

HOUSING MATTERS BC

Services and Supports for the Homeless: Vancouver

Approximately \$110 million was provided last year to support more than 6,930 housing units for the homeless or at risk of homelessness in Vancouver.

Emergency Shelters	More than \$26 million was spent last year to provide close to 960 permanent, year round homeless shelter spaces in Vancouver (more than 840 are funded through the Emergency Shelter Program).
Extreme Weather Shelters	Last winter, approximately 225 spaces were available across Vancouver to increase emergency shelter space when extreme weather conditions threatened the safety and health of individuals.
Winter Response Shelters	Each winter, depending on need, the Province opens temporary winter shelters in Vancouver that are available 24/7 during the winter months.
For Women- Only	<p>There are more than 130 women-only shelter spaces in Vancouver. More than 100 of these are in the Downtown Eastside.</p> <p>There are also eight women-only supportive housing developments in the city (more than 380 units) including: <i>The Vivian</i>; the <i>Rice Block</i>; <i>Sorella</i>; <i>Serena's House</i>; the <i>Marr</i>; <i>Bridge Housing for Women</i>; <i>Rainer Hotel</i>; and <i>The Empress</i>.</p>
Homeless Outreach	Homeless outreach and shelter workers across Vancouver connect people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to housing, income assistance and a range of support services.
Stable Housing	<p>Since 2001, the B.C. government has developed and preserved close to 8,000 units of affordable housing in Vancouver. More than 4,400 of these units are for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.</p> <p>Single Room Occupancy Hotels: The Province invested approximately \$150 million to acquire and renovate 24 Vancouver Single Room Occupancy (SRO) hotels, protecting more than 1,300 units of affordable housing for those in greatest need.</p> <p>SRO Renewal Initiative: The province is investing \$143.3 million into the SRO Renewal Initiative (SRI) to renovate 13 SROs under a public-private partnership. This includes \$29.1 million from the Government of Canada through the P3 Canada Fund.</p> <p>Supportive Housing: Nearly 1,400 new supportive housing units have been built in Vancouver in partnership with the City of Vancouver and Streetohome.</p>
Rent Supplements	The Province provides approximately 750 homeless rent supplements – monthly cash benefits that help keep private market rentals more affordable – as well as ongoing support services to individuals moving to independent housing.
