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100 More Homes Penticton Report Highlights Achievements in Addressing Regional Homelessness

Penticton, B.C. – Today, 100 More Homes (100MH) Penticton released its <u>2024 Impact Report</u>, which chronicles the program's efforts over the past year to ensure that every Penticton-area resident has access to stable, safe, and permanent housing.

"Our 2024 Impact Report tells the story of what is possible when a community comes together with a shared vision and purpose," says Tanya Behardien,100 More Homes Penticton Co-Chair. "This year's achievements belong to every partner, every service provider, and every person with lived and living experience who has contributed to making a difference."

The report highlights several significant achievements that underscore the collective's growing impact and leadership in addressing homelessness, including:

- A 56% growth in partner membership among various subcommittees, expanding collaboration across the nonprofit, government, business, development, and public safety sectors.
- The launch of two major initiatives: the Housing Action Table and the Lived/Living Experience Table, creating new pathways for community-driven solutions.
- National recognition as the only community without federal <u>Reaching Home</u> funding that was selected by the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs to implement the federal standard for housing and homelessness data.
- A shift from a crisis-response approach to long-term, preventative strategies through initiatives like the Social Housing and Infrastructure Plan (SHIP) and the successful implementation of a new emergency weather response model: the Temporary Winter Shelter.

A new short film, also released today, showcases how the Temporary Winter Shelter—operated by the Penticton and Area Overdose Prevention Society and supported by 100 More Homes Penticton partners—has successfully provided vulnerable community members with safety, stability, and critical pathways to housing during winter months.

"The Temporary Winter Shelter film offers a powerful, human lens into the realities of homelessness and the strength of our community's response," says Julie Czeck, General Manager of Public Safety & Partnerships at the City of Penticton. "It reminds us that behind every policy and partnership are real people working toward safety, dignity, and connection. We're proud to support initiatives that bring these stories forward and inspire continued collaboration."

You can watch the Temporary Winter Shelter film at: uwbc.ca/program/100-more-homes-penticton/.

You can download the 100 More Homes Penticton 2024 Impact Report at: <u>uwbc.ca/program/100-more-homes-penticton/#reports</u>.

About 100 More Homes Penticton

Over the last eight years, 100 More Homes Penticton has transformed from a small, informal group that met to discuss housing needs in the community into a formal collective with over 27 diverse organizations representing housing needs for a wide range of people. In 2018, the collective efforts resulted in the construction of over 200 housing units and wrap-around housing support services. It is now working towards creating a community where every resident has safe, accessible, and affordable homes to live in. United Way BC is the backbone organization supporting 100 More Homes Penticton.

To learn more, visit 100 More Homes Penticton | United Way British Columbia

About United Way British Columbia

United Way BC helps build healthy, caring, and inclusive communities across our province. We strengthen vital connections that support people in need with a focus on emergency response, kids and youth, seniors, mental health, and food security.

uwbc.ca

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Interviews with Annika Kirk, 100 More Homes Strategy Coordinator, United Way British Columbia, are available. Please contact Chantal Beesley to arrange an interview.

