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[Hockey for the Homeless](#)

By [Stu_Cowan](#) Sun, Nov 8 2009 [Stu on Sports](#)



The first [Hockey for the Homeless](#) tournament was held at Toronto's Maple Leaf Gardens in 1996 with a goal of raising \$2,000. They ended up raising \$8,500.

Thirteen years later, Hockey for the Homeless has grown to five tournaments across the country – Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Calgary and Vancouver. Over the years, more than \$2 million has been raised to help fight homelessness.

The sixth annual Montreal tournament will be held on Friday, Nov. 14 at the [Sportsplexe 4 Glaces in](#)

[Pierrefonds](#). About 150 players will pay for the opportunity to team up with some former NHLers – including Vincent Damphousse, Lucien DeBlois, Marc Bureau, Daniel Marois, Claude Lapointe, Bobby Dollas, Dave Morrissette, Shawn Anderson and Wally Weir – in the 10-team event.

It's a fun day for all the players, but it also helps a lot of less fortunate people on the streets. Canada's homeless population is estimated at between 200,000 and 300,000, with 30,000 in Quebec.

“Hockey for the Homeless has helped us with our men's rehabilitation program in being able to put a gym together for the men,” said Cyril Morgan, the executive director of Montreal's [Welcome Hall Mission](#). “They also help fund a learning centre for the men. We installed 15 computers in there to be able to teach men how to make a CV, how to surf the Web ... give them some life experience that they can use as they turn their lives around and get back into society.”

To learn more about Hockey for the Homeless, click [here](#).

(Photo by Dave Sidaway/The Gazette)

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