



ONTARIO MUNICIPAL SOCIAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION /
L' ASSOCIATION DES SERVICES SOCIAUX DES MUNICIPALITÉS DE L'ONTARIO

A Strategy to End Homelessness – Continuum of Housing and Support Services

Poverty Reduction and the Continuum of Housing and Support Services

The Ontario Cabinet Committee on Poverty Reduction, led by the Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister of Children and Youth Services, has committed to the development of a focused poverty reduction strategy by the end of 2008.

The 25 in 5 Network for Poverty Reduction recently called on the province to set hard targets and timelines in its 2009 poverty reduction strategy. The 25 in 5 principles for a strong poverty reduction strategy are:

- Good, sustaining jobs that lift working Ontarians out of poverty.
- Livable incomes, that include those unable to work.
- Strong and supportive communities. That means affordable housing, child care, public education and community programs that help people connect.

The Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) believes that ending homelessness by ensuring that every household has stable affordable housing is directly linked to a strong poverty reduction strategy. The strategy to end homelessness includes the same features as the strategy to reduce poverty. The OMSSA strategy to end homelessness further defines the strategy to achieve affordable housing and the supports needed to ensure that people do not lose their housing.

The strategy to end homelessness addresses every aspect of the Continuum of Housing and Support Services as illustrated in the diagram attached.

A Strategy to End Homelessness – Continuum of Housing and Support Services

Housing	Street	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Supportive Housing	Community Based Affordable Housing	Private Market Housing
<i>National Housing Framework</i>	<i>Streets to Homes</i>	<i>Preserve existing stock</i>	<i>Preserve existing housing</i> <i>Increase supply</i>	<i>Preserve existing housing</i> <i>Increase supply</i>	<i>Preserve existing housing</i> <i>Increase supply</i>	<i>Preserve existing housing</i>
Support Services	Outreach	Support to Access Housing		Support to Maintain Housing Stability	Maintain Housing	Sustaining Income & Employment
	<i>Basic needs</i>	<i>Discharge Planning</i>	<i>Hostels to Homes</i>	<i>Address Affordability</i>		<i>Address Affordability</i>
	<i>Access health service</i>			<i>Funding for Supports</i>		<i>Address income issues</i>
Other Human Services						Supports to Employment
		<i>Skill Development & Employment Training</i>				<i>Education & Training</i> <i>Adequate Child Care</i>

Sustained and Supported by Service System Capacity and Community Capacity