



## RENFREW COUNTY HOUSING CORPORATION

Wednesday, June 16, 2021 – 1:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

### AGENDA

1. Call to order.
2. Roll call.
3. Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof.
4. Adoption of minutes of previous meeting held on May 12, 2021.
5. Delegations:

1:00 p.m. – Ken Foulds and Scott Robertson – Re/fact Consulting – Housing & Homelessness 5 year Update

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|--|-------------|
| 6. Director's Report   | 3           |
| 7. General Manager's Monthly Report                                    | 4           |
| 8. New Business.   |             |
| 9. Closed Meeting – None at time of mailing.                           |             |
| 10. Date of next meeting (Wednesday, August 11, 2021) and adjournment. |             |

**NOTE:** (a) Submissions received from the public, either orally or in writing may become part of the public record.

## **Strategic Plan**

**Strategic Plan Goal # 1: To inform the Federal and Provincial government on our unique needs so that Renfrew County residents get their “fair share”.**

Initiatives:

- (a) Create s strategic communications plan
- (b) Identify and advocate for issues important to the County of Renfrew.

**Strategic Plan Goal # 2: Fiscal sustainability for the Corporation of the County of Renfrew and its ratepayers.**

Initiatives:

- (a) Commitment from Council supporting principles within the Long-Term Financial Plan
- (b) Establish Contingency Plan to respond to provincial and federal financial pressures and opportunities beyond the Long-Term Financial Plan.

**Strategic Plan Goal # 3: Find cost savings that demonstrate our leadership while still meeting community needs.**

Initiatives:

- (a) Complete community needs assessment
- (b) With identified partners implement plan to optimize service delivery to the benefit of our residents.

**Strategic Plan Goal # 4: Position the County of Renfrew so that residents benefit from advances in technology, to ensure that residents and staff have fair, affordable and reasonable access to technology.**

Initiatives:

- (a) Ensure that the County of Renfrew is top of the list for Eastern Ontario Regional Network funding for mobile broadband
- (b) Lobby for secure and consistent radio systems for first responders and government
- (c) Put a County of Renfrew technology strategy in place.

**COUNTY OF RENFREW**  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**  
**RENFREW COUNTY HOUSING CORPORATION**

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**TO:** Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors

**FROM:** Laura LePine, Director of Community Services

**DATE:** June 16, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Director's Report

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**RESOLUTIONS**

**1. 2021 Contract – CUPE Local 4425**

**Recommendation:** THAT the Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors recommends to the Community Services Committee that County Council approve a three-year (January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023) Collective Agreement between CUPE Local 4425 and Renfrew County Housing Corporation, which was ratified by the CUPE Membership on May 31, 2021.

**Background**

Contract negotiations with CUPE Local 4425 began in May 2021. The last agreement was a one-year contract beginning on January 1, 2020 and expired on December 31, 2020. Bargaining between the Renfrew County Housing Corporation and representatives of CUPE Local 4425 was held on May 19 & 20, 2021. Conciliation was held on May 31, 2021 and the new contract was ratified by CUPE Local 4425 on June 4, 2021.

It consists of a pay increase of 1.5% for 2021, 2022 and 2023 and an increase to vision care coverage. Also included is an adjustment to the boot allowance, uniform allowance and on call pay beginning in 2022. There have been some language changes regarding bereavement leave and other articles.

We are pleased with the process which took place virtually over Zoom.

**COUNTY OF RENFREW  
COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
RENFREW COUNTY HOUSING CORPORATION**

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**TO:** Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors

**FROM:** Jennifer Dombroskie, Acting General Manager

**DATE:** June 16, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Monthly Report

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**INFORMATION**

**1. 2021 First Quarter Community Housing Registry Waitlist Statistics  
[Strategic Goals 1, 2 &3]**

This information was included within the Renfrew County Housing Corporation Committee Report for May 12, 2021, however there was a typo in the title of the fourth column. The title should have been noted as “Total # of Active Applicants”.

Explanation of columns (Chart 1):

New Eligible Applications – numbers reflected within this column represent the number of applications received under the categories of senior, adult, or family for the first quarter.

Total Eligible Applications – numbers reflected within this column represent the total current number of eligible applications received under the categories of senior, adult, or family. As of March 31, 2021, Renfrew County Housing Corporation had 901 eligible applications. Eligible applications are those that have met financial eligibility and information requirements. Eligibility is confirmed again prior to making an offer to lease a Rent Geared to Income home. Chart 2 shows the bedroom size requested within the applications.

Total # of Active Applicants – numbers reflected within this column represent the number of applicants that are connected to eligible applications. Some applications may have more than one applicant. Other adults that are connected to an application (such as a spouse) are counted as an applicant as well. Chart 3 shows the bedroom size requested in correlation to the type (senior, adult, family) and number of applicants. As of March 31, 2021, Renfrew County Housing Corporation had 1081 applicants within 901 total eligible applications.

Eligible Transfer Applicants – numbers reflected within this column represent current tenants who requested and met the eligibility requirements to move to a new unit. Examples of when tenants may transfer include: a change in family size, a change in health status (such as needing a unit that meets mobility needs), or an urgent health /safety matter (this encompasses a wide range of serious issues where moving may be the only solution after other attempts to resolve the issue have failed).

Eligible SP Applicants – “SP” stands for Special Priority. Applicants may qualify for Special Priority status if they are leaving an abusive relationship or are a victim of human trafficking. Special Priority status will advance an applicant’s placement on the waitlist. An offer of housing is not immediate and may take months or years depending on the family size, location, and unit availability.

Chart 1

	<b>New Eligible Applications</b>	<b>Total Eligible Applications</b>	<b>Total # of Active Applicants</b>	<b>Eligible Transfer Applicants</b>	<b>Eligible SP Applicants</b>
<b>Senior</b>	2	148	173	10	1
<b>Adult</b>	52	390	463	29	12
<b>Family</b>	42	363	445	25	43
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>*901</b>	<b>**1081</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>56</b>

Chart 2

\*901 eligible applications as of March 31, 2021

<b>Bedroom Size</b>	<b>Senior</b>	<b>Adult</b>	<b>Family</b>
1	135	373	0
2	13	17	134
3			152
4			60
5			17
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>363</b>

Chart 3

\*\*1081 active applicants as of March 31, 2021

<b>Bedroom Size</b>	<b>Senior</b>	<b>Adult</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Dependents</b>
1	147	429		
2	26	34	168	96
3			177	173
4			84	146
5			16	64
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>479</b>

## 2. **Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) [Strategic Goals 1 & 2]**

A letter from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing dated May 7, 2021 confirmed that the County of Renfrew was approved for a total planning allocation of \$1,477,608.00 for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. The same amount was received for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. The CHPI planning allocation is of critical importance in funding the housing and homelessness supports provided by the County of Renfrew. CHPI funds will cover the following expenses: Homelessness Prevention Program, Rent Allowance Program, and Emergency Minor Home Repairs.

CHPI Rent Allowance Program Update – at this time we have met the limit of eligible applications that can be approved based on our funding allocation. We will reassess Rent Allowance availability when current recipients end their funding term. The maximum funding period is three years, however due to the COVID-19 pandemic recipients who were due to

exit the program during April 2021 were extended until December 2021 through Social Services Relief Funding Phase 3.

Attached as Appendix RCHC-I is the CHPI Allocation Letter dated May 7, 2021

3. **Developing Community Housing – Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association (ONPHA) [Strategic Goal 1 (b)]**

On May 11, 2021 the Acting General Manager and Technical Services Supervisor attended an online workshop hosted by ONPHA that provided examples of community housing developments. The presentation slide deck is attached for informational purposes.

Attached as Appendix RCHC-II is the Developing Community Housing – ONPHA slide deck.

4. **Renfrew County Housing Corporation – Tenant Outreach [Strategic Goals 1(b) & 3 (b)]**

During the month of May 2021, RCHC staff connected with tenants to purchase and supply gardening items as a continuation of the Community Gardens initiative that was launched last summer through the Social Services Relief Fund. This initiative was a wonderful success last year and we are looking forward to a plentiful growing season this year.

During the month of May 2021, RCHC staff connected with tenants who reside within our 19 apartments in partnership with the Paramedic Service to help connect people with a COVID-19 vaccination. This effort involved assistance with vaccine scheduling and the arrangement of transportation to attend a vaccine clinic if required.

5. **Greater Arnprior Community Council on Poverty and Homelessness – County of Renfrew Community Housing Presentation [Strategic Goal 1 (b)]**

The Acting General Manager was invited to a meeting hosted by the Greater Arnprior Community Council on Poverty and Homelessness on May 14, 2021 to present information and answer questions about County of Renfrew emergency housing and programs. The committee is comprised of local service providers and concerned citizens and they meet on a regular

basis to review information and strategize ways of improving poverty and homelessness in the Arnprior area.

6. **Eviction Enforcement Resumes Across Ontario [Strategic Goal 1 (b)]**

The provincial stay at home order ended on June 2, 2021, meaning that Court Enforcement Office (Sheriff) can enforce Landlord and Tenant Board eviction orders everywhere in Ontario.

Attached as Appendix RCHC-III is a memo dated June 3, 2021 addressed to Landlord and Tenant Board Stakeholders.

**RESOLUTIONS**

7. **Built for Zero Canada [Strategic Goals 1 & 3]**

**Recommendation:** THAT the Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors recommends to the Community Services Committee that County Council enter into a one-year Memorandum of Understanding agreement with the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness for Built for Zero Canada from May 19, 2021 to March 31, 2022.

**Background**

Built for Zero Canada is a campaign to end homelessness through the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness. This initiative provides a structured and data-driven approach that focuses on local systems and proven practices to help end chronic homelessness. A partnership with Built for Zero Canada will help the County of Renfrew connect with other municipalities to learn about their strategies to improve homelessness. The Built for Zero website provides resource information and data to help communities learn about and plan for services.

Built for Zero Canada has offered to help Ontario municipalities to create their By-Name Homelessness Count databases. The By-Name Homelessness Count is a requirement of service managers by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Partnering with Built for Zero Canada will benefit the County of Renfrew as they have expertise with capturing this type of data and their assistance will help expedite our implementation.



This summer we will connect with community agencies who also support people experiencing chronic homelessness to develop a partnership to jointly populate and respond to the needs of people identified within the By-Name Homelessness Count. Our goal is to ensure that the County of Renfrew has a collaborative community network that will work together and find solutions to end chronic homelessness within our community.

Attached as Appendix RCHC-IV is the Built for Zero Canada Memorandum of Understanding.