



**HOMES
YOU CAN
AFFORD**

NDP
ANDREA
HORWATH

Homelessness

in 2022 Ontario Election NDP Platform

Homelessness mentioned 16 times in a 23 page 'housing strategy' document, pp. 19,20

How we'll make it happen:

A rights-based Housing First approach

The NDP will **recommit to the goal of ending chronic homelessness within 10 years**. The Ford government ignored the province's goal of ending homelessness by 2025, and defunded anti-poverty programs that supported this goal. The Auditor General said the Ford government "has no plan to reduce or prevent homelessness"³⁹ An NDP government will recommit to this crucial goal, and ensure funding to see it through.

We'll **expand the Housing First model**. Evidence from other jurisdictions shows that chronic homelessness is successfully reduced when people have access to safe, permanent and independent housing,⁴⁰ accompanied by additional supports and services where needed. An NDP government will build on successful and locally-driven 'housing first' initiatives underway in Ontario,⁴¹ and expand support for this rights-based approach throughout the province.

We'll **deliver 60,000 new homes with supports**. Ontario has less than half the supportive housing units needed.⁴² In 2017, the Mental Health and Addictions Leadership Advisory Council recommended that 30,000 new supportive housing units be built over ten years for people living with mental health and addictions challenges. An Ontario NDP government will double this target and deliver on building these new supportive homes.

We'll prioritize local and individual needs, not a one-size-fits-all approach. Our homelessness prevention policies must be locally-driven and individually-focused to respond to the specific needs of both rural and urban regions across the province. This focus is also critical to respond to the needs and lived experiences of Ontarians of all communities, identities, religions, abilities and disabilities – including women, families, Black, Indigenous and racialized people, youth, 2SLGBTQIA+ folks, and newcomers.



Homelessness

in 2022 Ontario Election Liberal Party Platform

Homelessness mentioned 8 times in
the 82 page platform, pp. 18, 19

Improve housing for people who need extra support

Ontario Liberals will:

- Invest in social, supportive and community housing services

Supportive housing pairs affordable homes with professional services and is an effective way to prevent homelessness. For instance, seniors and people with developmental disabilities can live independently with accessible help. Likewise, those struggling with mental health and addictions can live in safe environments with access to counselling.

We'll provide municipal and non-profit partners with \$360 million annually to operate and improve social, supportive and community housing services – funding that will increase as 38,000 new homes are completed.

End chronic homelessness

Ontario Liberals will:

- Fund new emergency shelter beds and improve existing shelters
- Relaunch the homelessness census
- Promote a 'Housing First' approach to delivering support for people experiencing homelessness

There are too many people currently experiencing homelessness. We'll work to establish housing as a fundamental human right in Ontario and provide people with safe and reliable shelter, as well as the robust wrap-around services they need to live with dignity and stability. We'll provide municipalities and housing support providers with \$100 million per year to promote a 'Housing First' approach to ending chronic homelessness that will quickly move people into independent, permanent housing with comprehensive supports.

We'll fund new emergency shelter beds and drastically improve the condition of existing shelters so that there are safe and respectable options to those who need them. We'll also renovate older shelters as long-term residences and supportive housing units as people are effectively transitioned into stable housing. Finally, we'll relaunch the homelessness census that the Ford Conservatives scrapped to better understand people's comprehensive housing needs and issues.



Strategy 5. Expand housing options for people in crisis and transition

What's been happening? Why is there a growing number of people without a place to live?

It's estimated that right now, 16,000 people in Ontario do not have a permanent home on any given night. Between 40-60% have chronic needs that go beyond housing.²⁰

Addressing homelessness requires a Housing First approach. This starts with addressing housing needs before connecting people to the other supports they need, including mental and physical healthcare, education, and employment services, and ensuring that these supports are people-centred and culturally and regionally appropriate.

Providing wrap-around housing services in this way helps keep families together, gives support to those struggling with health issues, and strengthens communities.

Here's the approach Green MPPs will take:

5.1. Increase supportive housing

- Build 60,000 permanent supportive housing units over the next decade through innovative partnerships with public, private, and non-profit housing organizations.
- Engage with communities with lived experience with mental health issues and/or homelessness on program development, as well as communities who, due to systemic barriers, face disproportionate levels of homelessness, including newcomer and racialized people.
- Ensure housing and accompanying supports are people-centred and culturally and regionally appropriate to the community being served.
- Increase technical and direct financial support for non-profit supportive housing providers.
- Accelerate the deployment of temporary and permanent supportive modular housing projects on appropriate provincially owned land.
- Create zoning for sites that would work for modular housing. For example, small, difficult to access plots of land that cannot accommodate big machinery.

Homelessness in 2022 Ontario Election Green Party Platform

Homelessness mentioned 12 times in 62 page "housing strategy" document, pp. 33, 34, 35

Strategy 5: End chronic homelessness

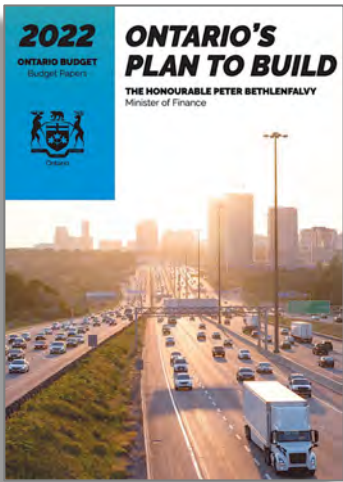
- 5.1. Take a Housing First approach and increase supportive housing
- 5.2. Upload costs to the province
- 5.3. Support people in transition

5.2. Upload costs to the province

- Provincially fund 50% of shelter and community housing costs while allowing municipalities to maintain management control.

5.3. Support people in transition

- Increase funding for emergency women's shelters, as well as transitional and permanent supportive housing for women and their families at-risk, that is safe and accessible.
- Increase funding for culturally appropriate transitional housing.
- Support a province-wide integrated approach to temporary and permanent supportive housing by breaking down administrative barriers that prevent those in crisis from accessing housing, mental health, and other services.



**Homelessness
in the 28 April 2022
Ontario Budget**

Homelessness mentioned 6
times, pp. 96-97.

Section D: Keeping Costs Down

Introduction

More Homes for Everyone

 Reducing Red Tape to Build More Homes

 Investing in and Supporting Community Housing

 Protecting Homebuyers, Homeowners and Renters

Investing in and Supporting Community Housing

The government is working with local service managers and Indigenous program administrators to sustain, repair and grow the community housing system. This is why the government is making significant investments in community housing and homelessness programs. Through the [Community Housing Renewal Strategy](#) and the government's response to COVID-19, Ontario has invested more than \$3 billion between 2020 and 2022 to support community housing and help to prevent homelessness. This includes nearly \$1.2 billion through the Social Services Relief Fund to municipal and Indigenous partners.

The government has also introduced a new regulatory framework under the Community Housing Renewal Strategy to make the system more sustainable over the long term, improve access based on those with the greater need and provide greater flexibility to service managers to meet local needs.

Securing Adequate and Sustainable Federal Support Through the National Housing Strategy

Addressing housing supply is a long-term strategy that requires long-term commitment and coordination from all levels of government. The provincial government welcomes the federal government following Ontario's lead in addressing housing supply with the initiatives in the federal *Budget 2022*. Ontario will continue to collaborate with all levels of government to make it easier and faster to build new homes.

To support these actions, Ontario continues to call on the federal government for adequate and sustainable support for housing and homelessness. This is vital to addressing the housing needs across the province and supporting a strong economic recovery in every Ontario community. Under the National Housing Strategy, Ontario is currently underfunded by approximately \$490 million for housing and homelessness supports over the term of the strategy based on the level of core housing need in the province, which is the highest in the country. Ontario continues to call on the federal government to provide the province with its fair share of funding.