

January 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: 2014 Metro Vancouver Homeless Count (March 11-12)

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with information on the 2014 Metro Vancouver Homeless Count. We have appreciated your support in previous years and hope you will be able to support us again this year.

Homeless counts have taken place in Metro Vancouver every three years since 2002 and every year in Vancouver since 2010. The 2014 Count will take place throughout the region over a 24-hour period between March 11 and March 12, 2014 and will include a shelter and street component.

Tuesday, March 11, 2014 Shelter Count	Wednesday, March 12, 2014 Street Count
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A count and brief surveys with people staying overnight in emergency shelters, transition houses for women fleeing violence, youth safe houses and detox facilities by trained volunteers or staff. Basic data on people with No Fixed Address who are in a hospital or corrections facility. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A count and brief surveys with homeless people who are unsheltered (living outside, including in alleys, doorways, parkades, parks and vehicles) or who are couch surfing and using homelessness services on March 12.

Purpose: The Homeless Count provides critical information on the number and characteristics of our region’s homeless population and how this population has changed over time. Service providers, planners, community groups, health authorities, municipalities and funders use information from the Homeless Counts to assist in policy development, planning, and prioritizing programs and services to address the needs of people who are homeless.

Volunteers: The Homeless Count will need volunteers, so if you are able to volunteer or know others who are interested and have experience working with people who are homeless, please complete the [on-line application form](#).

Training: As in past years, all volunteers must attend a 2-hour training session on how to conduct the survey.

Sponsors: Metro Vancouver is conducting the Homeless Count on behalf of the Greater Vancouver Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness (RSCH). Funding has been provided by Service Canada, the City of Vancouver, Vancouver Foundation, Real Estate Foundation of BC, and Surrey Homelessness and Housing Society.

Contact: If you have any questions, please contact Leanne Carmichael at: HomelessCount@metrovancover.org

Sincerely,



Deb Bryant, Chair

Greater Vancouver Regional Steering
Committee on Homelessness

