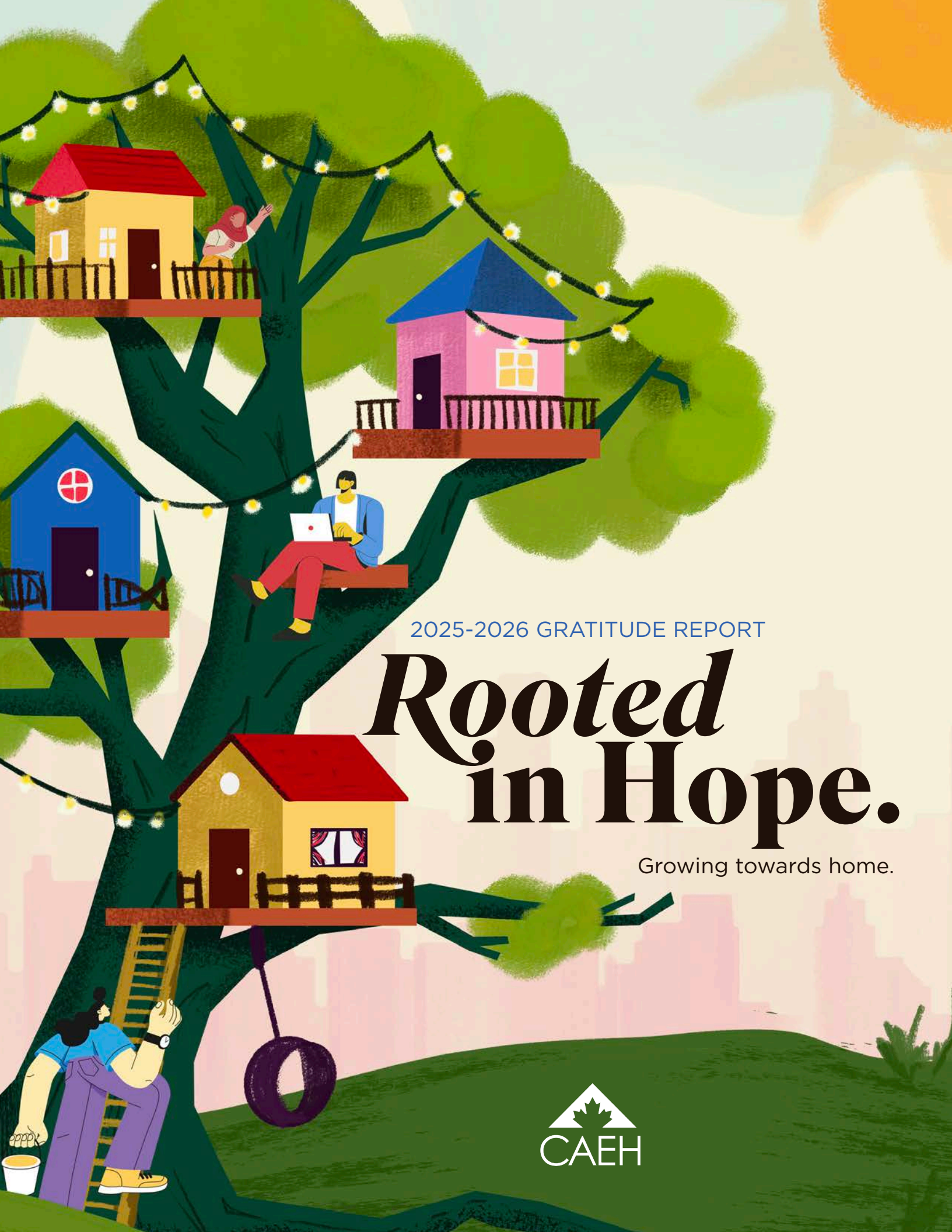




2025-2026 GRATITUDE REPORT

Rooted in Hope.

Growing towards home.



Table of contents

02

Every tree tells a story of time

A message from Don Iveson & Kristen Desjarlais-Deklerk, Co-Chairs of the Board

03

Our movement is growing, at a critical point

A letter from Tim Richter, President & CEO

05

Across the country, new branches are taking shape

By Anna McGregor, Senior Director, Community Impact

09

Building change together, from the ground up

By Andrew Burns, Senior Director of Public Affairs and Development; Maggie Rodrigues, Government Relations Lead

11

From Roots to Results

How we're transforming Canada's response to homelessness

15

Our treehouse moment

By Chloe Martin, Events Lead

17

Financial update

By Brooke Matter, Finance Director and Ashish Shah, Treasurer

19

An historic year for monthly and corporate donors

By Elisabeth Hazell, Philanthropy and Campaigns Lead

Every tree tells a story of time

A message from Don Iveson & Kristen Desjarlais-Deklerk, Co-Chairs of the Board

Its rings mark the years, the tough and the good ones, the droughts and the seasons of growth. When you look at a tree that has stood for decades, you're looking at proof that sustained effort, year after year, produces something powerful.

That's what we see when we look at this movement, and you.

We are beginning to see a shift in the conditions that cause homelessness: rent prices flattening and even decreasing in some communities and new affordable and supportive housing popping up across the country.

Through the Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund, we're helping communities implement locally designed reduction projects to test and then scale solutions that work. Many of those projects are already germinating and showing the fruits of our collective efforts.

These shifts wouldn't have happened without your donations, your letters to MPs, and your sustained belief that homelessness is solvable: that's what moves governments and saves lives.

So, the seeds have been planted, these roots are taking hold, and growth will happen, because of you.

The next three years are critical. CAEH is sharpening its focus on building the systems, the evidence, and the political will to deliver real, lasting reductions in homelessness. We are working harder than ever to create the tools that communities and people need to respond faster to the crisis, and to build systems that reduce homelessness.

In the coming pages and years, you'll see more details as we adapt and transform to maximize our impact.

We are so grateful you are growing this with us.



Kristen Desjarlais-Deklerk
Co-Chair



Don Iveson
Co-Chair

Our movement is growing, at a critical point

A letter from Tim Richter,
President & CEO



We are standing at the epicentre of a very unnatural disaster.

Homelessness has nearly doubled from 2018 to 2024, while unsheltered homelessness has increased by 300% in that same period and continues to grow each day. For every person housed, it can feel like two more are forced out into the cold.

As with floods and forest fires, communities and front-line workers and volunteers are doing everything they can to respond to the crisis, to keep people safe and off the streets. And that work is saving lives.

The movement to end homelessness reached a significant milestone this past year. The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH) has supported communities to move people from homelessness into housing more than 113,000 times. That number is going to continue to grow, but it's not enough. Thanks to your support, something stronger is taking root.

Dozens of Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund projects are already underway — demonstrating the power of data-driven investments and continuous improvement to bring local solutions to life. The first investments in supportive housing are flowing from Build Canada Homes. At the same time, we are shifting our operating model to ensure our own capacity meets the needs of local communities as they adapt to new realities and accelerate homelessness reductions.

In a natural disaster, all levels of government come together to get people back into homes as fast as possible, but that focus is something we've been missing when it comes to homelessness.

Now we have an opportunity to set a new tone. Negotiations are underway for a renewed National Housing Strategy, and we're making headway with our advocacy for a Canada Housing Accord, the foundation for a new era of collaborative

action focused specifically on permanently housing people as fast as possible.

Our movement is gaining strength. In Windsor, the goal of functional zero Veterans homelessness is within reach. We're supporting Sault Ste. Marie to prevent homelessness by working with renters at risk of losing their housing. Ottawa has begun to reduce youth homelessness and

is making massive commitments to end it. With strong local leadership, it is possible to buck the trend. To people with lived experience, and to those still living without a safe home: we see you, and thank you for your leadership in this work. We need more homes. We need a housing safety net to prevent homelessness before it occurs. We need community response systems that don't just manage homelessness, but end it.

We aren't there yet, but we will get there. We won't stop until we do.

Thank you for believing that we can end homelessness.

Now is the time to act with the urgency that this work requires.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Richter".

Tim Richter
President & CEO

Across the country, new branches are taking shape

By Anna McGregor, Senior Director, Community Impact



Across the country, communities are taking big strides forward in the work to reduce and ultimately end homelessness, urged on and nurtured by your support.

Like branches growing upwards and outwards from a shared trunk, communities are building from an important foundation: knowing by name and in real-time all the people who are experiencing homelessness, so everyone can be seen and supported. Then new branches take shape: systems that support collective action and centre people with lived experience in the work. Homelessness is being ended for people every single day.

Here are just a few examples of the progress your support has driven over the past year:

New supportive housing in United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

Last fall CAEH joined the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville (UCLG) to open a new 24-unit supportive housing facility to support people experiencing homelessness towards long-term housing stability. The Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund helped fill a key need to make this project a reality, supporting retrofits and furnishings to transform a former dormitory building into supportive housing.

Supportive housing provides a safe and supportive environment where people can find stability and

access essential services, and in UCLG it's already showing results. The community's initial goal was to reduce chronic homelessness by 18% but they've already seen a 28% reduction. Behind every number is a person: as one resident shared at the opening: *"This success story is not just about me. It's about what becomes possible when people are given structure, compassion, and the opportunity to rebuild."*

Indigenous and non-Indigenous community agencies saving lives together in Thunder Bay

As temperatures plunged below -30°C in the winter of 2023-24, something extraordinary happened in Thunder Bay, where roughly three-quarters of people experiencing homelessness are Indigenous: nearly everyone living in encampments was temporarily housed in hotels for the winter.

"There were people dying outside. Overdosing outside," said Bonnie Kryswaty, with the Lakehead Social Planning Council (LSPC).

When LSPC and the Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre collectively received more than \$1 million that winter in "top-up" funds from the federal government, they immediately worked together to maximize the impact of the funding, a move that saved lives.

"Many communities across Canada are striving to build partnerships like what we see in Thunder Bay - built on shared decision-making, cultural respect, and long-term commitment. This work is transformative and shows others what is possible," said Victoria Boyle, CAEH's lead Improvement advisor for Thunder Bay.

"This work is transformative and shows others what is possible."





Bringing all sectors together to end homelessness in Prince Edward Island

Indigenous partners. Corrections. Medical. Addictions. Mental health. Education. Political leadership. Employment and tax system. Child and family services. Social programs.

In Prince Edward Island, they all meet regularly as part of coordinated access, working together to prioritize and coordinate supports to help people exit homelessness.

“PEI is demonstrating there is a way to get everyone to the table,

says Dawn Wheadon, CAEH’s lead Improvement advisor for the province, “When we work as a community using real-time, by-name data, and move away from the historical approach of ‘my clients, my program,’ to ‘our clients, our community’ ... we start to see results”



Ottawa targets ending veteran homelessness

Linda MacMillan, Ottawa’s dedicated veteran case worker, spends a lot of time in her car, criss-crossing Ottawa to find permanent homes for former members of the Canadian Armed Forces and Royal Canadian Mounted Police who don’t have stable, permanent, or appropriate housing.

“These are folks that served our country,” said MacMillan. “I’m here to give someone all of the opportunities that they have available, engage people in complicated situations, and find a housing solution that works for them.”

Since the dedicated case worker position was created in November 2021, the position has helped house 28 homeless veterans. It’s one of several City of Ottawa initiatives to prioritize ending veteran homelessness, as part of CAEH’s Built for Zero Canada Veteran Community Cohort.

Ultimately, there is one thing that would help end homelessness for more veterans: “We need more affordable housing, we need more supportive housing,” said MacMillan.



Building change together, from the ground up

By Andrew Burns, Senior Director of Public Affairs and Development; Maggie Rodrigues, Government Relations Lead

At a time when it's so easy to lose hope, it's been deeply encouraging to see people like you step forward and say that everyone deserves a safe, affordable place to call home.

Together, you sent more than 50,000 letters to the Prime Minister and MPs, phoned their offices, and signed petitions urging action to end homelessness. That's tens of thousands of individual actions that added up to something powerful: a clear, consistent message that housing and homelessness must remain a national priority.

Just like a tree needs water and sunlight to grow, it takes sustained advocacy for governments to act. Thanks to you, we're seeing that progress take shape in communities across the country.

CAEH's Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund (HRIF), first announced in Budget 2024, is now rolling out in dozens of communities right across the country, supporting innovative projects that will measurably reduce homelessness.

In PEI that means a project to reduce youth homelessness by 48% through dedicated programming and financial support.

In Fort McMurray, Alberta, HRIF is helping the community work toward a 35% reduction in chronic homelessness by providing housing allowances and dedicated housing coordinators to help more people move into homes over the next year. HRIF is also supporting Windsor, Ontario to end Veteran homelessness by setting up a new homeless veteran response team.

These local projects are a powerful reminder that when communities have the right tools and resources, change is possible.



It doesn't stop there. Your support also helped secure billions in new federal housing investments through Build Canada Homes, including \$1 billion for supportive housing — a critical investment to ensure people with long-term, complex needs feel safe and supported in their permanent homes.

But to maximize the collective impact of these historic investments and scale what's working on the ground, we can't stop here. That's why we're calling for a Canada Housing Accord.

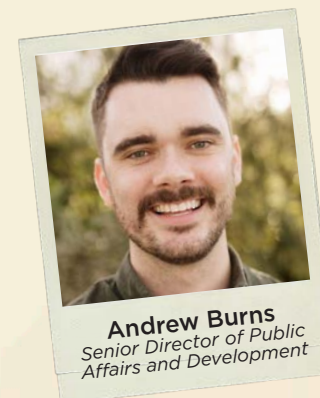
Instead of federal, provincial, and territorial governments rowing in different directions, a Canada Housing Accord would bring them together around one shared plan to tackle the housing and homelessness crisis, so every investment goes further and reaches more people, more quickly.

With the renewal of the National Housing Strategy on the horizon, this is a critical moment. There's a real window of opportunity to put Canada firmly on the path toward ending homelessness.

As part of the Accord and a renewed National Housing Strategy, we're also advocating for a re-imagined Canada Housing Benefit that could reduce homelessness quickly by over 60% and prevent homelessness for hundreds of thousands more, and a dedicated homelessness strategy with meaningful targets and investments that will reverse the lethal trend.

This is how change grows, nurtured through sustained advocacy: people speak up, governments respond, and communities build solutions that make a real difference in people's lives.

We can't thank you enough for being part of it.



Andrew Burns
Senior Director of Public Affairs and Development



Maggie Rodrigues
Government Relations Lead

From roots to results

How we're transforming Canada's response to homelessness

Across Canada's movement to end homelessness, there's a sense that we're reaching a turning point, a growing conviction that we can't let the human suffering we're seeing continue. More people are speaking out. Governments are paying closer attention. Communities are asking not just how to respond to crisis, but how to truly change outcomes.

That shift didn't happen on its own. It's the result of years of commitment from people like you – supporters who stay engaged, ask questions, and believe that homelessness can and must be ended.

For too long our sector has been stuck responding to emergency after emergency. We need a change in approach, and a change in mindset. At CAEH,

we're leading that change so communities can deliver deeper, faster, and more sustained reductions in homelessness across Canada.

Our new three-year strategy outlines a powerful cycle. CAEH is the only organization in Canada that has supported measurable local reductions in homelessness. When our work with communities helps them to reduce homelessness locally, it builds public support and political will. That leads to smarter policy and investment, which enables more communities to succeed. Your support makes every part of this cycle possible, moving us closer to the promise of a Canada where everyone has a safe place to call home



Rooted in What Communities Need

For more than a decade, CAEH has worked alongside communities across Canada to strengthen local homelessness response systems, advancing a shared vision of a future where homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring. These roots matter. They have given us deep, practical insight into what actually reduces homelessness.

Communities and front-line leaders are clear about what they need. They need systems that work together; real-time data that shows who needs help now; and practical solutions they can implement quickly and constantly improve. We're sharpening how we work to deliver exactly that.

Over the coming year CAEH will be incorporating a social enterprise approach and evolving the way we work to ensure our support for communities is focused, structured, and responsive to emerging needs. It's about delivering what works, staying focused on outcomes, and making sure they can be sustained.



Results from our roots

Strengthening the Trunk: Building Better Systems

CAEH's community-led approach is designed to help people get housed faster and stay housed: CAEH walks alongside communities in each of these areas, and advocates to senior governments for the policies and funding that communities need to focus on what matters most: helping more people get home.

EVERYONE IS KNOWN

The journey home begins when every person is known by name and seen clearly. That's why we support communities with timely, quality data to ensure no one falls through the cracks.

CAEH walks alongside communities in each of these areas, and advocates to senior governments for the policies, funding, housing supply, and public support that communities need, so they can stay focused on what matters most: helping more people get home. As we move forward, we're continuing to grow our staff team in a way that's focused on meeting community needs, increasing our policy and advocacy impact, building public support, and ultimately reducing homelessness faster across Canada.

COLLECTIVE ACTION

Connecting people to the homes and supports they need takes a coordinated local housing and homelessness system, with housing, prevention, shelter, health, and income systems working together.

REDUCTION THROUGH IMPROVEMENT

By shifting public policy, funding and investments, and supporting leadership in the public sector.

Spreading the Canopy: Making Progress Visible

The results are real (see examples on page 6). Through the Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund and our direct community partnerships, CAEH is supporting communities to achieve measurable reductions in homelessness and to share what they learn with other communities, spreading change across the country. Their local progress fuels national momentum, shifting the conversation from what feels impossible to what is already happening, and what can be if we all come together to end homelessness.

Ending homelessness in Canada is possible — but only if we stay disciplined, focused, and bold.

To our donors, funders, and everyone who supports our movement, you're helping turn knowledge into action, and action into homes for our neighbours who need it most. Thank you for walking this path with us.

Our Treehouse Moment

By Chloe Martin, Events Lead

Once a year, our movement gathers in one place. Like a treehouse, the national conference is a shared space to learn, a vantage point where we can look outward and plan how to grow the work forward together.

The 2025 conference gave participants the opportunity to build skills and knowledge needed to reduce homelessness through topics like leveraging data, lived experience leadership, and encampment response.

Keynote speakers included singer, songwriter, and mental health advocate Steven Page; civil rights activist and scholar Loretta Ross; and author and scholar Jesse Thistle. A panel of digital creators discussed how to shift the homelessness narrative online and reach new audiences.

Federal Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Gregor Robertson participated in the event to announce the first round of local projects under the Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund and then joined CAEH President & CEO Tim Richter to answer audience questions and discuss the future of Canada's response to homelessness.

All this would not have been possible without the ladder to the treehouse: our incredible sponsors, who directly supported bursaries and registration subsidies so more front-line workers, people with lived experience of homelessness, and equity-deserving participants could join. Thanks as well to the 2025 host committee, the Movement to End Homelessness in Montreal (MMFIM).

I cannot wait for our next national conference this fall. I can tell you it will push our movement even further. We have program streams designed to reflect the building blocks of an effective homelessness response system, making it easier to see how individual topics connect and drive reductions.

*I hope to see you this **November 3-5 in Winnipeg** as we work to transform our systems and policy so we can end homelessness for good.*



2,500+
participants

250+ speakers

87% of participants planning to make a change as a result of something they learned

100 breakout sessions

ACMFI
CAEH

MTL
28-30
OCT
25

Conférence nationale pour
mettre fin à l'itinérance
National Conference on
Ending Homelessness



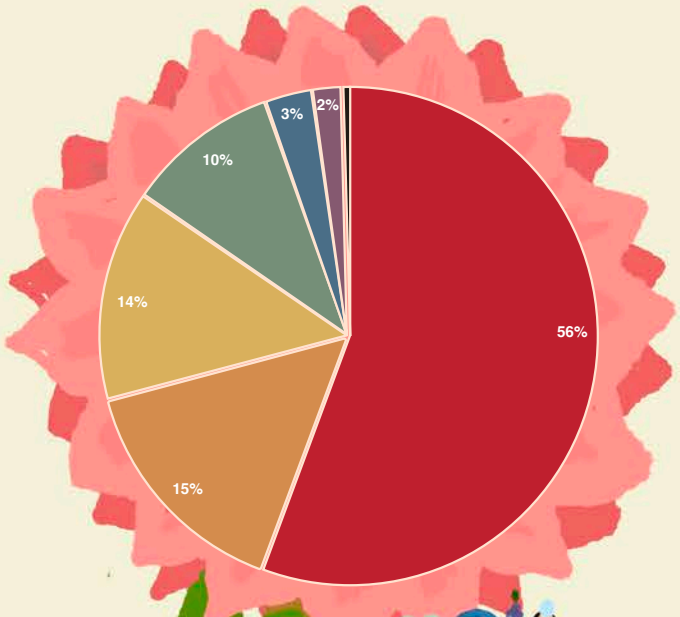
Financial update

By Brooke Matter, Finance Director
and Ashish Shah, Treasurer

This year's financials tell a story of historic growth – and responsibility to steward it well. Thanks to our fundraising and CAEH's successful negotiation of our 4-year, over \$42-million contract with the federal government for the Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund, this year represents the largest single increase in revenue and expenses in our organization's history. The vast majority of that funding is invested directly into communities across the country to accelerate progress towards ending homelessness. It's a significant number, and it represents a profound trust placed in us by governments, communities, and supporters like you. We are committed to managing it with discipline, transparency, and care.



Expenses		
HRIF Expenses	\$9,551,918	56%
Program Personnel	\$3,811,676	22%
Conference & Event Expenses	\$1,667,498	10%
Travel, Program & Office Expenses	\$1,057,945	6%
Contractor & Professional Fees	\$589,951	3%
Marketing & Communications	\$436,143	3%
Depreciation	\$24,211	0%
Total	\$17,139,341	



Every dollar entrusted to CAEH strengthens our roots and extends our impact sustainably.

Your contributions, whether to our operations, advocacy, or community work, make it possible for us to show up with the credibility and capacity to take on mandates like this one. We are deeply grateful for your support, and we don't take that responsibility lightly.

Revenue		
HRIF	\$9,551,918	56%
Government Grants	\$2,603,324	15%
Philanthropy	\$2,357,857	14%
Conference Revenue	\$1,704,263	10%
Fee for Service	\$526,055	3%
Other Revenue	\$335,749	2%
Community Fees	\$77,083	0%
Total	\$17,156,250	



An historic year for monthly and corporate donors.



By Elisabeth Hazell, Philanthropy and Campaigns Lead

At this moment of growth in our movement, I want to celebrate the people and organizations who decided to be part of the solution, and donate to actually ending homelessness.

Some of you planted the first seeds. Others have been steady gardeners. We've grown our base of monthly donors, and the number of you who have contributed personally has grown by nearly 30% each year for the past several years, reaching more than 1,000 last year for the first time! This means more capacity for our incredibly impactful advocacy work. We will not fix the housing system without caring people like you.

Our corporate partners also really stepped up this past year: CN Rail became the first organization to pledge \$1,000,000 to CAEH's data-driven work to end homelessness over the next two years. Shortly after, RBC Foundation approved a \$1.2 million over three years commitment to our data and training capacity to support local communities. We also welcomed the The Sexton Group of Companies as a new partner of our advocacy and systems-change work and are grateful to Allstate Foundation who remain leading partners in our advocacy.

The Home Depot Canada Foundation is our celebrated and long-term presenting partner at the National Conference on Ending Homelessness, and in 2025 we welcomed new conference sponsors Intact Public Entities and the Canadian Real Estate Association. The Catherine Donnelly Foundation, the Salvation Army in Canada, CN Rail, and the Government of Canada continued as repeat sponsors for the national conference, ensuring growth and equitable access to this event. It's these long-term partners who make it all happen!

The people and organizations listed here are the roots, branches, and builders of this work. Though there are more of you than we can single out, we are deeply grateful for every one of you.

Of course, there is still more work to be done, and none of it will happen without supporters like you. *Thanks for being a part of this movement*, and I hope you'll continue with us until everyone has a safe place to call home.

Dallas Alderson
Allstate Foundation of Canada
The Berry-Lowell Legacy
Foundation
The Right Honourable Beverley
McLachlin Access To Justice
Fund, held at Vancouver
Foundation
Michele Biss
Michelle Bond
Susan Boron
Sherry Bower-Gagne
Andrew Brook
Amy Burry
Barbara Caffery
Canada Mortgage and Housing
Corporation (CMHC)
Canadian Labour Congress (CLC)
Canadian National Railway (CN)
Canadian Real Estate Association
Heidi Carolan-Evans
The Catherine and Maxwell
Meighen Foundation
Catherine Donnelly Foundation
Marena Charron
Dale and Lorraine Clarke
The Conference for Advanced
Life Underwriting (CALU)
Co-operative Housing Federation
of Canada (CHF)
Bree Denning
Government of Canada
Jeane Diemer
Sandra Fawcett
Echo Foundation
Francie Fortier
Thor Hameister
Dawn Henwood
Harald Henze
The Home Depot Canada
Foundation
Marie-Josée Houle

Shin Imai
Informa Canada Inc.
Intact Public Entities
Don Iveson
Ruth Kampen
The KPMG Foundation
La Fondation Emmanuelle
Gattuso
Sam Lacoste
Rachel Lewis
Kelly Masterson
Louise Mauffette-Leenders
Maytree
MCAP
Kathy McGrath
Paul Meredith
Shelly and Allan Norris
Our Lady's Missionaries
Kathleen Quinn
Province of Ontario
Bob Rae
The Redridge Fund - Ottawa
Community Foundation
Lori Richer
RBC Foundation
Beverley Ruffo
Salvation Army in Canada
Schlenkers Fund
Dominic Scott
The Sexton Group of Companies
Jason & Stacie Smith
Jean Stevenson
Wayne Stewart
The Stewart Fund, held at
Vancouver Foundation
Pauline Thompson
Trottier Family Foundation
United Way Ontario East
Linda Vanderlee
Violin Family Foundation
Valerie Watson
Evelyn Wu

Homelessness is solvable.

Together, ending homelessness will be inevitable.

