

Network News

May 2025

"Being homeless is a tragedy, but living in a world that ignores it is an even bigger one."

- Anonymous



Labrador City, NL

Network Updates

What's new with the Network?

Visits to Labrador!

It seems like the spring is just FLYING by! In the past few weeks we've had the privilege to

do some more CAB visits, this time up to Labrador!

Our visit to Happy Valley-Goose Bay included shockingly warm temperatures and beautiful sunny days! Jackie and Claudette took us around for a tour of the town and to visit their ongoing projects. We were absolutely blown away by how much a group could accomplish in such a short amount of time. As they explained, they only became incorporated in 2022 and received their first monies from applications late 2023 and now they have a 4 unit seniors home, and are in the process of some major construction! They are close to finishing a six/eight unit home along with 32 (!!!) Seniors apartments! We received a tour of the construction site and even got some sneak peaks of what the insides will look like. The plans they have for the community also include greenhouses and community green spaces. What they are doing for the seniors in Goose Bay is nothing short of amazing and we can not wait to come back again to see the finished project and the community they are building.





Our visit to Labrador City was supported by great weather - albeit windy, but very warm! Our day kicked off with Noreen and Michelene where we had the opportunity to sit and chat and learn more about the work they are doing in the area. We took a tour of the area to get a lay of the land and had the opportunity to see their emergency shelter and the fantastic renovations that have been completed on the expansion! We are very hopeful and eager to hear about any upcoming changes to the shelter! We were able to sit and meet with their CAB and have a very heartfelt conversation about some of the unique challenges Labrador West experiences and the visions they have for their communities!





While we love to be able to connect with our CAB's virtually at the click of a button, getting out to see the projects, spaces, towns and people around the tables is such a valuable piece to really appreciate the work being done!

We want to thank everyone, Jackie, Claudette, Noreen, Michelene and teams for their ever welcoming hospitality! While it was a mixed bag of first and returning visits, we can ensure this will not be the last and we can't wait for the next trip!

Moving Forward

What's next for the NLHHN?

NLHHN 2025 Annual Conference: CALL FOR PRESENTERS

From Navigation to Action: Strategies and Solutions for Success

Tuesday October 7th - Thursday October 9th Quality Inn, Gander, NL

The conference will be open to members of our Network, partnering organizations and other stakeholders working towards addressing the housing and homelessness challenges.

We are very excited to announce that registration will be open in the coming weeks. While we are being very intentional about the information we want presented, we are now opening a **Call for Presenters**! If you believe that your organization or special project could contribute to the conversations of strategies and solutions that focus on Rural and Remote Newfoundland and Labrador, we welcome you to apply today!

Please reach out to our Outreach Coordinator with your details no later than Monday June 30th 2025. Concurrent sessions will be in the format of **1 hour** for material presentation and 15 minutes for Q&A

> Samantha Penney outreachcoordinator@nlhhn.org (709) 290-3157

Keep an eye out in our next newsletter for registration details!

Highlight of the Month

Showcasing our Network Members and their contributions

Tri-Con Community Advisory Board - Carbonear

The Tri-Con Community Advisory Board is working to reignite the committee's mission and momentum. The goal is to reestablish the committee as a key voice in housing and homelessness solutions for Carbonear and surrounding areas, serving as a vital bridge between the community and decision-makers. Ensuring that lived experiences and grassroots insights shape policies and programs, your voice and experience can drive real change.

Join us as we rebuild a stronger, more impactful advisory board.

The Tri-Con Community Advisory Board can be contacted via phone or email:

Chair: Lorraine Brown Phone: (709) 596-6217 Email: lorrainebrown@mron.ca

Housing Support Worker for Carbonear: Krista Loveless Phone: (709)597-1815 Email: housingsupport@mron.ca

GOOD NEWS STORY

Sharing a positive story from within the Network

Well-Being Fair in GFW - Housing Panelist

A big thank you to Sherri (our Executive Director) and Mark Gray (Housing Resource Coordinator - GFW) for being a part of the Well-Being fair in Grand Falls-Windsor and speaking on the Housing Panel along with Denise Jackman of NLHC.

They spoke to the main barriers of accessing affordable and adequate housing, the kinds of programs that exist in our communities to access housing and what needs to change to make housing more accessible from a collaborative community perspective.

We thank the town of Grand Falls-Windsor and the Social Determinants of Health committee for organizing this event for public education and we truly look forward to working together again with our community partners!





What's Happening

Special events happening within our Network

Canadian Mental Health Association - NL

CMHA - NL is offering FREE trainings in the Central region for newcomers, folks working with newcomers, employers etc.

Central Region Mental Health First Aid (in person) Date: June 8 Location: College of North Atlantic, Gander Registration: <u>https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/steering-success-mental-health-first-aid-blended-gander-june-8-tickets-1337301828769?aff=oddtdtcreator</u>



Housing Book Club

The Canadian Housing Renewal Association (**CHRA**) and it's **Housing Professional Mentorship Program** mentees host a virtual, housing-themed book club gathering bi-monthly.

The next gathering will be on Friday, June 13th to discuss **This House is Not a Home** with author Katłıà (Catherine) Lafferty.

Katłıà (Catherine) Lafferty is a member of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation in the Northwest Territories who spends her time between her ancestral homelands in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories and Lekwungen Speaking Peoples Coast Salish Territory. She is a mother, grandmother, articling lawyer, decorated author and journalist, co-founder of the National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc., former Co-Chair of the Women's National Housing and Homelessness Network, the National Indigenous Housing Network, and a graduate of the University of Victoria joint Canadian common law and Indigenous Legal Orders program. Attendees will include housing practitioners, mentors and mentees, researchers, community members spanning the country and anybody keen to better understand solutions for the current, Canadian housing crisis. Everybody is welcome!

If you haven't already, grab a copy of the book, or listen to the audio version **available on Audible** & other platforms, **sign up for the virtual event here**, and we will see you on Friday, June 13th at 3pm NST.



CRA Outreach Program - Tax Support for NLDB

The **NLDB** is a provincial benefit designed to provide up to \$400 per month (\$4,800

annually) in financial support to low-income persons with disabilities aged 18 to 64 who qualify for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC).

To be eligible for the NLDB, individuals must:

- File their income tax and benefit return
- Be at least 18 years old and less than 65 years old
- Be a resident of Newfoundland and Labrador (this also applies to their spouse or common-law partner, if applicable)
- Hold a valid Disability Tax Credit Certificate

While enquiries about the NLDB should be directed to the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, we have included below, links to information regarding the federal DTC, as eligibility for the DTC is required in order to quality for the NLDB.

Additionally, we have also provided links to assist you in finding free tax filing support.

Helpful links to share with clients:

Newfoundland and Labrador Disability Benefit (NLDB) info
NL Government website
Canada.ca Provincial Programs page

• Apply for or learn about the Disability Tax Credit (DTC) **Disability Tax Credit (Canada.ca)**

• Find free tax help year-round canada.ca/free-tax-clinics

For questions about an individual's eligibility or account-specific information related to the Disability Tax Credit or other benefits and credits, clients can contact CRA's General Enquiries line at 1-800-959-8281.

Checking in on the Frontline - Western University Survey

Newfoundland and Labrador, here is an opportunity to contribute to a National Survey. The deadline has been extended until June 9th for NL participants.

Any staff member who works in a front-line service agency can participate.

Click here: Qualtrics Survey | Qualtrics Experience Management or scan the barcode noted below.



Training Opportunities

Courses, Information Sessions and Presentations to help support our Network members

NavNet + NLHHN

Seniors, their Wellbeing and Resources in our Province

Join us in a conversation to chat about what we can do, what exists and what needs to change in order to support our Seniors and their wellbeing in our province. Information session will be followed by a brief Q&A session.

Wednesday, June 11th 9:00am - 11:30am

via Zoom

See below for the Zoom registration link



Join us for our next information and networking session in partnership with NavNet! We will have the opportunity to discuss Seniors in our province, what we can do with what exists, and what needs to change in order to support our seniors, their wellbeing and aging in our province.

We will be joined by Susan Walsh from the Office of the Seniors Advocate and Connections for Seniors. Their information will be followed by a brief Q&A session. Register now for what we are sure will be an insightful conversation!

Date: Wednesday, June 11th 2025 Time: 9:00am - 11:30am Location: Virtual (Zoom) Registration: Meeting Registration - Zoom





The Homelessness Learning Hub

The Homelessness Hub offers material that you can review and learn at your own pace.

Materials are based on best practices and evidence-based research on homelessness.

New Training Sessions include:

Introduction to Shelter Diversion

- How to integrate shelter diversion with community homelessness strategies
- Ways to level up your shelter diversion program
- Hands-on, problem-based learning

Eviction Prevention

- · How to integrate eviction prevention with community homelessness strategies
- Ways to level up your eviction prevention program
- Hands-on, problem-based learning

Check out their learning material here

Funding Opportunities

Financial Benefits to help your organization

Grants to Youth Organizations has been announced for the 2025-2026 year!

Well-Being Week 2025



The Honourable Paul Pike, Minister of Children, Seniors and Social Development, is today announcing a call for applications for the 2025-26 Grants to Youth Organizations. The Provincial Government is investing \$276,500 for the Grants to Youth Organizations program, which support youth-serving organizations to create opportunities and promote mentorship, inclusion and well-being of youth in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Applications Open for Grants to Youth Organizations - News Releases

Application deadline is June 6th Grants to Youth Organizations -Children, Seniors and Social Development

For any questions related to the grant, please email cssdgrantprograms@gov.nl.ca



As part of its ongoing commitment to support the well-being of people in Newfoundland and Labrador, the Provincial Government will hold its third annual Well-Being Week from September 21 to 28.

In support of participating organizations, grants of up to \$1,000 per group are available.

Application deadline is June 6th Applications must be submitted on wellbeingNL.ca

For more information on Well-Being Week and Well-Being Week grants please visit <u>www.wellbeingnl.ca</u> or The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation offers 24 grant and loan options. The eligibility, purpose and availability all vary.

There are funds available for building community housing facilities, repairs and upgrades to existing shelters, First Nation community specific and research and development stages!

Take a look at what they have available to help your projects.



Regional Representation

Network and Board Of Directors



Our Community Advisory Boards are always growing and changing and looking for fresh new perspectives from professionals, Living and Lived Experiences or Community Volunteers.

We have multiple areas that will be starting their recruiting process in the coming weeks and months. Now is the time to start thinking about if your experience or role may be of benefit to the housing and homeless sector in rural and remote NL.

Stay tuned for more details to come directly from the Community Advisory Boards themselves.

How can you help in addressing the challenges of housing &

homelessness?

No matter how much you can afford to give, as a one-off donation, through regular giving, or by fundraising for charity, your donation matters. Every donation received adds up and helps charities get to work and make a positive difference.



June 2025 Network Newsletter Submissions

The deadline for this months submission is <u>Monday, June 23rd, 2025 @ 4:00PM</u>

What can you submit?

• Send us any information related to upcoming trainings, staff or volunteer highlights and shoutouts, programs, events, job postings, etc. that could be of interest to community organizations and their staff.

Submission Guidelines:

- Please submit either images and/or text exactly as you would like it to be included
- Word count of 200 words or less
- Two images per entry such as logo or poster. Either PNG or JPG
- Between 480 650 pixel image width and file size less than 5MB
- We can not attach videos, PDF's, Word/Excel files

Submit entries via email to outreachcoordinator@nlhhn.org

Or by filling out our new form!

Newsletter Submissions

Don't Forget to follow us online:





Newfoundland and Labrador Housing and Homelessness Network |83 King Street | Grand Falls-Windsor, NL A2B 1H2 CA

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