



# Evaluation of Environmental Sustainability in the National Housing Strategy (NHS) – Management Response and Action Plan (MRAP)

**Objective of the Evaluation:** This evaluation assessed how National Housing Strategy programs and initiatives are contributing to environmental sustainability.

Evaluation of Environmental Sustainability in the National Housing Strategy (NHS) – Management Response and Action Plan (MRAP)

Evaluation findings, recommendations, and MRAP approved at CMHC’s Executive Committee on: May 29, 2025

Recommendation	Management Response	Action Plan	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead Team	Support	
<p><b>Recommendation 1:</b></p> <p>Conduct a review of options to meaningfully support energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions reductions in repair/renewal projects.</p>	<p><b>CMHC agrees with this recommendation.</b></p> <p>Work has been completed in this area including updating to 2020 building model codes which will now be aligned across several NHS programs. This will be applied to all Affordable Housing Fund files in the new construction stream. Recent program enhancements have resulted in new program parameters that are now available under AHF’s repair and renewal stream (as per a 2024 Treasury Board Submission). Energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions reductions are no longer a minimum requirement for these projects, but CMHC will prioritize repair/renewal projects that deliver outcomes in this area. The scoring grids for repair and renewal projects have been updated to recognize outcomes for energy efficiency and increased scoring related to these outcomes.</p> <p>These changes also follow a previously completed evaluation of AHF.</p>	<p>1. The changes to the AHF scoring grids and the impact on environmental outcomes achieved by repair and renewal projects will be assessed one year post implementation.</p>	<p>Housing Policy and Programs – Affordable Housing Fund</p>	<p>Housing Policy and Programs – Sector Operations</p>	<p>Q2 2026</p>

Evaluation of Environmental Sustainability in the National Housing Strategy (NHS) – Management Response and Action Plan (MRAP)

Recommendation	Management Response	Action Plan	Responsibility		Timeline
			Lead Team	Support	
<b>Recommendation 2:</b> Examine actual building energy performance.	<b>CMHC agrees with this recommendation.</b> CMHC is supporting research on post occupancy performance assessments in high performing residential buildings for two projects funded under NHS funding streams, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– YWCA Hamilton’s new construction, a Passive House certified six-storey building.</li> <li>– Passive House retrofit project (Ken Soble tower) in Hamilton (final report expected by Q2 2025)</li> </ul> CMHC is also supporting longitudinal outcomes research led by Carleton University and a consortium of academics that is expected to include the examination of energy and environmental impacts of projects funded National Housing Strategy and other federal investments. Research findings are expected to become available as the research progresses through to 2027.	1. CMHC will make available findings from the research project on the YWCA Hamilton and Ken Soble Tower projects expected by Q2 2025.  2. CMHC will make available relevant learnings from the longitudinal outcomes study as the research findings become available through to 2027.	Housing Economics & Insights – Research		Q3 2025
			Housing Economics & Insights – Research		Q1 2027