



**National Indigenous
Homelessness
Council**

INTRODUCTION TO “HRIF” HOMELESSNESS REDUCTION INNOVATION FUND

Mayana Slobodian, PhD

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Cultural Insights Advisor, NIHC

HOMELESSNESS REDUCTION INNOVATION FUND

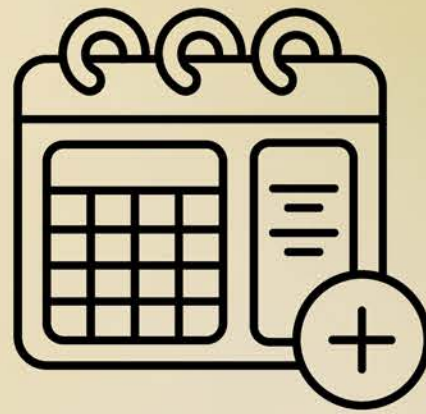
The Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund provides one-time grants for projects aimed at achieving measurable reductions in homelessness.

HRIF grants will be distributed to communities for targeted, data-informed projects that measurably reduce homelessness. CAEH will offer one-on-one guidance and coaching to communities on their initiatives and share successful approaches with other communities across the country.

The *Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund* is part of the federal government's commitment to *Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy*, as announced in Budget 2024. This project is funded by the Government of Canada.

Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund





Key Dates for HRIF Round 2*

Monday July 14

**Application
system opens**

Friday August 15

**Deadline to
submit an
Expression of
Interest**

*Rounds 3-5: 2026-28

WHO AM I?

WHAT IS NIHC?
WHAT IS CAEH?

WHAT IS HRIF?

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES?
WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES?



Xwsepsum Territory

Main topic today:

HRIF Eligibility for IH-CEs



Xwsepsum Territory

Who am I?

Mayana Christine Slobodian

Red River Métis / Ukrainian Settler

Family Names: *Houle, Amyotte, Savoyard, St Arnaud*

My name: English & Ma'amtagila (Kwakwaka'wakw)

Academic Background: Criminology & Sociolegal Studies

Political Background: Land Justice



Who am I?

NIHC Cultural Insights Advisor

Project: Homelessness Reduction
Innovation Fund (**HRIF**)

Advocate for IHCEs & Indigenous Partners



What is the NIHC?

We are a coalition of

IH-CEs

Indigenous Homelessness
Community Entities &

ICABs

Indigenous Community
Advisory Boards



**Primarily funded through
Reaching Home**

NIHC Board of Directors



PRESIDENT

Victoria Bomberly

Coalition of Hamilton
Indigenous Leadership
Hamilton ON



VICE PRESIDENT

Kyle Mellish

Lu'ma Native Housing Society,
Vancouver BC



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Mi'kmaw Native Friendship
Center, Halifax NS



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Jim Boysis

Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society,
Kelowna BC



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Karin Hunt

Prince George Nechako
Aboriginal Employment and
Training Association, Prince
George BC



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Namerind Housing, Regina SK

Staff & Projects



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Shane Pelletier

National Indigenous Homelessness
Coordinator



SENIOR MANAGER

Irene Gonneau

National Indigenous Homelessness
Systems Pathfinder



MANAGER

Mayana C. Slobodian, PhD.

Cultural Insights Advisor



STAFF

JoLynn Parenteau

National Indigenous Homelessness
Community Pathfinder



STAFF

Justine Stewart

National Indigenous Homelessness
Administrative & Human Resources
Coordinator



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Leah Goulding

National Indigenous Homelessness
Narrative and Data Lead

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PATH Process Personalized Assistance to Housing



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**Indigenous Coordinated
Access Project**

What is the **CAEH**?

Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness

- Founded in 2012
- Nation-wide & growing
- Wide range of funding sources
- Focus on **data-driven** approaches
- This is our first formal partnership



“We believe ending homelessness is possible and that homelessness in Canada will become rare, brief and non-recurring.”

What is the CAEH?



Join us at CAEH25 in Montreal, QC from October 28 to 30, 2025.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Helping leading communities end chronic homelessness and veteran homelessness in Canada.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Helping communities and organizations end homelessness with expert training and technical assistance.

[LEARN MORE](#)

What is **BFZ**-Canada?

**Initiated in 2015,
Launched in 2019**

**“structured,
supportive &
data-driven
approach”**



Helping leading communities
end chronic homelessness and
veteran homelessness in
Canada.

[LEARN MORE](#)

**“optimizing local
homeless systems,**

**accelerating the
adoption of proven
practices**

**and driving
continuous
improvement”**

HOMELESSNESS REDUCTION INNOVATION FUND

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CAEH will offer one-on-one guidance and coaching to communities on their initiatives and share successful approaches with other communities across the country.

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Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund



What can be funded?

non-capital projects aimed at reducing homelessness by

1. increasing move-ins to housing *or*

2. decreasing inflow to homelessness

What can be funded?



- **Targeted rental subsidies**
- **Post-remand landlord coordination**
- **Housing stabilization**
- **Wraparound support facilitation**
- **Staffing for existing programs**



Applicant Eligibility

- 1. Must be a Reaching Home-funded
IH-Community Entity**
- 2. Must have* Quality By-Name Data
(Confirmed by CAEH)**



QUALITY BY-NAME DATA

**real-time, person-specific data for
people experiencing homelessness**

supports Coordinated Access

**data is contained in HIFIS or other databases
and shared with CAEH**



QUALITY BY-NAME DATA

≠ By-Name List

**By-Name Data =
a way of documenting &
following our unhoused
relatives**

**Quality By-Name Data =
a way of ensuring that
the data is reliable**

As determined by the CAEH

QUALITY BY-NAME DATA

CAEH Confirmation Process

Data System & Provider Participation & Coverage



1. Data System
& Consent



2. Provider
Participation



3. Unsheltered
Homelessness

Data Quality



4. Comprehensiveness



5. Completeness



6. Timeliness



7. Uniqueness

Data Infrastructure



8. Inactivity



9. Homelessness
Inflow



10. Housing
Status & Outflow

Action & Quality Improvement



11. Meaningful
Engagement with
Indigenous Partners



12. Data Use



13. Data Quality
Improvement

Applicant Eligibility

**1. Must be a Reaching Home-funded
IH-Community Entity**

or be able achieve

**2. Must have* Quality By-Name Data
(Confirmed by CAEH)**

Applicant Eligibility

**Requires participation from the
HIFIS/HMIS License Holder (DC-CE)**

*Can this process help improve
those relationships?*



About The Scorecards & Tools Workbook

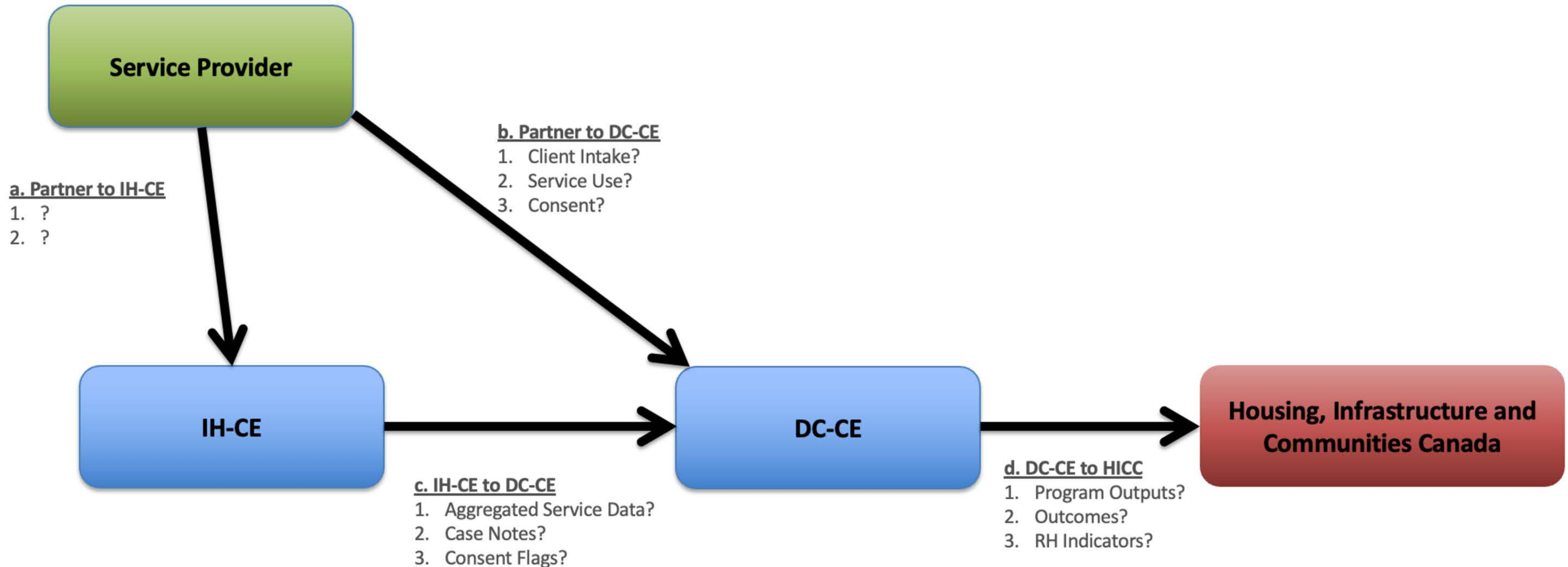
Welcome to the Scorecards and Tools Workbook! This Workbook includes 10 key tools to walk you step by step through the foundations of quality data and coordinated systems and then supports you to sustain your efforts and undertake continuous improvement. **All of the tools are intended to support learning**, not judgement! See the [By-Name Data Scorecard Guide](#) and [Coordinated Access Scorecard Guide](#) for further information on the benefits of using the Scorecards and confirming Quality By-Name Data and Coordinated Access through the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH).

Each tool in this Workbook is identified below, along with a description of its purpose and benefits. Use the tools that make sense for you. Hide tabs that are not relevant or of interest.

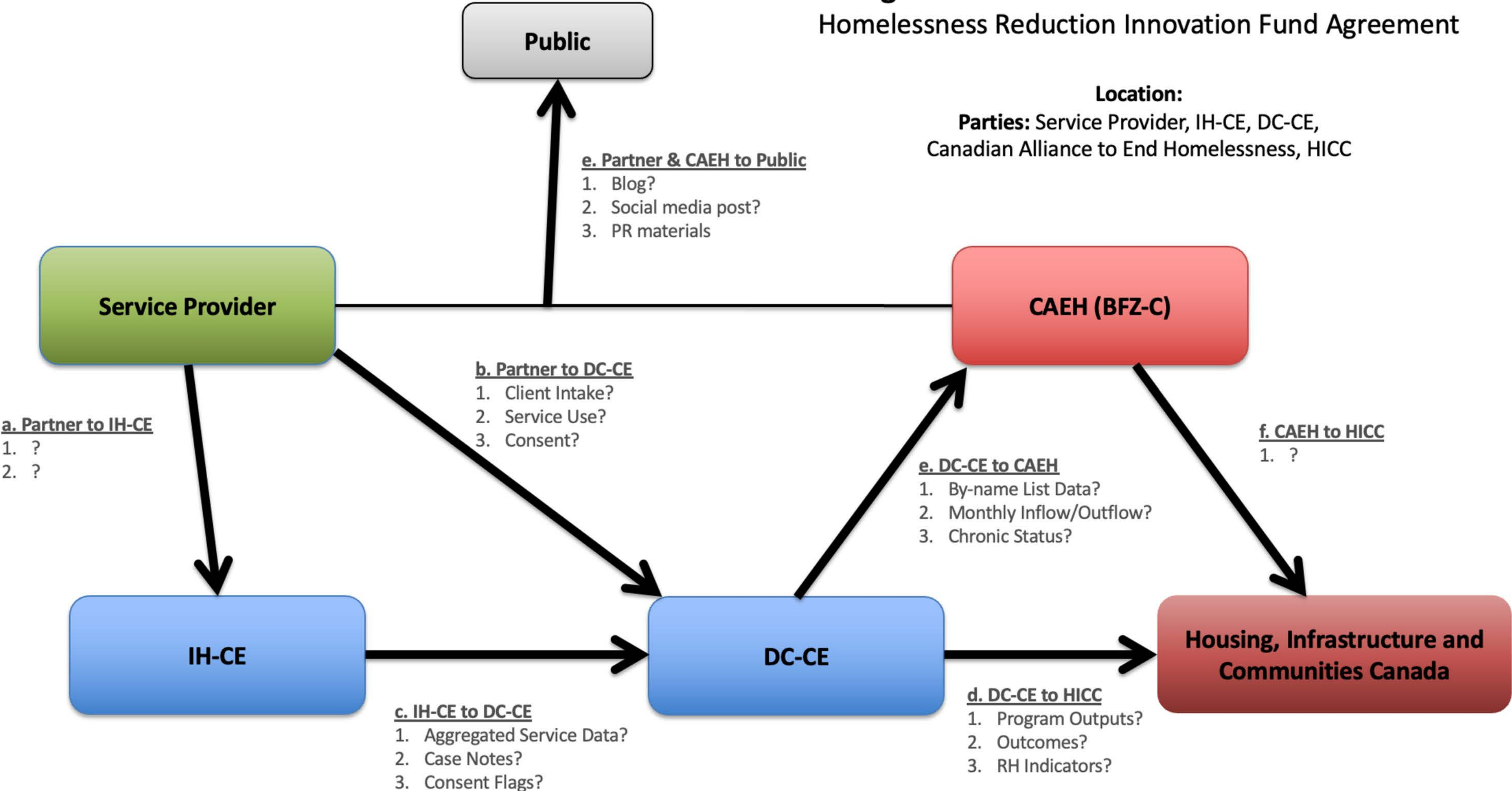
If you are participating in CAEH's Built for Zero Canada, an Improvement Advisor can assist you to review, customize, and complete the relevant tools in this Workbook. If you don't have an Improvement Advisor, but would like assistance or have questions, please reach out to info@caeh.ca. If you have feedback regarding this Workbook, please provide it to info@caeh.ca. We look forward to supporting you on your By-Name Data (BND) and Coordinated Access (CA) journey!

Tab Name	Description/Purpose	What's in it For Me? (WIIFM)
1 ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY	<p>This tab/tool identifies who the key contact is for this Workbook. It also asks a series of questions under five sections that provide important context about your community that are not captured in other parts of the Workbook. The five sections are: General Overview, BND/CA Implementation Progress, HMIS and Other Software Tools, Understanding Your Data, and Partnerships & Engagement.</p> <p>CAEH requires that this tab is completed as part of CAEH confirmation of Quality By-Name Data Foundations and Coordinated Access Foundations. All elements required for confirmation are listed at the bottom of the Scorecards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Key questions help to clarify the scope of your work, roles, definitions, and local data systems as well as surfacing important information to better understand your data and progress.■ Completing these questions is ideally part of a conversation with your Improvement Advisor that will prompt important insights, and will improve understanding of your community to support your progress and better enable your Improvement Advisor to offer you relevant information and coaching.
	<p>This tab/tool is a checklist of Reaching Home minimum requirements for Coordinated Access, HMIS/HIFIS, and the Outcomes Based Approach. It mirrors minimum requirement progress questions that are included in the Reaching Home Community Homelessness Report</p>	<p>If your community receives either Reaching Home Designated Communities or Territorial Homelessness funding, this tool assists your community to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Track progress in meeting Reaching Home minimum requirements

Indigenous Homelessness Data Flow under Reaching Home



Indigenous Homelessness Data Flow under the Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund Agreement



Data Sharing



Data Sharing: Individual-Level



Individual

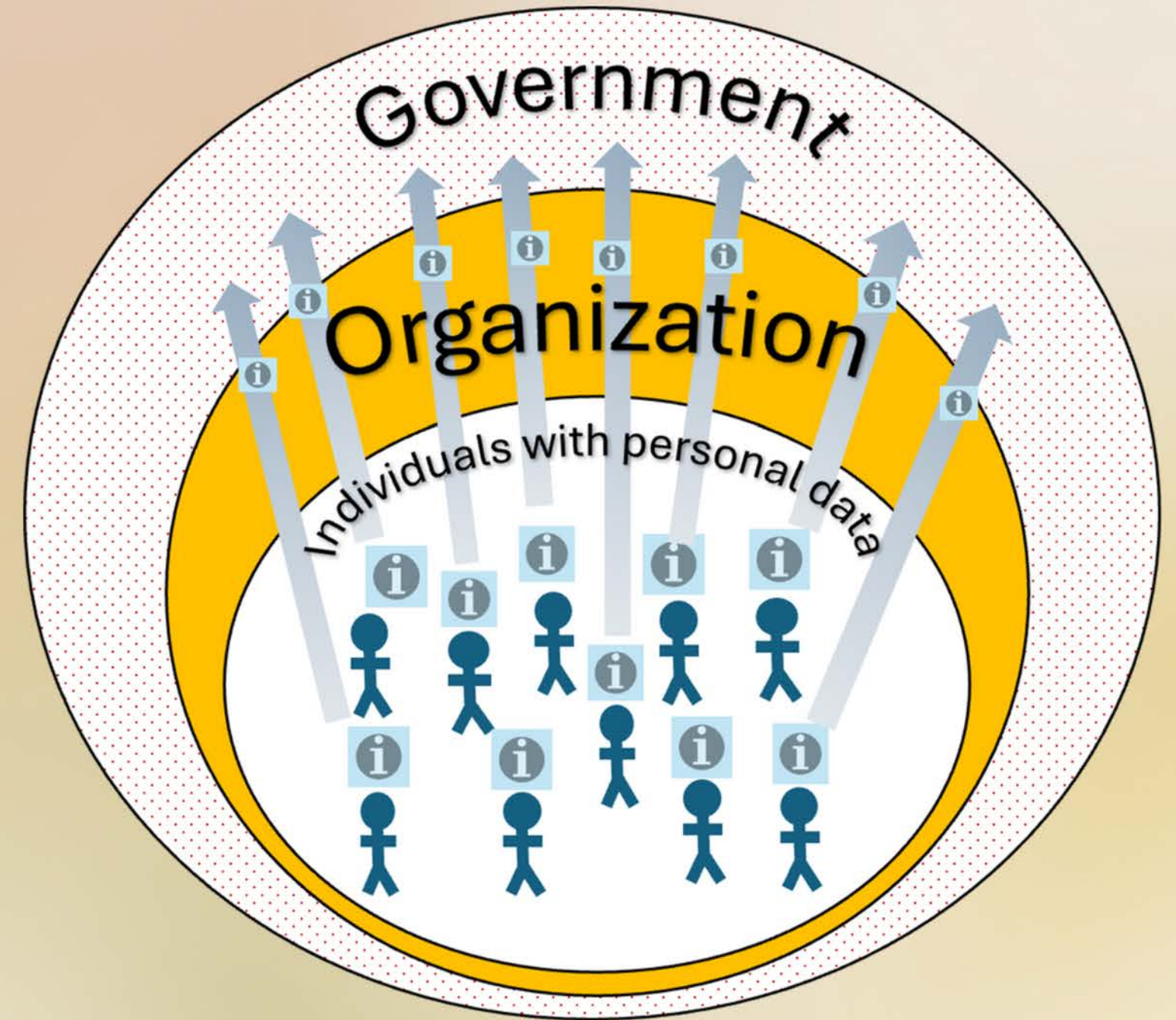
Are our relatives in
control of their own
personal information?

Data Sharing: Individual-Level



Individual

Are our relatives in control of their own personal information?

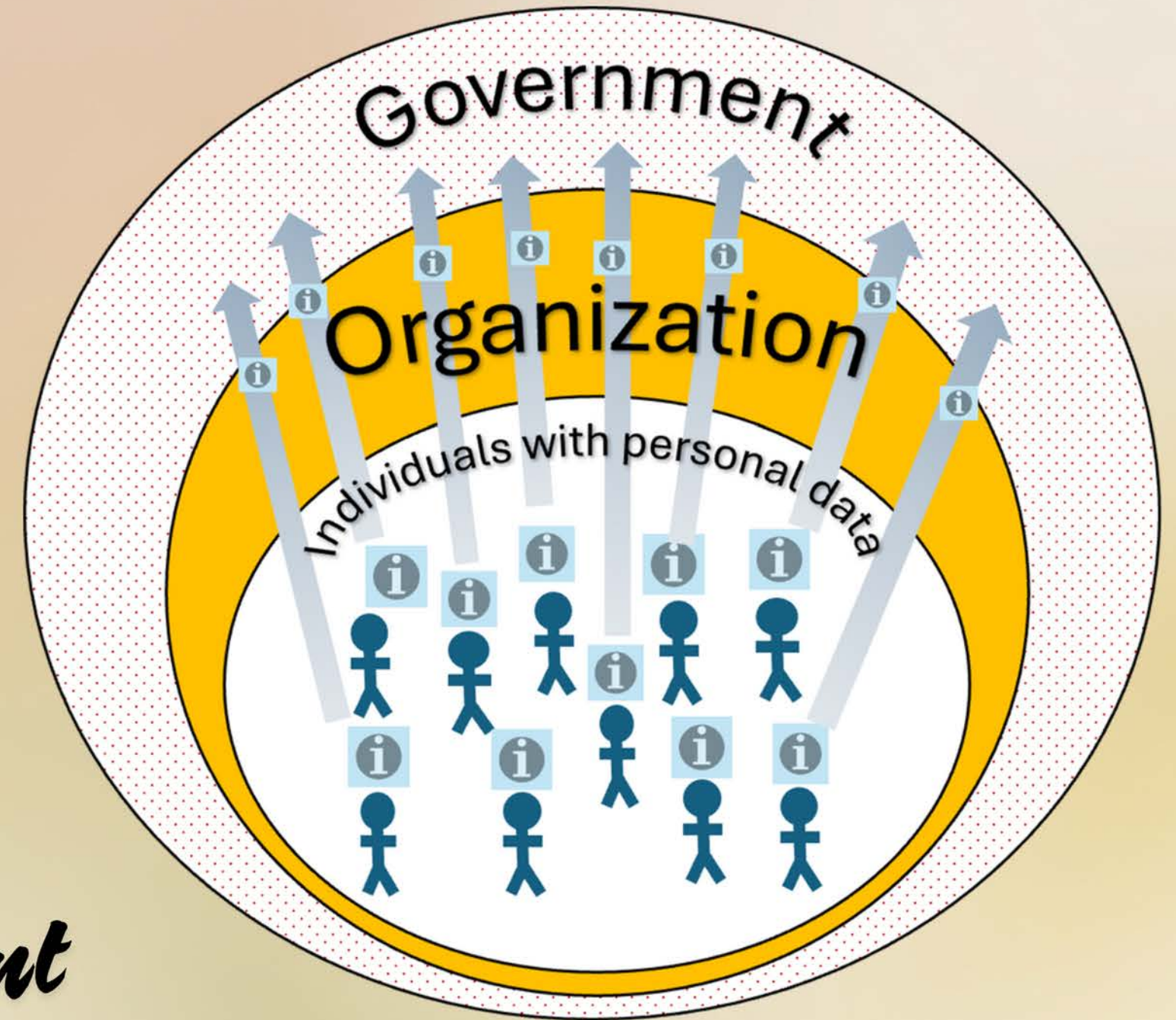


Data Sharing: Individual-Level



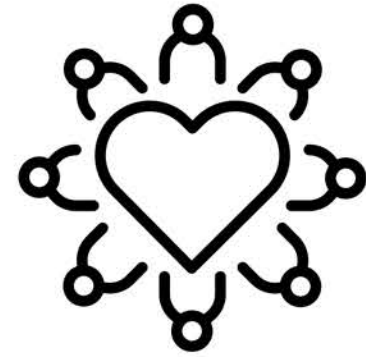
Individual

Are our relatives in control of their own personal information?



Keywords: *Consent*
Privacy

Data Sharing: Collective-Level



Organizational

Are we good stewards
of our relatives' data?

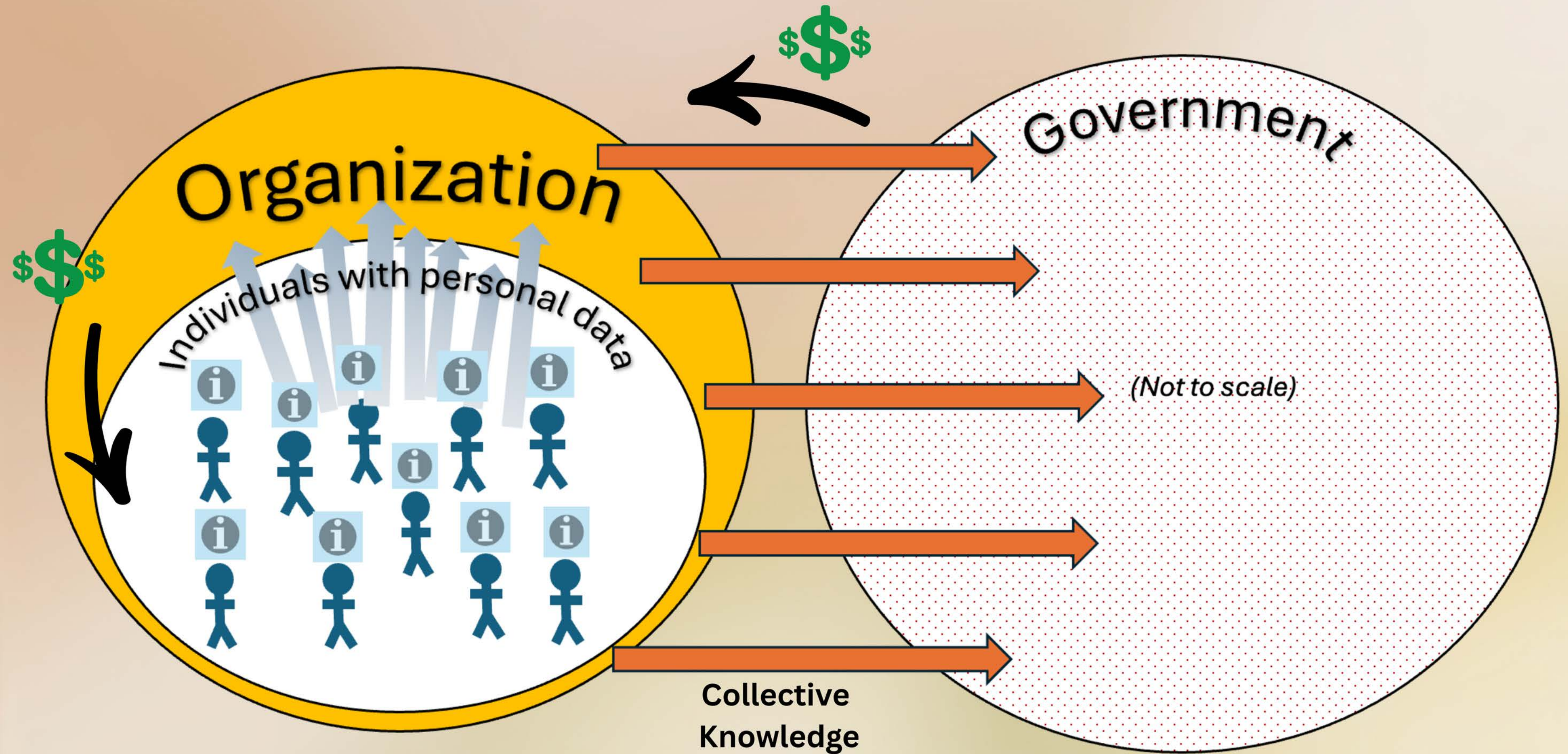
Are we in **control** of our
own institutional
knowledge?

Keywords:

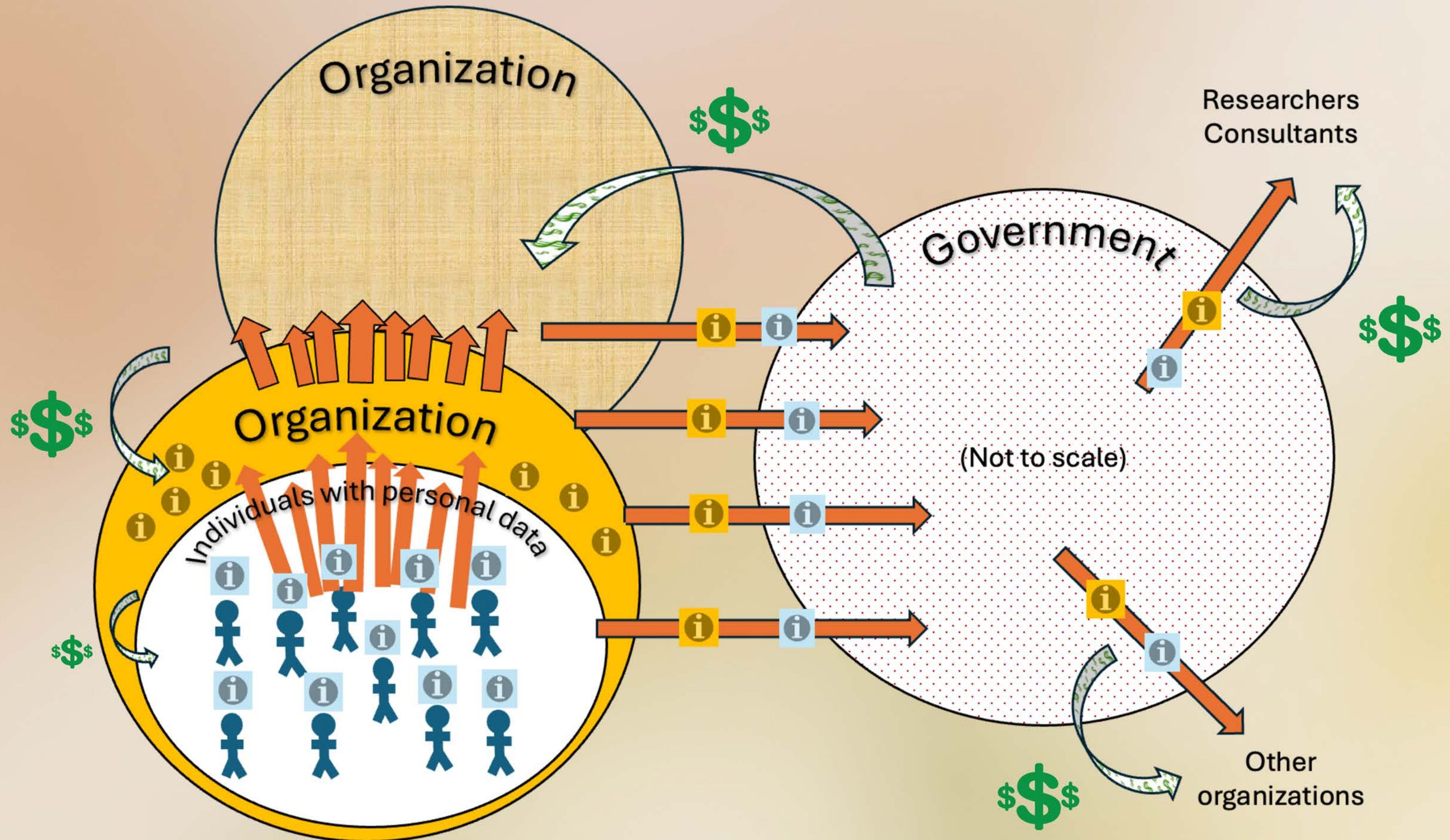
Jurisdiction

*Self-
Determination*

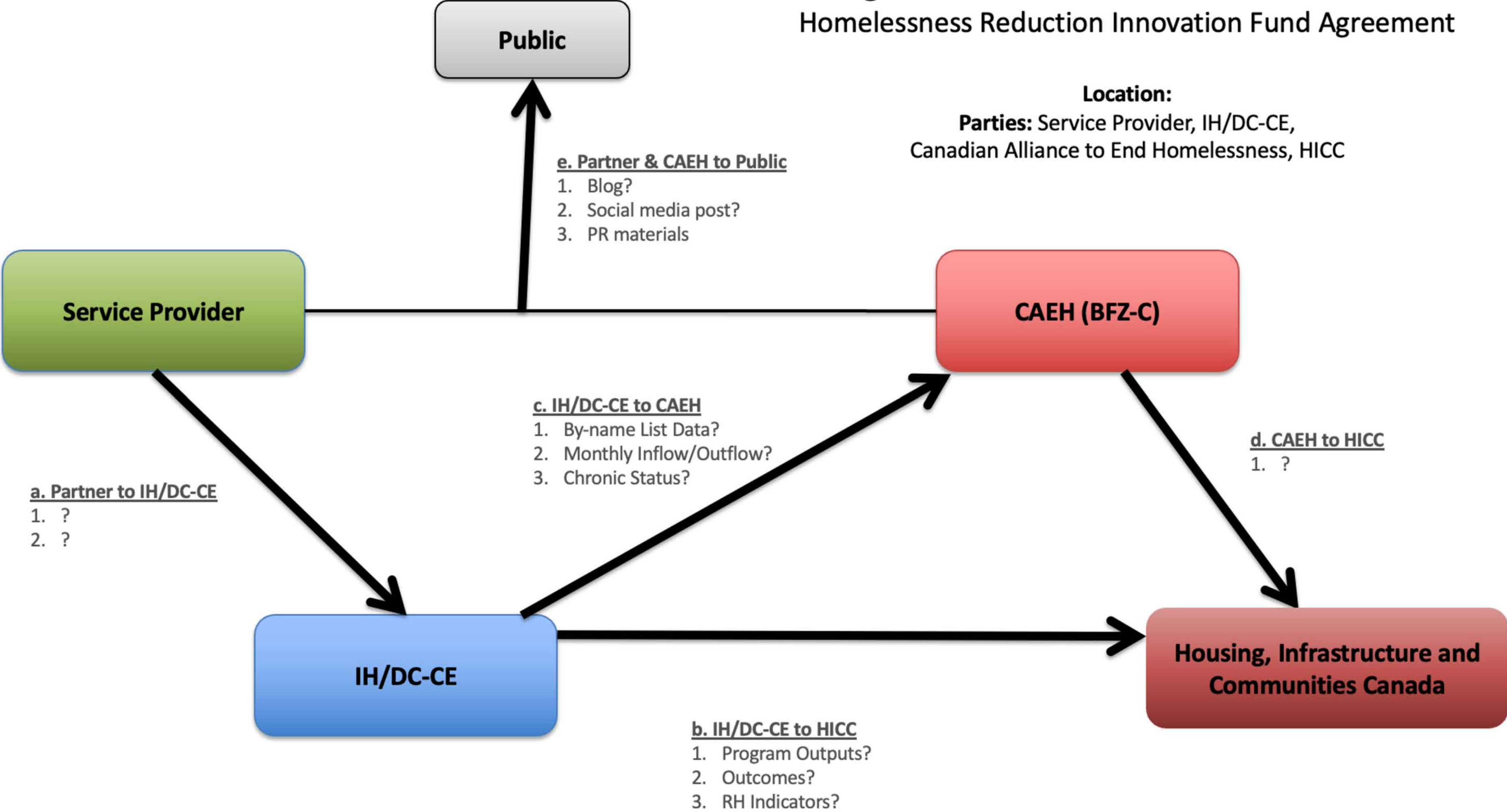
Movement of Knowledge & Resources



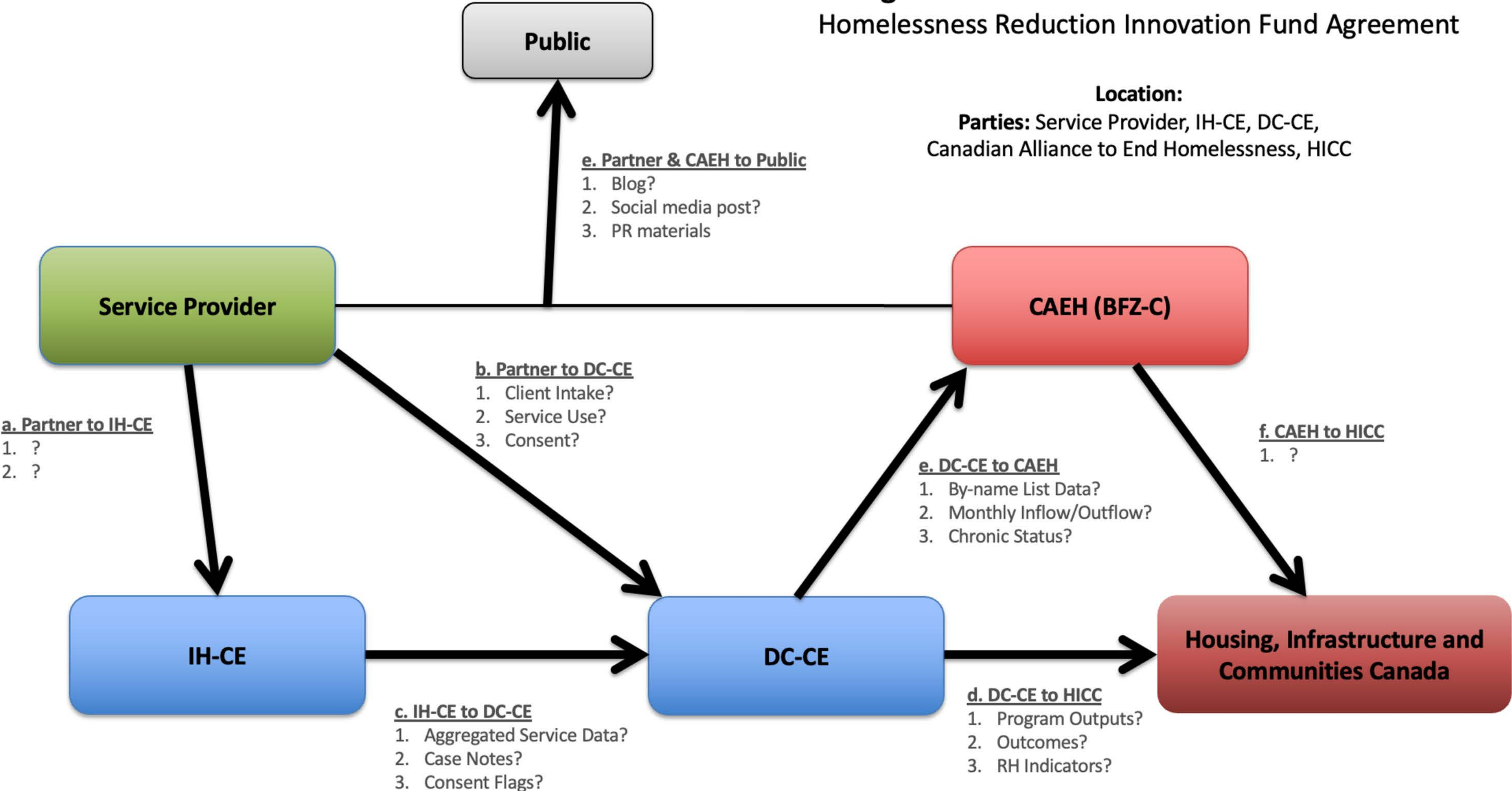
Movement of Knowledge & Resources



Indigenous Homelessness Data Flow under the Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund Agreement



Indigenous Homelessness Data Flow under the Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund Agreement



Knowledge

Truth

Stories

Information

Data

Records

Sovereignty

Jurisdiction

Power

Authority

Control

Goal: To create
Knowledge Sharing Agreements
that are:

Respectful

Beneficial

Accountable

Reciprocal

Transparent

Responsive

**Is your organization the IH-CE
for your community?**

YES



**Is your organization the DC-CE
for your community too?**

YES



**Do you have Quality By-Name
Data Confirmed by CAEH?**

NO



The local IH-CE must be
the primary applicant

NO



You can apply on your
own, but you will need to
collaborate for QBND

NO



CAEH will work with you
to achieve this

*Thank you!
Please reach out!*

**MAYANA
SLOBODIAN**
mayanas@nihc-cnasa.ca

