

## Understanding Metro Vancouver's Homeless Shelter System

1. Year-round Shelter Spaces	
<b>Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temporary accommodation for people with no fixed address (beds and mats).</li> <li>• Provide support services such as food, clothing, counselling and referrals to other services and longer term housing.</li> </ul>
<b>Funding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BC Housing.</li> <li>• Homelessness Partnering Strategy in partnership with the Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness (RSCH) and Aboriginal Homelessness Steering Committee (AHSC).</li> <li>• Others (private funders).</li> </ul>
<b>Regional total</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,409 year-round shelter beds in Metro Vancouver (including Vancouver's three temporary 'HEAT' shelters).</li> </ul>
2. Seasonal Shelter Spaces	
<b>Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formerly known as 'cold/wet weather' services, these beds and mats typically from November through March.</li> <li>• Support services are typically on a more limited basis than in year-round services.</li> </ul>
<b>Funding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homelessness Partnering Strategy in partnership with the RSCH and AHSC.</li> <li>• Private funders.</li> </ul>
<b>Regional total</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 104 seasonal shelter spaces provided in Metro Vancouver.</li> </ul>
3. Extreme Weather Response Shelter Spaces	
<b>Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides extra overnight shelter spaces for people with no fixed address during periods of extreme weather.</li> <li>• Heavily dependent on volunteers with limited support services provided.</li> <li>• A crisis response to extreme weather occurrences, to augment ongoing shelter programs.</li> </ul>
<b>Funding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BC Housing</li> <li>• Homelessness Partnering Strategy in partnership with the RSCH and AHSC.</li> <li>• Others (non-profits, private funders).</li> </ul>
<b>Regional total</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approximately 635 additional sheltering spaces.</li> <li>• 9 Extreme Weather Response plans are in place covering 15 municipalities.</li> </ul>

Shelter Spaces by Community (Oct. 2011)*	
<b>Vancouver</b>	Year-round 1,106 Seasonal 44 Total <b>1,150</b>
<b>Surrey</b>	Year-round 117 Seasonal 0 Total <b>117</b>
<b>Maple Ridge</b>	Year-round 30 Seasonal 30 Total <b>60</b>
<b>North Shore</b>	Year-round 49 Seasonal 0 Total <b>49</b>
<b>New Westminister</b>	Year-round 53 Seasonal 0 Total <b>53</b>
<b>Tri-Cities</b>	Year-round 0 Seasonal 30 Total <b>30</b>
<b>Langley</b>	Year-round 30 Seasonal 0 Total <b>30</b>
<b>Richmond</b>	Year-round 10 Seasonal 0 Total <b>10</b>
<b>Regional (for seniors)</b>	Year-round 14 Seasonal 0 Total <b>14</b>
<b>Regional Total</b>	Year-round <b>1,409</b> Seasonal <b>104</b> Total <b>1,513</b>

\* Not including transition houses.



**Greater Vancouver  
Shelter Strategy**