



May 18 2023

Manager of Planning, Development & Sustainability

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# Social & Economic Wellbeing

CASTLEGAR

# Targeting Poverty & Homelessness

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# Purpose

Measuring Poverty and Homelessness

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- The purpose of this project is to understand the supports those experiencing poverty need, by undertaking an estimation of rural homelessness, housing insecurity, and service needs in the Castlegar area.



# Process

## Measuring Poverty & Homelessness

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- Partnered with community service organizations and street outreach program for survey delivery over a 30-day period
- Key locations provided with support staff and resources
- Marketed through additional community partners
- Surveys made available on-line and in hard copy

# Social and Economic Well-Being Assessment

Are you a resident of Castlegar experiencing challenges accessing housing and support services?

**We want to hear from you!**



Scan Me

Complete a survey in-person from May 10 to June 2 at specified locations or complete online.

Find Surveys and Support Staff at:



Participants receive \$20 cash for a completed survey. Only one survey per respondent.

 **Castlegar Community Connections Centre**  
Thursdays, May 18 & 25  
from 9 am - 3pm

 **Kootenay Career Development Centre**  
Mondays and Wednesdays, May 10-31  
from 9 am - 12 pm

 **Kootenay Family Place**  
Mondays and Wednesdays, May 10-31  
from 1 pm - 4 pm

 **Community Harvest Food Bank**  
Wednesdays, May 17, 24 & 31  
from 10 am - 1 pm



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# Process

Measuring Poverty & Homelessness

- Identify key drivers of experiences of poverty and homelessness
- Understand lived experiences of poverty and homelessness
- Build a narrative and provide agency to those not often provided a voice

# Barriers & Successes

Measuring Poverty & Homelessness

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- Enthusiastic partners
- Capacity limitations
- How to reach the hard to reach – transient, language barriers, cultural barriers
- Timing with student population, closure of shelter
- Resourcing key locations







# Budget Overview

Budget Development Process

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- Initially budgeted by Council for a Point in Time (PiT) Count
- Change in methodology increased cost
- Application to UBCM Poverty Reduction Program
- Cash incentive problematic
- Accountability





# What we are finding

Measuring Poverty & Homelessness

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- Home means different things to different people
- There are no easy solutions
- There are no best solutions
- Resources are often not directed at the right things
- Collaboration is critical to success
- Flexibility and agility important



# How to Ask a Question

Questions and Answers

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## Online or App

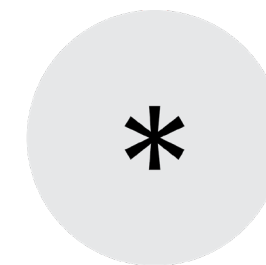
Click Participants then use the Raise Hand function. You will be prompted to unmute your microphone. Make sure your hand is lowered unless you want to ask a question.



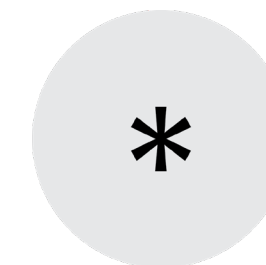
Raise Hand

## By Phone

Press \*9 to Raise/Lower hand and \*6 to Mute/Unmute your phone.



Raise/Lower Hand



Mute/Unmute





# Thank you

Visit [castlegar.ca](http://castlegar.ca) for  
more resources

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