
SUBJECT

ONE-TIME TOP-UP TO THE CANADA HOUSING BENEFIT TAKE UP

ISSUE

Can you provide an update on the take up of the One-Time Top-Up to the Canada Housing Benefit?

RESPONSE

- **The CHB one-time top-up was established to help renters with the rise of inflation and those experiencing housing affordability challenges. It intended to provide much-needed affordability assistance to lower-income renters in Canada.**
- **As of April 4, 2023, close to 800,000 lower-income renters across Canada have received the one-time \$500 payment, providing much needed assistance to those facing housing affordability challenges.**
- **CMHC and CRA undertook a wide range of communications, marketing and outreach activities to raise awareness and promote applications for the payment during the duration of the program.**
- **A number of factors could have prevented people from applying for the one-time top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit that are outside our control, including the voluntary nature of the program, among many others.**
- **This initiative is part of the Government of Canada’s broader efforts to make life more affordable for Canadians, including doubling of the GST and Canada Dental Benefit.**
- **The one-time top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit was also one element of a toolkit of solutions intended to address housing affordability across Canada, including the 10-year National Housing Strategy.**
- **Housing affordability is supported by the National Housing Strategy’s various supply programs, including the Rapid Housing Initiative which is quickly creating over 10,200 new permanent units of affordable housing for those who need it most.**

- **We are confident that our toolkit of approaches to housing affordability complement each other to improve housing affordability from coast to coast to coast.**