Re: HL16.2

# Shelter, Support and Housing Administration Response for People Experiencing Homelessness during COVID-19



#### **Current Context**

- Toronto has the largest shelter system in Canada, with more than 7,000 individuals provided shelter each night
- People experiencing homelessness are at a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 because of underlying health and socio-economic conditions
- There have been 259 confirmed positive cases to date with 7 active outbreaks in shelter locations (as of May 4,

2020)



## **Three-Tier Response Overview**



#### **Prevention**

Enhanced Infection Prevention and Control guidance Physical distancing in the shelter system Outreach and encampments



#### **Mitigation**

Screening and testing for COVID-19 Isolation program



#### Recovery

Recovery site
Rapid rehousing
Leveraging investments for permanent housing
Ensuring housing stability

### **Tier 1 Prevention**

#### Tier 1 Prevention

Responses include enhanced Infection Prevention and Control guidance, physical distancing in the shelter system, and focus on outreach and encampments

\$6.1 million to shelters, 24-hour respites and drop-ins for IPAC, PPE and wage increases

23 new facilities opened



68 people sleeping outdoors moved to interim housing units

1,040 people moved into hotels



10 hotel locations are operational

13 temporary respite sites and expanded facilities opened for physical distancing

1,823
people have
moved
for physical
distancing

2m/6ft

497 people

moved to temporary respite programs to create more opportunity for physical distancing

# Tier 2: Mitigation

#### **Tier 2 Mitigation**

Responses include screening and testing for COVID-19 and implementation of a dedicated isolation program

More than **150 clients** have been provided space for isolation with medical supports

204
clients transported
for testing to date



Screening in place at all points of entry and active screening and monitoring of clients and staff using Ministry of Health guidelines



## Tier 3: Recovery

#### **Tier 3 Recovery**

Responses include a recovery site, rapid housing, leveraging investments for permanent housing, and ensuring housing stability

Increased rent bank by \$2 million to help 800 households

#### **Recovery site**

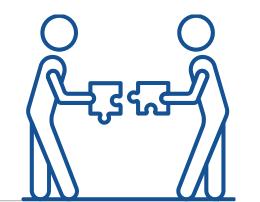
143 Clients who are COVID-19 positive provided isolation spaces to recover

**218** people moved into permanent housing through rapid re-housing, housing allowances, and rent-geared-to-income





# **Communication & Partnerships**



#### Homelessness Sector Networks

- Toronto Shelter Network
- Toronto Drop-in Network
- Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness

# **City-Community Response Table**

#### **Health Sector Partners**

- Toronto Public Health
- Inner City Health Associates
- Inner City Family Health Team
- University Health Network
- Toronto Region Ontario Health

# **United Way of Greater Toronto Area**





