December 05, 2025

High-Level Summary Report for the Executive Policy Committee

End Homelessness Winnipeg leads the citywide effort to reduce and end homelessness through Coordinated Access, Indigenous-led approaches, prevention, and person-centred supports. The 2024–2025 reporting period shows meaningful progress across these areas while also highlighting gaps that require sustained work with the City.

Housing Supply and System Capacity

Progress toward the 5-Year Plan target of 1,340 additional units has been mixed. Transitional housing has exceeded projected needs and strengthened rapid rehousing options. Permanent supportive housing has met its low target but experiences minimal turnover and requires continuous operational and staffing support. Social housing remains under target, and private below-market rentals face affordability risks due to rising rents and financialization. These pressures reinforce the need for deeply affordable, non-market, and Indigenous-led housing.

EHW is developing a Winnipeg Affordable Housing Strategy, aligned with the City's Housing Needs Assessment, to guide housing supply decisions over the next five years. Work is also advancing on an Indigenous Housing Authority to support culturally grounded, community-owned housing.

Housing Placements and Coordinated Access

Nearly 3,000 people have been housed since 2019 through Reaching Home investments. In 2023–24, 580 people moved into housing through Housing First and rapid rehousing programs. The Coordinated Access system, Naatamooskakowin, now includes 90 programs across 27 organizations using HIFIS, surpassing the target and improving shared intake, referral, and data quality. This system continues to be strengthened through staff training and collaboration with corrections, health, and social services.

Reducing Indigenous Homelessness

Indigenous people remain drastically overrepresented in homelessness. EHW worked with Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre, Wahbung Abinoonjiiag, Shawenim Abinoojii, AMC, and AHWC to expand culturally anchored transitional and supportive housing. Winnipeg is preparing to pilot the Indigenous Pathway for Coordinated Access. Cross-government work focused on addressing root causes tied to corrections, CFS involvement, and limited culturally safe housing options.

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Shortening Shelter Stays and Strengthening Shelter Practices

Reaching Home investments supported new transitional housing, Indigenous-led Housing First programs, harm-reduction tools, and capital responses. Shelters continue shifting toward housing-focused practices, including stronger discharge planning and improved referral pathways. EHW's work with corrections aims to reduce releases into homelessness. The Canada–Manitoba Housing Benefit supported more than 2,100 tenants before reaching capacity, helping shorten shelter stays.

Prevention

Prevention efforts addressed key points where people fall into homelessness. School-based pilots connected 160–200 families to income and housing supports. Housing workshops at the Winnipeg Women's Correctional Centre produced 64 graduates and reduced the proportion of women unsure where they would live upon release. A major multi-partner study on transitions out of CFS care completed its first phase, guided by lived-experience input.

Person-Centred Supports and Emergency Response

The Extreme Weather Program processed 71 emergency claims, supported temporary housing for 16 people, and distributed more than 2,000 N95 masks and 2,000 summer resource guides. EHW co-led coordinated responses to building closures with the City, Province, and Red Cross. The Gizhe Waa Tii Sii Win Expo served over 1,500 people through 70 organizations and expanded cultural programming. In addition, EHW continued to convene sector partners through major collaborative events, including the 2024 Ending Homelessness Together Gathering. It brought together lived experts, community organizations, governments, and researchers to align priorities, share knowledge, and strengthen coordinated strategies across the homelessness response system. These events demonstrate EHW's role as a central connector in shaping citywide solutions.

Research and System Planning

EHW led the 2024 Winnipeg Street Census and produced major research on Indigenous homelessness and young adults' experiences. A Shared Measurement Committee now supports stronger data governance across the sector.

Winnipeg's homelessness response is becoming more coordinated and data-driven, with Indigenous leadership and prevention at the centre of progress. Continued partnership with the City remains essential to sustain momentum and expand housing solutions.



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