

Session #2

Revisiting the Principles of Engagement and Inclusion of People with Lived Experience of Homelessness

Canadian Lived Experience Leadership Network



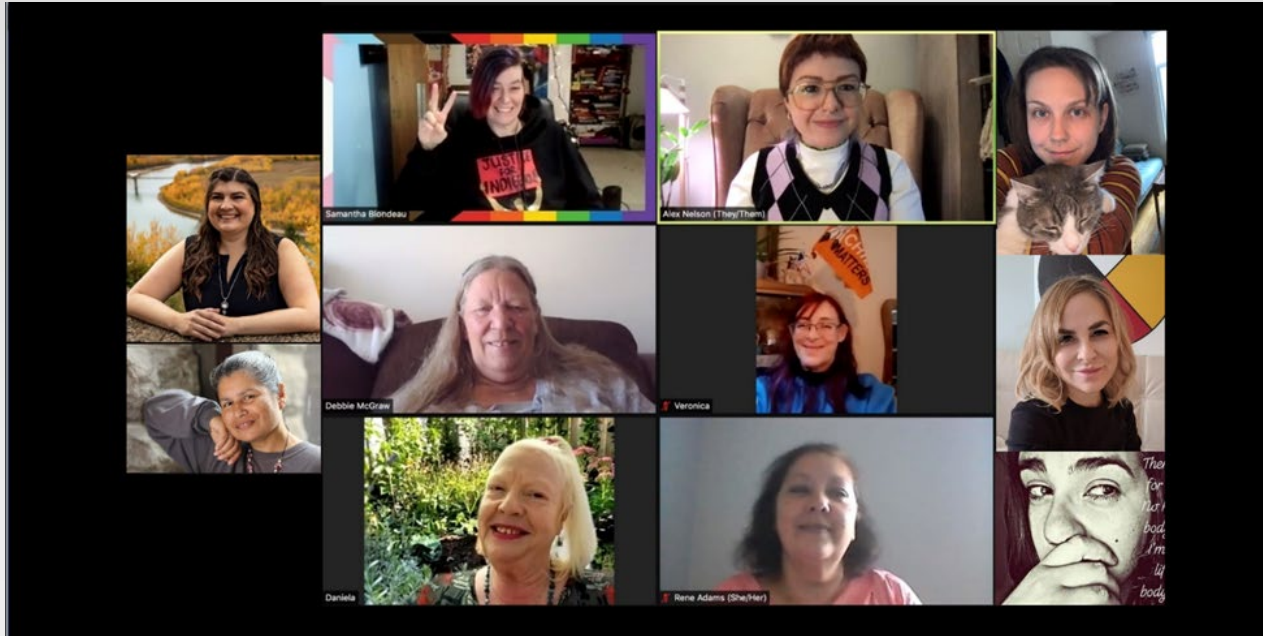


• Territorial/Land acknowledgement

Agenda:

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 1:30-1:50 | Introduction to CLELN and the Principles Taskforce |
| 1:50-2:40 | Principles for Inclusion and Leadership Workshop |
| 2:40-3:00 | Closing, Next Steps and Remembrance |

Who are we?



Left-right*: Pamela Spurvey, Samantha Blondeau, Alex Nelson, Jayne Malenfant; Debbie McGraw, Veronica Snooks, Michelle Bilek; Phoenix Winter, Daniela Mergarten, Rene Adams, Cheyanne Fath

***Not pictured:** Cathy Dziak, Nancy Henderson, Mirza Nabeel Baig. Special thanks to Laura Norin for supporting this project.

The background is a light gray gradient. It features several decorative elements: a large orange and yellow circular arc in the top-left corner; a yellow paperclip-like shape in the top-center; a vertical column of four overlapping white diamonds with gray shadows on the right side; a horizontal row of four overlapping gray diamonds with white shadows at the bottom; and a red and orange circular arc in the bottom-right corner. Scattered throughout are small yellow and orange dots.

Part I:

WHAT IS CLELN?

- This project is part of the Canadian Lived Experience Leadership Network (CLELN).
- CLELN is a collective of diverse people with lived experience of homelessness and expertise in grassroots organizing, advocacy, mentorship and peer support.
- CLELN works to ensure that the voices of people with lived experience are in the forefront of all matters regarding homelessness
- We want to eliminate homelessness and housing insecurity through research, policy, advocacy, training, and collaboration.

NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US

1. Bring the perspective of our lived experience **to the forefront**
2. Include people with lived experience **at all levels** of the organization
3. **Value our time** and provide appropriate supports
4. Challenge **stigma**, confront **oppression** and promote **dignity**
5. Recognize our expertise and engage us in **decision-making**
6. Work together towards our **equitable representation**
7. **Build authentic relationships** between people with and without lived experience

PREVIOUS PRINCIPLES: WHY REVISIT?

- We recognized the need to update the original Principles:
- The original Principles served an important purpose for many years
- Opportunities for people with lived experience to engage in housing decisions increased since the time of publication
- The housing crisis, the climate crisis, and the drug poisoning crisis have deepened, and COVID-19 has put further pressure on our communities
- New and different language, context, and perspectives are needed to ground the Principles in action and justice

Our Process:

- We began this work by reflecting on the original Seven Principles
- Every two weeks, we covered one of the original Principles each meeting
- We built our timeline around the needs of the team, and the project grew into a space where we supported one another while using the content of the original document as a guide
- Reflections on our lived experience, and advocacy journey
- We got funding to continue this project, and to compensate time and labour of team members
- Our long term goal: to build a revised set of Principles that we can share with decision makers, researchers, and other people with lived experience

The background features a light gray gradient with various decorative elements. In the top-left corner, there is a partial orange and yellow circular shape. In the top-center, there is a yellow paperclip-like shape. Scattered throughout are several small yellow and orange dots. On the right side, there is a vertical column of overlapping, semi-transparent gray diamond shapes. At the bottom-left, there is a horizontal row of overlapping, semi-transparent gray diamond shapes. In the bottom-right corner, there is a partial red and orange circular shape.

Part II:

Instructions:

- ● Every table has been assigned one of the original Seven Principles
- ● You will also find the complete booklet containing all seven Principles to reference
- ● As a group, read over the Principle assigned to your table
- ● Have a conversation with your group. You can use these questions as a guide:
 - What **stands out to you** from the original principles?
 - Is there anything **missing**? Anything **that works really well**? Anything that **needs to change**?
 - Can you think of **examples from your own advocacy work** that highlight what you've read?
- ● Everyone is welcome to take notes, draw or reflect using any of the materials provided
- ● Choose one person to share a summary of your discussion back to the rest of the room

Group share-back:

- Choose one person to share a summary of your table's discussion with the room

What's Next?

- Our next steps for the project will include:
 - Drafting Principles
 - Building a glossary of lived experience defined terms
 - Launching the Principles, hoping to change decision-making processes to reflect these Principles
- You can find out more about our work on the CLELN website, or contact us through
 - Facebook or email
 - We will have a Principles page on the CLELN website soon
 - Feel free to leave your name and contact information on the evaluation sheet!



- Remembering those who came before,
• who we've lost, on whose shoulders
• we build our work



Thank you

We would appreciate your feedback ~~we~~ invite you to fill out an evaluation of this session.

Please take a “thank you” package as a token of our gratitude!

With thanks to our supporters:

The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, the Maytree Foundation, the Women's Foundation, and United Way Edmonton

