

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **End Homelessness St. John's Expresses Concern Over Metrobus's Decision to Remove Bus Shelter**

St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, February 6, 2023 - End Homelessness St. John's (EHSJ) is deeply concerned over Metrobus's recent decision to remove a bus shelter near The Gathering Place. This decision will have a profound impact on our neighbours in the community who are low-income, have disabilities, and those who may be experiencing homelessness.

EHSJ firmly believes that this decision violates the Human Rights of individuals in our community and disproportionately affects those who are already struggling. The bus shelter provides a crucial source of protection and comfort for individuals who rely on public transportation, particularly during inclement weather conditions. The removal of this shelter puts these individuals at risk and denies them access to essential services.

“Metrobus’s decision to remove the bus shelter seems to be a discriminatory action against our neighbours who are already vulnerable due to personal characteristics such as low income, disabilities, and those experiencing homelessness.” – says Doug Pawson, Executive Director of End Homelessness St. John’s. “We welcome the opportunity to work with Metrobus and all stakeholders to create solutions that can have meaningful impact on our communities.”

EHSJ calls on Metrobus to reconsider its decision to remove the bus shelter. We urge Metrobus to work with the community to find a solution that prioritizes the safety and well-being of all individuals, particularly those who are most vulnerable.

We believe that all organizations and individuals can work together to ensure that everyone in our community has access to the resources and services they need to lead healthy, dignified lives. This decision by Metrobus undermines our shared commitment to building a stronger, more inclusive community for all.

For more information, please contact:

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### **About End Homelessness St. John's**

*End Homelessness St. John's exists to prevent and end homelessness. Working collaboratively with community stakeholders, EHSJ is leading the implementation of the St. John's Community Plan to End Homelessness. Through the continuation of coordinated system-wide planning and EHSJ's leadership, St. John's will become the next community in Canada to end homelessness.*