Shelter homeless from the cold: Editorial

Do you know how your pet's psyche works? (SUPPLIED PHOTO)

Sadly, it's not the first time the city has been in this dire position. Former mayors Mel Lastman and David Miller argued in their day the system would break down in January. But both were filled in less than a week.

On Sunday, for example, emergency shelters were at 94-per-cent capacity. That's a rate that's much higher than in 2016, when it was 75 per cent.

In short, the city is not keeping up with the need.

City staff argue it isn't possible to house large numbers of people in those buildings in a way that respects their privacy and safety. Instead, they urge the city to convert an armoury to protect homeless people from the cold. The city should act before more die on Toronto's streets.

More than 30 social agencies are urging the city to open Toronto's military armouries or another building to keep the homeless warm. 

The dead of winter is no time for the city to be waffling. The city should act before more die on Toronto's streets.

The Star's running tally of the bald-faced lies, exaggerations and deceptions the president of the United States of America has said, things, and counting would otherwise be a cold and sterile exercise in counting untruths. But not in this case.

When it comes to housing the homeless, the cold comes with a body count.

The city should heed the call of legal and human rights scholars and human rights commissions to house the homeless in existing buildings.