



Nelson Committee on Homelessness

Terms of Reference

Updated February 2020

The Nelson Committee on Homelessness (NCOH) is a coalition of community stakeholders committed to addressing homelessness and poverty in Nelson.

Mission	To lead a collaborative and co-ordinated response to homelessness in our region
Vision	To work to eliminate homelessness in Nelson through the full implementation of our Reaching Home Community Plan
Value	To acknowledge and promote that safe, affordable, and sustainable housing is a human right for <u>every</u> individual in our region
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To provide community leadership to implement the Reaching Home Community Plan• To promote collaboration between a diverse range of sectors and stakeholders to best address the needs of people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness• To identify and respond to emerging community issues around homelessness and poverty• To strengthen community efforts to address and prevent homelessness by identifying and promoting evidenced-based practices• To facilitate the sustainable capacity of the community to respond to poverty and homelessness by broadening the resource and funding base• To enhance knowledge around poverty and homelessness through research, information sharing and education• To advocate for entitlement to safe, affordable, and sustainable housing as a human right• To engage the voice of people with lived expertise in all decision-making
Membership	NCOH Membership is open to those in the community who share NCOH's commitment.

Member diversity is a key asset. Accordingly, cross sector involvement and involvement of people who have experienced homelessness is actively encouraged.

Sectors include, but are not limited to, all levels of government, non-profit organizations, business sectors and community representatives of particularly vulnerable groups.

Decision Making

NCOH will utilize a consensus-based model for decision making (see Diagram 1 on last page)

Rules Of Conduct

NCOH members will demonstrate respect for diversity of opinion and membership within the group.

Confidentiality

NCOH meetings are open and public. Members will refrain from discussing client-specific, confidential and/or personal identifying information in committee discussions.

Term & Commitment

Through to March 31st, 2024 in accordance with the current term of the Community Plan. Over this period the committee will meet on a monthly basis.

This term will be reviewed and evaluated parallel to the term of the Reaching Home Community Plan, or as needed according to community need.

NCOH sets work priorities based on the HPS Community Plan. This plan is developed in consultation with the Nelson community. Specific committee objectives and goals are chosen and prioritized annually by the committee based on the community plan.

Authority & Accountability

NCOH is contractually accountable to Service Canada. Just as importantly, NCOH is accountable to those it serves: the Nelson community, those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and those working directly to respond to homelessness.

Review of funding recommendations will be made by an arm's length selection committee. This committee will be appointed by NCOH and Service Canada. NCOH will ratify this committee's recommendations or send back to this committee for further review.

Diagram 1. Model of consensus-based decision making



