

BREAKING ^{the} CYCLE of HOMELESSNESS

Memorandums of Understanding



The Province has signed Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with eight municipalities and is working with these local governments to build more social and supportive housing units. Construction is underway at 10 of the 32 sites.

At this time, MOUs have been signed with municipal governments in Vancouver,

Victoria, Kelowna, Surrey, Nanaimo, Maple Ridge, Abbotsford, and Campbell River, representing more than 2,300 units of new social and supportive housing. Under the terms of the MOUs, the Province pays all costs to design the housing and also arranges all capital and operating funding. In return, the municipalities designate staff members to ensure the municipal approval process is expedited; each city also meets all development cost charges. The Province has also committed approximately \$439 million so construction can begin on 26 of these developments, creating an estimated total of over 2,900 direct jobs.

These initiatives will provide stable housing alternatives for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Facts & Stats

- MOUs with 8 municipalities
 - - Vancouver
 - - Victoria
 - - Kelowna
 - - Surrey
 - - Nanaimo
 - - Campbell River
 - - Abbotsford
 - - Maple Ridge
- Approximately 2,300 new units
- Approximately \$439 million for construction costs



HOUSING MATTERS



BC Housing

B.C. and Kelowna invest in housing for the homeless

In fall 2009, a city-owned parking lot in a pleasant area of Kelowna began its transformation into 39 units of supportive housing for women and children with proven financial need. Tutt Street Place is in an excellent location for families. The neighbourhood is a mix of ground floor commercial space with residential above. Across the street is a school with a playground. Transit and shopping facilities are close at hand and the beach is five minutes away.

Priority for the new one-, two- and three-bedroom homes will be for women and children fleeing abuse and/or at risk of homelessness.

The development is one of 32 sites in eight communities created through Memorandums of Understanding between the provincial and municipal governments. The Province is investing \$9.1 million in capital infrastructure funding to develop Tutt Street Place. The City of Kelowna has provided a land lease reduction and reduced municipal levies. Ground broke on the project in fall 2009.

The site will be managed by NOW Canada and tenants will have access to the society's support services. They will be able to speak one-on-one with a client support worker who will provide emotional support and assist them in such

things as attending appointments and finding employment. Tenants in need will be able to apply for food cards to assist with groceries and, as funding permits, will also be able to receive trauma therapy.

"Our mandate is to offer women a comprehensive range of programs and services, designed to provide a continuum of care so they can live healthier, safer and more fulfilling lives," said Liz Talbott, executive director of NOW Canada. "With the support from the Province, the City of Kelowna and various community partners, we are able to expand our services and help more women, youth and children in our community."

Testimonial

"Safe, affordable, and stable housing is a fundamental requirement for all people. At this site, we have an amazing opportunity to provide a stable and supportive housing environment for adults with developmental disabilities – a place they can call home."

~ Greg Hill, Executive Director, Campbell River and District Association for Community Living, commenting on an MOU site the society will manage

www.bchousing.org/breakingthecycle

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HOUSING MATTERS

