



Giving Hope Today

FOR INFORMATION

Date: April 11, 2019

BRIEFING NOTE

SUBJECT: Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy

Launched April 1, 2019

What is it?

- Replaces the Homelessness Partnering Strategy
- Delivers direct funding to municipalities and local service providers
- Will be expanded to 4-6 new designated communities through an open and transparent process with final selection expected by fall 2019

Key Changes

- Housing First investment targets have been removed
- Outcomes-based approach aimed at keeping decision making at the local level and giving communities greater flexibility to address local priorities and achieve results for the most vulnerable
- Designated Communities must have a **coordinated access system** in place by March 31, 2022.
- Use of HIFIS will be mandatory in all Designated Communities where an equivalent system is not already being used

What is a coordinated access system?

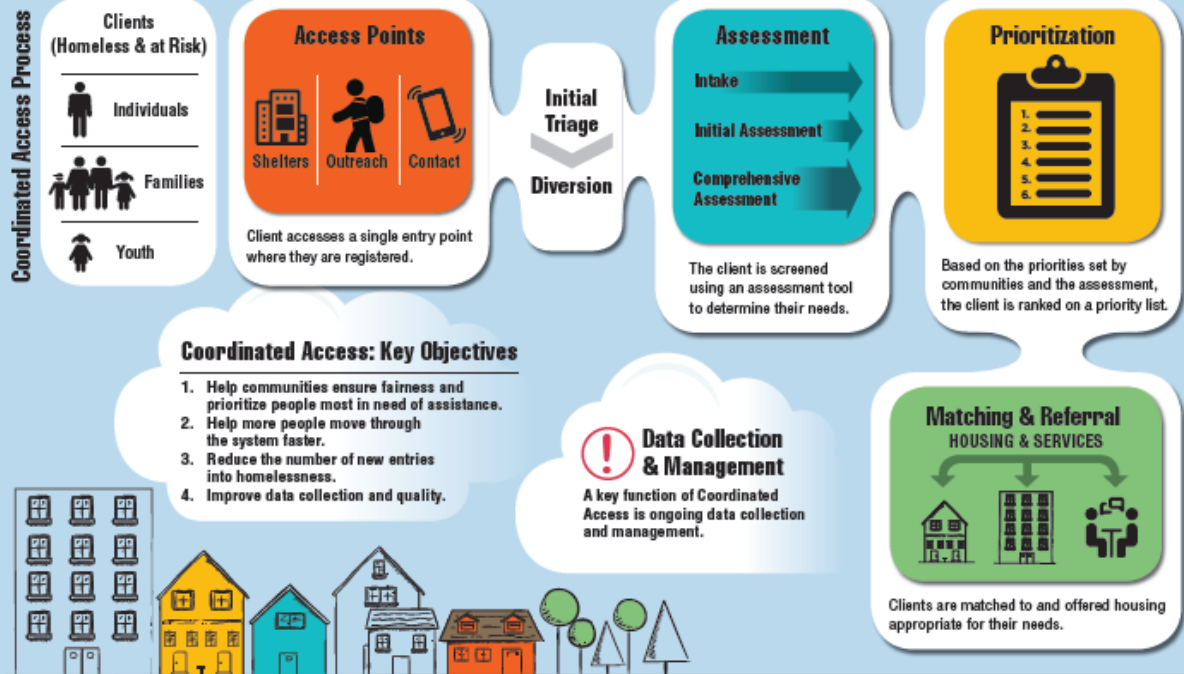
People experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness will be directed to community-level access points where trained workers use a common assessment tool to evaluate depth of need, prioritize them for housing support services and help match them to available housing interventions

What are the key shifts?

- Shift from delivering services to clients services providers know to clients the community has prioritized
- Use of a common information management tool that provides real-time, person-specific information and allows for the triaging of clients in need based on the community's priority populations and acuity assessments
- Shift from a collection of service providers making individual decisions toward an integrated systems approach

What is Coordinated Access?

Coordinated Access (CA) is a process through which individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, are provided access to housing and support services, based on a standardized set of procedures for client intake, assessment of need, and matching and referral to housing.



Taken from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/homelessness/directives.html#h2.3-h3.4>

APPENDIX A

What are the current Designated Communities?

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/homelessness/designated.html>

Yukon: Whitehorse

NWT: Yellowknife

BC: Kamloops, Kelowna, Nanaimo, Nelson, Prince George, Vancouver, Victoria

AB: Calgary, Edmonton, Grand Prairie, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Red Deer, Wood Buffalo

SK: Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon

MB: Brandon, Thompson, Winnipeg

ON: Belleville, Brantford, Dufferin County, Durham, Guelph-Wellington, Halton, Hamilton, Kingston, London, St. Catharines/Niagara/Thorold, Nippising/North Bay, Ottawa, Peel, Peterborough, Sault St. Marie, Barrie (Simcoe), Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Toronto, Waterloo, Windsor, York

QC: Drummondville, Gatineau, Montreal-Centre, Quebec City, Saguenay, Sherbrooke, Trois Rivieres

ND: Bathurst, Fredericton, Moncton, Saint John

NS: Cape Breton, Halifax

NFLD: St. John's

PEI: Charlottetown & Summerside