
SUBJECT

BUDGET 2021

ISSUE

What is Budget 2021 proposing to support housing?

KEY FACTS

- **\$2.5 billion** over 7 years in additional funding.
 - An additional **\$1.5 billion for the Rapid Housing Initiative** to add a minimum of 4,500 units with 25% dedicated to women-focused housing projects.
 - **\$600 million** over 7 years to expand the Affordable Housing Innovation Fund and create an additional 12,700 units.
 - **\$315.4 million** over 7 years for the Canada Housing Benefit to support women and children fleeing family violence.
 - **\$118.2 million** over 7 years through the Federal Community Housing Initiative to support community housing providers that deliver long-term housing to many of our most vulnerable.
- **\$1.3 billion** over 2 years (existing funding that will be advanced and reallocated).
 - **\$750 million**, advanced to 2020-2021 and 2022-2023 under the National Housing -Co-Investment Fund for the creation of 3,400 units.
 - **\$250 million** under the National Housing Co-Investment Fund to construct, repair and operate 560 units of transitional housing and shelters for women, this includes \$50 million for operating costs.
 - **\$300 million** in 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 from the Rental Construction Financing Initiative to convert excess commercial property into 800 rental market housing units.
- **\$4.4 billion** over five years, starting in 2021-22, to help homeowners complete home retrofits through interest-free loans.
- **\$25 million** to the Government of the Northwest Territories for the construction of 30 public housing units (delivered through CIRNA).
- **\$25 million** for the Government of Nunavut for the refurbishment or construction of 100 new housing units (delivered through CIRNA).
- An additional **\$567 million** over two years for Reaching Home to maintain the 2020-2021 funding levels (delivered through ESDC).

\$45 million over two years, for a pilot program aimed at reducing veteran homelessness through the provision of rent supplements, and wraparound services (delivered Through ESDC).

RESPONSE

- **Mr. Speaker, the COVID-19 pandemic has widened gaps in Canadians' access to housing. Safe and affordable housing is critical for building strong communities.**
- **Building on the National Housing Strategy, the Government plans to invest an additional \$2.5 billion and reallocate and accelerate \$1.3 billion in existing funding for the construction, repair, or support of 35,000 affordable housing units.**

- **The Government is also proposing Canada's first national tax on vacant or underused residential property owned by foreign non-residents, to ensure that Canada's housing market remains accessible for Canadians starting their families and building their future.**
- **These measures will help families, young people, low-income Canadians, people experiencing homelessness, and women and children fleeing violence find a safe and affordable place to call home.**
- **We also know that climate action starts at home. That's why Budget 2021 also proposes to provide \$4.4 billion to help homeowners complete deep home retrofits through interest-free loans worth up to \$40,000 and help Canadians reduce their energy bills.**

BACKGROUND

Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada (CHF)

“The Federal Community Housing Initiative is a lifeline for low-income households living in co-op and non-profit housing in many communities,” says CHF Canada President, Tina Stevens. “This expansion of the Initiative will ensure that more low-income households in federally administered co-op and non-profit housing can live affordably, bringing needed housing stability and security to those households, and the co-op and non-profit communities in which they live.”

<https://chfcanada.coop/housing-co-ops-welcome-bold-investment-in-childcare-alongside-measures-to-help-address-homelessness-and-provide-rental-assistance/>

Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

The FCM was also supportive of the expansion of the Rapid Housing Initiative. *“We also welcome the expansion of the federal-municipal Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI), along with additional emergency supports through the Reaching Home homelessness program. This RHI boost will help municipalities deliver affordable and supportive housing to more Canadians—through it does not yet meet the ambition of ending chronic homelessness. We’ll need to do much more together, quickly, to reach that shared goal,”* said FCM President Garth Frizzell.

<https://fcm.ca/en/news-media/news-release/fcm-statement-the-2021-federal-budget>

Pauktuuit Inuit Women of Canada

In a press release, President of Pauktuutit Rebecca Kudloo said she was pleased to see funding for the construction and operation of transition housing specifically for Inuit women in today’s Budget. She added that this funding commitment is in addition to new funding for Inuit-specific safe shelters announced earlier this year by the federal government. *“Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada is encouraged to see funding for transition housing and shelters for Inuit women and the pledge by the federal government of \$2.2 billion toward ending the tragedy of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls,”* said Rebecca Kudloo, President of Pauktuutit.

<https://www.pauktuutit.ca/news/budget-2021-positive-news-for-inuit-women/>

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