

**Presentation to the  
Yellowknife Homelessness Coalition  
May 24, 2011**

**By: Nick Falvo and Arlene Haché**

# **Homelessness in Yellowknife**

## **An Emerging Social Challenge**

# Project Origins

- Arlene Haché
- SERNNNoCa
- Dr. Frances Abele

# Consultations

- Research Licensing Process
- Coalition Meeting: Aug 2009
- Alternatives North: Aug '09 & Feb '10
- Rotary Club: Feb 2010

# Interviews in Yellowknife

- Aug 2009
- Feb 2010
- Mar 2011

# Feedback Process

- Drafts to key informants: Feb '11
- E-mail Correspondence
- Visit to Yellowknife: Mar 2011

# Report

1. Synthesizes local knowledge
2. Contrasts and compares
3. Policy Recommendations

# Recommendation #1

## Accountability

“Within the GNWT, homelessness matters are always dealt with off the corner of someone’s desk.”

→ Streamline homelessness bureaucracy

→ Create GNWT homelessness secretariat

# Recommendation #2

## Collaboration

- All Funders Should Keep Yellowknife Homelessness Coalition Informed of All Planned Funding Initiatives in the Homelessness Sector.

# Recommendation #3

## Standards

- One overnight staff in emergency shelters
- Close quarters

→GNWT should develop shelter standards and provide sufficient implementation funding.

# Recommendation #4

## Housing

- Most homeless persons in Yellowknife are ineligible for public housing
  - Transitional housing works for some, but not for others
- GNWT should develop more housing options

# Recommendation #5

## Public Health

“Although treatment with detoxification and abstinence (“detox”) is the best option from a health perspective, the likelihood of rehabilitation among people both alcoholic and homeless is low.”

—Podymow et al., 2006

*Canadian Medical Association Journal*

→Public Health Task Force

# Dissemination

- Full Report
- Plain Language Summary
- Blog

**URL: [www.homelesshub.ca/yellowknife](http://www.homelesshub.ca/yellowknife)**

# Dissemination (cont'd)

1. Coalition
2. ADMs
3. Alternatives North

# Dissemination (cont'd)

4. Minister and Deputy Minister

5. Thursday's Launch

→ Panel

→ Reactions

# Dissemination (cont'd)

## 6. Community Meal

- Front of Post Office
- Thursday, 12 noon

## 7. Chamber of Commerce

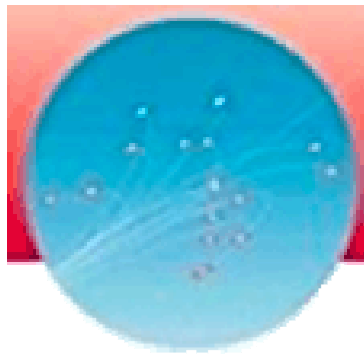
# Future Research

- *How Ottawa Spends*
- Historical Article

# Sponsors



# Sponsors (cont'd)



**Carleton**  
UNIVERSITY

# Sponsors (cont'd)

- The Homeless Hub
- Canadian Homelessness Research Network
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

**Thank You**