

Frequently Asked Questions about Eagle's Nest

Why should residents and businesses support Eagle's Nest?

Eagle's Nest provides a structured, supervised environment that helps stabilize individuals who would otherwise rely on emergency services or remain unhoused.

- Reduces pressure on RCMP, healthcare, and emergency services
- Improves community safety by replacing unmanaged situations with a supported environment
- Helps individuals move toward stability, independence, and employment where possible
- Operates as a community-based, accountable program with measurable outcomes

Supporting Eagle's Nest is a practical approach to improving community stability and reducing long-term costs.

Solving homelessness makes sense.

Not only are we saving money, but we are also doing the right thing

<https://www.homelesshub.ca/>

Has Eagle's Nest been operating illegally?

Interpretation of the Land Use Bylaw can be complicated

- SESS is working with the Town of Whitecourt to resolve any issues
- A formal rezoning application is now underway.

This process is about aligning an existing operation with the bylaw.

Does Eagle's Nest attract crime or substance use?

No. Eagle's Nest is a managed and supervised environment with clear rules and active oversight.

- Illegal drugs and alcohol are not permitted on site
- Staff and security are present daily, with on-call overnight support
- Residents are expected to follow program rules and can be removed if non-compliant
- Staff coordinate with RCMP and services when issues arise

Meeting basic needs reduces the likelihood of survival-driven behaviours

What supervision is in place?

Eagle's Nest is actively supervised.

- We have day staff Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Security Staff – 5:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.
- Security staff live on-site and are on-call during night hours and weekends
- We promote citizen patrols with our residents

This is a managed environment, not an unsupervised facility.



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Why does homelessness still exist if Eagle's Nest is operating?

Eagle's Nest is one part of a broader solution.

Eagle's Nest provides one aspect of resolving and managing homelessness.

- Not all individuals can be accommodated within this model
- Additional housing types and services are still needed in Whitecourt
- Some individuals require different levels of care or support
- Recovery and stabilization take time and are not immediate

Eagle's Nest helps reduce homelessness but cannot eliminate it alone.

Who lives at Eagle's Nest?

Residents are individuals facing barriers to housing, not a single group.

- Includes seniors, individuals with disabilities, and people facing temporary hardship
- Many are not dealing with addiction, but with poverty or lack of support
- Some residents are employed or capable of employment with stability
- Individuals must meet eligibility criteria and follow program expectations

The program is designed for people who need structured support to stabilize.

Can anyone live at Eagle's Nest?

No. Admission is controlled and conditional.

- Residents must meet eligibility criteria
- Individuals must follow program rules and expectations
- Ongoing participation and wellness are required

This ensures the environment remains stable and appropriate.

How long do people stay?

Length of stay varies based on individual needs.

- Some residents stay short-term (weeks to months)
- Others require longer support due to limited housing options
- The goal is always transition to greater independence

The program focuses on progress, not fixed timelines.

Funding for Soaring Eagle Support Society

Is Soaring Eagle government funded?

- We do not receive ongoing government funding. We rely on grants, fundraising and donations to operate.
- Eagle's Nest supported housing receives fees from residents to offset the facility expenses.