

SUBJECT

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY AND THE STRESS TEST

ISSUE

Is CMHC backing the Stress Test?

RESPONSE

- Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, CMHC has taken on an important role in helping to ensure that Canadians have a safe place to call home and to mitigate the impact on our economy.
- As you know, housing affordability and housing supply challenge put a good place to live out of reach for many Canadians and our government will continue to take concrete actions to help them.
- Mr. Speaker, our government supports sound and evidence-based public policy that reinforces Canada’s financial stability and protects Canadians against increased borrowing. We believe that the mortgage stress test is doing just that.
- Further, our government is taking measures to help the most vulnerable among us. Canada’s first-ever National Housing Strategy is a ten-year, now over \$70 billion plan that gives more Canadians a place to call home.
- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation is proud to be leading on the Strategy and is working with key partners to maximize results for Canadians.
- Housing affordability is CMHC’s raison d’être and our government supports the mortgage stress test because it is exactly the kind of policy we need to protect our financial stability.
- The Government made changes to the stress test to make it more dynamic. The adjusted stress test made by the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions and the Department of Finance’s are an important measures to help ensure Canadians take on mortgages they can afford.

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