



Calgary  
Committee  
to End  
Homelessness

# Building the Plan to End Homelessness

Tim Richter  
Project Manager  
Calgary Committee to End Homelessness

Ph: (403) 262-2921  
Email: [tim@calgaryhomeless.com](mailto:tim@calgaryhomeless.com)

[www.endinghomelessness.ca](http://www.endinghomelessness.ca)



# The Ten Year Plan

- The Calgary Committee to End Homelessness formed in January 2007 as a community response to our homeless crisis.
- Adapting a model employed in 300 U.S. cities, counties and states.
- Chaired by Steve Snyder, President & CEO of TransAlta Corporation.
- 28 members on the leadership committee including front lines agencies, Mayor, 2 Aldermen, MLA, MP, private sector CEOs, foundations, health region CEO, post secondary education, Aboriginal & faith community representatives.
- 100 + volunteers.
- Delivering our plan in early 2008.
- Lethbridge, Red Deer, Edmonton, Grande Prairie are either developing or planning to develop 10 year plans.

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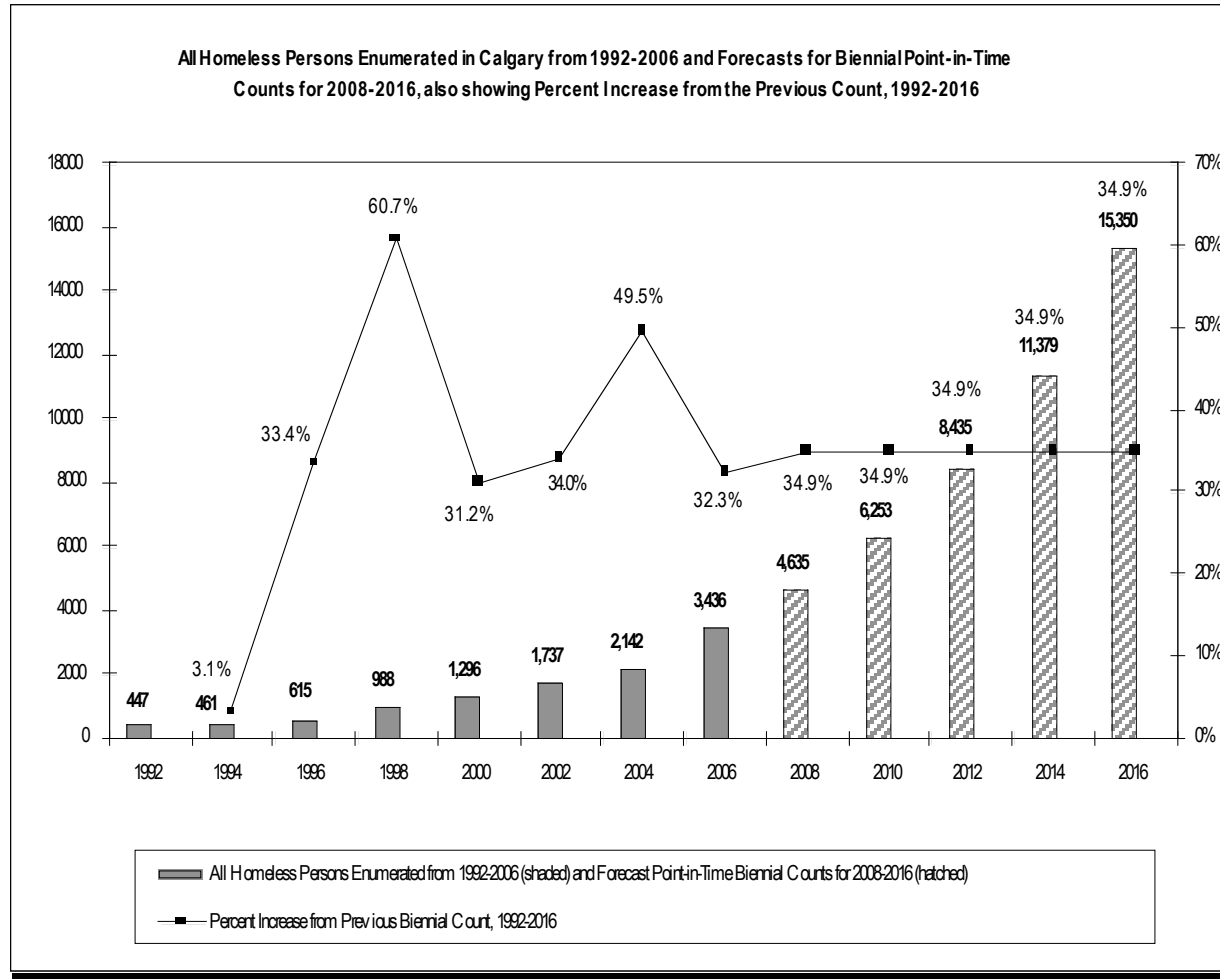
# Tipping points & unreasonable people

- We had a homeless crisis getting worse and worse no matter what we did.
- We were shown a way out.
- Had the leadership of unreasonable people



# Homelessness in Calgary

## Homelessness in Calgary, 1992-2006 & Homelessness Growth Projections, 2008-2016





# History of 10 year plans

- In 2000, the National Alliance to End Homelessness released **A Plan, Not A Dream: How to End Homelessness in Ten Years**
- Marked a shift from managing homelessness to ending it
- People realized that the economic case was the key to political will.
- In 2001: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Mel Martinez endorses the idea of ending chronic homelessness.
- In 2002: The U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness is reactivated. The Bush Administration sets goal of ending chronic homelessness in 10 years
- April 2007: **300** U.S. jurisdictions



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# Hope in a solution

- Philadelphia: 50% reduction in street homeless.
- Nashua NH: street number is down 40% and across the state 7% decrease in homelessness.
- In Westchester County, NY: 67% overall decrease
- In Madison, WI: 40% decrease in chronic homelessness.

Source: National Alliance to End Homelessness

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# Hope in a solution

- In three years, Chicago has reduced the number of people entering the homeless system every year; phased out almost 2,000 transitional shelter beds and added 1,300 permanent supportive housing units and over 1,400 interim housing beds.
- In two years Portland has reduced chronic homelessness 70% and overall homelessness 40%

Source: National Alliance to End Homelessness



# Ten Year Plans

Ten Year Plans focus on:

1. using data to plan for outcomes
2. closing the front door to homelessness through prevention
3. opening the back door out of homelessness by rapidly re-housing individuals and families
4. building an infrastructure by increasing incomes, expanding affordable housing, and helping individuals and families access needed services.

# Building a plan

## 1. Define your community's current situation and needs

- Who is homeless?
- What are the paths into homelessness?
- How are people moving through the system?
- What resources are currently available?
- Where are the gaps in resources, access & coordination?
- What other plans and initiatives are in place to coordinate with?



# Building a plan

## 2. Decide who needs to be at the table

Mayor  
City officials  
Business leaders  
Provincial & Federal Political  
leaders  
Senior Federal & Provincial  
officials  
Key service delivery agencies  
United Way  
Chamber of Commerce

Aboriginal representative  
Health Authority  
Housing Developers  
Foundations  
Nonprofits and faith based groups  
Homeless and formerly homeless people  
Neighborhood organizations/ Concerned  
citizens  
Other Community leaders



# Building a plan

## 3. Organize

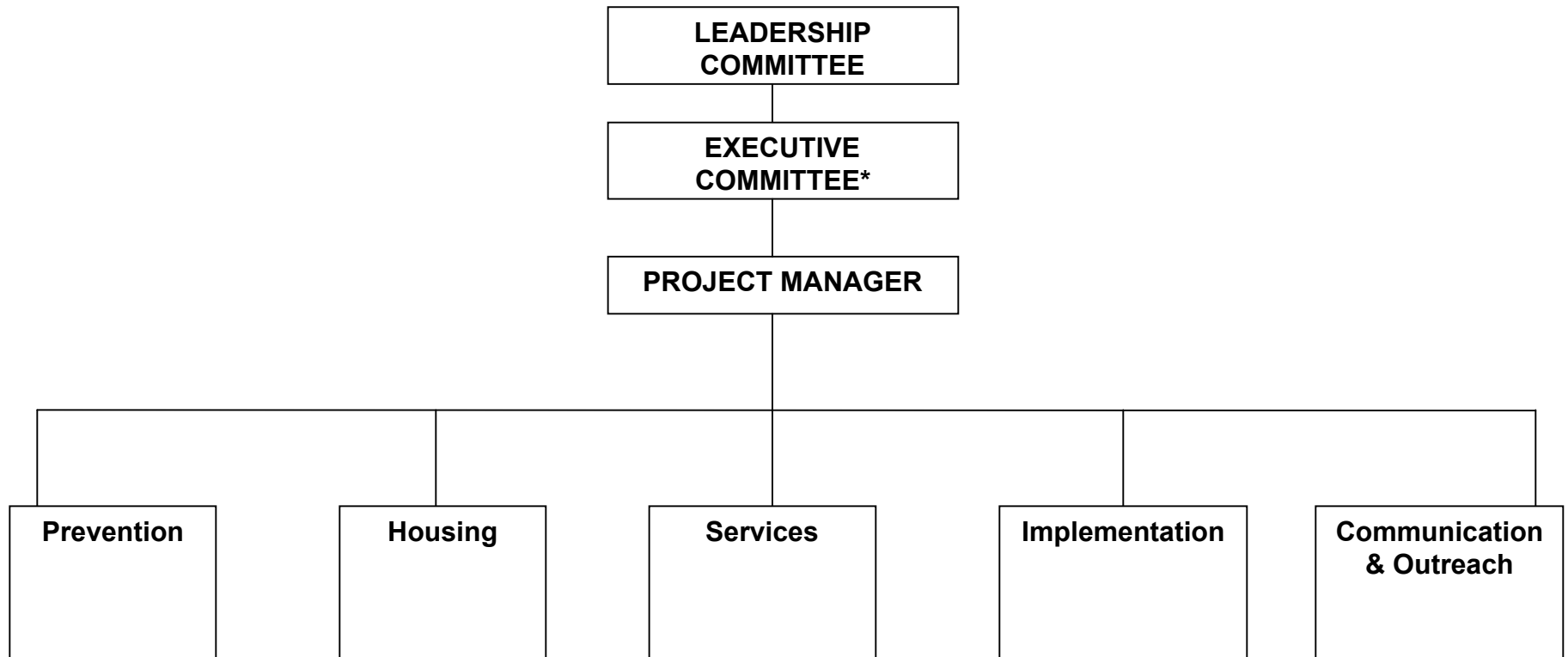
- Establish coordinating body
- Planning structure
- Work plan



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# Building a plan

**CALGARY COMMITTEE TO END HOMELESSNESS  
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART  
FEBRUARY 2007**



[www.endinghomelessness.ca](http://www.endinghomelessness.ca)



# Building a plan

## 4. Educate yourself about solutions to homelessness

- The National Alliance to End Homelessness: [www.naeh.org](http://www.naeh.org)
- U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness: [www.ich.gov](http://www.ich.gov)
- Surround yourself with experts
- Community outreach



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# Framing the Plan: The Ten Essentials

1. PLAN FOR OUTCOMES
2. DATA
3. EMERGENCY PREVENTION
4. SYSTEMS PREVENTION
5. OUTREACH
6. SHORTEN HOMELESSNESS
7. RAPID RE-HOUSING
8. SERVICES
9. PERMANENT HOUSING
10. INCOME



# Parting thoughts

- The answers to Victoria's homeless challenge have already been figured out somewhere else
- Public opinion is critical
- Every journey begins with a single step – get started
- Create success to build momentum
- Remember the Stockdale Paradox