
SUBJECT**NATIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY**

ISSUE

What is the status of initiatives under the National Housing Strategy?

RESPONSE

- **Mr. Chair, as we all learned and experienced during the COVID 19 pandemic, home is a sanctuary - a place of safety and refuge. That is why our government is working to ensure that every Canadian has a safe and affordable place to call home.**
- **The Government's National Housing Strategy (NHS) is 10-year, \$72+ billion plan that will give more Canadians a place to call home.**
- **The NHS delivers concrete results. It helps to create over 125,000 new housing units and repair another 300,000. It is removing as many as 530,000 households from housing need.**
- **The NHS is helping those most in need, including women and children fleeing situations of domestic violence; seniors; Indigenous peoples; persons with disabilities; those dealing with mental health and addiction issues; veterans; and young adults.**

If pressed on the Canada Housing Benefit:

- **The Canada Housing Benefit, which launched on April 1, 2020, provides relief from high shelter costs to low-income households who need it the most and who typically have fewer affordable housing options.**
- **Budget 2021 increased the CHB by \$315.4 million over seven years, starting in 2021-22. This funding will offer direct financial assistance to low-income women and their children fleeing violence to help with their rent payments.**
- **The Government of Canada is providing \$2 billion for the CHB, which will be cost-matched by provinces and territories for a total \$4-billion investment over eight years. Approximately 300,000 households are expected to receive the benefit by 2027-28.**
- **Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, as of August 2021, all provinces and territories have a signed agreement and have launched the CHB program.**

If pressed on the Federal/Provincial/Municipal Multilateral Partnership:

- **The Government has signed new bilateral agreements with all provincial and territorial partners, representing almost \$14 billion.**
- **These 10-year, joint funding agreements will protect, renew and expand community housing, and support provincial priorities related to housing repairs, construction and affordability.**
- **Federal, provincial and territorial governments are primary partners in housing and have a shared responsibility and complementary roles for housing.**
- **These bilateral agreements mark a renewed partnership in housing between the federal government, provinces and territories.**

BACKGROUND

Update on major investments

| Program | Investments |
|---|---|
| National Housing Co-Investment Fund \$13.2B for new and improved supply (\$4.52 billion in grants and \$8.65 billion in low-interest loans.) | As of December 31, 2021, there have been over 322 approved applications issued for over \$3.1 billion in low-cost loans and over \$1.7 billion in requested contributions for a total commitment of over 111,000 new and repaired units. |
| Rental Construction Financing initiative \$25.75B - Provides loans that will run from 2017 to 2028 for the construction of 71,000 rental units in communities across Canada. | As of December 31, 2021, CMHC committed over \$11.1 billion under the RCFi to support the creation of over 32,600 units, of which close to 22,300 will be affordable. |
| Affordable Housing Innovation Fund \$800M over 5 years | As of December 31, 2021, CMHC committed over \$208 million to support the creation of over 19,100 units, of which close to 16,500 will be affordable. Over 4,100 units currently under construction. |
| Federal Lands Initiative \$200M | As of December 31, 2021, 10 agreements were signed representing a commitment of 1,600 units and \$23.9 million in contributions. 23 properties are also in the pipeline to support the creation of over 3,400 units |
| Federal Community Housing Initiative \$462 million from Sep 1, 2020 to March 31, 2028. | Phase-1: As of September 30, 2020, \$42.2 million in subsidies were provided to over 26,700 housing units representing the extension of 982 projects reaching their end of operating agreement dates. Phase-2: As of December 31, 2021, phase II has provided close to \$37.1 million in rent assistance to over 6,300 low income units. |
| First-Time Home Buyers Incentive \$1.25B over 3 years | As of December 31, 2021, CMHC had committed \$270.1 million to the FTHBI representing 15,014 approved incentives. |
| Shared equity mortgages \$100M over the next 5 years | As of December 31, 2021, five commitments of \$17 million has been made to support over 700 units. |