



HOMELESSNESS & HOUSING

Guelph & Wellington Task Force for Poverty Elimination | September 2021

Homelessness describes the situation of an individual, family or community without stable, safe, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means and ability of acquiring it. Someone experiencing homelessness may be unsheltered, emergency sheltered or provisionally accommodated (accommodation that is temporary).¹

Housing is considered affordable if shelter costs are less than 30 per cent of before tax income.



0 neighbourhoods

in Guelph are affordable for a full-time minimum wage worker to rent.

(Unaccommodating - Rental Housing Wage in Canada, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, 2019)



103

individuals are experiencing homelessness in Guelph-Wellington.

(Guelph-Wellington By-Name List, County of Wellington, August 2021)



41%

of tenant households in Wellington spend 30% or more of household income on shelter.

(2016 Census, Statistic Canada)



36%

of Canadians have been homeless or know someone who has been homeless.

(Nanos Poll, Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, 2020)



1 in 4 renters

are worried about making rent next month.

(Nanos Poll, Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, 2020)



35,000

people experience homelessness on any given night in Canada.

(Nanos Poll, Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, 2020)



Solutions

Policies that address the homelessness & housing crisis. Policies that:

- ✓ commit to the prevention and elimination of homelessness
- ✓ invest in the construction and operation of supportive housing
- ✓ build and acquire a deeply affordable non-market, co-op and non-profit housing
- ✓ commit to the progressive realization of the right to housing
- ✓ expand rental assistance for low-income households
- ✓ implement an urban, rural, and northern Indigenous housing strategy containing both dedicated investments and an Indigenous-led governance structure.

Learn more: The Vote Housing Campaign - www.votehousing.ca

Learn More

Read about the work our community is doing to create permanent supportive housing to help end homelessness in Guelph-Wellington: www.gwpoverty.ca/permanent-supportive-housing

Learn more about our community's efforts to end homelessness through Built for Zero: www.bfzcanada.ca

Understand how our community compares to others when it comes to rental affordability: www.policyalternatives.ca/rentalwages

Take Action

Ask a candidate:

- What actions will you and your party take to address the homelessness and housing crisis, so that everyone has a place to call home?

Take action as part of the Vote Housing Campaign: www.votehousing.ca

Be a YIMBY! Sign-up for the Poverty Task Force's Yes in My Backyard Campaign: www.gwpoverty.ca/yimby



¹ Gaetz, S.; Barr, C.; Friesen, A.; Harris, B.; Hill, C.; Kovacs-Burns, K.; Pauly, B.; Pearce, B.; Turner, A.; Marsolais, A. (2012) Canadian Definition of Homelessness. Toronto: Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Press. <https://www.homelesshub.ca/sites/default/files/COHhomelessdefinition.pdf>