

The Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness performs three key tasks:

1) Developing a regional understanding of homelessness and solutions

- Sponsoring and participating in homelessness research
- Organizing community development events
- Engaging youth in developing and implementing solutions to youth homelessness
- Collaborating with the Aboriginal community to work towards solutions to Aboriginal homelessness
- Working with municipal governments throughout the region to develop local solutions to homelessness
- Engaging the private sector

2) Recommending projects for federal homelessness funding

- Federal homelessness funding has been delivered under two programs; Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (2000 to March 2007) and the current Homelessness Partnering Initiative (April 1 2007 to March 31, 2011) administered by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC).
- The RSCH makes funding recommendations to HRSDC and the final decisions, made by the Minister of HRSDC, are guided by these recommendations. Metropolitan Vancouver has received approximately \$88 million in federal homelessness funding since 2000.
- This funding has contributed to the development of shelters, transitional housing, supportive housing and homeless services in every community in the region.

3) Fostering a coordinated regional approach to addressing homelessness

- Developing and overseeing the implementation of the Regional Homelessness Plan for Greater Vancouver
- Encouraging senior levels of government to implement recommendations in the Regional Plan
- Promoting endorsement of the Regional Plan by municipal governments and community organisations
- Supporting projects that advance the priorities in the Regional Plan