

When public policy fails



Grace-Edward Galabuzi

“Many people in Canada face marginalization and alienation because of the way institutional arrangements determine how we distribute the resources of wealth we create as a society.”

State of Emergency Declaration

Homelessness a National Disaster, 1998



- ✓ Toronto
- ✓ Ottawa-Carleton
- ✓ Nepean
- ✓ Vancouver
- ✓ Victoria
- ✓ Peel
- ✓ Durham

Toronto Disaster Relief Committee

Why isn't shelter a human right?

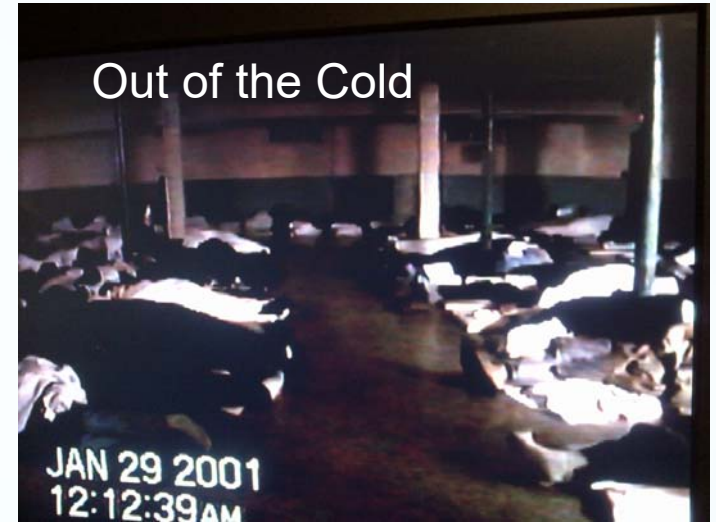


The homelessness disaster continues

“The shelter emergency in Toronto at the moment represents a descending scale of human rights denial.

People are denied housing and have to turn to a shelter system that represents a form of warehousing of human beings.”

John Clarke, OCAP



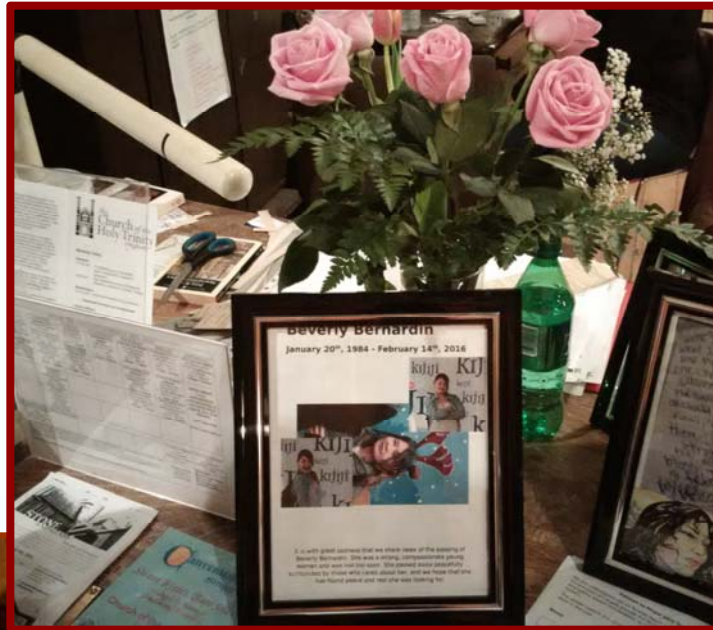
Hotspot: Shelters are full. Beyond 90% for decades

Daily Shelter Census

September 6, 2018

Shelter Sector	Occupancy	Capacity	Occupancy Rate
Co-ed	557	566	98%
Men	1,772	1,830	97%
Women	737	750	98%
Youth	505	528	96%
Family (shelters)	701	701	100%
Family (motels)	2,202	2,707	81%
Total	6,474	7,082	91%

Hotspot: **Out of the Cold** Charitable response x 31 yr



OUT OF THE COLD SITE SCHEDULE 2016-2017						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
St. Patrick's 139 McCaul St. (Dundas/McCaul) 80 Guests Nov 5 – Apr 2 4:00pm – 7:00am	Lakeshore @ St. Margaret's Church 156 6 th St. (Islington/Birmingham) 25 Guests (Men Only) Nov 21 – Mar 27 2pm – 8am	Evangel Hall 552 Adelaide St. (E. of Bathurst) 30 Guests Nov 1 – Mar 28 Tickets @ 2-30pm 4:45pm – 7:00am	Yorkminster Park Baptist 1585 Yonge St. (N. of St. Clair) 60 Guests Nov 2 – Apr 5 7:00pm – 8:00am	Holy Blossom Temple 1950 Bathurst St. (S. of Eglinton) 45 Guests Nov 3 – Mar 30 6:30pm – 7:00am	Eastminster United 310 Danforth Ave. (W. of Chester) 45 Guests Nov 4 – Mar 31 5:00pm – 8:00am	Blythwood Rd. Baptist 80 Blythwood Rd. (N. of Yonge/Eglinton) 65 Guests Nov 5 – Apr 1 6:00pm – 8:00am
St. Mathew Our Lady Peace 3962 Bloor St. W. / Shaver 27 Guests (Men only) Nov 13 – Mar 26 5:00pm – 8:00am	St. Brigid's Annex 1099 Danforth Ave. (Donlands/Danforth) 70 Guests Nov 14 – Apr 24 4:00pm – 8:00am	Beth Sholom 1445 Eglinton Ave. W. (Allen Expressway) 70 Guests Jan 3 – Mar 29 5:15pm – 7:00am	First Interfaith @ St. Matthew's 729 St. Clair Ave. W. (West of Christie) 60 Guests (Men only) Nov 3 – Mar 30 4:00pm – 8:00am	All Saints Kingsway Anglican 2850 Bloor St. W. (Royal York) 20 Guests (Men only) Nov 25 – Apr 7 8pm – 8am	NEED HELP? CALL ASSESSMENT AND REFERRAL CENTRE FREE FROM ANY PAY PHONE 1-877-338-3398 www.211toronto.ca	
	Beth Emeth 100 Elder St. (Wilmington/Sheppard) 30 Guests Jan 9 – Feb 27 6:00pm – 7:00am			Chinese Gospel 450 Dundas St. W. 15 Guests (Men only) Jan 5 – Mar 30 6:00pm – 7:30am	Knorr United 2575 Midland Ave. (Midland/Sheppard) 20 Guests Nov 11 – Mar 31 6:30pm – 8:00am	
	St. Aidan's 70 Silverbirch Ave. (Queen St. E. / Silverbirch) 25 Guests Nov 7 – Apr 24 4:00pm – 8:00am					
Programs not serviced by Dixon Hall:						
University Settlement House 23 Grange Rd. (McCaul N. of Queen) 65 Guests					University Settlement House 23 Grange Rd. (McCaul N. of Queen) 65 Guests	University Settlement House 23 Grange Rd. (McCaul N. of Queen) 65 Guests
Out of the Cold is a volunteer initiative by Toronto area synagogues, churches and faith communities to serve as Host Sites that offer shelter, hospitality and refuge to people who are homeless in the City of Toronto. Out of the Cold host sites reach out to marginalized individuals and extend a warm invitation to enjoy food, shelter and hospitality. This is made possible through the dedication and support of the many volunteer groups that offer their time, energy and perseverance.					Mosaic Interfaith York Region 1-866-392-3777 416-948-6682	Dixon Hall Resource and Support Services for Out of the Cold ootc@dixonhall.org
<small>Out of the Cold Resource and Support Services provided by Dixon Hall are funded by the City of Toronto.</small>						

“This is the first time in the 31-year history of the Out of the Cold Program that we have come together to speak publicly about the plight of our guests. We are doing so because we have no choice: the shelter system is in crisis and this budget will topple it.”

OOTC provides 800+ ‘bed nights’ per week x 31 years.



Hotspot: **homeless women unsafe**

December 6, 2017 -

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam marks
Dec. 6 Day of Remembrance with women
activists



Hotspot: **warming/cooling centres**



Hotspot: 24 hour 'Respite' Centres



Picture provided by Cathy Crowe



Ombudsman
Toronto

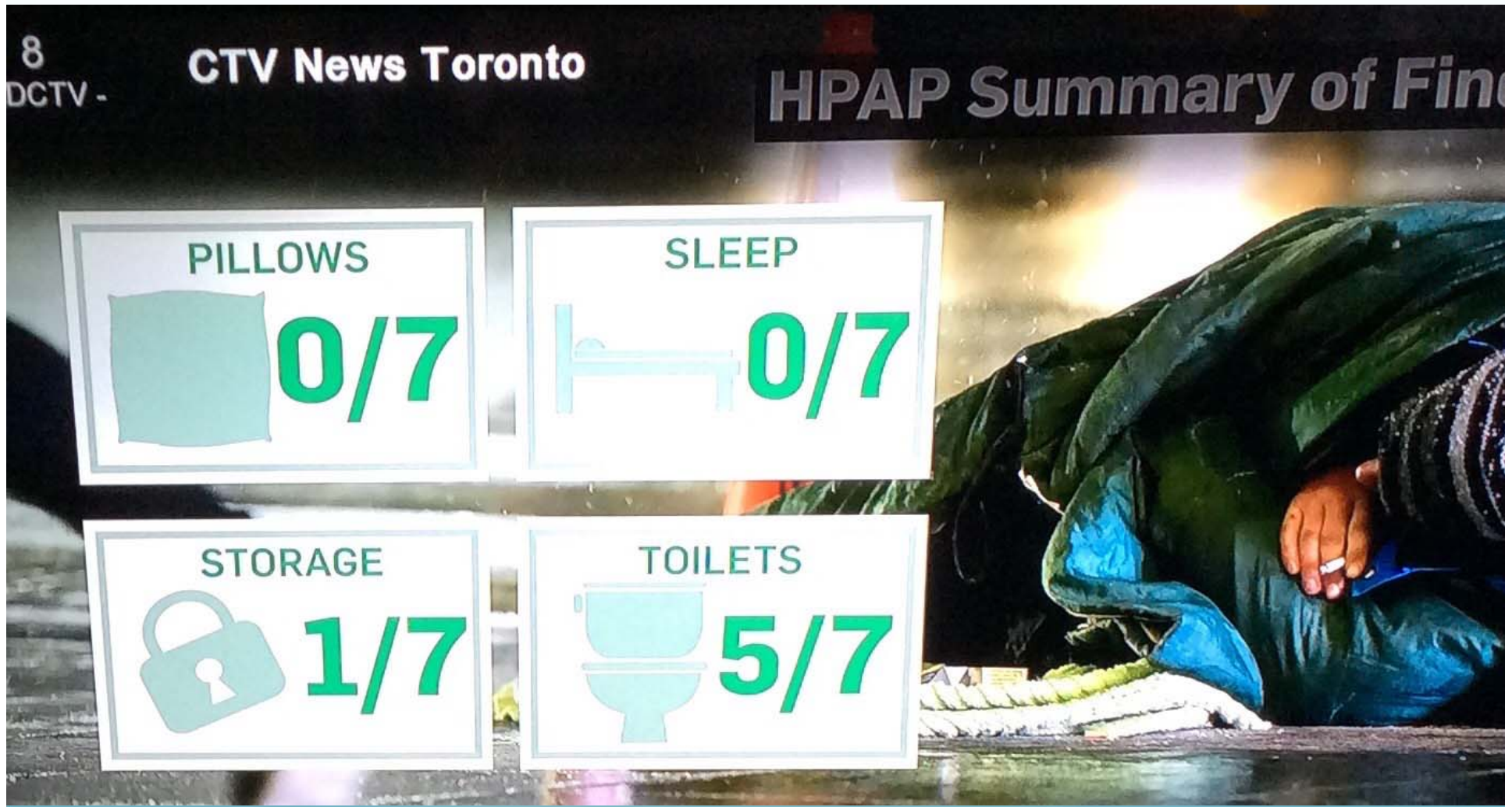


**January 5: Susan Opler
tours Margaret's site
with Cathy**

Feb 6, 2018 Secret Video footage at 3 – 24 hour respite locations



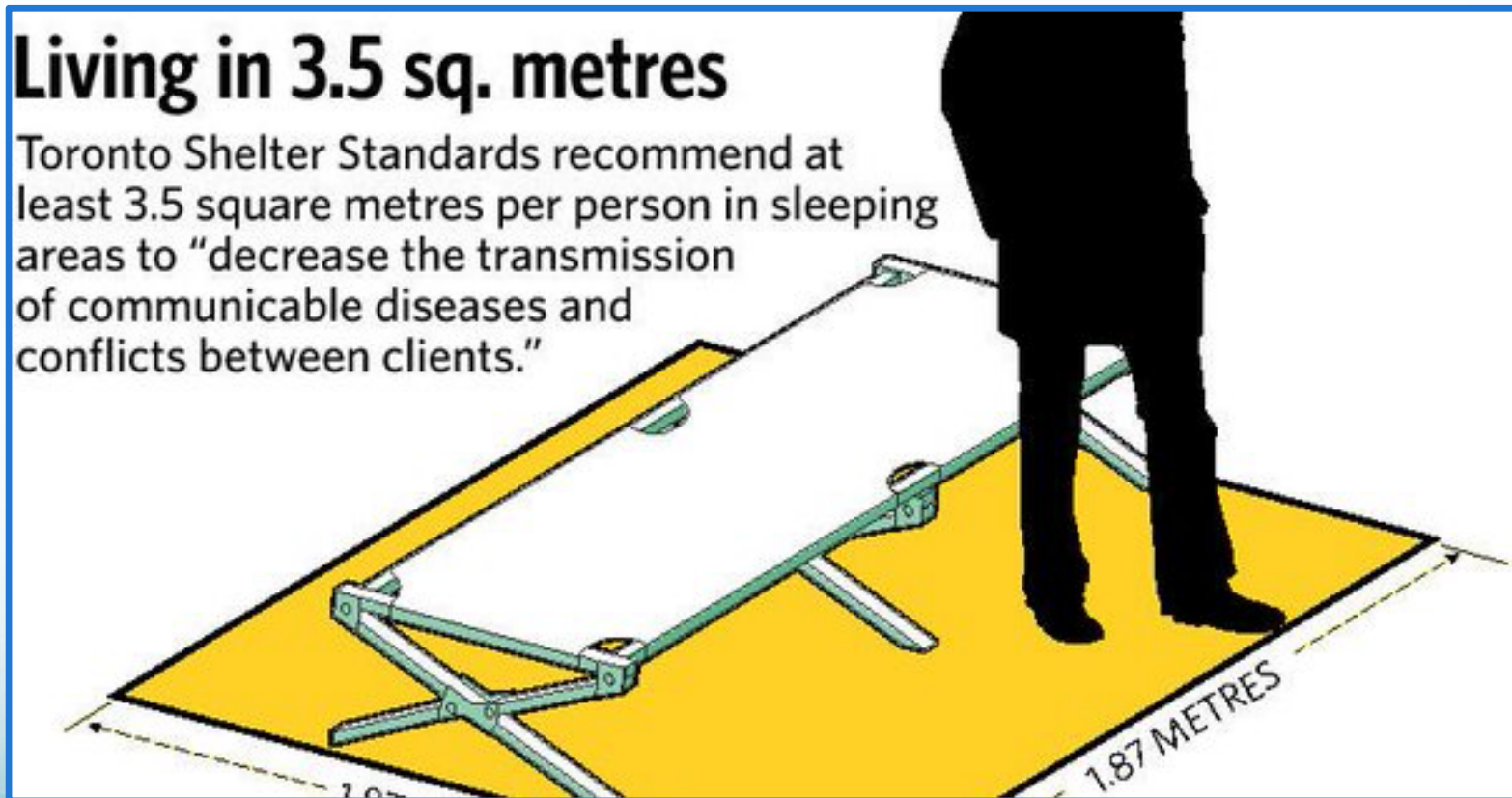
Health Providers Against Poverty provides inspection report on respite centres



Why were there no standards in emergency winter or year long respite sites?

Living in 3.5 sq. metres

Toronto Shelter Standards recommend at least 3.5 square metres per person in sleeping areas to "decrease the transmission of communicable diseases and conflicts between clients."



Toronto Star

Hotspot: people forced to sleep outdoors/squats



Hotspot: climate change



DANGER

HEAT WAVE

Weather Forecast: Toronto, Ontario

Local Time: Saturday, January 30, 2010, 10:57 EST

Current Weather Updated: Saturday, January 30, 2010, 10:00 EST



-17°C



Partly cloudy

Feels Like: -

Wind: NW 7km/h

Sunrise: 7:37

Sunset: 17:26

Relative Humidity: 50%

Pressure: 102.96 kPa ▼

Visibility: 24.0 km

Ceiling: 23000 ft

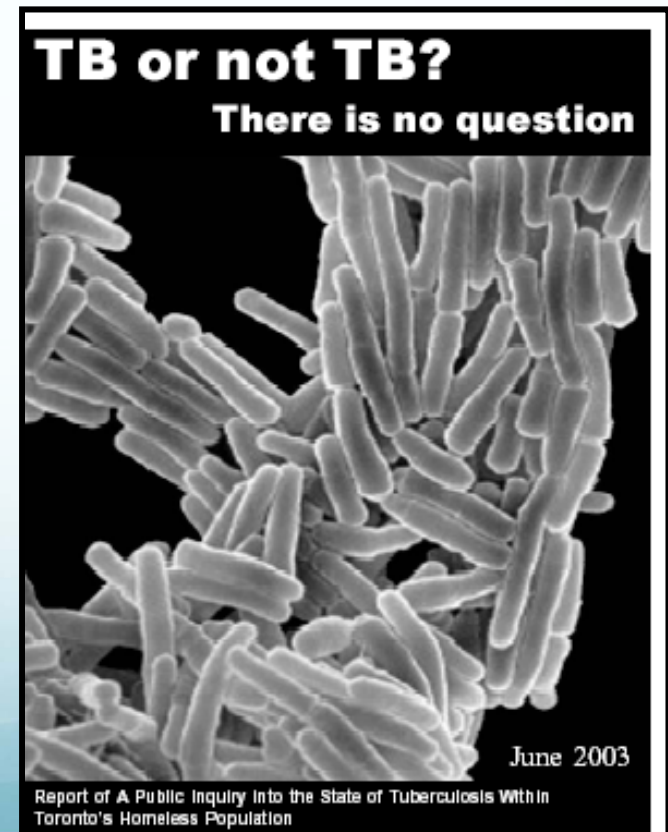


Hotspot: Health effects



Hotspot: **serious disease**

Cyclical nature of plagues, scourges and emerging viruses that erupt when **social disasters** like overcrowding, hunger and homelessness devastate a country.

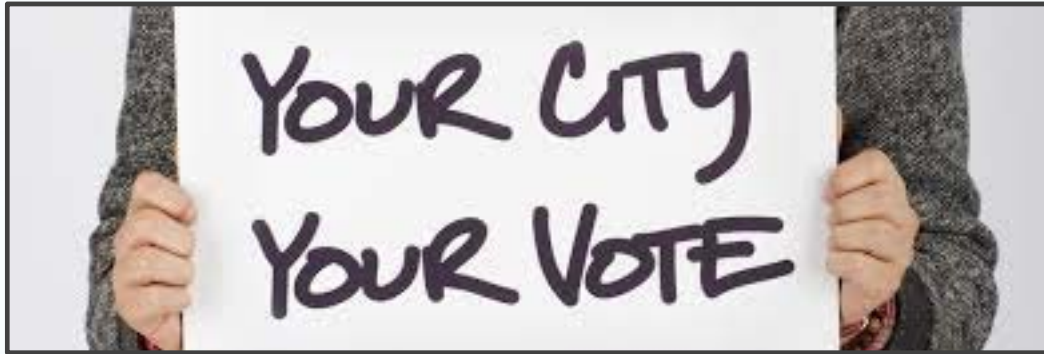


Hotspot: death



Next steps

October 22



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Who is your city councillor,
school trustee, MPP, MP?

2nd Tuesday every month at 12 at Holy Trinity



@cathyacrowe



Cathy Crowe



Blog

