Nanaimo Systems Planning Organization

2024 (FY1) Review & Actions 2025

HOMELESSNESS | EMERGENCY SHELTER | TRANSITIONAL HOUSING | SUPPORTIVE HOUSING | COMMUNITY HOUSING | AFFORDABLE HOUSING | MARKET HOUSING

Don Bonner, Board Chair

John McCormick, Executive Director

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This Presentation

- 2023-24 Review
- Current Projects
- 2025 Activities and Projects

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Overview

- BC Housing
- City of Nanaimo
- Federal Government
- Island Health
- Province of British Columbia
- Non Profit Sector

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Systems Planning Organization
Reason for Being

The HHAP supports a **Systems Planning Organization** to help optimize a current approach and maximize return on investment.

The SPO's primary focus is on the resources to meet the housing needs of for housing: seniors, Indigenous peoples, people with diverse abilities, families, dealing with mental health and addiction issues, veterans and young adults.

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Operating Approach in Community

- **We Leverage Resources, Capacity, Data**

- **Facilitate, Collaborate, Convene and Provide Research**
  with City, Partners, Stakeholder and Funders

- **We Seek Resources for the Community Housing Effort**
  - Support local housing related organizations
  - Emergency Weather Response Program
  - CMHC Research Fund
  - Rental Protection Fund
  - BC Housing HEART/HEARTH Funding
  - Island Health Road to Recovery Funding

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Partners

- **Funders:**
  - BC Housing, Island Health, Community Entity, Nanaimo Community Foundation

- **Government:**
  - City of Nanaimo, Snuneymuxw First Nation, Ministry of Housing, Min. SDPR, Infrastructure Canada

- **Community Housing Partners:**
  - CMHA, NFLA, NaCL, VIMHS, UWBC, Brain Injury Society, Pacifica Housing, Connective Nanaimo, 7/10 Club, Salvation Army
  - Real Estate and Development Community

- **Others:**
  - Local Churches, Community Associations,
  - Vancouver Island and BC Communities
  - Canada-wide: Medium Sized Cities

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Systems Planning Organization
Mandate

Recognize the collective value of multiple sectors and organizations working together with a common goal to build strong relationships, develop a well-resourced and high-functioning sector and to address homelessness:

- **Research, data, analysis, education and information** related to the community's collective homelessness prevention and response priorities;
- **Convene** transparent leadership in support of the entire community for housing and homelessness;
- **Coordinate a systems approach to homelessness planning** that connects the sectors together through information and analysis about funding and resources, client service needs, and shared accountability measures to advance strategic outcomes;
- Identify, communicate and coordinate approaches to deal with **system gaps, priorities and opportunities**.

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Work of the SPO : What We Don't Do

- We Don't…Duplicate efforts or displacing existing organizations
- We Don't…Wander outside of our Mandate
- We Don't…Compete for funding
- We Don't…Run Housing Programming
- We Don't…Speak on Behalf of Funders, City, Community Housing Providers

= Support and Consultancy

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Board and Staff Complement

- Board Function:
  - 1st Annual Meeting in June 2024
  - Policy Board
  - Meetings include invited guests, City staff, elected officials, presenters

- Staff Function:
  - Executive and financial management
  - Research and Data

- 2025 Action:
  - First Nations Advisor
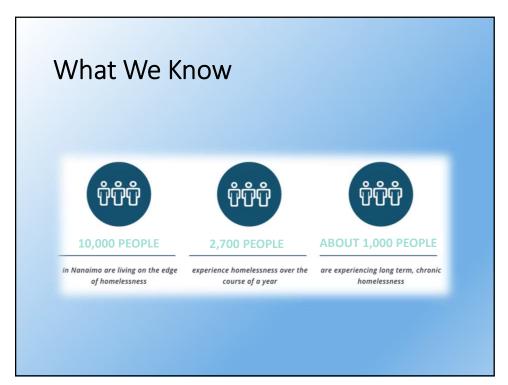 - Considering Cost/Benefit of Development Services Specialist

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Some Current/Recent Activities

- **Coordinated Access**:
  - HIFIS leadership locally and provincially

- **Research**:
  - Updating Nanaimo Comparative Analysis
  - Warming Centre Report
  - Updating the Health and Housing Action Plan
  - Vancouver Island Communities Collaboration

- **Funding for Programming**:
  - BC Housing Extreme Weather Response

- **Shelters/Housing:**
  - 238 Units (Heart and Hearth)
  - Travellers Lodge

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Research

- Updated Health/Housing Action Plan
- Point in Time 2023 / 2024
- By-Name Blitz in lieu of activation by BC Housing of HIFIS
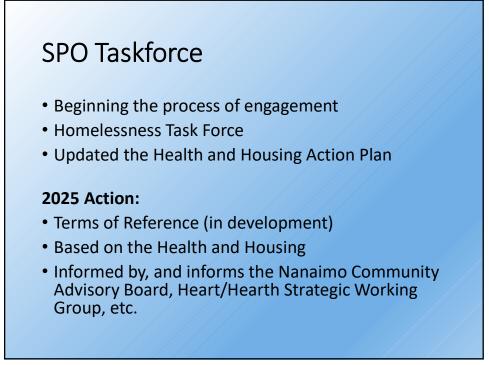
2025 Actions:

- Research Committee established that works with
  - SFN on Housing Needs
  - CE on evaluation of funded programs.
- Medium Sized Communities Research
  - Highest crime rates
- Vancouver Island Partnerships
  - CMHC Research Project
- Align with City's Doughnut Economics Approach / SFN Cultural Practices and Protocols

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What We Know

10,000 PEOPLE

in Nanaimo are living on the edge of homelessness

2,700 PEOPLE

experience homelessness over the course of a year

ABOUT 1,000 PEOPLE

are experiencing long term, chronic homelessness

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Best Practices

- Inter-Agency Communications Platform (SLACK)
  - Share best practices
  - Housing services resource delivery
  - Training
- GIS Housing Services Resource Tracking
  - Point in Time Count
  - Abbottsford Community GIS
- HIFIS Activation Discussions

- 2025 Actions:
  - informed communication, near-live agency coordination of resources
  - HIFIS implementation

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Partnering with SFN

- 2024 Point in Time Count
- Housing Services
- First Nations Advisor on SPO Team

2025 Action:

- Research on Housing
- Point in Time Count Report
- Housing Services advisory support

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2025 Actions

- **SPO TaskForce**
    - Re-Invigoration of Health and Housing Taskforce
    - Crystal-Clear Vision of Housing Needs/Costs

- **Capital Development Services**
    - Non-Profit and community owned
    - Inventory and dialogue
    - CMHC Research Funding

- **Combining Community Agency Resources**
    - Work with partners in community
    - Focus on Rental Property Inventory

- **Tracking Housing Resources in Community**
    - GIS-Based System Developed in Abbottsford
    - Community Outreach Tracking of resources to homeless community members

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SPO Taskforce

- Beginning the process of engagement
- Homelessness Task Force
- Updated the Health and Housing Action Plan

2025 Action:
- Terms of Reference (in development)
- Based on the Health and Housing
- Informed by, and informs the Nanaimo Community Advisory Board, Heart/Hearth Strategic Working Group, etc.

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Travellers Lodge: Update

- **78 Units:**
  - BC Housing Heart and Hearth Funding
  - Path to Wellness
  - Working with Operator, community agencies
  - Early 2025

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In Summary: Work of the SPO
Increased Resources and Shelter/Housing

- **Laser Focused on Gaps and Leverage Points**
  - E.g. Non-Profit and Community Re-Development Support

- **Every Action of the SPO is tied to INCREASING:**
  - Supply of below market/subsidized housing stock and shelter spaces
  - Supply of related Housing Services

- **New Housing/Shelter Annual Target**
  - 100 additional units a year

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Thank You

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