



CHRA Welcomes National Housing Strategy “What We Heard” Report

(November 22, 2016, OTTAWA) - The Canadian Housing and Renewal Association (CHRA) today welcomed the release of the “What We Heard” report summarizing the findings of the federal government’s National Housing Strategy consultation period. The “What We Heard” report was released by Families, Children, and Social Development Minister Jean-Yves Duclos in Ottawa today, and marks the culmination of the consultation period first announced in June 2016.

The “What We Heard” report reinforced Canadians’ concern about the state of social and affordable housing in Canada, and included many of the recommendations put forth by CHRA in its October submission. Among the top themes summarized in the report includes creation of a separate Indigenous housing strategy, eliminating homelessness, setting clear outcomes and targets, improving data collection and research, and delivering long term and predictable funding.

The report also made clear that work on the Strategy would continue, and that a comprehensive strategy would be released in 2017.

“Although today’s report is not government policy, CHRA is encouraged that the report repeated CHRA’s key position that the Strategy needs to focus on helping those in greatest need,” said Jeff Morrison, Executive Director of CHRA. “The National Housing Strategy must maintain a focus on the housing needs of the most vulnerable populations in Canada, including the need for a distinct urban and rural Indigenous housing strategy.”

“CHRA looks forward to continuing to work with Minister Duclos and the federal government in finalizing the long-awaited Strategy and focusing on implementation”, added Stephan Corriveau, President of CHRA. “With the many challenges facing social housing providers across the country, this Strategy cannot come soon enough.”

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CHRA’s members include housing providers, municipalities, businesses, all 13 provincial and territorial housing departments, service and support agencies, individuals, students and other housing-related associations and networks.