
NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
2016PREM0145-002468
Nov. 22, 2016

Office of the Premier
Ministry of Natural Gas Development and Responsible for
Housing

Province details half-a-billion dollars in affordable housing

SURREY – B.C.'s strong economy means British Columbian families in need of affordable rental housing will soon have access to close to 2,900 new units of housing, thanks to the B.C. government's funding commitment of \$516 million toward the 68 projects announced today.

These investments are estimated to produce 5,500 jobs.

"This is why we continue to work so hard to build Canada's leading economy," said Premier Christy Clark. "It gives us the ability to make significant investments, put British Columbians first, and take immediate action to increase the rental supply in communities throughout B.C."

The new housing projects will serve a wide range of needs including low- to moderate-income renters, seniors, youth, adults with developmental disabilities, Aboriginal people and women and children.

The announcement was made at one of the project sites in Surrey where a new, 40-unit affordable housing development will be built to provide housing for low-to moderate-income single women with children with special needs. The Province is providing \$4.7 million to fund the project, in partnership with YWCA Metro Vancouver.

"Recognizing the need for more affordable rental housing in the province, we have acted quickly, approving the development of these projects," said Rich Coleman, Minister of Natural Gas Development and Responsible for Housing. "We will continue to partner with all levels of government, non-profit housing providers and the private sector to make sure we increase housing and rental supply to meet demand."

In September, the Province announced a \$500 million investment which is the largest single-year housing investment by any province in Canada. When added to February's five-year, \$355 million investment, the B.C. government has announced a total of \$855 million for affordable housing this year.

Details for the remaining housing projects will be announced later this fiscal year.

For further information and a funding breakdown see backgrounders.

Quick Facts:

- Since 2001, the Government of British Columbia has invested \$4.9 billion to provide affordable housing for low income individuals, seniors, youth, adults with developmental disabilities, Aboriginal people and women and children.
- More than 104,000 B.C. households benefit from a diverse range of provincial housing

programs and services.

- Since 2001, the Province has completed close to 24,000 new units of affordable housing.
- Financial assistance has also been provided to more than 30,000 B.C. households to ensure rent is more affordable.

Learn More:

To learn more about the Province's actions on housing affordability, visit:

<http://housingaffordability.gov.bc.ca/>

For information on housing affordability programs and services in B.C., visit:

<http://housingaffordability.gov.bc.ca/categories/housing-affordability-programs-and-services/>

Two backgrounders follow.

Media Contacts:

Stephen Smart
Press Secretary
Office of the Premier
778 389-6202

Lindsay Byers
Ministry of Natural Gas Development and
Responsible for Housing
250 952-0617

Laura Mathews
BC Housing
604 454-5426

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect

BACKGROUNDER 1

For Immediate Release
2016PREM0145-002468
Nov. 22, 2016

Office of the Premier
Ministry of Natural Gas Development and Responsible for
Housing

Community breakdown of projects approved for \$516 million

Lower Mainland / Fraser Valley – 22 projects / 1,441 units

- Burnaby – 3 projects / 202 units
- Chilliwack – 2 projects / 115 units
- Richmond – 1 projects / 160 units
- Surrey – 5 projects / 326 units
- Vancouver – 10 projects / 611 units
- Whistler – 1 project / 27 units

Vancouver Island / Gulf Islands – 18 projects / 774 units

- Campbell River – 1 project / 21 units
- Colwood – 1 project / 104 units
- Courtenay – 2 projects / 38 units
- Langford – 1 project / 64 units
- Nanaimo – 4 projects / 153 units
- Port Alberni – 2 projects / 36 units
- Saanich – 3 projects / 140 units
- Sooke – 1 project / 40 units
- Victoria – 2 projects / 162 units
- Quadra Island – 1 project / 16 units

Coast – 8 projects / 172 units

- Madeira Park – 1 project / 14 units
- Powell River – 1 project / 27 units
- Port Edward – 1 project / 8 units
- Port Simpson – 2 projects / 18 units
- Prince Rupert – 2 projects / 60 units
- Terrace – 1 project / 45 units

Thompson-Okanagan – 9 projects / 256 units

- Clearwater – 1 project / 26 units
- Kelowna – 4 projects / 131 units
- Keremeos – 2 projects / 24 units
- Okanagan Falls – 1 project / 35 units
- Penticton – 1 project / 40 units

Kootenay – 5 projects / 86 units

- Creston – 1 project / 9 units
- Kimberley – 1 project / 8 units
- Nakusp – 1 project / 9 units
- Nelson – 1 project / 48 units
- Slocan Valley – 1 project / 12 units

Cariboo – 2 projects / 68 units

- Quesnel – 2 projects / 68 units

North / Northeast – 2 projects / 31 units

- Fort St. James – 1 project / 16 units
- Smithers – 1 project / 15 units

Details of additional projects totalling 69 units in Kamloops and Prince George will be announced within the next week.

Total: 68 projects / 2,897 units

For additional details of each project, please visit:

http://www.bchousing.org/Media/NR/2016/11/21/12228_1611211114-875

Media Contacts:

Stephen Smart
Press Secretary
Office of the Premier
778 389-6202

Lindsay Byers
Ministry of Natural Gas Development and
Responsible for Housing
250 952-0617

Laura Mathews
BC Housing
604 454-5426

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect

BACKGROUNDER 2

For Immediate Release
2016PREM0145-002468
Nov. 22, 2016

Office of the Premier
Ministry of Natural Gas Development and Responsible for
Housing

Funding breakdown for affordable housing projects

Funding for the 68 projects will be provided from two provincial affordable housing programs announced this year.

Investment in Housing Innovation (\$500 million):

On Sept. 19, 2016, the B.C. government announced \$500 million to create approximately 2,900 units of affordable rental housing.

A total of 53 projects (2,404 units) have been approved for funding representing a \$437 million investment.

Provincial Investment In Affordable Housing Program (\$355 million):

On Feb. 12, 2016, the Province announced \$355 million for construction and renovation of more than 2,000 units of affordable rental housing. The funds will be distributed over a five year period.

A total of 15 projects (493 units) have been approved for funding representing a \$79 million investment.

Media Contacts:

Stephen Smart
Press Secretary
Office of the Premier
778 389-6202

Lindsay Byers
Ministry of Natural Gas Development and
Responsible for Housing
250 952-0617

Laura Mathews
BC Housing
604 454-5426

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect

Event Proposal
MINISTRY OF NATURAL GAS DEVELOPMENT

Event Title: Announce funding approval for 68 new affordable rental housing projects
Representative (Min/MLA): Premier Christy Clark and Minister Rich Coleman

Date: Nov. 22 Time: 10:00 a.m.	Media Market: Lower Mainland Major Media
Location: 9460 140th Street, Surrey	English Media Spokesperson: Premier and Minister Coleman Multicultural Media Spokesperson: Premier and Minister Coleman

THE EVENT

- The Province will announce funding approval for 68 housing projects (2,897 units) that will be funded from the \$500 million announced in September and from the first round of the \$355 million (\$79M) announced in February.
- This represents a provincial funding commitment of \$516 million.
- 14 additional projects totalling approximately 965 units will be announced later this fiscal year.
- Housing projects are located in the following 40 communities: 100 Mile House, Burnaby, Campbell River, Chilliwack, Clearwater, Colwood, Coquitlam, Courtney, Creston, Fort St. John, Kamloops, Kelowna, Keremeos, Kimberley, Langford, Langley, Madeira Park, Maple Ridge, Nakusp, Nanaimo, Nelson, North Vancouver, Okanagan Falls, Port Alberni, Port Moody, Prince George, Quadra Island, Quesnel, Richmond, Saanich, Slokan Valley, Smithers, Sooke, Surrey, Terrace, Victoria, Whistler, Penticton, Powell River and Vancouver.

GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA FUNDING / PARTNER FUNDING (IF APPLICABLE):

- In September 2016, the Government of B.C. committed \$500 million to ensure more British Columbian families have access to affordable rental housing.
- In February 2016, the Government of B.C. committed \$355 million to create upwards of 2,000 new affordable housing units across British Columbia over five years.

WHO'S ORGANIZING?

- GCPE-NGD and BC Housing

VENUE DESCRIPTION

The Centre for Child Development, 9460 140th Street, Surrey

Provincial Funding: \$4.7 million

Successful Proponent: YWCA Metro Vancouver in partnership with The Centre for Child Development

Client Group: Low to moderate income single women with children with special needs.

- Proposed project to build a new 40-unit affordable housing development for single women with children with special needs. The Centre for Children Development is located on a 4.7 acre parcel. The new four-storey development will be located on the site and provide 36-40 units of affordable housing as well as retail and program space.



Left: The event may take place outdoors at the Centre for Child Development or indoors in a common space.

PARTICIPANTS

- Provincial representative – Premier Christy Clark and Minister Rich Coleman (Emcee)
- Society representative, Successful proponent

TARGET AUDIENCE

- Approximately 70 people are expected to attend this event.
- Audience will include provincial representatives, community and political representatives (Members of City Council), developers, BC Housing staff, other housing stakeholder.
- Local media

VISUAL MESSAGE(S)**DESIRED PICTURE (STILL)**

- Provincial representative and other dignitaries participating in group photo.

ACTUAL SPEAKING BACKDROP

- Podium sign TBC.

WRITTEN MESSAGE(S)**DESIRED SOUNDBITE / KEY NEWS RELEASE SOUNDBITE**

- “Our government’s historical investments in affordable housing are ensuring British Columbians are first in line for affordable housing. We are taking immediate action to increase the rental supply for people in need in communities throughout B.C.”

KEY MESSAGES

- We are taking meaningful steps to address housing affordability challenges in B.C.
- We have announced a total of \$855 million this year to ensure more British Columbians have access to affordable rental housing.
- So far, we have approved funding for close to 2,900 new units of affordable housing. That’s in addition to the 2,100 units of rental housing currently under construction in B.C.
- We will continue to encourage all levels of government to support the Province’s efforts and make sure we increase housing and rental supply to meet demand.
- Since 2001, the B.C. government has invested \$4.9 billion to provide affordable housing for low-income individuals, seniors and families.