



The BC Temporary Rental Supplement (BC-TRS program) has been extended for July and August 2020. For program details and the online application: BC-TRS



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New permanent supportive homes coming to Campbell River

July 23, 2020

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CAMPBELL RIVER – The Province, through BC Housing, is partnering with the City of Campbell River to build 50 new permanent supportive homes for people experiencing homelessness in the community.

“These homes will give residents the dignity of having a safe and secure place of their own, with wraparound supports and services to help them build a better life,” said Claire Trevena, MLA for North Island. “We worked closely with the city to find a location for a supportive housing project, and we are thrilled that we were able to come together so quickly to create these new homes.”

Located at 580 Dogwood St., the project will provide homes for people living at the former Rose Bowl Restaurant bridge housing that opens in August, as well as other locals experiencing homelessness. Once the supportive housing project is complete and the bridge housing residents have moved in, BC Housing will consult with the community about redeveloping the Rose Bowl site into an affordable housing project.

“We have been working closely with BC Housing for a number of years to establish a fully managed facility like this, with services that will be key for people wanting to commit to stable housing and get the assistance that will make such a huge difference in their lives,” said Andy Adams, mayor, Campbell River. “The city’s close partnership with BC Housing has already helped provide a range of much-needed housing options for people in our community. We recognize this benefits our entire community and are extremely grateful to BC Housing and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for their ongoing commitment as we work together to support vulnerable people.”

The Vancouver Island Mental Health Society will operate both the bridge housing and the supportive housing building when it’s completed. Society staff will be onsite 24/7 and will provide guests with outreach services, such as daily living skills training and meal preparation, as well as referral to health services.

“We are pleased to work with the Province and BC Housing to operate the supportive housing project in Campbell River,” said Taryn O’Flanagan, executive director, Vancouver Island Mental Health Society. “As an organization, we have seen a significant need for long-term supportive housing in this community and we feel fortunate that the Province has recognized and supported this project.”

Approximately half of the people experiencing homelessness in Campbell River identify as Indigenous. In order to ensure the development is culturally appropriate and welcoming, the project design was informed by the Campbell River Urban Indigenous Housing Group.

“This has been a great opportunity for the Urban Indigenous Housing Committee to contribute to and influence the design of the supportive housing project for Campbell River,” said Audrey Wilson, executive director, Laichwiltach Family Society Group and Urban Indigenous Housing Group committee member.

The project does not require rezoning and will be expedited through the development process in collaboration with the City of Campbell River.

Construction is expected to begin in the fall, with residents anticipated to move in during December 2020.

Delivering affordable housing is a shared priority between government and the BC Green Party caucus, and is part of the Confidence and Supply Agreement.

Quick Facts:

- The Province is providing approximately \$10.9 million in construction and financing costs for the project through the Supportive Housing Fund, as well as an annual operating subsidy of approximately \$1,180,000.
- The City of Campbell River is providing \$855,000 in equity contributions and waivers to the project.
- BC Housing is entering into a long-term lease agreement with the City of Campbell River for the project site.

- In addition to this project, the Province is working in partnership to deliver close to 120 new affordable homes for people in Campbell River:
 - 41 homes at the recently purchased Heritage Inn for people who were displaced by the fire at the Pacific West complex;
 - 27 homes for people with low to moderate incomes, including those with brain injuries and their families, at the recently opened Linda's Place project; and
 - 49 homes for women and children leaving violence.

Learn More:

To learn more about the Rose Bowl Restaurant bridge housing:

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020MAH0075-001232> 

For more information on how BC Housing is supporting British Columbians during the COVID-19 outbreak, visit: <https://www.bchousing.org/COVID-19/>

A map showing the location of all announced provincially funded housing projects in B.C. is online:

<https://www.bchousing.org/homes-for-BC>

To learn about the steps the Province is taking to tackle the housing crisis and deliver affordable homes for British Columbians, visit: <https://workingforyou.gov.bc.ca/> 

Two backgrounders follow.

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BACKGROUND - Services, supports provided for modular housing



BACKGROUND

Services, supports provided for modular housing

All new modular housing buildings in the province have around-the-clock staffing to help young people, people with disabilities, seniors and others in critical need of housing.

The Province is providing annual operating funding to help those with the highest housing needs to build new beginnings. Experienced staff provide support to tenants based on their assessed needs.

Services and supports provided to young people, seniors, people with disabilities and others who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness, include:

- on-site supports and connection to additional specialized supports in their community;
- supports that are tailored to the needs of the residents, including education and employment opportunities, and health and wellness services, including mental health and addiction treatment programs;
- individual or group support services, such as life skills, community information and social and recreational programs;
- meals;
- case planning and needs assessment;
- other supports designed to assist residents in meeting their personal and housing goals, including culturally specific programs;
- help accessing income assistance, pension benefits, disability benefits, obtaining a B.C. identification card or establishing a bank account;
- support for residents to learn how to operate and maintain a home; and
- free laundry services, either on or off site.

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BACKGROUND - Province building new homes to meet full spectrum of housing needs



BACKGROUND

Province building new homes to meet full spectrum of housing needs

The B.C. government is working in partnership with non-profits, municipalities, First Nations, Indigenous housing organizations and the private sector to build 114 000 affordable homes that cover

indigenous housing organizations and the private sector to build 11,000 affordable homes that cover

the full spectrum of housing needs for British Columbians by 2028.

Budget 2018 included a \$7-billion investment in the homes people need. As a result of that investment, more than 23,000 new homes are completed, under construction or in the approvals process for a range of people who are struggling to find a place to live, from people who are experiencing homelessness and seniors on fixed incomes, to middle-income families, students and individuals. As of Dec. 31, 2019, this includes:

Housing for people with middle incomes

The average annual household income qualifying for homes underway is under \$99,000 per year – 2,802 homes:

- HousingHub: 2,802 homes

Housing for people with low to moderate incomes

This includes people residing in social housing (household incomes less than \$65,000) as well as those living in affordable market rentals (households with annual incomes up to \$74,000) – 9,837 homes:

Affordable market:

- Building BC: Community Housing Fund (30% of units in each project): 1,565 rental homes for people with low to moderate incomes
- Affordable Rental Housing Program: 1,615 homes for people with low to moderate incomes
- Deepening Affordability Fund: 1,976 homes for people with low to moderate incomes
- Regional Housing First Program: 907 homes for people with low to moderate incomes

Social housing or subsidized rents:

- Building BC: Community Housing Fund (50% of units in each project): 2,609 rental homes for people with low incomes
- Building BC: Indigenous Housing Fund: 1,165 homes for Indigenous peoples, on- and off-reserve

Housing for people with very low incomes

Rental housing for people experiencing or at-risk of homelessness, or for people with very low incomes (includes supportive housing and shelter-rate housing) – 4,795 homes:

- Rapid Response to Homelessness: 2,012 homes with 24/7 support
- Building BC: Supportive Housing Fund: 1,060 homes with 24/7 support
- Building BC: Women’s Transition Housing Fund: 679 spaces of transition, second-stage and affordable rental housing for women and children leaving violence
- Building BC: Community Housing Fund (20% of units in each project): 1,044 homes

Housing for students – 5,584 homes:

- BC Student Housing Loan Program: 2,699 on-campus student housing units are under construction, in development or in the approvals process
- 2,885 student housing units are also completed, under construction or in development through partnerships with post-secondary institutions

Total: 23,018 homes

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