hours
- Visit our promise ideas web page for ideas for your team's Promise Project.
- Visit the How-It-Works page to register your team for the Promise Project
- Up to 10 projects will win a $5000 grant to support their local charity or further their project.
- You can select a charity as the recipient of the award. Charity mandates must align you're your Promise Project goals and objectives and they must have charitable status recognized by Canada Revenue Agency.
- Winning teams will be selected according to this Criteria
- Funds are administered by The Push for Change.
- Contest registration forms must be received before April 15, 2020
- The contest starts September 3, 2019 at 8:00 pm (PST) and ends May 15, 2020

- Winners will be selected by June 15, 2020 and announced by July 31, 2020

Please email promise@thepushforchange.com for further support