

The Canada Community Housing Growth Fund



Context

Canada is struggling through a national housing crisis. Over 1.5 million households are in core housing need and cannot afford adequate housing. The root cause of this problem is the undersupply of non-market community housing in Canada, which is less than 4% of Canada's total housing stock. To provide access to safe, affordable, and appropriate housing we need to double the share of non-market community housing in Canada.

To accomplish this, the Government of Canada must look to proven solutions to support the people and organizations who provide community housing options. Doing so would support a healthy and strong community housing sector that would be instrumental in delivering commitments made in the National Housing Strategy and Canada's Housing Plan.

About the Canada Community Housing Growth Fund

The Canada Community Housing Growth Fund (CCHGF) is a sector-led model that provides financial resources to support community housing providers to strengthen and grow the community housing sector. Funding is provided directly to a fund administrator who works with community-based organizations to co-develop and deliver programming which leverages the organizational capacity of the fund managers while allowing for the development of adaptable and culturally sensitive programming. There are already three such funds operating with provincial/territorial funding in Nova Scotia, Nunavut, and Newfoundland and Labrador through the work of the Community Housing Transformation Centre (CHTC).

Our Proposal

\$160 million over 5 years

4 program themes

3 fund administrators

An Equity-Based Approach

To deliver the highest level of impact the Canada Community Housing Growth Fund (CCHGF) must have an equity focus.

Funding from the CCHGF will prioritize equity-based programs, including those that focus on funding for Black, Indigenous, and northern communities. Funding for Black and Indigenous focused programs will also flow through BCHC and NICHJ respectively, due to their roles in supporting these communities.

Advantages of the Community Housing Growth Fund

Community-based programming:

By working in close partnership with housing providers based directly in communities, programs offered through the CHGF model are more adaptable and culturally responsive to local needs.

Leveraging funding from different levels of government:

With existing provincial and territorial funding already being provided, federal funding can be used to create an even greater impact in strengthening the community housing sector.

Low-administrative burden and fees:

By using the existing infrastructure of the fund administrators as well as providing the right type of programming, the CHGF model has proven to be highly efficient while exceeding mandated reporting requirements. This means higher-impact, lower cost programming.

Training the Next Generation of Housing Leaders

By creating and supporting robust training programs to equip community housing professionals with the skills and knowledge they need to grow we will be investing directly into talented people who can lead and innovate within the community housing sector. Initiatives supported by this key theme could include mentorship programs, certification courses, and internships with an emphasis on fostering diversity and inclusion within the profession.

\$10 million

Mobilizing Knowledge

Being able to develop and harness the available knowledge of housing providers across Canada will prove to be one of the most effective ways to strengthen the community housing sector. This thematic area would support the development of new academic and community research into community housing, particularly under researched areas, and support the development of resource centres to share the knowledge and best practices already available.

\$15 million

Scaling-up Community Housing Organizations

By strengthening organizations, we can ensure the community housing sector can better meet the housing needs of all and advocate for policies that support affordable housing. This thematic area will do that by providing support in the form of grants, technical assistance, and training to improve financial management and operational efficiency. There will be specific programming designed to support Black and Indigenous housing providers.

\$45 million

Getting More Projects Shovel Ready

More needs to be done to support community housing providers who are planning and developing new homes for people living in community housing. Funding will support organizations through both pre-development activities and the proposal development process. With these supports we can ensure there are more shovel ready housing projects and increase the supply of affordable housing while scaling up the organizations developing these units.

\$90 million

The National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc. (NICHI)

NICHI exists to uphold and advance housing as a human right for all Indigenous Peoples living in urban, rural, and northern communities from coast-to-coast-to-coast.

To deliver relevant and appropriate services, NICHI believes the best approach is For Indigenous, By Indigenous

The Community Housing Transformation Centre (CHTC)

The Community Housing Transformation Centre is a non-profit organization that was founded in 2018 through a network of community housing organizations.

The Centre's goals include making the community housing sector one of the primary drivers for changing the course of its own history, and that of the entire housing market in the country.

The Black Communities Technical Housing Resource Centre (BCTHRC)

The Black Communities Technical Housing Resource Centre, currently incubated by the Network for the Advancement of Black Communities, is a Black-led and serving organization, co-designed by community groups to ensure greater access to housing for Black communities, to strengthen the Black housing ecosystem and scale housing best practices leadership.