



-NEWS RELEASE-

CHRA ISSUES “HOUSING AT A CROSSROADS: CHRA’S VISION FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF HOUSING POLICY IN CANADA”

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OTTAWA – The Canadian Housing and Renewal Association (CHRA) today issued its response to the federal government’s consultation on a National Housing Strategy launched by Families, Children, and Social Development Minister Jean-Yves Duclos in June 2016. Over the summer, CHRA engaged with its members and other housing stakeholders to develop a series of 24 recommendations for the federal government to reform housing policy in Canada.

Core to CHRA’s response is its vision that by 2035, every person living in Canada has access to safe, affordable, and sustainable housing. This vision is consistent with Canada’s international human rights commitments. In order to accomplish this objective, CHRA has identified tangible recommendations to increase and maintain housing supply, address the social requirements of housing, and implementation principles to underlie the overall Strategy.

CHRA is also calling for the development of a distinct Urban and Rural Indigenous Housing Strategy, building on the spirit of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. CHRA’s response identifies specific measures to improve Indigenous housing, such as creation of an Indigenous housing trust and investment in Indigenous-specific social supports.

“CHRA has long advocated for the creation of a National Housing Strategy, and with this submission, we are offering practical and achievable recommendations to form the cornerstone of such a Strategy,” stated Stephan Corriveau, President of CHRA. “At its core, a Strategy must address the needs and challenges facing Canada’s most vulnerable populations, which means a necessary focus on strengthening the ability of the social housing sector to deliver safe and affordable housing to all”, he added.

“We look forward to communicating our ideas and working with the government over the coming months to implement a robust National Housing Strategy that puts the needs of Canada’s most vulnerable populations at its core,” stated Jeff Morrison, CHRA Executive Director. “Our recommendations, including our idea for a distinct Urban and Rural Indigenous housing strategy, will help achieve this goal”.

A copy of the CHRA report along with an Executive Summary can be found on the homepage of its website at www.chra-achru.ca.

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