



## RENFREW COUNTY HOUSING CORPORATION

**Wednesday, April 10, 2024**

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A meeting of the Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at the County of Renfrew Administration Building, Pembroke, Ontario.

Directors Present:      Chair Anne Giardini  
                                  Warden Peter Emon  
                                  Vice-Chair Debbi Grills  
                                  Councillor David Mayville  
                                  Councillor Neil Nicholson  
                                  Councillor Gary Serviss  
                                  Councillor Ed Jacyno

Officers Present:        Craig Kelley, Chief Executive Officer  
                                  Andrea Patrick, Chief Operating Officer  
                                  Daniel Burke, Manager of Finance/Treasurer

Staff Present:            Jason Davis, Director of Development and Property  
                                  Jennifer Dombroskie, Manager of Community Housing  
                                  Kevin Raddatz, Manager of Real Estate  
                                  April Muldoon, Manager of Community Supports  
                                  Margo Smith, Manager of Children's Services  
                                  Tina Peplinskie, Media Relations and Social Media Coordinator  
                                  Gwen Dombroski, Clerk  
                                  Evelyn VanStarkenburg, Administrative Assistant

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Chair Giardini called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The land acknowledgement identifying that the meeting was being held on the traditional territory of the Algonquin People was recited. The roll was called, and no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

**RESOLUTION NO. RCHC-C-24-04-25**

Moved by Councillor Serviss

Seconded by Councillor Mayville

THAT the minutes of the Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors meeting held on March 6, 2024 be adopted. CARRIED.

The Chief Operating Officer overviewed the Director's Report, which is attached as Appendix A.

The Chief Operating Officer advised the Board that she is pleased to announce that April Muldoon accepted the position of Manager of Community Supports and commenced her new role on April 8, 2024.

The Manager of Real Estate overviewed the Renfrew County Housing Corporation monthly 2024 Capital Projects update. Two construction items of note are the 202 Cecil Street duplex, which is 95% complete and on target to be completed by the end of the month, and the Lee and Douglas Street eight-unit housing complex, which is 80% complete and is anticipated to be finished by May 10, 2024. He noted that for both units, the landscaping will likely be delayed.

Staff are awaiting confirmation on the availability from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing representatives, MPP John Yakabuski, and from elected officials to schedule a grand opening for the new builds.

The Chief Operating Officer advised that the next steps following the Housing Summit, held on April 4, 2024, will surround the timelines of the Expression of Interest (EOI) for Alternative Housing, which closes on June 7, 2024. Staff anticipate presenting a report to Committee and Council in August that will outline various opportunities presented in the EOI submissions.

Councillor Serviss questioned if there is any historical data available on municipality projects that have received funding from the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiatives in the past to assist with the planning of future submissions. The Chief Operating Officer advised that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has not released the names of the successful municipalities or the types of projects for the 2023-2024 funding. A total of six projects across the Province were approved for funding.

**RESOLUTION NO. RCHC-C-24-04-26**

Moved by Warden Emon

Seconded by Councillor Mayville

THAT the Director's Report attached as Appendix A be approved. CARRIED.

The Manger of Community Housing overviewed the Community Housing Monthly Report, which is attached as Appendix B.

**RESOLUTION NO. RCHC-C-24-04-27**

Moved by Councillor Grills

Seconded by Councillor Serviss

THAT the Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors approves an increase to the income cut-off level for determining Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) eligibility; AND THAT this decision be applied retroactively to April 1, 2024. CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION NO. RCHC-C-24-04-28**

Moved by Councillor Nicholson

Seconded by Councillor Jacyno

THAT the Community Housing Monthly Report attached as Appendix B be approved. CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION NO. RCHC-C-24-04-29**

Moved by Councillor Jacyno

Seconded by Councillor Serviss

THAT this meeting adjourn and the next regular meeting be held on May 15, 2024. Time 1:29 p.m. CARRIED.

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

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**TO:** Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Andrea Patrick, Director of Community Services  
**DATE:** April 10, 2024  
**SUBJECT:** Director's Report

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**INFORMATION**

**1. 2023 Unaudited Financial Statements**

Attached as Appendix I are the 2023 Unaudited Financial Statements for the Renfrew County Housing Corporation as of December 31, 2023, and an overview will be provided at the meeting.

**2. Community Housing Capital Projects Update**

Attached as Appendix II is the Renfrew County Housing Corporation 2024 Capital Projects Update as of March 31, 2024.

**3. Priority Projects for Municipalities for Business Case**

Attached as Appendix III is the letter dated March 7, 2024, from the Director of the Housing Programs Branch of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) indicating that the business case submitted for additional 2023-2024 Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) funding allocation for priority projects was unsuccessful.

A response letter, attached as Appendix IV, was sent to Minister Calandra and Associate Minister Flack at MMAH regarding the County of Renfrew's continued commitment to creating more housing in our community, and to addressing the critical issues of homelessness, addictions, and mental health through the mesa model.

**4. National Housing Strategy Action Plan**

Attached as Appendix V is a letter sent from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to all Service System Managers on March 25, 2024, regarding the National Housing Strategy (NHS) Action Plan. In the letter, Minister Calandra expresses concerns

about the Federal government's proposed \$355 million funding reduction and their singular focus on achieving a new supply target while adhering to a low repair target. The letter indicates that there may be a significant reduction in funding for service system managers starting April 1, 2024, should the Federal government not reconsider their approach.

5. **Association of Municipalities of Ontario – NHS Action Plan Funding**

Attached as Appendix VI is a letter dated March 26, 2024, from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) to the Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities. The letter, sent by AMO on behalf of all municipalities, urges against any cuts to federal funding for affordable housing. AMO advises that municipalities rely heavily on NHS funding to both maintain the existing social housing stock and create new supply. AMO advocates for the three levels of government to work together on the shared commitment to increase the supply of affordable, community, and supportive housing.

**Renfrew County Housing Corporation  
Consolidated Treasurer's Report  
DECEMBER 2023**

Appendix I

<u>Description</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
SALARIES	1,981,018	1,934,981	46,037
BENEFITS	509,500	529,213	(19,713)
ADMINISTRATION	1,188,364	1,407,926	(219,562)
BUILDING - HEAT LIGHT POWER	755,468	992,195	(236,727)
BUILDING - CAPITAL REPAIRS - non TCA	989,127	713,000	276,127
BUILDING - ELEVATOR	44,393	68,163	(23,770)
BUILDING - GARBAGE REMOVAL	94,825	78,572	16,253
BUILDING - GROUNDS KEEPING	114,147	72,510	41,637
BUILDING - HEATING & PLUMBING	128,979	142,325	(13,346)
BUILDING - NATURAL GAS	180,042	206,384	(26,342)
BUILDING - PAINTING	117,126	246,913	(129,787)
BUILDING - REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	860,073	485,327	374,746
BUILDING - SNOW REMOVAL	487,442	440,000	47,442
BUILDING - TAXES	1,729,338	1,787,287	(57,949)
BUILDING - WATER	814,056	791,921	22,135
FINANCIAL - COCHI	0	0	0
FINANCIAL - COHB	6,240	0	6,240
FINANCIAL - DEPRECIATION	1,611,190	1,200,000	411,190
FINANCIAL - HPP	1,647,973	1,551,773	96,200
HOME OWNERSHIP REVOLVING LOANS	212,096	0	212,096
FINANCIAL - IAH HADD	39,250	68,000	(28,750)
FINANCIAL - MORTGAGE - INTEREST	491,223	491,429	(206)
FINANCIAL - ONTARIO RENOVATES (IAH & SIF)	0	0	0
FINANCIAL - OPHI	160,000	321,045	(161,045)
FINANCIAL - RENT SUPPLEMENT	275,773	290,761	(14,988)
FINANCIAL - RENT WAIVER	210,765	150,000	60,765
Surplus Adjustment - Depreciation	(1,611,190)	(1,200,000)	(411,190)
Surplus Adjustment - Mortgage Principal	307,809	307,736	73
Surplus Adjustment - TCA	4,960,717	4,100,200	860,517
Surplus Adjustment - Transfer to Reserves	0	0	0
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>18,305,744</b>	<b>17,177,661</b>	<b>1,128,083</b>
COUNTY TRANSFER - BASE	5,526,873	5,526,873	0
COUNTY TRANSFER - COCHI	706,622	546,000	160,622
COUNTY TRANSFER - COCHI Admin	14,355	28,709	(14,355)
COUNTY TRANSFER - COHB	6,240	3,000	3,240
COUNTY TRANSFER - COHB Admin	11,510	0	11,510
COUNTY TRANSFER - SSRF	1,294,984	2,000,000	(705,016)
COUNTY TRANSFER - HPP	2,647,973	1,651,773	996,200
COUNTY TRANSFER - HPP Admin	163,815	133,927	29,888
COUNTY TRANSFER - IAH - HADD	39,250	68,000	(28,750)
COUNTY TRANSFER - IAH - Ontario Renovates	0	0	0
COUNTY TRANSFER - OPHI	400,905	571,045	(170,140)
COUNTY TRANSFER - OPHI Admin	11,633	30,055	(18,422)
COUNTY TRANSFER - CMHC FUNDING	1,119,191	0	1,119,191

GAIN / (LOSS) - DISPOSAL OF ASSETS	(81,768)	0	(81,768)
HOME OWNERSHIP REVOLVING LOANS	212,096	0	212,096
INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS	121,089	75,000	46,089
MISC REVENUE	100,599	65,000	35,599
PROV SUBSIDY - DEBENTURES	474,077	474,077	0
Surplus Adjustment - Transfer from Reserves	1,205,490	1,204,200	1,290
TENANT REVENUE	5,013,314	4,800,002	213,312
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>18,988,247</b>	<b>17,177,661</b>	<b>1,810,586</b>

<b>Municipal SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>682,503</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>682,503</b>
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less: Surplus Adjustment - Depreciation	(1,611,190)	(1,200,000)	(411,190)
add: Surplus Adjustment - TCA	4,960,717	4,100,200	860,517
add: Surplus Adjustment - Transfer To Reserves	0	0	0
less: Surplus Adjustment - Transfer From Reserves	(1,205,490)	(1,204,200)	(1,290)
add: Surplus Adjustment - Principal Payments	307,809	307,736	73

<b>Accounting SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>3,134,349</b>	<b>2,003,736</b>	<b>1,130,613</b>
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**Renfrew County Housing Corporation**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**DECEMBER 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
PETTY CASH	550	550
BANK ACCOUNT	1,723,292	3,640,318
CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT	201,017	201,017
RECEIVABLES - OTHER	481,364	452,069
RECEIVABLES - TENANT	109,399	148,187
ALLOWANCE FOR DOUBTFUL ACCOUNTS	(82,661)	(44,838)
DUE TO/FROM	1,837,231	1,190,075
REVOLVING LOAN FUND	(536,132)	(627,770)
PREPAID EXPENSES	235,685	230,863
INVENTORY	0	0
LAND	2,018,776	2,018,776
LAND IMPROVEMENT	3,402,921	3,402,921
BUILDING	35,585,285	34,552,679
MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT	1,002,841	1,046,091
VEHICLE	540,570	534,435
ROOFING SYSTEM	3,291,238	2,113,258
CONSTRUCTION - WIP	2,914,421	388,446
BUILDING ASSET RETIRMENT OBLIGATION	17,179,952	0
FIXED ASSETS CLEARING	0	0
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(43,531,853)	(26,994,603)
OTHER ASSETS	0	0
<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>26,373,896</b>	<b>22,252,472</b>
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & ACCRUED LIABILITIES	(594,051)	(1,254,747)
ASSET RETIRMENT OBLIGATION	(17,179,952)	0
ACCRUED SICK LEAVE LIABILITY	(185,955)	(163,454)
ACCRUED WSIB LIABILITY	(24,259)	(23,187)
LONG TERM DEBT	(527,040)	(834,775)
ACCRUED INTEREST ON LTD	(1,158)	(1,827)
SURPLUS - ACCUMULATED	(4,727,134)	(18,964,074)
SURPLUS - CURRENT YEAR	(3,134,349)	(1,010,408)
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>(26,373,896)</b>	<b>(22,252,472)</b>



RCHC-2024 Capital Projects

Location	Work Description	Status			Comments
		Budget	Quote	Status	
202 Cecil - Pembroke	New Duplex	\$545,471.00	\$495,000.00	In Progress - 95 % complete	completion - April 30
				2023 Carryover	
229-231 Albert St. Arnprior	B2010 - Exterior Walls	\$25,000.00			Schedule for Q3
72 Sullivan Cr. Arnprior	B2010 - Exterior Walls	\$25,000.00			Schedule for Q3
204-242 Cecil St. Pembroke	G2050 - Landscaping	\$30,000.00			Schedule for end of Q2
63 Russell Arnprior	B30 - Roofing	\$30,000.00			
				In Design with consultant	
150 Elizabeth St. Pembroke	B1013 - Balcony Construction	\$34,000.00			In draft stage
26 Spruce Arnprior	G2049-B - Sheds	\$40,000.00			In draft stage
44 Lorne St. Renfrew	Garage Extension	\$50,000.00			
41 Vimy Boulevard Renfrew	B2010 - Exterior Walls	\$60,000.00			Tender closed , under review
19 Smith St. Beachburg	B2030 - Exterior Doors	\$86,250.00	\$51,275.00	Tender Awarded -Valley Door & Window	Anticipate completion - early Q3
59 Wallace Eganville	C1060 - Kitchen Upgrade	\$184,000.00			On Hold
41 Vimy Boulevard Renfrew	A10 - Foundations	\$300,000.00			In review with consultant
Various Apartment Buildings	Balcony Inspection & Repair	\$400,000.00			In design stage
Various Apartment Buildings	Electrical Panel Upgrades	\$95,000.00			Schedule for Q4

March 7, 2024

Andrea Patrick  
Acting Director of Community Services, County of Renfrew  
9 International Drive  
Pembroke, ON K8A 6W5

Dear Andrea Patrick:

**RE: Community Housing Priority Projects – Additional Funding Allocation for 2023-24**

I regret to inform you that your business case submission in response to the request for priority projects was unsuccessful.

This was a difficult decision since a total of 41 top priority business case submissions were received from Service Managers and Indigenous Program Administrators for a total funding request of \$145 million.

A team of Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing staff developed and implemented a robust evaluation process to assess the large number of submissions and recommend the top ranked projects for program funding.

Your project may be submitted again for consideration next fiscal year.

I appreciate your partnership as we work together to deliver affordable housing programs and increase and improve the community housing stock in the province.

Regards,



Tanisha Lewis  
Director  
Housing Programs Branch

c. Alison Fath-York, Manager, Local Government & Housing  
Mila Kolokolnikova, Team Lead, Municipal Services Office

Office of the  
County Warden



9 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE  
PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA  
K8A 6W5  
613-735-7288  
FAX: 613-735-2081  
www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca

## Appendix IV

March 13, 2024

The Honourable Paul Calandra  
Minister of Housing  
17th Floor, 777 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  
via email: [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)

Honourable Rob Flack, Associate Minister  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
College Park 17th Floor, 777 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  
Via email: [Minister.AMOH@ontario.ca](mailto:Minister.AMOH@ontario.ca)

### **RE: 2023-2024 COCHI Funding Allocation**

Dear Minister Calandra and Associate Minister Flack:

We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to submit our proposal for the additional 2023-2024 COCHI funding allocation to support renovations aimed at increasing social housing stock in the County of Renfrew. While we acknowledge the decision regarding our grant application, we remain committed to addressing the critical issues of homelessness, addictions, and mental health in our community.

It is with great enthusiasm that we introduce the County mesa program, an initiative that embodies bold and compassionate work to address the root causes of homelessness, addictions, and mental health issues.

Like the formidable landscape formation it derives its name from, our approach aims to provide a source of stability for those that have been challenged to reach the pinnacle on their journey to better health. The supports come from the collaboration amongst all of the concerned health care providers in the region and provides the resources, programs and wrap-around care that would ensure all community members the ability to thrive.

Mobile response teams will be created with Community Paramedics and crisis workers responding to calls across Renfrew County. Individuals will receive supports where they are in the community to connect them with services and housing support options. In addition, transitional supportive housing will be created to ensure individuals have the necessary supports to be able to successfully transition out of homelessness.

Mesa is an evidence-based "escalator model" designed to transition people out of harm and towards an equitable community landscape. Our goal is to support everyone to move towards health, well-being and a safe place to call home. The one direction, fluid model provides the innovative care and access to secure housing required for community members to thrive independently.

The mesa program aligns local economic development, planning, community well-being, social services and emergency services to help residents find a home they can afford that meets their needs. Alignment presents a unique opportunity for innovative housing investments, community design and development in an integrated local, rural model.

Housing is essential for fostering sustainable development and meeting the evolving needs in Renfrew County. Our community housing units are aging and many are in need of significant investment to complete necessary repairs and upgrades. We seek your government's support and partnership in our efforts to increase viability of our existing stock and to help us create additional units across the housing continuum in our community.

We look forward to the opportunity to discuss the County mesa program further and explore potential collaboration with the Ministry to achieve our shared objectives in creating a resilient and healthier community for all residents of the County of Renfrew.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Emon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Warden Peter Emon  
County of Renfrew  
[warden@countyofrenfrew.on.ca](mailto:warden@countyofrenfrew.on.ca)

c. MPP John Yakabuski, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs  
and Housing**

Office of the Minister  
777 Bay Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Tel.: 416 585-7000

**Ministère des  
Affaires municipales  
et du Logement**

Bureau du ministre  
777, rue Bay, 17<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Tél. : 416 585-7000



234-2024-1413

March 25, 2024

Ms. Andrea Patrick  
Acting Director of Community Services  
County of Renfrew  
9 International Drive  
Pembroke, ON K8A 6W5

Dear Ms. Patrick:

Late last week, I received a letter from federal Minister Sean Fraser regarding Ontario's National Housing Strategy (NHS) Action Plan. The Minister has indicated that the federal government is cutting \$355 million in funding that goes to support the most vulnerable in our province.

The federal government has disagreed with the 11,529 community housing units that Ontario proposed to count towards the overall provincial target of building 19,660 new rent-assisted units as part of its NHS Action Plan. In doing so, they are refusing to recognize the important contributions made by Ontario's service managers to grow the provincial community housing stock while balancing other critical housing priorities, including the significant repair backlog.

As a result, the federal government is forcing the province to revisit the way we fund service managers in order for them to demonstrate greater progress against meeting our target. This directly impacts our ability to provide service managers with the autonomy and flexibility they need to address local housing priorities.

We believe this is unacceptable as we know that the flexibility provided to our service managers to spend money on local priorities leads to better outcomes for Ontarians.

Additionally, the federal position on NHS funding does not reflect some major factors that should be taken into account – factors that Ontario has repeatedly brought to the attention of the federal government. Since the NHS targets and outcomes were agreed to in April 2018, the economic landscape has shifted dramatically with the rising costs of building materials, supply chain disruptions, gaps in the labour market, and most of all, higher interest rates.

... /2

The federal position also does not consider the importance of ensuring that the current social housing stock is there for the many households that need it most through our focus on repairing and renovating units. While it is important to grow the stock, it is equally, if not more crucial, to ensure it does not shrink due to units that cannot continue to be offered because of deferred repairs and renovations.

Ontario's stock is the oldest in the country and in the greatest need for additional investment in repairs and renovations. A January 2024 report from the Housing Services Corporation reviewed 86,000 of Ontario's social housing units and found that more than 25,800, or 30% of these units, are at risk of being in critical condition by 2035 based on the Facilities Condition Index. By focusing on the repair backlog, Ontario has successfully staved off the risk to both affordability and availability of units for tens of thousands of families and overachieved on the NHS repairs target. In fact, we have effectively exceeded the overall nine-year repairs target by 170% to date.

Given the age of Ontario's stock, we question the federal government's singular focus on achieving a new supply target while adhering to a low repairs target, both of which were set more than 5 years ago. This approach would amount to gross negligence on our part as the stock would be at risk of deteriorating to a point where, over time, more units could be lost unnecessarily compared to how many are to be created by way of the 15% expansion target. Our approach, on the other hand, continues to support the financial and physical viability of the social housing stock over time, while also respecting the independence and autonomy of our service managers.

I have written back to Minister Fraser and have asked that he consider a revised NHS Action Plan that identifies solutions to address these concerns while not cutting crucial funding that you as service managers depend on.

To date, I have not received a response, as such I am writing to you today to inform you that there may be a significant impact in funding starting on April 1st.

We hope that the federal government will reconsider the approach they have chosen and come to the table as partners so that we can get to a resolution that will not put the most vulnerable Ontarians at risk.

Sincerely,



Hon. Paul Calandra  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- c. Michael Klimuntowski, Chief of Staff, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Angela Cooke, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Appendix VI

Sent by email to: [minister-ministre@infc.gc.ca](mailto:minister-ministre@infc.gc.ca)

March 26, 2024

The Honourable Sean Fraser  
Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities  
180 Kent St.  
Ottawa, ON  
K1P 0B6

Dear Minister Fraser,

I am writing today on behalf of Ontario's municipalities to urge against any cuts to federal funding for affordable housing. AMO members were deeply concerned to learn last week that your government is considering withholding almost \$355 million in funding under the National Housing Strategy. This would have devastating impacts on low-income families and individuals, and further exacerbate the housing crisis across the province.

Ontario's municipalities share your government's commitment to increasing the supply of deeply affordable, community, and supportive housing. It is a critical part of addressing the homelessness crisis that is undermining the health, social and economic foundations of families, communities and businesses across the country.

We also agree that these systemic issues decades in the making can only be solved if all three orders of government come together and contribute to solutions. As you are aware, Ontario municipalities are unique within Canada regarding our housing responsibilities, with the 47 municipal Service Managers and District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSABs) directly responsible for housing and homelessness.

Municipalities and DSSABs rely heavily on National Housing Strategy funding to make critical investments to both preserve the existing social housing stock and create new supply.

Despite these investments, the current community housing landscape in Ontario remains a significant challenge. As the provincial government has rightly pointed out, Ontario has the among the oldest stock in the country with a significant capital repair backlog, putting many existing units at risk.

Ultimately, we need to fundamentally re-think the way we fund community housing in Ontario and in Canada. But the answer is not unexpected funding cuts in the middle of a homelessness crisis. AMO urges you to work with the provincial government to develop an NHS Action Plan that works for all parties without penalizing Ontario's most vulnerable. Ontario's municipalities stand ready to work in partnership.

AMO has been eager to meet with you to talk about housing and infrastructure in Ontario, and we would welcome the opportunity to do so at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colin Best', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Colin Best  
President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Regional Councillor, Halton Region

Cc: The Honourable Paul Calandra, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Kelly Gillis, Deputy Minister, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities



**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, Manager of Community Housing  
**DATE:** April 10, 2024  
**SUBJECT:** Monthly Report

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**INFORMATION**

**1. Barry's Bay and Area Senior Citizens Home Support Services**

The Barry's Bay and Area Senior Citizens Home Support Services (BBASCHSS) operates from office facilities and the lounge area at 75 Stafford Street in Barry's Bay, providing assistance to tenants and community members. Over the past year, the organization received a Community Seniors Grant for their Life Legacies project, aiming to gather and share seniors' life stories to foster intergenerational learning and combat ageism. The Renfrew County Housing Corporation (RCHC) supported this initiative by providing space for sessions and project work.

The RCHC staff regularly observes the exceptional work conducted by BBASCHSS. Alongside delivering personalized health support, the organization actively cultivates a welcoming and inclusive community atmosphere at 75 Stafford Street. Each Thursday, BBASCHSS provides home cooked meals prepared in the lounge kitchen. Moreover, the organization extends its support to include assistance with light housekeeping, daily tasks like laundry, and errands such as grocery shopping and delivery, all of which significantly contribute to the welfare and quality of life of the senior residents.

Attached as Appendix RCHC – I is an invitation to a free community event at the Opeongo Senior Centre the afternoon of April 25, 2024 that will showcase the Life Legacies project.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**2. Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) Eligibility Criteria**

**Recommendation:** THAT the Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors approves an increase to the income cut-off level for determining Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) eligibility; AND THAT this change be applied retroactively to April 1, 2024.

**Background**

Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) eligibility criteria are determined locally by service managers. The income cut-off levels used for eligibility were last updated several years ago and are based on Statistics Canada’s after-tax Low-Income Measure (LIM). At that time, the County of Renfrew opted to align the HPP eligibility criteria with the Ontario Energy Support Program (OESP), which also uses LIM.

Recently, the OESP implemented new guidelines with updated LIM rates, effective March 1, 2024. In light of this change, staff recommend adopting the new LIM rates outlined in the OESP guidelines for determining eligibility for the HPP.

This recommendation is proposed as the preferred option because the HPP assists with hydro arrears, and aligning eligibility criteria with the OESP and Low-Income Energy Program (LEAP) ensures consistency in rules and processes across programs. This consistency can streamline administration and provide clarity for applicants and program caseworkers alike.

Current versus Proposed Eligibility Criteria:

Household after Income Tax	Household Size						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+
Current: < \$28,000 Proposed: \$38,000 or less	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
Current: < \$39,000 Proposed: \$38,001 – \$54,000		Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
Current: < \$48,000 Proposed: \$54,001 - \$65,000			Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
Current: < \$52,000 Proposed: \$65,001 - \$71,000					Eligible	Eligible	Eligible

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Please join us

APRIL 25TH from 1-3PM  
at THE OPEONGO SENIOR CENTRE  
19 STAFFORD STREET (BARRY'S BAY)

to watch short films inspired by the  
participants of

THIS IS MY MESSAGE TO YOU

We all have a story to tell no matter our age  
and sharing them is how we learn about  
ourselves and others.

*What do you want people to  
remember about you and your life?*

*What is your wish for others and  
their lives?*



Please contact Kathy Blomquist at 613-756-2772  
with any questions.