



National Housing Collaborative

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NATIONAL HOUSING COLLABORATIVE WELCOMES THE NATIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY

November 22, 2017 — The federal government’s National Housing Strategy is a significant, ambitious, 10-year commitment that prioritizes those most in need and heralds a new chapter in housing affordability across the country. While more details are eagerly awaited, the strategy lays out clear and ambitious outcomes with an emphasis on helping the most vulnerable.

It is very encouraging to see the National Housing Strategy take a comprehensive approach: funding and financing to help renew existing and build new housing that is affordable over the long term; stabilizing and growing social housing; and committing to cut chronic homelessness in half. We’re also pleased to see a transformative new national housing benefit with the Canadian Housing Benefit.

The National Housing Collaborative welcomes the commitments outlined in the Strategy, and looks to results-focused collaborations between the federal government the provinces and territories and municipalities to ensure that the implementation of the National Housing Strategy delivers greater choice, deeper affordability and stronger communities for Canadians.

QUOTES:

“The Canada Housing Benefit is a game-changer. If we are going to make progress against core housing needs and if we are going to reduce poverty in Canada, a new housing benefit is essential to that task. We welcome the federal government’s strong leadership on the National Housing Strategy today especially because it also protects existing social housing and commits to expanding stock.” — **Pedro Barata, Senior Vice President, Strategic Initiatives and Public Affairs, United Way Toronto & York Region, Co-Chair National Housing Collaborative**

“The Canada Housing Benefit is potentially transformational, if it puts choice and buying-power directly in the hands of low-income renters. The Benefit is a significant and essential tool for reducing homelessness in Canada. We need to make sure it gets to those who need it most.” — **Tim Richter, President and CEO of the Canadian Association to End Homelessness.**



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"The rental industry commends the government for identifying those in the deepest housing need as being the most in need of assistance, and for adding a portable housing benefit as a necessary pillar of its policy to reduce poverty, housing need and homelessness. It is now up to the provinces to come to the table and work with the federal government to make the new Canada Housing Benefit a reality for everyone who needs it." — **John Dickie, President, Canadian Federation of Apartment Associations**

"A strategy cannot be successful without an investment of money to help move that plan forward. The fact that federal government has already announced a significant investment into the implementation of this National Housing Strategy makes me optimistic that this strategy has the teeth it needs to succeed. We look forward to continuing our work with the federal government to provide more affordable homeownership opportunities for Canadians." — **Mark Rodgers, Habitat for Humanity Canada's President & CEO.**

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