
Background

The Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) is a unique community-based program aimed at preventing and reducing homelessness by providing direct support and funding to more than 60 communities across Canada. The HPS took effect April 1, 2007, with annual funding of \$134.8 million for two years. It has been extended for two additional years from April 1, 2009, to March 31, 2011.

Under the HPS, the Government of Canada is offering to work in partnership with all provinces and territories. Such partnerships would encourage better alignment of federal and provincial/territorial investments, and help provide a seamless continuum of support for homeless people.

The HPS has three main initiatives: the **Homelessness Partnership Initiative (HPI)**, the **Homelessness Accountability Network** and the **Surplus Federal Real Property for Homelessness Initiative**.

The **Homelessness Partnership Initiative** is the cornerstone of the Homelessness Partnering Strategy. Its housing-first approach recognizes that the first step is to provide individuals with transitional and supportive housing.

The HPI has four funding components:

- Designated Communities
- Outreach Communities
- Aboriginal Communities
- Federal Horizontal Pilot Projects

The **Homelessness Accountability Network** helps strengthen program accountability. It also develops knowledge and encourages organizations to reinforce their networks and share best practices.

The **Surplus Federal Real Property for Homelessness Initiative** makes surplus federal property as well as land available to community organizations, the not-for-profit sector, and other levels of government, for projects to prevent and reduce homelessness.

For more information on the Homelessness Partnering Strategy, please visit www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/homelessness/.