

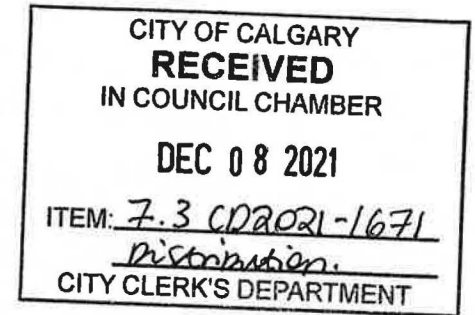
A photograph of a tree branch heavily covered in white frost or snow, set against a clear, deep blue sky. The image occupies the entire background of the slide.

## **Supporting Calgarians Experiencing Homelessness Through Cold Weather Events (Verbal)**

**CD2021-1671**

Presentation to Community Development Committee  
2021 December 8

# Homelessness and housing in Calgary



- Government of Alberta
- The City of Calgary
- Calgary Homeless Foundation
- Community housing providers and shelters





# Calgary Homeless Foundation guides the fight against homelessness in Calgary

## What we do



### Allocate Resources for Highest Impact and Outcomes

- Administer funding for support programs, services and rent supplements (25% of funding)
- direct funding and allocate resources to 21 agencies to maximize efficiency and benefits to clients
- Coordinate and 'triage' through Coordinated Access and Assessment to ensure barrier-free access to housing and supports.



### Build Knowledge and Understanding

- Homeless Management System collecting system wide data – richest database in Canada
- Applied Research to test approaches and pilots in real time – currently with recovery oriented approaches
- Academic Research in partnership with community to identify trends and influence policy



### Galvanize Public and Political Will

- Advocate with all levels of government for access and resources to guide the Calgary Homeless System of Care toward matching the right person to the right housing at the right time.
- Inviting the community at large (private, non profit, government, all citizens) to join us in the fight against homelessness as it impacts all of us.

## Current state of homelessness in our city

1. Latest Point In Time Count Data
2. Data on individuals actively engaged in housing plans and awaiting placement
3. Current funding allotment
4. Current scope of outreach
5. Closing thoughts

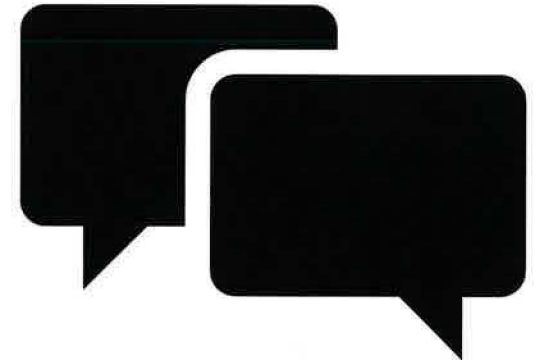
## Current State: Ad hoc Approach to Cold Weather Events

- Shelter in place and wellness checks
- Partnering with outreach agencies
- Transportation and referral to supports and wraparound services
- Community spaces to warm up





- Capacity exists within the shelter system
- Barriers to access existing services
- Support people to stay safe where they're at
- Shelter-related organizations are experiencing severe staffing strain
- The need for low barrier, safe, alternative spaces to stay warm
- Warming spaces require appropriately trained staffing models and wraparound supports
- Opportunities for coordinated case management and outreach activities





### **Extreme weather preparedness and response**

- Partner with the Calgary Homeless Foundation to prepare and coordinate a community response to cold weather this winter



### **Cold weather essentials**

- Support people to stay safe where they're at
- Increase awareness of existing services and supports



### **Strengthen existing services to offer more spaces**

- Provide resources to expand capacity with existing service providers
- Increase and coordinate ways to get to existing warm spaces



## Recommendation

**That the Community Development Committee recommend that Council direct Administration to allocate up to \$750 000 to the Calgary Homeless Foundation to coordinate a community cold weather response to support Calgarians experiencing homelessness and report back on outcomes of the investment to the Community Development Committee by the end of Q3 2022.**