

Understanding Metro Vancouver's Shelter System

1. Year-round Shelter Beds	
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide temporary accommodation for homeless individuals and families. • Provide support services such as food, clothing, counselling and referrals to other services or longer term housing.
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Housing • Homelessness Partnering Strategy (formerly NHI) in partnership with the Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness (RSCH) and Aboriginal Homelessness Steering Committee (AHSC). • Others (private funders).
Regional Bed Count	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 900 year-round shelter beds in Metro Vancouver.
2. Cold/Wet Weather Shelter Beds (Seasonal)	
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operated on a seasonal basis generally from October/November to March/April. • Support services are provided on a more limited basis than in year-round shelters.
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homelessness Partnering Strategy in partnership with the RSCH and AHSC. • Private funders.
Regional Bed Count	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 100 CWW shelter beds and mats provided in Metro Vancouver.
3. Extreme Weather Response Shelter Spaces	
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides extra shelter spaces for homeless people during periods of extreme winter weather. • Heavily dependent on volunteers with limited support services provided. • A crisis response to extreme weather occurrences, to augment ongoing shelter programs.
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Housing • Homelessness Partnering Strategy in partnership with the RSCH and AHSC. • Others (non-profits, private funders).
Regional Bed Count	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 600 additional shelter spaces. • 8 EWR plans are in place covering 13 municipalities.

Shelter Spaces by Community (Oct. 2007)*	
Vancouver	Year-round 686 CWW 60 Total 746
Surrey	Year-round 89 CWW 0 Total 89
Maple Ridge	Year-round 29 CWW 20 Total 49
North Shore	Year-round 45 CWW 0 Total 45
New Westminister	Year-round 45 CWW 0 Total 45
Tri-Cities	Year-round 0 CWW 30 Total 30
Richmond	Year-round 10 CWW 0 Total 10
Regional Total	Year-round 904 CWW 110 Total 1,014

* Excludes transition houses.



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Shelter Strategy**