



**“We Need their Address”:
Academic Institutional Barriers
in Action Research with People
Living Homeless**

*By Dr. Laurie Clune RN, PhD, FCAN,
Associate Dean, Research*

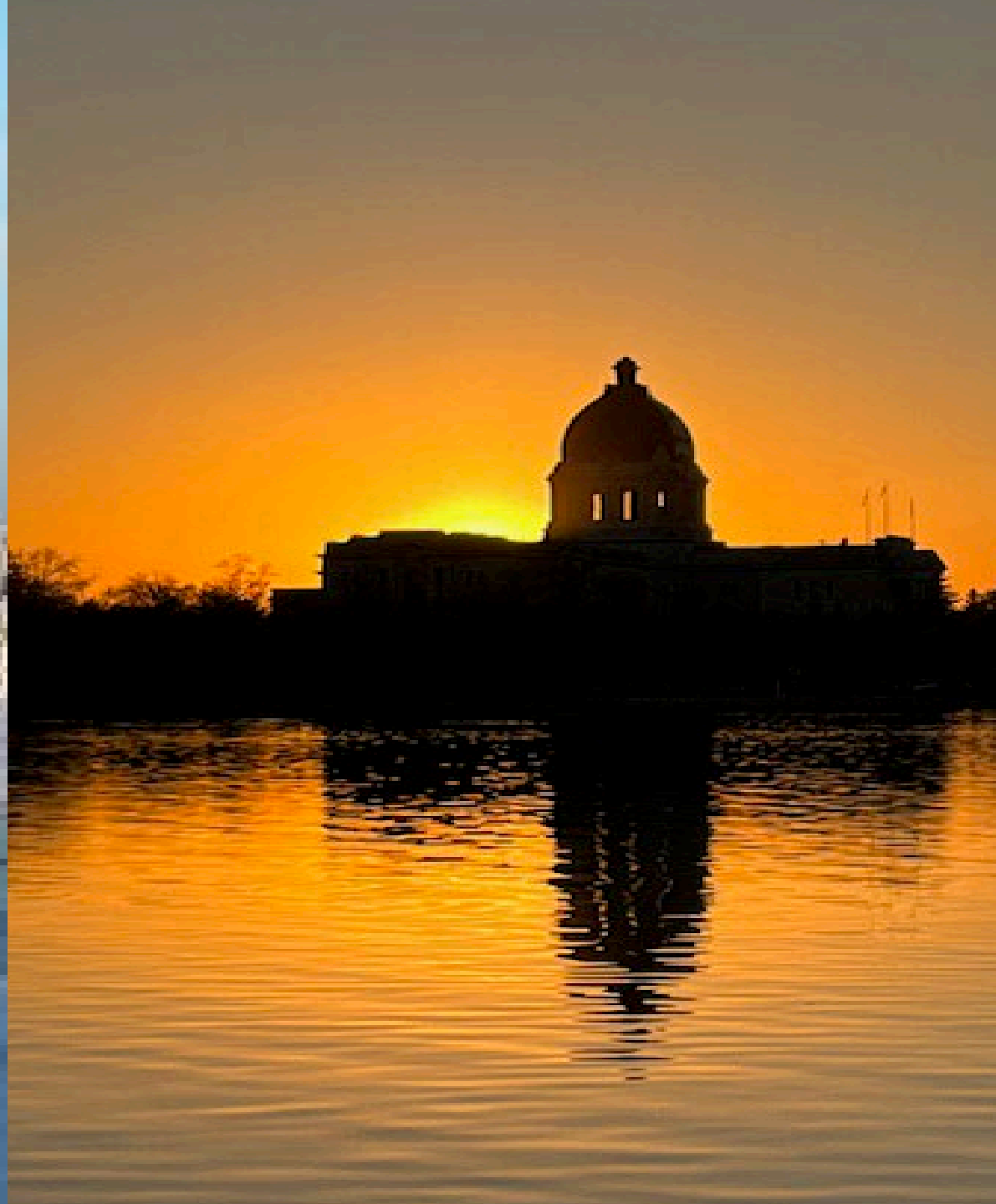


University
of Regina

Faculty of
Nursing



The Context



The Problem

Many University People, policies, procedures, and practices created significant roadblocks in a community action research project in Regina, Saskatchewan.

These create barriers to conducting community action research and working alongside Indigenous people to understand hidden homelessness and find pathways out.

Lisa's story and the idea



The match making game



Creating a Pathway out of Hidden Homelessness

Data generation and analysis processes: Phase 1

1. N= 264 Open-open-ended surveys created by Elders and an Advisory Committee to administer at community events in the Summer and Winter
2. COVID break for analysis
3. Focus groups x 2 with youth and women
4. Analysis by the advisory group





Key findings

- Women make extraordinary efforts to house and feed their children.
- Many youth take on parenting roles for their siblings when their parents are gone.
- Landlords take advantage of the poor creating housing insecurity
- Security and safety

Community Feast Phase 2

- N= 37 people from the community came together to develop solutions
- People living homeless, social service agencies, politicians
- 600 lunches distributed for the community
- Policy brief is forthcoming March 2024



Barriers

- 1) Researchers attitudes about "Undesirable people and places"
- 2) Hypervigilance by ethics boards- Safety
- 3) What we were told
 - "you are giving them too much money"
 - "we need their names and addresses"
 - "you can not pay the Elder that much"

**Undesirable
people
and places**







RIGHT DOING

WRONG DOING

Compensation



Reccommendations

- Researchers must embrace the spirit of qualitative inquiry and embrace community research questions
- The value of community action research
- REB/IRB need more education about the messiness of this approach
- Adequate compensation for participants is needed in ways that maintain confidentiality



Questions & answers

Contact Laurie Clune laurie.clune@uregina.ca

