

TORONTO STAFF REPORT

August 28, 2006

To: Board of Health
From: Dr. David McKeown, Medical Officer of Health
Subject: Tracking Deaths in the Homeless Population

Purpose:

This report will outline the current status of homeless death monitoring in the City of Toronto and recommend steps to improve the quality of available information. The proposed mortality data resource will support regular reporting on notable trends and issues.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Medical Officer of Health report to the Board of Health on aggregate findings and identified trends in deaths in the homeless population on a biannual basis, beginning with 2007 data; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Background:

At its meeting of March 9, 2005 the Community Services Committee passed the following recommendation:

“that the Community Services Committee, in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health, request of staff, a report on issues related to tracking homeless deaths in the City of Toronto, including a review of the identification protocols used in the City of Vancouver and the City of Ottawa.”

The Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario, Shelter, Support & Housing Administration Division and the Toronto Disaster Relief Committee have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

Comments:

Issues Related to Deaths of Homeless People:

High rates of illness and premature death among the homeless population have been widely recognized, including in studies of Toronto's homeless population. Given the often isolated existence of people who are homeless, their deaths often go unrecognized. In certain instances, such individuals will not be identified, or may not have known next of kin. It often rests with the shelter system or community agencies, in collaboration with other authorities such as those in law enforcement, social services and health care, to attempt to ensure that clients receive a proper burial and that every effort is made to identify and notify next of kin. There is also community concern over what appears to be an escalating death rate and absence of comprehensive tracking in order to develop preventive measures such as transitional housing, harm reduction housing or palliative care.

Current Tracking of Deaths of Homeless People in Toronto:

The Office of the Chief Coroner ("the Coroner") generally investigates deaths that are of a sudden, suspicious nature, are accidental or unexpected, or are otherwise not natural. Such deaths will have been reported to the Coroner by law enforcement officials, health care practitioners and other community service providers, and subsequently investigated. Most natural deaths do not involve the Coroner; however, if an individual dies while living on the street, even if their death is deemed to be from natural causes, the Coroner will investigate.

The Toronto Indigent Deaths Enquiries (TIDE) Project was established in 1999 as a repository for information regarding deaths among homeless individuals defined as "any person who has no fixed address and dies in a public place (street or building), hostel, or in hospital having been admitted from any of the above". Between 1999 and 2005, it has recorded an average of 38 deaths per year, or 269 in total, based on information provided by the Office of the Chief Coroner for Toronto; however, despite the above definition, TIDE data will only include those deaths which have been reported to, and investigated by, the Coroner.

The Coroner has made efforts to ensure that all deaths meeting the above description are captured in TIDE data; however, there may be some deaths of homeless individuals which may not be included in the Coroner's data. For example, if a homeless person has been determined to be palliative and, thus, their death is expected, even if they die in a shelter or hospital, it may be deemed unnecessary for the Coroner to investigate.

The Coroner's office cannot publicly release any identifying information regarding a deceased person; they can, however, corroborate or confirm information, if a caller provides a name and/or physical description of the deceased. The primary way to initially identify a person is to provide any unique marks, tattoos or other physical description to Coroner's staff. In such cases, a

relevant agency/shelter worker may visit the morgue to identify an individual. If family members are available, the deceased's identity can be confirmed through DNA analysis. The Toronto Coroner's office states that there are fewer than ten unidentified bodies per year in their morgue; a collaborative effort to identify the homeless among them could make this number even smaller.

The Toronto Disaster Relief Committee (TDRC) is an organization that is involved in research, advocacy and public education on issues affecting homeless people in Toronto. In addition, TDRC is the national secretariat for the National Housing and Homelessness Network and is involved in the 1% campaign, a national campaign to reintroduce a national housing program. This group has also been recording deaths for their homeless memorial, which names over 400 homeless or formerly homeless people, who have died since the mid-1980s. TDRC uses a broader definition than TIDE for homeless deaths. TDRC's definition is "individuals who died while living on the street, staying in a shelter, in custody with no fixed address, in hospital or long-term care with no fixed address in the community, in transitory and short-term accommodations, living in unsafe and/or inadequate accommodation (i.e. squats, rooming houses) and Aboriginals on their home reserve if they went there with the knowledge they were ill".

TDRC gathers such information from frontline agencies, homeless individuals and, in some cases, the Coroner's office. In the years since TIDE data has been kept, 1999-2005, 300 individual deaths have been tracked, confirmed and documented by the TDRC, however a significant number remain listed as John or Jane Doe. The list of deaths maintained by the TDRC is attached (see Appendix 1).

Tracking Systems in other Jurisdictions:

(a) Ottawa

Homeless death data is collected through the Street Health Coalition Committee, a network of health providers, based on outreach workers' reports. Individuals are identified as homeless, living in shelters or users of shelter and/or drop-in services, along with any relevant demographic and health related information. This initiative has collected information on the deaths of over 240 such individuals in the City of Ottawa since 1998. No Coroner's data are available, since deceased are not identified as homeless in the Ottawa Coroner's data.

(b) Vancouver

Vancouver has an informal system of counting homeless deaths, which is administered by the Lookout Emergency Aid Society, an inner city social service agency. There is no official record being kept at this time.

Development of a Tracking System in Toronto:

Currently, no fully coordinated system exists through which deaths (in shelters, in hospitals, on the street, or elsewhere) of homeless individuals are communicated and relevant information collated.

City of Toronto Hostel Services, through its network of 65 directly operated and purchase of service shelters, is within its mandate to gather data on deaths occurring in shelters. In addition, data on clients who die in hospital or on the street, while resident in a shelter, may also be available from shelter operators. Hostel Services of the Shelter, Support and Housing Administration Division will work with the City of Toronto Corporate Access and Privacy to develop a database to gather data on the deaths of homeless individuals in hostels. Such information would contribute to an overall picture of the situation in the City.

Appendix 2 summarizes the roles of those agencies currently involved in monitoring and documenting deaths of homeless individuals, those who could potentially contribute further to the knowledge base, as well as the nature and quality of information from each.

A more complete picture will combine the information gathered by:

- (a) Hostel Services – information regarding deaths of homeless clients resident in, or recently associated with, shelters.
- (b) TIDE project (Office of the Chief Coroner for Toronto, Toronto Public Health) – data on deaths of homeless individuals in Toronto, which have been investigated by the Coroner's office.
- (c) Toronto Disaster Relief Committee (TDRC) – information on deaths of homeless persons, which has been brought to their attention by individuals or community agencies.

Information from the provincial deaths registry (Office of the Registrar General) does not contain indicators of homelessness, and thus, would not be of any use to the database.

A more complete deaths database would help to monitor deaths among the homeless population. This information would help to identify trends and issues and to help identify solutions such as the special housing needs of people, as well as reduce the number of unidentified people through coordinated efforts of Hostel Services and homeless service providers, as well as Coroner, Law Enforcement, Health Care and Public Health officials.

Although there will be three sources of data, there will be limitations regarding sharing and cross-referencing of information. For example, TDRC is able to share this information with Hostel Services who will then be able to determine if there are duplicates. As well, Hostel Services will be able to determine if any of their deaths are also coroner deaths. Activity will take place within the established parameters of privacy laws.

Toronto Public Health is working with Shelter, Support & Housing Administration in establishing a more comprehensive record of deaths of homeless people in the City of Toronto. This requires developing policy and information management procedures by Hostel Services, in

collaboration with Corporate Access and Privacy, and collation of all death-related information (in anonymous, aggregate form) from all sources.

A biannual report to the Board of Health will identify key indicators from accumulated data and identify notable trends in deaths, such as causes, annual patterns, locations, etc. Recommendations may arise from these reports related to identified service gaps and funding needs. The first report will be produced based on data from the 2007 calendar year.

Toronto Public Health will continue to investigate best practices from other jurisdictions in monitoring deaths in homeless populations, and adjust monitoring in Toronto as appropriate.

Conclusions:

The significance of premature death in the homeless population, combined with the often isolated existence of this group, requires a unique approach involving collaborative efforts to assist in the identification both of deceased individuals and notable mortality trends. Furthermore, additional efforts to confirm identification will promote a dignified recognition of the individual's death, including supporting notification of next of kin.

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List of Attachments:

- Appendix 1: Toronto Disaster Relief Committee's Death List
- Appendix 2: Summary of Current and Potential Data Sources Regarding Deaths of Homeless People

Appendix 1

Toronto Disaster Relief Committee's Death List

Unknown, 1985, 1986

Samuel Carter	unknown			Drina Joubert	Dec. 17 1985
Carl Deremo	unknown	Rick Moore	late 90s	David Henschell	1986

1987 – International Year of Shelter for the Homeless

Randolph Fraser Jr.	Jan. 11	Claude Wolfe	May	Harold Wright	December
Mary Kellar	May	Art Holland	Spring		
Emery Hache	May	Albert Therrien	November		

1988-1989

Stanley Guilbeault	Jan 1988	Sheldon Bryan	Sept. 1989	John Thomas Flint	Dec. 23
Michael Johnson	Feb 1988	Donna Marie Cann	Dec. 23	Dedomir Sakotic	Dec. 23
Jim Mitchell	Oct. 1988	Vincent Joseph Clarke	Dec. 23	Ralph Oral Stone	Dec. 23
Patrick Erasmus Seventrees	Fall 1988	Stanley Blake Dancy	Dec. 23	Vernon Stone	Dec. 23
Milton Hanna	June 1989	David Didow	Dec. 23	Victor Paul White	Dec. 23
Ed Leslie	Aug. 1989	Edward Finnigan	Dec. 23		

1990

George Fleury	September	(William) John Arbeau	December	Joseph McKenzie	
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1991

John Norman Dean (Custer)	Jan	Gerald Gumbs	March	Eugenia Balcombe	December
Peter Gautreau	February	Dennis Beauchamps	November	Ron Bristol	December

1992-1994

Maurice Austin	March 1992	Anthony Beeches	1992	Elgin "Smokey" Johnston	Feb. 1994
Ron Emmerson	1992	Wallace Kelly	Jan. 1993	Clinton Clarke	Dec. 1994
Tony Gillingham	1992	Donald Thomas	Feb. 1993	P. Carpenter	1994
Steve Cvetkovic	1992	Felix McCarthy	Feb. 1993	Linda Cottonham	1994
Walter Kelly	1992	Jack Hendry	April 1993	Bruce Stone	1994

1995

Dale Phillips	January	Danny	Fall	Dwight Soloman	
Gerry Ransom	April	Sandra Thomas	Nov. 26	Ron Pearce	
John Biloki	June	Gizmo			

1996

Brent Simms	January 1	John Doe	July	Mirsalah Aldin-Kompani
David Mechel Chretien	January	Richard Roy	Sept. 21	William Carson
Victor Murray	January	John Doe	Sept. 25	Andre Choquette
Raymond Morgan	February	Joe Szabo	December	Gordie Luckee
Jeff Holyomes	after February	Wayne Jean	Dec. 10	Sean "Junior" Keegan
Sean Graham	April	Eugene Upper		Deanna Thomas
John Doe	May	Irwin Anderson		

1997

Therese May Melanson	January	William Botes	June	Henry (Horse) Picody	October
Florence Harrison	January	Stanley Peterson	August	John Kovacs	November
Garland Sheppard	January	Wally Neshkiwi	September	Michael Fairthorne	November
William Hunta	February	Garnett (Smokey) Smoke	September	James	November
Edmond Wai Hong Yu	Feb. 20	Linda Houston	September	Calvin Waindubence	November
Patrick Pangowish	March	Mary Louise Sharrow	October	Ellen Barber	November
Lisa Lynn Anstey	May	Al Voicey	October	John Gavalier	
Jordon Heikamp	June 23	James Reuben Mansour	October	Donna Oglive	

1998

Douglas Currie	January	Vernon Crowe	Oct. 1	Ken Jocko	Dec. 13
Gaston LeClerc	January	John "Cowboy" Hutchings	Oct 21	Mark Fife	December
Julius Krusinsky	April	Wesley Mirarka	Oct. 23	Candace Sollen	December
Adam Soltysik	July	John Doe	October	David Solomon	
John Austin	August	Kathleen Hart	Nov. 1	John Austin	
John Doe	September	Richard Howard	Nov. 2	Natara	
Eric Bilotti	September	Jean Flanagan	Nov. 12		

1999

Janet St. Peter	Jan. 29	Lester Pawis	April 29	John Doe	Nov. 13/14
Riachard Corbiere	Jan. 30/31	Jane Doe	late April	John Doe	Nov. 20
Mr. Christie	early Jan	Robert Flemming	July 2/3	Helena You	Nov. 25
Lavonne (Sue) Higgins	Feb. 1	Richard Belman	July 4	Donald Dietrich	Dec. 6
Z. Grodski	Feb. 1	Brian Harold Lockau	July	James Coughlin	Dec. 8
Al	Feb. 4	Ignacy Poludnieski	July	Richard Marlatt	Dec. 29
Mike Duquesne	week of Feb. 8	Rudy Skok	Aug. 28	Jamie Peterson	
Kerry Patric McDonald	Feb. 13	Mr. P.	Aug. 28	Russ	
Grant McKenzie	week of Feb.15	Donald Webb	August	Cliffie	
Oscar La Rue	Feb 27/28	John Doe	early Sept	Sammy Happyjack	
Vince	mid Feb	John Doe	Fall	Leeanne	
Don Wade	April 1	Matthew Woodley	Nov. 6/7	Kevin	
Janet	mid April	Herbert Hutton	Nov. 6		
Sabrina Benkartoussa	April 22	Danny Cousins	Nov. 9		
Nassima Benkartoussa	April 22	Steven Redman	Nov. 14		

2000

Heidi Ann Dagasso	Jan. 20	Ed Court	April	Stanley Fontaine (Dread)	Sept. 6
Mark Desmoulin	Jan. 22/23	Tom Green	April/May	Frank Edward Kishigweb	Sept. 11
John Doe	Jan. 28	Hank Vanderwolde	May 4	James Haire	Sept. 26
Rob Barran	Feb. 4	John Currie	May 22	Leonard Daniel	Sept. 28
Robert Topilko	Feb. 10	Manuel Sus	May 23	J.P.	Sept-Nov.
Stuart Mitchell	Feb. 20	John Doe	May 24	John Doe	Oct. 8
Jennifer Caldwell	March 6	Casey (Eyes) Smith	May 28	Michael Anthony Tilley	Oct. 9
Eddie Fay	March 10	Adrian Filmore	June 4/5	Mike Laracy	Oct. 18
Segauraum Aneshlingham	March 31	Harriet Eastwood	June 21	Marlene Hilderman	Oct. 20
Kirabel Mekonnen	March 31	Donald Tifford	June 24	Roseanne Brouillard	Nov. 10
Mario Morgan (Morgato)	April 2	John Doe	July 8	Walter Later	Nov. 18
Bill McGrath	April 5	Margaret LaRoque	July 10	Esperanza Henwood	Nov. 2000
John Doe	April 18	Julie Edwards	July 31	Salvatore (Sam)	
Donald Newton	mid-April	A.B.	Summer	Restivo-Pantalone	Dec. 25
John Doe	April 30	Richard Spannagel	August		

2001

Greg "Bones" Coyen Jan. 1
 Barry Proctor Jan. 22
 Abdul Dewani January
 John Dunn Feb. 1
 Robert MacDonald Feb. 10
 Ronald Back Feb. 13
 Jane Doe Feb. 28
 Mervyn February
 Donald "Dusty" Fiske March 1
 Greta Scott March 3
 Daniel Genge March 30
 Rosemary Hunte March
 A.B. April 11
 N.B. April 11
 Jozsef Theobold April 13
 John Doe April 16-17

Francis "Frank" Lewis April 16
 Doug Taylor April 21
 Barry "Kermit" Gostlin April
 Archie McIssac April
 Lynn Jean-Marie May
 Peter Chegahno May 31
 Edwin Hawthorne June 6
 Gary Blackburn June 11
 Charles Cameron June
 F.A.K. June
 Leonard McClaren June
 John Doe July 15
 John Doe July 12/19
 Steve Lovell July 22
 T.V. July
 John Doe July

John Doe July
 Trevor Littlejohn Aug. 2
 Tim Hoffman Aug. 5/6
 Willie Wilson/Darrel Cook Aug. 10
 Chris Glynn Aug.
 Leah Singh Aug/Sept
 C.D. Sept. 9
 Bill West Sept. 25
 Joey O'Hare Oct. 17/18
 John Doe Nov. 5
 J.T. Dec. 13
 Jean (John) Deparnay Dec. 24
 Donnie Gordon Dec. 26
 Stephen Shephard December

2002

P.W. Jan. 6
 Fred Cheesborough Jan. 12
 Ronny Winndecker January
 The King of Carlton January
 Shui Jim Wong (On Wong) Feb. 13
 Michael Sackany February
 Claire Vachon March 16
 Carlos Pantzan March 22/24
 Joy Holmes March 26
 Shellagh Day March 28
 Cody March
 Helen Fox April 4
 June Milne April 12
 Judy Solomon May 25
 R.H. May 25

George Katsouleas May
 George Adams June
 Marehira Kaito mid June
 John Doe July 4
 Louise Lowe Aug. 13
 Stanley Brunskill Aug. 22
 John Doe Aug. 29
 Goitom Abreha Aug. 31
 Jim Wakefield (Ron) August
 William Hughes late August
 Janet Fehr Sept. 13
 Ricky Snow September
 Michael Belanger Sept. 5
 Jane Doe September
 Dolly September

Ken Hyatt Oct. 4
 Eugene Miller Oct 20
 Pete Marshall Oct. 22
 Cecilia October
 Wayne Gorman Fall
 Floyd Anderson Nov. 7
 John Doe November
 John Doe November
 John Doe November
 Donald Kimmer Baker Nov. 22
 Jerry Jones Dec. 15/16
 Brian Boyd Dec. 20
 Joe Whelen Dec. 25

2003

John Doe	Jan. 3	Brian	April	Norma/Norman Lewis	Nov. 19
John Doe	Jan. 23	John Doe	April	Cheryl Lynn Gunn	Dec. 4
John Doe	end January	Richard Lucas	May 27	William Markam	Dec. 12
Phillip Toulouse	Feb. 11	Aaron George	July 9	John MacKeigan	Dec. 13
Bobby McLaughlin	Feb. 21	Michael Junior Malcolm	Aug. 29	Joey Chakasim	Dec. 17
Marty Bronson	Feb. 24/25	Brian Markett	Summer	Henry Logan	Dec. 22
Leonard MacGillivray	Feb. 28	James Francis Samson	Nov. 1	Leo Cyrenne	Dec. 26
John Doe	March	Steve Allen Begin	Nov. 2	Joseph Albert Mackenzie	Dec. 29
Ray Rhodes	April 2	Leonard Grozelle	Nov 11	William (Billy) McRae	late Dec
Judy Roberts	April 21	Ronnie Redsky	Nov. 17		

2004

Brian Vanamburg	January	David Mascarin	June 1	Bill/Will Fenton	Aug. 31
Roy Brownlie	Jan. 2	Thomas Bain	June 2	Susan Burton	Sept 19
George St. Pierre	Jan	Carlos Hernandez	June 11	Loyd Dhlamini	Sept 26
Randy Wise	Jan. 24	Randy Angrove	June 18	Stewart Turner	Late Sept
Vito Desimisi	January	John Doe	June 21	Donald Jack Humphrey	Sept
Billy Atkinson	Feb 19	John Doe	June 21	Robert "Bobbie" Franklin	Oct 8
James Kagoshima	Feb. 17	Bill Russell	June 25	J. Doe	Oct 19
Albert Katigagyok	February	Richard Losignor	June 28	John Doe	Oct 23
Donald Charles Wesley	Mar. 14	Allan Spoon	July 3	Margaret Linklater	Oct 26
Judy "Julie" Lupa	March	James Draper	July 3	Louie Ayles	Oct
Ryck Webb	April	John Doe	July 13	Fred Cullen	Nov 2
John McRae	April 8	John Doe	July 14	Gordon Parker	Nov 12
John Doe	April 15	John Walker	July	Gorden Schultz	Nov 23
John Doe	April 19	Cam Baker	July 14	Bill Anderson	Dec 13
John Doe	May 7	Remi Spence	July 31	John Doe	Dec 27
John Doe	May 8	John Doe	Aug. 8	John Doe	Dec 29
John Doe	May 15	Elias Touboulis	Aug 11	Jane Doe	Dec 30
Albert Thomas Lucas	May 20	John Doe	Aug. 12		
Melissa (Smurf)	May 20	Babara Lee Clarke	Aug. 20		

2005

Jane Doe	Jan 5	David Colbeck	Apr 20	Ray Benoit	Sept 7
John Doe	Jan 9	John Doe	April 21	John Doe	Sept 8
John Doe	Jan 12	Jane Doe	April 24	Boyd Scott	Sept 9
Manuel Baptista	Jan 17	Steve Wales	late April	John Doe	Sept 13
Jane Doe	Jan 22	Robert Burns	May 14	Kenny Martin	Sept 14/15
Robert "Whitey" Madsley	Jan 26	John Doe	May 16	John Doe	Sept 23
John Doe	Feb 9	David Banks	May 29	John Doe	Oct 4
John Doe	Feb 10	John Doe	June 2	John Doe	Oct 4
Jerry "Beedeep" Leitch	Feb 13	Edythe Walker	June 5	John Doe	Oct 16
Harry Wright	Feb 16	John Doe	June 5	John Doe	Oct 19
John Doe	Feb 16	Marianna Hedens	June 5	John Doe	Oct 20
Mike Racioppa	Feb 17	John Doe	June 12	John Doe	Oct 23
Dellson Odunaiya / John Casa	March 7	John Doe	June 14	R.H. aka "Pops"	Oct 23
Millie Van Mier	March 8	Peter Rafton "Army Boy"	June	Bouffard Chester	Nov 3
John Doe	March 10	Douglas Hilliard	July 10	John Doe	Nov 12
Robert Stephens	March 10	Allan Kennedy	July 17	John Doe	Nov 13
Mike Skully	March 24	Joe Bezeau	July 25	John Doe	Nov 16
John Doe	March 25	Sam Yazelle	August 4	Jackie Escott	Nov 26
Jane Doe	March 31	Joan Dwyer	Aug 19	John Doe	Dec 3
John Doe	April 3	John Doe	Aug 26	John Doe	Dec 8
Jan Kit	April 9	Tony Parris/Atkinson	late Aug	John Grenville	Dec 12
John Doe	April 13	John Doe	Aug 30	John Doe	Dec 27
John Doe	April 19	Paul Richard Croutch	Aug 31	Alexander Enever	December
Daniel "Irish" O'Brien	April 19	John Doe	Sept 2		
			Sept 6		

2006

John Doe	Jan 14	Harunoba "Harry" Kobayashi	Mar 11	Carl Fox	May 11
John Doe	Jan 14	John Doe	March 19	John Doe	May 13
John Doe	Feb 2	Mike Skully	March 24	Diane Marshall	May 24
John Doe	Feb 6	John Doe	March 27	Donald Steel	May 30
Daniel Johnson	Feb 11	John Doe	April 2	Pinq Kuen Lee aka Ester Lee	May 31
John Doe	Feb 16	John Doe	April 15	John Doe	May 31
Ken Fink	Feb 16	John Doe	April 17	David Rees	June 22
Norman Desroches	Feb 18	John Doe	April 21	Kellet "Gilette" Wingenow	late July
John Doe	March 1	Jane Doe	April 23		
John Doe	March 2	John Doe	May 1		

Appendix 2

Summary of Current and Potential Data Sources Regarding Deaths of Homeless People

Source of Data	Contents	Limitations	Comments
Project TIDE (Office of Chief Coroner, Toronto Public Health)	All homeless deaths that fall under the terms of the Coroner's Act. Deaths that fit definition contained in first TIDE report.	Deaths that do not fall under the Coroner's Act e.g.: 'rough sleepers' who died of a chronic condition after being admitted to hospital	An ongoing project, 2000 was first full year of data. Names or other personal identifying information cannot be released beyond Project TIDE partners
Shelter, Support and Housing Administration database (proposed)	Currently - Death-related information through 'incident' reports submitted to Hostel Services Head Office Proposed – All deaths in, and relevant to, shelters to be reported through system coordinated by Hostel Services	Deaths occurring outside a shelter may or may not be captured (eg. On street, in hospital, recently housed/ placed in long term care)	Will be able to report aggregate data from a Hostels database in 2008 (2007 will be first complete data year)
Toronto Disaster Relief Committee	Anecdotal reports of deaths related to TDRC by its membership, community agencies and homeless individuals.	Reports often limited by lack of full/legal name, other demographic data, and/or cause of death information	Information can only be entered into database if its accuracy can be guaranteed. TDRC goes through a rigorous confirmation process of death.
Vital statistics databases (provincial)	Registry of all deaths in province of Ontario	Presently no consistent indicator for homelessness eg. Death certificates do not capture shelter addresses or NFA	The death certificate does not indicate status regarding 'homelessness'