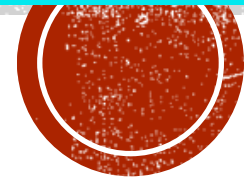


MANUFACTURING HOMELESSNESS: OUTCOMES OF SASKATCHEWAN'S HOUSING POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND LAWS

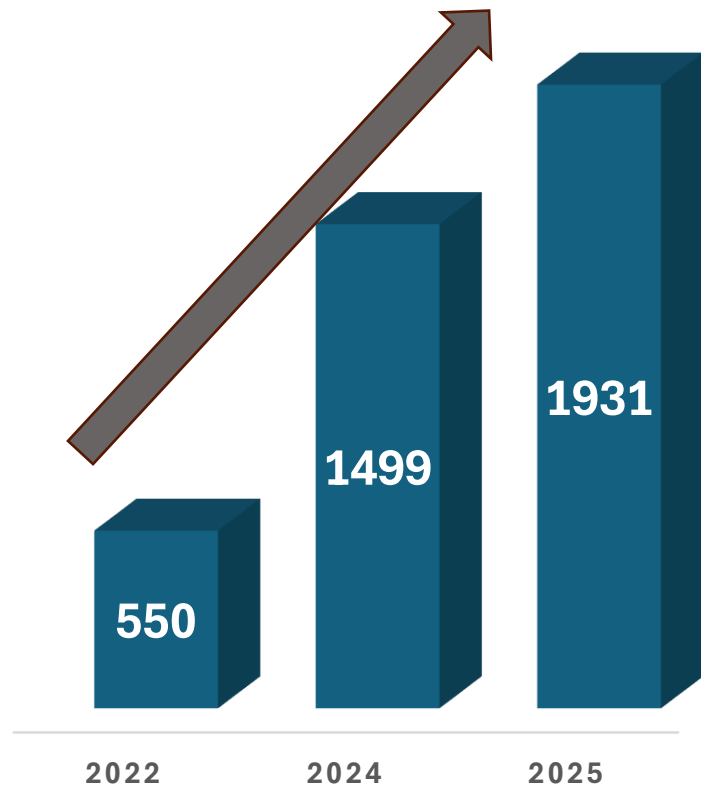
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COMMUNITY UPDATE & CO-CREATION WORKSHOP, STATION 20 WEST, MAY 5, 2026



HOUSING IS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT!

SASKATOON POINT-IN-TIME
COUNTS OF HOMELESSNESS



Homelessness has increased in Saskatoon due to policies & systems failing to meet growing housing needs, people dealing with insufficient income, and increased eviction rates

Despite the launch of the NHS in 2017 & the enactment of the NHS Act in 2019, housing supply has not kept pace with population growth, causing rent increases and forcing difficult financial decisions that leave housing rights largely unmet for those in greatest need

Housing instability affects families, children's education, neighbourhoods, and strains emergency services, justice, education, child welfare, and healthcare systems

HOUSING IS A SOCIAL DETERMINANT OF HEALTH & WELLBEING!

- ❑ Poor housing conditions contribute to respiratory issues & mental health problems like stress and anxiety
- ❑ Frequent moves & unstable housing disrupt health management & increase healthcare use
- ❑ Poor health can cause income loss, leading to housing insecurity, creating a harmful cycle
- ❑ Safe, stable housing supports health prevention, recovery, and strengthens communities



WHY IS HOMELESSNESS ON THE RISE?



Systems & Policy Gaps

- Lack design flexibility to centre the needs of those most affected
- Do not address the multiple barriers/factors driving crisis
- Housing supply not meeting population growth



Program Gaps

- SIS, SAID, SHB are not keeping pace with cost of rent/inflation
- Nonprofit housing providers face significant barriers accessing NHS funding
- Poor coordination & gaps in housing support programs



Legal Gaps

- Inadequate tenant protection
- Legal loopholes leading to unenforced housing rights



RECOMMENDED POLICY REFORMS/ACTIONS

People-centred
Housing Policies &
Programs that
prioritize frontline
experience & lived
experience

Enhance public
Investment &
collaboration across
systems & different
levels of government

Targeted economic
policies aimed at
improving the financial
stability of
marginalized & low-
income populations

Provide social
assistance that is
sufficient to cover the
cost of living without
harmful trade-offs

Strengthen tenant
protection by
decolonizing ORT
policies and
expanding legal
safeguards for tenants

Implement legal &
participatory
approaches for the
NHTS to prevent
evictions,
discrimination, &
criminalization

Promote housing as a
social good and
reward housing
investors with social
investment credits

