

## — Land Acknowledgement

*We begin by acknowledging that we work and live on Treaty 6 Territory, the traditional and ancestral lands of many First Nation, Métis and Inuit people. We are happy to be here today as guests on the treaty lands and territory of the Wendat, the Anishnaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Métis, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and pay tribute to their legacy and the legacy of all First Peoples of Canada, as we strengthen ties with the communities we serve and build the future through learning and cooperation. We acknowledge that we are all treaty people and accept our responsibility to honour all our relations.*



# Housing Focused Response to Encampments: Edmonton

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Kendra Stoley - Bissell Centre

Nurul "Mo" Amin - Homeward Trust Edmonton

November 03, 2022



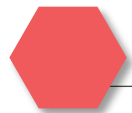
homeward trust  
edmonton

**Ending Homelessness in Edmonton**

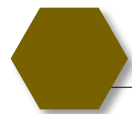
# Learning Objectives



Understanding encampments in Edmonton



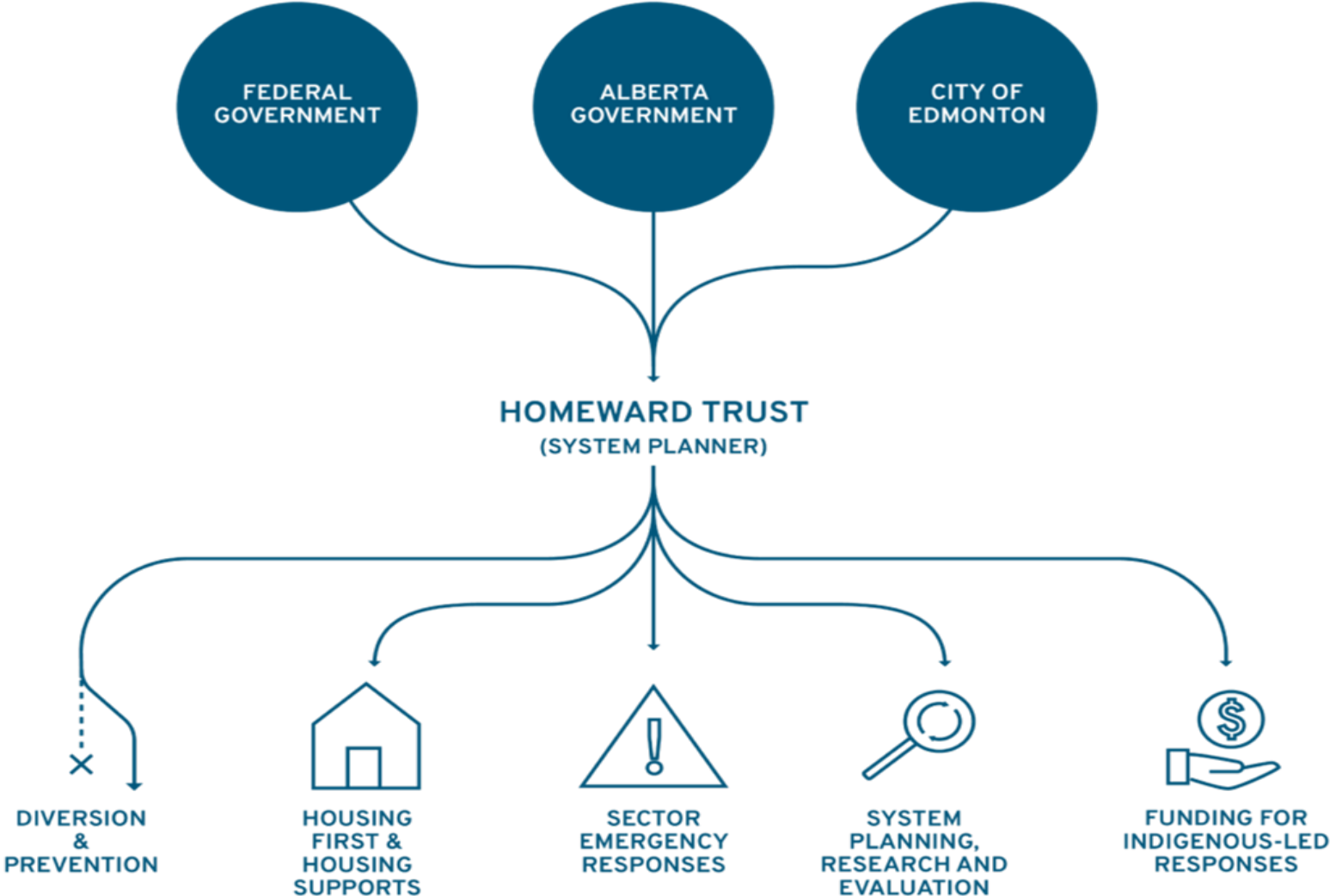
Edmonton's housing-focused response and strategies to encampments



Technical tools in use



# Homeward Trust Edmonton



# Bissell Centre

## Mission

Working with communities, we empower people to move from poverty to cultural, social and economic prosperity.

## Vision

The elimination of poverty in our community.



# Encampments - Background

2007

- Single location downtown
- Approx. 200 people
- 3 months in duration
- 60 people were housed

Followed by implementation of 10 year plan and launch of Housing First April 1<sup>st</sup> 2009

2019

- Multi-site
- Approx. 130 people
- 1.5 months in duration
- 50 people were housed

Launched shared encampments resolution approach and Encampment Resolution Team (ERT)

2020

- Multi-site, including Camp Pekiwewin
- Approx. 350 people
- 3 months in duration
- 106 people were housed



# Encampments - Contributing Factors and Considerations

## Structural and Systemic Barriers

- Housing Market
- Service Provision – Acute vs. Preventative Care
- Racism and Discrimination
- Challenges preventing Shelter from being a viable alternative
- Individual level barriers

## Shared Impacts

- The individuals
- Communities and Neighbourhoods
- Agencies
- Businesses
- Public services



# Encampments - Complexity

- Experience of Unsheltered Homelessness
- Outreach Providers
- Closure Timelines
- Mandates and Directives
- Geographical Locations
- Weather





# Homelessness in Edmonton - Current Status

As of October 31:  
2639 Experiencing Homelessness

— Real Time Data

**779 Unsheltered**



# Housing Focused Response - Encampments

**Phase 1**

Encampment  
Assessment

**Phase 2**

Housing Focused  
Response and Service  
Provision

**Phase 3**

Sustain Response



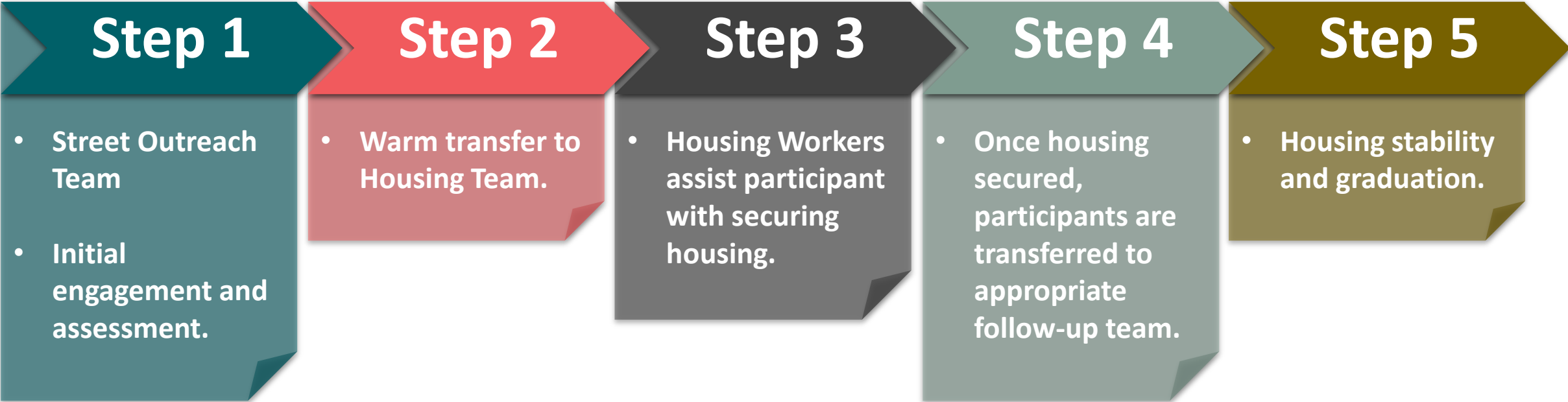
# Housing Focused Response - Strategy

— Cross System Coordination



# Housing Focused Response - Strategy

— Intensive Outreach and Engagement



# Housing Focused Response - Strategy

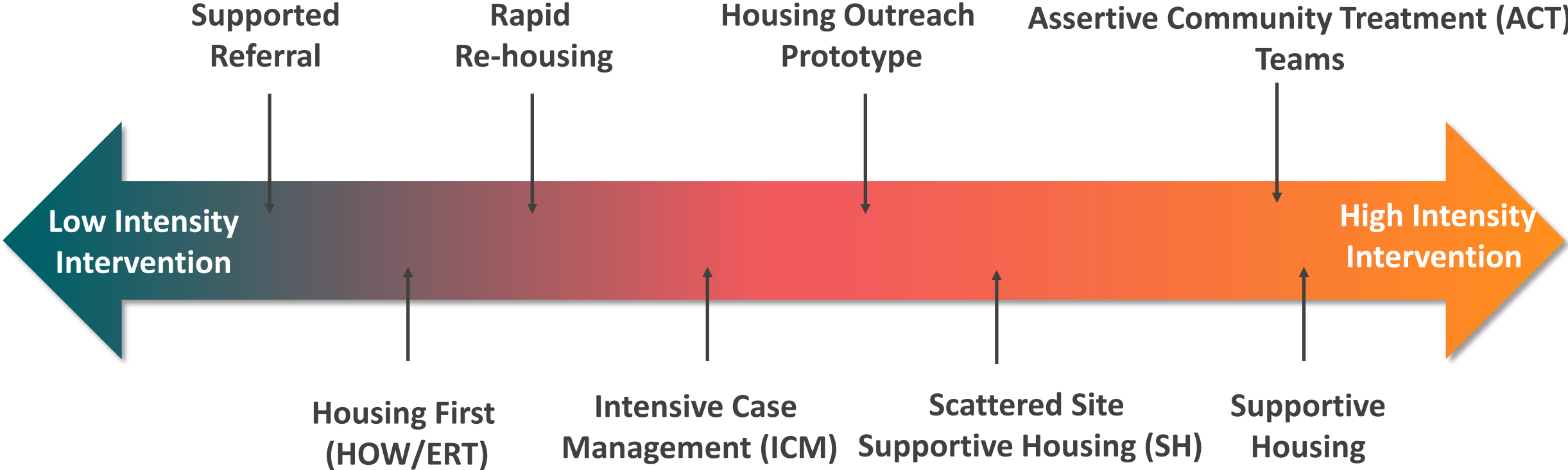
## — Existing Resources: Short Term

- Bridge Housing
- Transitional Housing
- Rooming Houses
- Shelters
- Treatment Centres
- Sober Living Facilities



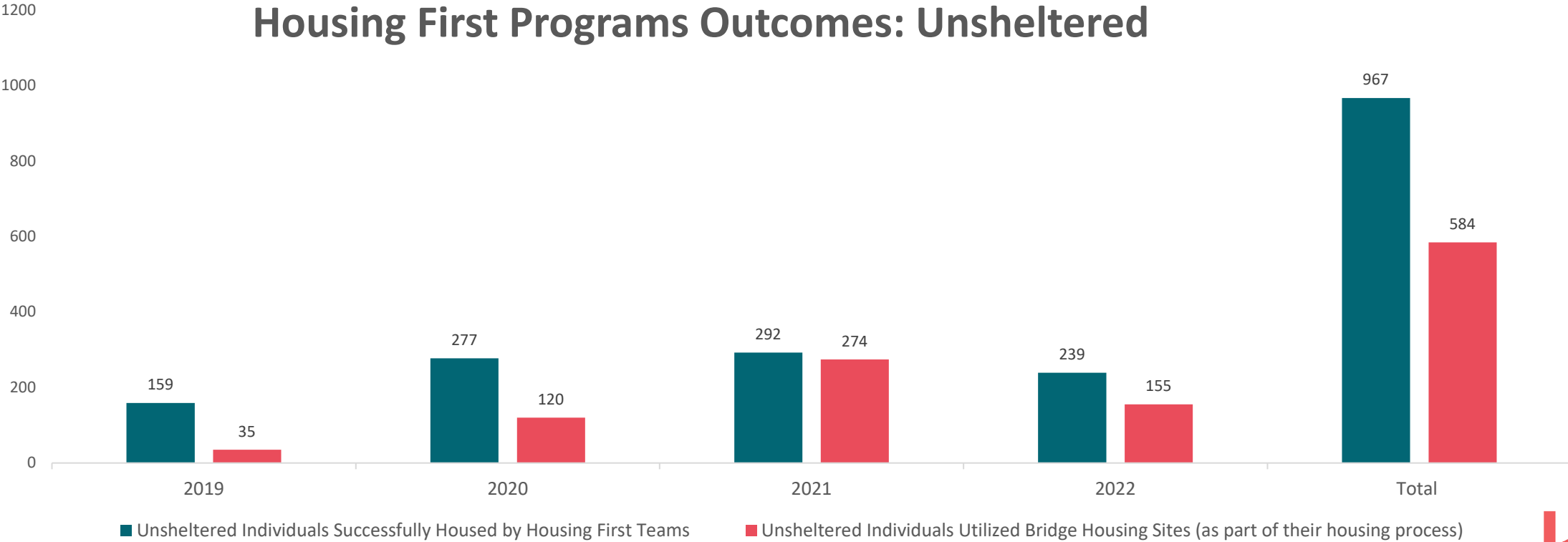
# Housing Focused Response - Strategy

— Appropriate Interventions



# Unsheltered Homelessness (Housing First Programs Outcomes)

Housing Data Summary: Jan. 2019 – Oct. 2022



# Housing Focused Response – Coordination Tools

## — Prioritization Matrix

- Location characteristics (site risk)
- Risk of the encampment structure





# Housing Focused Response – Coordination Tools

## Zones/ Mapping

The screenshot displays the '2022 ERT MAP' interface. The top header is red with the title '2022 ERT MAP', a search icon, and a menu icon. Below the header, it shows '283 views' and 'Published 4 hours ago' with a 'SHARE' button. The left sidebar contains a list of filters, each with a red checkmark and a dropdown arrow:

- NORTH** (Purple location pin icon)
- WEST** (Yellow location pin icon)
- SOUTH** (Grey location pin icon)
- MILLCREEK** (Blue location pin icon)
- DOWNTOWN** (Blue location pin icon)
- Closure** (Red triangle icon)
- All items** (Red triangle icon)

The main map area shows an aerial view of Edmonton, Alberta, with various zones outlined in different colors: purple for the northern part, yellow for the western part, and blue for the southern part. The city name 'Edmonton' is prominently displayed in the center. Several red triangle icons are scattered across the map, indicating specific closure locations. The map also shows major roads and surrounding areas like St. Albert, Lacombe Park, and Northeast Edmonton.



# Housing Focused Response – Coordination Tools

## — Communication Methods

### Dispatch Channel/Chat Function

- Provides real time support
- Decrease of duplication of efforts
- Dispatch housing outreach teams

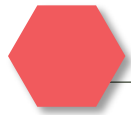


# Conclusion



Assessment Tools

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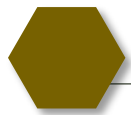
Map/Zones

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Communication Methods

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Response = Solution Based

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# Many Thanks!

— Kendra Stoley

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