

**iMATTER, Brandon, MB PiT Count
Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal
Corporation**

Final Report

May 24, 2016

Submitted by:	Mark Anderson
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PiT Count Enumeration		
Population	Data Source	Count
Unsheltered – Surveyed	Number of unsheltered responses*	28
Unsheltered – Observed	Number observed homeless from tally	25
Emergency Shelter and VAW	Systems data/Occupancy	13
Transitional Housing	Systems data/Occupancy	24
Systems (Health and/or Corrections)	Systems data (No fixed address)	33
Unsure (likely homeless)	Number of “Respondent doesn’t know” responses**	48
Total		171

*Refers to the number of people who responded with an **unsheltered location** to the question, “Where are you staying tonight?”

**Refers to the number of responses of “Respondent doesn’t know (likely homeless)” to “Where are you staying tonight?”

Demographics	
Population	Percent
Male	103
Female	53
Aboriginal identity	102
Veterans	4
Chronic (6+ months/ past year)	59
Episodic (3+ times/ past year)	25
Child (0 – 14)	35
Youth (15 – 24)	33
Adult (25 – 64)	116
Senior (65+)	8

Surveys Completed	
Population	Count
Unsheltered	28
Emergency Shelter and VAW	13
Transitional Housing	24
Systems (Health / Corrections)	33
Hidden Homeless	48
Total	146

1. PiT Count Overview		
Date	April 13, 2016	
Time	Unsheltered Count	Sheltered Count
	11am - 11pm	11am - 11pm
	Magnet Event(s)	Other:
	2pm - 6pm	
Weather	Favourable - 11 C - 23 C	
Honoraria Provided	\$5 Coffee Card	
2. Key Findings		
<i>What were the key findings of your PiT Count? Did the results confirm your expectations, or were there any surprises in your findings?</i>		
Youth homelessness continues to be a concern, high incidence rate of foster care experience		
3. Project Structure		
	Yes	No

Did your community have a dedicated PiT Count Coordinator?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did your community use an Assistant Coordinators? (e.g., Volunteer Coordinator, Night of the Count Assistant, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Describe:		
Did your community use sub-committees? (ex. Survey Committee, Volunteer Committee, Aboriginal Engagement Committee, etc.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Describe: Our PiT Committee worked as whole, with certain designates carrying sub-plan portfolios for magnet event with aboriginal engagement, media relations, volunteer recruitment, and data components		
Did your community involve community partners?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
What sectors did your community partners come from? Describe: Community at large, Brandon University, Non-profit organizations, Aboriginal organizations		
Did your organization develop new partnerships during the count?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Describe: Closer working relationships with Health services (Hospital, Emerg Services, Addictions Foundation of MB, Adult Psychiatry) and the City of Brandon		
4. Methodology: Survey Development		
	Yes	No
Did you use Canadian Observatory on Homelessness questions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Describe:		
Did you add local questions?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Describe: Topics around Aboriginal community roots, residential schools, age first homeless, foster care and group home history and desire for permanent housing with optional contact information for followup.		
What was the process used to develop your survey? Describe: Proposed questions and review by PiT committe and organizations, review by core stakeholders		

Include the final version of the survey used in your community.		
5. Methodology: Sheltered Count		
	Yes	No
Were surveys conducted in all shelters in your community? (e.g., Emergency shelters, transitional housing , and VAW shelters)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Describe: Agency representatives were pre-arranged, trained, and delivered surveying / tally sheet observations to their respective constituencies.		
How many shelters were:	Emergency or VAW: 2	Transitional: 2
How did you define Transitional housing: set training programs with clear application processes, intentional independent living programming and limited duration (less than 2yrs).		
Were surveys conducted by volunteers in the shelters?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If not, describe who conducted surveys: Shelter staff		
How many surveyors conducted the sheltered surveys?	5	
Did shelters share administrative data for the night of the count?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other comments: Small number of shelter beds available in our community. Comprehensive survey and observable tallies achievable.		
6. Methodology: Unsheltered Count		
How did you determine the search methodology? Describe: Search methodology was continuation of learning based on last years pilot PiT and the HPS training provided.		
How many surveyors conducted the unsheltered surveys?	60	
How did you organize your survey teams? Teams of 2-3 people, set geographic areas, 2 hr time periods		
How did you determine the walking routes and known locations? Request for known locations from agencies involved with the populations, 2015 PiT experience, review by PiT leadership team		

Other comments:		
7. Methodology: Service Count (e.g., food banks, drop-in centres)		
	Yes	No
Did your community conduct surveys at service locations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Describe the locations and populations surveyed:		
Soup kitchen, food bank, proximity to Health Access and Employment Assistance offices.		
Other comments:		
8. Methodology: Magnet Events		
	Yes	No
Did your community conduct surveys during magnet events?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Describe the events and the populations surveyed in these locations:		
Single event in central park location. Entertainment stage featuring aboriginal singers, drum, dance; community musicians; spoken word; elder greetings. Food provisions featuring donated items from multiple businesses. Wellness events featuring free haircuts by hair salon, vision health check by ophthalmologists office, free followups by optometrist, community health booth from RHA.		
Other comments:		
Very positive experience for building community between multiple segments of our community/society.		
9. Methodology: Aboriginal Engagement		
Describe the process you used to engage the Aboriginal Community:		
Aboriginal Organizations well represented on central planning team, met with Aboriginal Elders prior to event, stakeholders consulted during planning process, FN and Metis Elders brought prayers and greetings to magnet event		
Other comments:		
10. Methodology: Public Systems (e.g., hospitals, corrections, and/or detox facilities)		
	Yes	No
Did you include public systems?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Describe the process used to engage the public systems:		
Awareness emails to all possible agencies, personal followup meetings, training, material delivery		

Other comments:		
11. Methodology: Hidden Homeless		
	Yes	No
Did you survey people experiencing hidden homelessness?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Describe the approach used to engage this population: We included hidden homeless categories as eligible components for continuing with survey. The respective identifying accommodation options were tracked accordingly.		
Describe the screening process did your community used? We followed the HPS screening guidelines. Volunteers were trained the week before, and provided instruction sheets as part of their survey packets.		
Other comments:		
12. Methodology: Data Entry and Analysis		
Describe your data entry process: Surveys were collected, assessed for sequential integrity (no missing surveys/batches), sorted into two initial categories (and marks on them, clean). Subsequently, marked surveys were reviewed for inclusion or rejection. Included surveys were then entered into computer.		
	Yes	No
Did your community conduct any data cleaning practices (e.g., de-duplication)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Describe: Surveyor notes, self-reporting by survey participants, and identifying data were used to assess.		
Describe your data analysis process: Qualified results were analyzed by question, with comparative results factored amongst various segments (age, ethnicity, length of homelessness, etc.)		
Other comments:		
13. Methodology: Honoraria		
How did you decide on the honoraria?		

PiT Leadership Team reviewed time of year and constituency preferences and opted for \$5 coffee cards		
At what stage in the survey process was the honoraria provided? Coffee cards were given to people who identified as no place to go tonight, and awarded at the end of the interview process. Most people completed the survey, but card was given at whichever point they ended.		
Other comments:		
14. Methodology: Reporting Back		
How will the results be reported back to the community? A 2-page summary of results has been distributed through media channels, on local website, sent to wide audience of agencies, and sent to all volunteers. The same will be true for a full report once released.		
15. Volunteers: Volunteer Recruitment		
	Yes	No
Did your count use volunteers?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
How many volunteers were used?	75	
How did you recruit volunteers? Describe: Volunteer recruitment began three months prior. This included a combination of email campaigns, postcards and posters and a strong social media campaign. Additionally, two banners advertising the date and need for volunteers were prominently displayed adjacent to the highest traffic count intersection in Brandon for the month preceding the count. A concerted effort also focused on Brandon University students to participate as volunteers.		
What were the roles of the volunteers? Describe: Surveyors, team leads, volunteer training support, supporting help for magnet event, magnet event wellness, magnet event stage performers		
Did you use any volunteer management software or tools?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Describe: No management software, utilized our website, website signup form entered volunteers into mailchimp, mailchimp utilized for all bulk team communications.		

Other comments:

Spreadsheets were used for project tracking.

16. Volunteers: Volunteer Training

Describe the training offered to volunteers: (e.g., What topics were covered?)

Training session was approximately two hours in length. Volunteers and participating Agency personnel received an introduction to the iMATTER PiT Count, a general overview on the experience of homelessness, information related to the survey day, an overview on the role of volunteers, safety training and waivers, guidance on the survey form itself and then actual survey practice through role playing and survey completion examples.

When was the training offered? (ex. Night of the Count, Before the Count)

Volunteer and Agency training occurred the week prior to the count. Multiple training instances were available for both daytime and/or evening scheduling preferences.

	Yes	No
Did you have a post-Count volunteer survey?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe:

With some extra prompts for options, and yes/no/details slots in the formatting, the questions were as follows:

- 1) What was your role during the PiT count?
- 2) Do you feel the training adequately prepared you for your duties?
- 3) Did your volunteer experience meet your expectations?
- 4) What did you enjoy most about your volunteer experience?
- 5) What did you enjoy least about your volunteer experience?
- 6) What is one thing that you learned from your experience volunteering for this project?
- 7) Do you have story to share from your experience as a volunteer? Please tell us more about what you learned, what moved you, experiences you would like to capture, and so on.

Other comments:

Volunteer feedback was very strong, great majority felt adequately trained, organized, and experience met expectations. It was a very good effort put forward by all involved.

17. Final Budget

Please provide the final budget for the project (this can be provided in an attachment)

18. Recommendations for Future PiT Counts

Describe any recommendations you have for future PiT Counts.

Overall Project Management Recommendations (e.g., decision making, assistant coordinator roles, etc.):

Overall, the project went very well. Role definitions were reasonably well determined, participation levels were good.

Methodology Recommendations: (e.g., Survey Development, Sheltered and Unsheltered Count, etc.)

There was a large amount of confusion related to 'permanent residence to return to' in actual street survey use. Our community would suggest reviewing Question 'C' with a better lead-in to determine homelessness. Ie:

Are you currently staying in a: House, condo, apartment, shelter, other?

Do you own it, are on a lease, paying some rent, other?

End interview, or continue ...

If 'other' for either of those: how long have you been there, how long will you stay?

Question 'D', Where are you staying tonight:

Day of the Count Logistics Recommendations:

PiT would be better timed to occur near the end of the month as the population is more identifiable as referenced from higher use patterns of soup kitchen and food bank.

Volunteer Management and Training Recommendations:

Media and Communications Recommendations:

HIFIS PiT Count Module Recommendations:

What resources were most useful as you implemented the count?

Were there any additional resources that could have been developed to help your community implement the count?

19. Other Comments
<i>Include any other comments your community has that weren't addressed in the questions above.</i>
Note: If your community would like to share training materials, promotional tools, or other developed materials. Please attach them to the report.