



The Catholic Women's League of Canada Ontario Provincial Council



Purpose

This international day serves as a platform to celebrate good works, benchmark progress, advocate for improved policies and funding that can help prevent and end homelessness.

World Homeless Day also aims to raise awareness about the needs of people who currently experience homelessness and promote work in local communities to alleviate suffering and prevent death. (Worldhomelessday.org)

Below taken from [Made in Canada](#)

How is Homelessness Defined in Canada?

In Canada, a person, family, or community who does not have stable or permanent housing or immediate prospects of acquiring housing is considered homeless. However, this definition does not cover every experience of homelessness, and it is not strictly a question of instability of housing.

Homelessness Statistics for Canadians

- Between 30,000 and 35,000 people are homeless on any given night in Canada.
- Toronto has the most homeless people in Canada.
- 66.7% of homeless people in Canada are males.
- 33.10% of Canadian homeless come from Indigenous communities.
- 86% of homeless shelters in Canada are in Ontario, British Columbia, Quebec, and Alberta, and 40% of them are in Ontario alone.
- 24% of shelters are aimed at young homeless in Canada, while 23% of people experiencing homelessness are 13-24 years old.
- The annual cost of homelessness is over \$10 billion.
- The Canadian Government is investing \$4 billion over ten years to expand funding for the homeless.
- **Homelessness And Mental Health:** People who are homeless are more likely to have mental health issues compared to the general population. Between 7-24% of homeless in Canada have a mental illness, and 21-59% have a mental illness and substance abuse issues.

The Catholic Women's League Resolution

2024.01 [Increase Supported Housing for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness with Mental Health and Mental Illness Issues](#)

OPC Social Justice Chair – Hilarion Mitchell

#CWLendhomelessness

#FaithInAction

#housingforall