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Canadian Housing and Renewal Association

2016 Federal Budget and Affordable Housing

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Association

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Prelude to the 2016 Budget

- CHRA and partners launch #Housing4All campaign in advance of Federal Election
- Before and during election, we met with 109 candidates in 14 cities (33 elected, 9 Ministers); election podcast; election website and videos; ongoing messaging support.
- After the election, Liberal government made clear its commitment to housing via Ministerial mandate letters.
- Post-election, CHRA met with Ministers Sohi and Duclos, NDP Critics, and relevant political and departmental staff.

Joint Recommendations – February 2016

- In February 2016, CHRA, along with 6 other housing stakeholders, released a joint statement at a national press conference.
- Joint statement included the following 3 asks:
 - Funding to maintain existing units
 - Funding to build up to 100,000 new affordable housing units
 - Funding to diversify and innovate the sector

Budget Announcements – March 22, 2016

- The Budget committed \$2.3 billion over 2 years for affordable housing. Note this funding is over and above existing funding allocations.
- This \$2.3 billion is considered a 2 year “Phase 1”.
- “Phase 2” funding will follow development of a National Housing Strategy committed to in the Budget, expected duration 8 years (10 years total).

2016 Budget Funding Announcements

Affordable Housing Initiative	\$504.4 million	Cost-matched by provinces and territories through AHI	Flexible funding by P/Ts (new construction, renovation, rent supplements, etc)
Affordable Housing for Seniors	\$200.7 million	No cost matching – will flow through AHI	Construction, repair and adaptation of affordable housing for seniors
Energy and Water Efficiency Retrofits	\$573.9 million	No cost matching – will flow through AHI	Targetted to enhancing water and energy efficiency retrofits of existing units
Shelters for Victims of Violence	\$89.9 million	No cost matching	Construction or renovation of shelters for victims of family violence
Homelessness Initiatives	\$111.8 million	No cost matching	Added funding to Homelessness Partnering Strategy
Housing for First Nations, Inuit and Northern Communities	\$739 million	No cost matching	-\$554 million for new and renovated on reserve housing (INAC and CMHC) -\$177 million for Northern and Inuit housing (AHI)
Rent Subsidies – UNDER REVIEW	\$30 million	No cost matching	For federally supported providers, to maintain RGI units

Additional Information

- Additional funding of \$208 million over 5 years to an Affordable Rental Housing Innovation Fund to incentivize the construction of rental units.
- CMHC will consult on the design of an Affordable Rental Housing Financing Initiative to provide low-cost loans to develop rental units (\$500 million in loans per year for 5 years)
- The Budget 2015 commitment of \$150 million over 4 years to refinance loans without pre-payment penalty will be maintained (available now).

The Path Forward/Next Steps

- Seek clarification on 2016 Budgetary measures
- At Minister Duclos' personal request, CHRA to develop consultation process on government's promised National Housing Strategy (define scope, targetted populations, engagement tools, etc).
- Advocate for adoption of recommended measures as part of a National Housing Action Plan; funding announcements in Budget 2017

Thoughts/Feedback/Questions?

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