



London Homeless Coalition (LHC) Memorial Event

Organizing Manual

Last updated: December 2021

This Manual

This manual is intended as a resource for London Homeless Coalition (LHC) members. It is to be used to facilitate the planning of future Memorial Events. Sample agendas, emcee notes, media releases, and posters of past events are included in this manual. These are to be used as templates where helpful. They are not intended to be prescriptive. Permission to use this manual is fully granted to communities outside of London, ON, who would like to host memorial services themselves.

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About the London Homeless Coalition (LHC)

The London Homeless Coalition (LHC) is an open network of organizations and independent persons interested in the issue of homelessness in London, Ontario. Anyone may attend and participate in LHC meetings and anyone may sign up to receive email updates. The coalition is led by an elected Steering Committee to which anyone may self-nominate.

Mission:

The LHC exists to advise, shape, and coordinate community responses to homelessness and related needs in the London area.

With a vision toward eliminating homelessness, the LHC makes long-term commitments through strategic initiatives that respect and involve the collective research, expertise, and experience of the City of London and its community.

Philosophy:

The LHC is guided by five principles:

- Maintain a participatory, respectful, and inclusive process in the planning, development, and ongoing activities of the coalition.
- Maintain and strengthen motivation through action-oriented, results-focused activities.
- Avoid conflict by identifying broad funding priorities rather than approving individual agency funding requests.
- Maintain liaison with all levels of government and support their active participation.
- Incorporate the Coalition's definition of homelessness into all its actions and activities.

More information about the LHC can be found at www.londonhomeless.ca. The current LHC Chair, as well as their contact information, is listed on this website.

About the LHC Memorial Committee

The LHC Memorial Committee was a temporary working group of the LHC that existed from 2011-2020. Its purpose was to develop, implement, and monitor practices aimed at recognizing, honouring, and remembering lives lost among those in our community who have experienced homelessness. The LHC Memorial Committee operated in alignment with the vision, mission, and guiding principles of the LHC. One of the main priorities of the LHC Memorial Committee was to plan and host an annual public Memorial Event. The Memorial Event is generally held each year on World Homeless Day – October 10th. In the Spring of 2020, the Memorial Committee considered its work complete and all Memorial Committee tasks that were deemed necessary to continue were reassigned to members of the LHC Steering Committee. All documents related to the work of the Memorial Committee when it existed can be found on this webpage: www.londonhomeless.ca/information/memorial-committee.

World Homeless Day



World Homeless Day is an annual event that is held on the 10th of October. People around the world mark World Homeless Day by hosting events aimed at making change in the lives of people in our community who are experiencing homelessness. Events serve as an opportunity for the community to participate in raising awareness of the issue of homelessness and to draw attention to the needs of those experiencing homelessness.

The inaugural World Homeless Day was held on October 10, 2010. The World Homeless Day concept emerged from online discussions among people from all over the world working to respond to homelessness. Since its founding, World Homeless Day has been observed in several dozen countries and on every continent (except, so far at least, Antarctica).

Use of the idea of World Homeless Day is open for all to use—anywhere in the world.

More information about World Homeless Day can be found on the website:
www.worldhomelessday.org.

About the LHC Memorial Event

The purpose of the Memorial Event is to gather together as a community - family and friends of people with lived experience of homelessness, people working in the social services sector, political figures and the general public - to recognize, honour and remember the lives that have been lost with experiences of homelessness, to collectively grieve those losses and to support one another in the grief experienced.

History of the Memorial Event in London, ON

In 2001, people in the city of London who were experiencing homelessness, and activists concerned about the issue of housing and homelessness, set up a “tent city” in Campbell Park on Dundas Street as a form of protest, as well as a means to advocate for municipal funds to address poverty for Londoners who were struggling. This led to a renewed awareness of homelessness in the city of London. The LHC chose to construct a visual reminder of the lives that have been lost with experiences of homelessness. A monument was created with the support of the City of London and was unveiled during the LHC’s first Memorial Event on October 10, 2013. Campbell Park then became known as Campbell *Memorial* Park. The monument, as well as the park, have played a large role in the LHC’s annual Memorial Events since the first one in 2013.



Abe Oudshoorn, chair of the London Homeless Coalition, left, and Mayor Joe Fontana unveiled the London Homeless Memorial Thursday, October 10, 2013, in Campbell Park. (Richmond, 2013)

Planning the LHC Memorial Event

A chart that may be helpful in the planning process for a memorial event can be found in Appendix A. The comments below speak to each section and each row of that planning chart.

Part 1: SET-UP & LOGISTICS

Date: The LHC Memorial Event is generally hosted on World Homeless Day – October 10th.

Time: The LHC Memorial has been held historically at different times of the day – morning, afternoon, and evening. When choosing the timing of the event, it is important to consider whether or not the timing would affect access to daily needs such as community meals or shelter check-ins for those experiencing homelessness. It is also important to consider timing that may be suitable for people working in the social services sector. Hosting the event at times when it is easier to flex a work day may make attendance more likely for some. Late afternoon events may be difficult for various members of the public as this is often when children are being picked up from daycare, school, or after-school programming, or when people are preparing for dinner. The lighting that is necessary for evening events can be beautiful, but can also be a challenge. (See the section below on “Lighting” for more information.)

Location: Victoria Park, Campbell Memorial Park and the Covent Garden Market have served as the location for LHC memorial events. More recently, it has been desired to host the memorial event at the Covent Garden Market so that it may be hosted at the same location as the annual Soup and Bread event. More information about this event can be found below in section 3 under “Co-events”.

Rain Location: As the length of the LHC memorial event generally does not exceed 30 minutes, it can either continue despite the rain or be postponed for a short time until the rain subsides. A rain location for the LHC Memorial Event has not historically been planned.

Park Permit: Previous LHC memorial events have not required the acquisition of any permits. Permits are required for events in City of London parks only if the event requires a tent larger than 60 square meters (645 square feet), if cooking or heating is taking place in a tent, if food truck(s) are operating, or if a road closure is necessary. Detailed information on special event planning can be found on the City of London webpage entitled “Planning Your Special Event”:
www.london.ca/city-hall/special-event-planning/Pages/Special-Events---Cover-Sheet.aspx.

Parking: Active transportation and street or lot parking is encouraged for LHC memorial events.

Sound Equipment: A portable microphone and speaker have been found to be sufficient for LHC memorial events.

Lighting: Past LHC memorial events have been held only during daylight hours in order to avoid the challenges that come with lighting. Electrical outlets may be difficult to find and the use of a generator can be noisy. The use of candles has also been avoided as open flames are not permitted in City of London parks unless approved by the Chief Fire Official. Information about day length and sunsets can be found at <https://www.timeanddate.com/sun/canada/london>.

Other Equipment: Various members of the LHC Memorial Committee have been able to offer additional items for use during the event. It is helpful to provide a lectern for the speakers, and a small table on which to place a guest book. Because the Memorial Event is no more than 30 minutes long, most people will stand for its duration, although a small number of chairs, park benches, and picnic tables are often available at the site.

Display/Visuals: The first names (and perhaps last initial) of people with experiences of homelessness who have lost their lives since the last Memorial Event (according to the LHC Death Communication Protocol) can be written on a chart or chalkboard and placed on an easel. If the event is not taking place at Campbell Memorial Park where the memorial monument sits, a picture of the memorial monument should be displayed. Photos of those being remembered may also be displayed. Where possible, permission to display photos should be given by next of kin.

Flowers: One or two large arrangements of flowers to place behind or beside the lectern, one small arrangement for the table with the guest book, and a container of perhaps 50 single flowers that people can take as they leave are ideal additions to the LHC Memorial Event. Flowers may be donated from local stores, cost-shared with community groups or professional associations, or provided by funeral homes which may have flowers available to donate.

Event Funds: The LHC Steering Committee generally approves \$500 in funds for the LHC Memorial Event. The chair of the LHC Memorial Committee requests the funds from either the chair or treasurer of the LHC Steering Committee. Funds can be obtained prior to or following the event. A breakdown of expenses, including copies of receipts, should be e-mailed to the LHC Steering Committee chair and or treasurer by the LHC Memorial Committee chair.

Part 2: AGENDA & SPEAKERS

See Appendix B for a sample Memorial Event agenda.

Emcee: The emcee for the LHC Memorial Event is usually the chair or co-chair of the LHC Steering Committee, the chair or another member of the LHC Memorial Committee, or an invited guest. The emcee usually provides the opening and closing remarks, introduces speakers and musicians, and thanks all involved.

Notes for Emcee: The notes for emcees are usually prepared by the chair of LHC Memorial Committee, but emcees themselves, a member of the LHC Steering Committee, or another member of the LHC Memorial Committee may prepare the notes. See Appendix C for sample emcee notes.

Music: Various musicians have participated in the LHC Memorial Event – instrumentalists, choirs, bagpipers, etc. Musicians may be volunteers, may receive an honorarium, or may be paid for their service. Weather may need to be considered for those with instruments or voices that are vulnerable to weather conditions. When there is a large group of musicians participating, accommodation may be necessary for storage of their equipment before and during the event.

Welcome: A simple statement about the purpose for gathering can be made to begin the event.

Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory: A territorial or land acknowledgement involves making a statement to recognize the traditional territory of the Indigenous people(s) who called the land home before the arrival of settlers, and who, in many cases, still call it home. It is important that this acknowledgement be made by a settler who recognizes the impacts of colonization and who understands the importance of making the acknowledgment. More information about land acknowledgement, indigenous people groups, and definition of terms can be found at: www.ofl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017.05.31-Traditional-Territory-Acknowledgement-in-Ont.pdf.

A Word about Homelessness: Because part of the purpose of the LHC Memorial Event is to raise awareness, it is important to include information about the issue of homelessness during the event. The tone of the event is meant to be one of mourning, not of anger, so this should be done without becoming overly political. The message might include an acknowledgement of homelessness as an extreme form of poverty and social exclusion that arises from a combination of both individual and structural factors. The message might also acknowledge that the City of London and the London Homeless Coalition believe the issue to be solvable. The information may be offered by the emcee, a member of the LHC Steering Committee or Memorial Committee, or an invited guest.

Speakers: People with lived experience of homelessness and people from the social services sector who work with those experiencing homelessness (peer workers, front-line staff, managers, executive directors, etc.) are invited to share their experience of homelessness or their experience working in the field. Each is asked to speak for 3-5 minutes in a manner that is sensitive, trauma informed, and apolitical.

Poetry Reading: People with lived experience of homelessness as well as people from the social services sector who work with those experiencing homelessness may wish to share a poem or story instead of speaking at the LHC Memorial Event. They may share a poem they have written or may recite a poem that is perhaps well-known. Invited guests may also be asked to share a poem. Poems and spoken words have been shared by Holly Painter Poetry (www.hollypainterpoetry.com) and Grit Uplifted (www.grituplifted.com). A current or previous poet laureate from London may also be invited to share one of their works. Additionally, it may be helpful to be aware of whether or not an individual with lived experience has been recognized in the local media for their writing (e.g. www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/london-homeless-woman-poetry-1.5004928).

Moment of Silence: Time for a moment of silence is usually offered at the LHC Memorial Event to encourage reflection on the reasons why the community has gathered, on who the community is recognizing, honouring, and remembering, and on how the community will continue to work together to address, reduce, and prevent homelessness. The reading of the names (first name and last initial only) of people with experiences of homelessness who have lost their lives since the last Memorial Event (according to the LHC Death Communication Protocol) may precede the moment of silence.

Open Mic: The LHC Memorial Event usually includes a 3-5 minute open microphone to provide time for those who wish to do so to share their thoughts, feelings, and experiences. Many kinds of sentiments may be shared but members of the LHC Memorial Committee have chosen not to censor them except in extreme circumstances (e.g. when derogatory, xenophobic, or other discriminatory comments are made).

Closing: An expression of gratitude can be made to all those who have attended the Memorial Event, specific thanks can be extended to those who have participated in the Memorial Event, and direction can be provided for any activities or events that are to follow.

Support Staff: Some people attending the LHC Memorial Event may be triggered by the content of the event, or by memories that the event evokes for them. Staff from the social services sector, generally London CArES, should be available for individual debriefing. These staff are also present to work through any other crisis that might arise during the event.

Honoraria/Thank-you Card: Speakers, poetry readers, and musicians who do not have consistent employment are generally provided with a \$50 honorarium for their involvement in the LHC Memorial Event. A thank-you card is given to everyone who was involved, including those who may have had less visible roles.

Part 3: CO-EVENTS, PARTNERSHIPS, COMMUNICATIONS, POLITICAL PRESENCE

Co-events: The LHC Memorial Event has been partnered with the Fall Soup & Bread event for many years. Soup & Bread events are generally located at the Covent Garden Market. At times, the Soup & Bread event and the LHC Memorial Event have been hosted at the same location. Communications about both events have always been made simultaneously. See Sample Memorial Event Posters (Appendix D) and Sample Memorial Event Media Release (Appendix E). Events such as GenNext Impact Experience, London CARES Guided Tours, Meal with Mayoral Candidates at Sanctuary London, and Indwell Affordable Housing Open House have been associated with the Fall Soup & Bread Event and the LHC Memorial Event.

Partnerships: The various organizations represented, as well as independent members, at the different LHC meetings may be utilized as partnerships for the purposes of the LHC Memorial Event as they are interested and willing. Other community groups and professional associations may also express their interest in becoming involved. The LHC Steering Committee will have a complete membership list of those that attend the general LHC meetings. Invitations to be involved in the planning of the LHC Memorial Event can be made at the general LHC meetings leading up to the event. E-introductions for those interested in getting involved who are not members of the general LHC may come from LHC Steering Committee members who have various connections in the community to the chair of the LHC Memorial Committee. The chair of the LHC Memorial Committee may also receive e-mails directly from interested parties.

Communications: The LHC Memorial Event is a public event. Posters are prepared by a member of the LHC Steering Committee, the LHC Memorial Committee, or other individual who has been delegated this task, and are to be distributed widely (see Appendix D for samples). Members of the general LHC meeting, LHC Steering Committee, and LHC Memorial Committee are encouraged to share the posters with their networks. The poster is also displayed on the LHC website and social media outlets (i.e., facebook, twitter and instagram), and is e-mailed to all those on the general LHC communication list. The chair of the LHC Memorial Committee shares the poster through the bimonthly LHC Death Communication Protocol e-mails to all those on the communication list, and the chair or communications person of the LHC Steering Committee puts out a media release (see Appendix E for samples).

Political Presence: Members of City Council, Members of Provincial Parliament (MPP), and Members of Parliament (MP) in the city of London should be invited to attend the LHC Memorial Event.

Part 4: CLEAN-UP & DEBRIEF

Clean-up: Members of the LHC Memorial Committee share the task of returning equipment used for the LHC Memorial Event to its proper place, as well as ensuring that the site of the event is left in good condition.

Debrief/Follow-up: Whenever possible, the LHC Memorial Event is debriefed at the next scheduled LHC Memorial Committee Meeting, LHC Steering Committee meeting and the next scheduled general LHC meeting. Notes from the LHC Steering Committee meeting and general LHC meeting are shared with LHC Memorial Committee members. Minutes of these meeting are reviewed prior to planning the next LHC Memorial Event.

Other: A place is left on the Memorial Event Planning Chart (Appendix A) for any additional items that may need to be added to the chart.

APPENDIX A: LHC Memorial Event Planning Chart

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Event title: | LHC Memorial Event |
| Date: | |
| Time: | |

| Part 1: SET-UP & LOGISTICS | Ideas, Plans | To Do | Person or Organization Responsible | Confirmed? | Notes |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|---|-------------------|--------------|
| Location: | | | | | |
| Rain location: | | | | | |
| Park permit: | | | | | |
| Parking: | | | | | |
| Sound equipment: | | | | | |
| Lighting: | | | | | |
| Other equipment: | | | | | |
| Display/Visuals: | | | | | |
| Flowers: | | | | | |
| Event Funds: | | | | | |

| Part 2: AGENDA | Ideas, Plans | To Do | Person or Organization Responsible | Confirmed? | Notes |
|--|---------------------|--------------|---|-------------------|--------------|
| Emcee: | | | | | |
| Emcee notes: | | | | | |
| Music: | | | | | |
| Welcome: | | | | | |
| Acknowledge Indigenous Territory: | | | | | |
| A Word about Homelessness: | | | | | |
| Speakers: | | | | | |
| Poetry reading: | | | | | |
| Moment of silence: | | | | | |
| Open Mic: | | | | | |
| Closing: | | | | | |
| Support staff: | | | | | |
| Honoraria/Thank-you Cards: | | | | | |

| Part 3: CO-EVENTS, PARTNERSHIPS, COMMUNICATIONS, POLITICAL PRESENCE | Ideas, Plans | To Do | Person or Organization Responsible | Confirmed? | Notes |
|--|---------------------|--------------|---|-------------------|--------------|
| Co-events: | | | | | |
| Partnerships: | | | | | |
| Communications: | | | | | |
| Political Presence: | | | | | |
| Part 4: CLEAN-UP & DEBRIEF | Ideas, Plans | To Do | Person or Organization Responsible | Confirmed? | Notes |
| Clean-up: | | | | | |
| Debrief/follow-up: | | | | | |
| Other: | | | | | |

Other Notes & Information

APPENDIX B: Sample LHC Memorial Event Agenda

6th Annual LHC Memorial Event Agenda

Covent Garden Market

October 10, 2019

12:45 – 1:15 pm

12:45 pm – Welcome

12:46 pm – Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory

12:47 pm – About Homelessness

12:50 pm – Overview of Agenda

12:51 pm – Introduction of First Speaker

12:55 pm – Introduction of Second Speaker

1:00 pm – Introduction of Third Speaker

1:05 pm – Reading of names

1:07 pm – Poem

1:09 pm – Moment of Silence

1:10 pm – Open Mic

1:15 pm – Closing, including thanks to and recognition of musicians

APPENDIX C: Sample LHC Memorial Event Emcee Notes

6th Annual Memorial Event – Emcee Notes and Agenda

Covent Garden Market
October 10, 2019
12:45 – 1:15 pm

Emcee: Name

12:45 pm – Welcome

Welcome. We come together today, on World Homeless Action day, to recognize, honour and remember the lives that have been lost with experiences of homelessness in the city of London.

12:46 pm – Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory

We'd like to begin by acknowledging the Indigenous Peoples on whose traditional territory we have gathered today. They consist of:

- *The Anishinaabe (AhhNishNahBae) Peoples who consist of the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Pottawatami Nations;*
- *The Haudenosaunee (HoeDenayShowNay) Peoples who include the Oneida; and*
- *The Leni-Lunaape (Lenay-Lanapay) Peoples, also referred to as the Delaware or Munsee.*

We recognize the First Nations within the Middlesex-London area:

- *Chippewas of the Thames First Nation;*
- *Oneida Nation of the Thames; and*
- *Munsee-Delaware Nation.*

We acknowledge the many longstanding treaty relationships between Indigenous Nations and Canada. We recognize that all levels of government in Canada have a responsibility to honour these Nation-to-Nation relationships, and that individually, we all have a role to play in honouring the treaties, and contributing to reconciliation.

Miigwetch (meegwetch), Yaw^ko (YoowwKo), Anishiik (AneeSheek)

12:47 pm – About Homelessness

Gathered in Campbell Memorial Park in 2013, a commitment was made to recognize, honour and remember the lives that have been lost with experiences of homelessness in the city of London. The monument placed there serves as a

tangible reminder of the lives that have been lost. It also offers a gentle whisper of support for those affected by these losses, and commands a perseverance for the work that is being done to address, reduce and prevent homelessness.

Homelessness is as an extreme form of poverty and social exclusion arising from a combination of both individual and structural factors. The City of London and the London Homeless Coalition understand the issue of homelessness as one that is solvable.

I would ask that all of you who are able to plant your feet firmly to the ground and imagine they are the roots that are connected to the earth beneath you. It is my hope that we are not just physically here with our bodies today but that our spirits and our hearts remain grounded, open and present to this time together.

My name is Name, Vice Chair of the London Homeless Coalition. On behalf of the London Homeless Coalition (LHC), a coalition that acts to advise, shape and coordinate community responses to homelessness and related needs in London, Ontario and the Memorial Committee, a committee that acts to develop, implement and monitor practices aimed at recognizing, honouring and remembering lives lost of individuals who have experienced homelessness, I'd like to express how honoured we are to share this space with all of you on this day for this purpose.

We'd like to particularly regard the National Inquiry's final report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA (2 spirited, lesbian, gay, bi sexual, transgendered, queer, questioning, intersex and asexual) people released in June of this year. Acknowledged is that colonialist policies perpetuates prejudices and racism that propagates physical, psychological, financial, sexual and spiritual violence against indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people. Multigenerational trauma and systemic discrimination has underpinned experiences of insecure housing, homelessness, and poverty, as well as barriers to education, employment, health care and cultural support. We make the stand that human rights and indigenous rights of indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people must be recognized, protected and respected and honour the reclamation of power and space for these groups of people.

12:50 pm – Overview of Agenda

Today we will hear from four people - two with personal experiences of homelessness, all with experiences in working to end homelessness. We will then recognize those who have lost their lives with experiences of homelessness over the past year, and will honour these losses through the reciting of a poem and a moment of silence. There will be an opportunity for those who wish to share any sentiments of their own just prior to the closing of the service, and there will be an invitation to participate in the practice of smudging as the service comes to a close.

12:51 pm – Introduction of First Speaker

Name, we invite you now to share with us your thoughts and experiences.

12:55 pm – Introduction of Second Speaker

Please now welcome Name. Sincere thanks are extended to you for sharing your thoughts and experiences with us.

1:00 pm – Introduction of Third Speaker

Name, we invite you now to share your thoughts and experiences with us.

1:05 pm – Reading of names

Now recognized are the individuals with experience of homelessness reported to have lost their lives through the London Homeless Coalition Death Communication Protocol since last year's Memorial Event. It is important to recognize the reporting process to the London Homeless Coalition is not without limitation, and therefore those acknowledged today are not representative of all those who have lost their lives with experiences of homelessness in the city of London over the past year. Those names that have been reported to the London Homeless Coalition are noted on the chalkboard we have here today. Where possible, family and friends have been invited to share pictures to be displayed today as well. I will read each name one-by-one and ask that you repeat each name after I say it. There will then be a few moments to add the name of any individual whose loss you would also like to have honoured and recognized. If you'd rather, you may instead hold an individual's name in your thoughts until the service comes to a close and then add the individual's name to the chalkboard as you leave. Please do only add an individual's first name with at most their last initial. *Read names. Allow time for attendees to repeat.*

1:07 – Poem

Name, we invite you to share a poem.

1:09 pm – Moment of Silence

Let us now engage in a moment of silence to reflect on why we are here today - who it is that we are recognizing, honouring and remembering, and on how we will continue to work together to address, reduce and prevent homelessness as a community.

1:10 pm – Open Mic

We now briefly open the microphone to anyone who wishes to share a memory, sentiment or reflection of their own regarding someone whom they know has lost their life due to homelessness, or perhaps regarding the issue of homelessness itself.

1:15 pm – Closing and Recognition of Musician(s)

The lives we have remembered and honoured today have many things to teach us. They carried the burden of the lesson; their death was not in vain. They have served us all and continue to remind us that we still have a great responsibility ahead of us to come together as people and as a community. Allow their memory to be purposeful, their story to be a catalyst for change, a change this community desperately needs. We have work to do- to show up, to be present with ourselves and to look after this land and each other. Let us not forget that those we spoke of today continue to remain connected to us all, their life, their story, and their impact.

With absolute sincerity, we thank-you for gathering with us this afternoon to share this space for this purpose.

We are privileged to have with us someone to share in the indigenous practice of smudging. The burning of sacred herbs in this way is a blessing to us in its offering of spiritual cleansing. You are invited to take part in this practice as you leave.

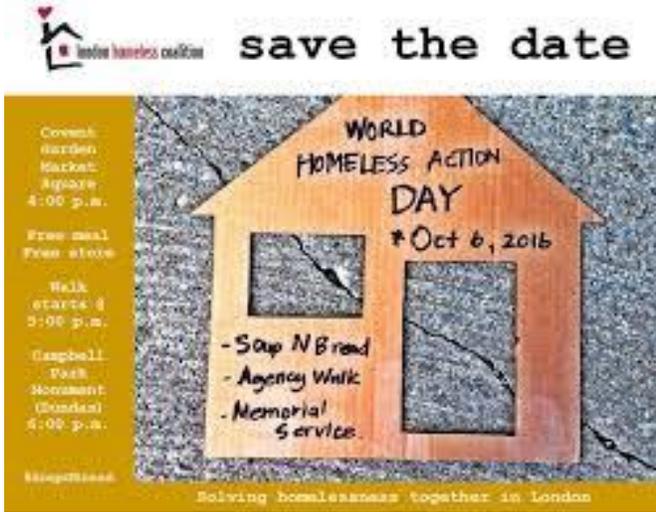
You are also welcome to take a carnation away with you. This flower acts as a tangible reminder of your time here today and we would like to thank Name for organizing the flowers for us.

Finally, you are invited to attend the Time of Reflection planned at Campbell Memorial Park for approximately 1:45 pm today. A group of people will walk together to the park and there both a letter of thanks and a poem will be read.

As you go, just as when you came in, you are invited to continue your time in reflection as Name strums his guitar. Name will then conclude the service by playing the bagpipes. Names, it was our great privilege to have you both play for us this afternoon.

Thank-you.

APPENDIX D: Sample LHC Memorial Event Posters



WORLD HOMELESS ACTION DAY 2017

OCTOBER 10

1. Soup n Bread

4-6pm

Covent Market Square

Featuring the Free Store

2. Memorial Service

6-6:30pm

Campbell Park (379 Dundas St)



WORLD HOMELESS ACTION DAY

Honouring and recognizing all lives lost to homelessness in London, ON.

London's housing crisis has a human impact. Join us as we remember those who have lost their lives.

To add to our memorial space, we welcome all community members to bring photos of loved ones who have lost their lives with experiences of homelessness.

If doing so, please ensure that permission is provided by the family or next of kin (if possible).



October 10, 2019



12pm
Soup n' Bread



12:45pm
Memorial Service

at Covent Garden Market



1:45pm
Time of Reflection at Campbell Memorial Park

Please join us after the event for Indwell's Open House and their Grand Opening of Woodfield Gate 356 Dundas Street from 4:00-5:30pm

APPENDIX E: Sample LHC Memorial Event Media Release



Media Release

For comment: Charlotte Dingwall, Chair, London Homeless Coalition,
519-661-0343 x232 or cdingwall@centreofhope.ca
Abe Oudshoorn, Communications, London Homeless Coalition, 519-854-2085 or
aoudsho@uwo.ca

Solving homelessness together in London

In commemoration of World Homeless Action Day, the London Homeless Coalition is planning events on October 10, 2018, to raise awareness about homelessness in our community.

What: Annual Memorial
Who: London Homeless Coalition
When: October 10, 2018
Where: Campbell Park, 380 Dundas St.
Time: 3:00p.m. – 4:00p.m.
Cost: Free to all

The annual memorial event recognizes and honours those folks with experiences of homelessness who have passed away in London. It will provide participants with an opportunity to reflect not only on those who are no longer with us, but also on the impact homelessness has on all of us.

What: Soup `n Bread
Who: London Homeless Coalition
When: October 10, 2018
Where: Covent Garden Market Square, 130 King Street (corner of King and Talbot)
Time: 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Cost: Free to all

This is an opportunity for community members to come together over a meal to talk about and learn how homelessness impacts everyone in our community. We need to work together to solve the issues related to homelessness and to ensure that everyone in our community has a home.

What: Meal with Mayoral Candidates
Who: Sanctuary London
When: October 10, 2018
Where: Sanctuary London, 531 Talbot Street
Time: 5:00p.m. – 7:00p.m.
Cost: Free to all

"We hope participants in our World Action Homeless Day events will leave with a greater knowledge of the financial challenges faced by people in London living on social assistance and trying to sustain housing," says Oudshoorn.



Event links

- <http://londonhomeless.ca/world-homeless-action-day-2016/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/events/173378563094761/>

Twitter account and hashtags

- @ldnhomeless
- #SoupNBread
- #WHAD2016

The London Homeless Coalition exists to advise, shape and coordinate community responses to homelessness, and related needs to the London area.

Added Facts about Homelessness

Top Reasons for Homelessness

- Addiction, mental illness or disability.
- Low income, loss of employment, or under-employment.
- Domestic violence.
- Lack of enough local affordable housing.
- Limited supports and services to help stabilize individuals in crisis who are at risk of losing their homes.

Cost of Homelessness (national statistics, per person)¹

- \$10,900/month for a hospital bed.
- \$4,333/month for individual incarcerated in provincial jail.
- \$1,932/month for a shelter bed.
- \$701/month for a rent supplement.
- \$200/month for a social housing rental unit.

Housing First Principles²

- Immediate access to permanent housing with no housing readiness conditions.
- Consumer choice and self-determination.
- Recovery orientation.
- Individualized and person-driven supports.
- Social and community integration.

Housing is a Human Right

- The Government of Canada has recognized that Canadians have a right to housing.
- This right is acknowledged in the National Housing Strategy.
- This right has yet to be included in legislation – for more information see <http://nhs.socialrights.ca/>

¹ Source: Cost of Homelessness Infographic from the Homeless Hub—Canadian statistics.

² For addressing individuals experiencing chronic or long-term homelessness; Source: pathwaystohousing.org.

References

Richmond, R. (2013). London homeless memorial in "hallowed place". *The London Free Press*. Retrieved August 31, 2019, from <https://lfpres.com/2013/10/10/london-homeless-memorial-in-hallowed-place/wcm/e57fc46a-79b4-d22c-1e2a-02268df1bf52>.