



November 29, 2018

Out of the Cold Shelter to Open in Moncton

MONCTON – A collaborative effort between the City of Moncton, the Province of New Brunswick, the Salvus Clinic and YMCA ReConnect program will see an Out of the Cold shelter open its doors in Moncton starting on Saturday, December 1 at the former fire station on Assumption Blvd. The news comes after the Province of New Brunswick confirmed, in a release issued earlier today, that it will provide emergency funding to assist local agencies and organizations offer a warm place to stay and support services to individuals “living rough”.

Coordination of the shelter will be done by the Salvus Clinic and YMCA ReConnect will operate a daytime warming centre at the same location.

Two weeks ago, the City and local agencies called upon the province to assist in providing short term emergency services to help those who do not have a warm place to stay during the winter months.

The shelter will be in operation daily from 4pm-8am and the warming centre will be open from Monday to Friday, 8am-4pm. Meals will be offered through regular agencies already providing this service at their regular locations.

“Over the past week, the community has come together to offer individuals in need with a warm place to come to during the winter. The province has stepped-up and acknowledged that our situation required immediate assistance and I want to thank Ministers Sheppard and Steeves for their collaboration in opening an Out of the Cold shelter”, said Mayor Dawn Arnold. “I also want to thank the agencies who are working tirelessly to ensure that everyone is looked after, has food to eat and can access support services to help them get through the next few months”.

The Out of the Cold shelter and warming centre is a short term solution to assist in the year’s coldest months. The City of Moncton, along with local agencies, is putting the final touches on the Affordable Housing Implementation Plan. This plan aims to address the lack of affordable housing in our community in the long term. The City is optimistic that the new National Housing Strategy will see significant funds flow through the

municipality early in 2019. These funds will allow work to begin on the implementation of the housing plan.

How can residents help?

A number of residents and businesses have asked how they can help. Community agencies have compiled a number of ways to offer assistance.

Donations

A series of items have been identified by the Salvus Clinic and YMCA ReConnect as being required for the shelter. While donations are greatly appreciated, residents are asked to limit the items to the list supplied only. Items can be dropped off at the shelter on Friday, November 30, from 1pm-7pm.

Accepted items:

- Pillows
- Socks
- Winter jackets (adult sizes)
- Hats (adult sizes)
- Mittens/gloves (adult sizes)
- Winter boots (adult sizes)
- Laundry soap
- Hygiene products
- Feminine hygiene products
- Non-perishable, individually wrapped snacks (i.e. granola bars, etc.)
- Coffee
- Tea
- \$5-\$10 gift cards to local restaurants/coffee shops

Monetary Donations

Monetary donations will be accepted through the Salvus Clinic (salvusclinic.com) or YMCA ReConnect (moncton.ymca.ca) directly.

Volunteers

Residents who would like to volunteer their time can contact the Salvus Clinic at 506-384-7283; leaving a message is recommended if residents can't get through.

Corporate volunteers are also welcome. If you would like to volunteer along with your colleagues, the United Way will be coordinating this initiative. Please call 858-8600 for details.

Additional Information:

-Food services schedule is available in the community calendar of the Greater Moncton Homelessness Steering Committee website (monctonhomelessness.org).

-Street Survival Guide (<https://bit.ly/2rc8S9Z>)

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