



**Carleton**  
UNIVERSITY

*Centre for Northern Families*

*Sponsored by the Yellowknife Women's Society*



# Homelessness and Affordable Housing in the NWT

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Canada

# Problem

- Lack of affordable housing
- High cost of building
- Expiring operating agreements
- Homelessness



# Research Objectives

1. Provide an overview of homelessness in Yellowknife

→ Broad dissemination



# Research Objectives (cont'd)

2. Provide a historical account of public housing in the NWT

→ Journal Article



# Research Questions

- What have been some key factors motivating the state to build public housing in the NWT?
- To what extent has the state responded to the need for public housing since WWII?
- What differentiates public housing in the NWT from public housing in the south of Canada?



# Research Questions (cont'd)

- How effective has this response been?
- What have been some shortcomings to this response?
- What could the state do differently and better?



# Research Questions (cont'd)

- What are some of the most visible manifestations of homelessness in Yellowknife?
- What are some factors that make homelessness in Yellowknife different from homelessness in other Canadian municipalities?



# Research Questions (cont'd)

- What have been the major policy responses to homelessness in Yellowknife?
- To what extent have they been effective?
- What could be done differently and better?





# Methodology

- Lit Review
- Semi-structured, key informant interviews
- No client interviews in order to not duplicate other recent research



# Time Frame

- May '09 – Feb '10: Lit Review
- Aug '09: Field Work
- Feb '10: Field Work



# Time Frame (cont'd)

- Feb '10 – Jan '11: Writing
- Jul '10: 1st Draft of Homelessness Article
- Jul '11: 1<sup>st</sup> Draft of Public Housing Article



# Dissemination

- Policy paper to be released at a Yellowknife press conference, featuring community participation



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