

The Affordable Homes Office

The Affordable Homes Office (Commission/Authority) will bring partners together to build the affordable housing British Columbians need.

The Office will work together with prospective housing developers and other levels of government to confront the most serious barriers to the creation of affordable homes in the province:

- It will aggressively partner with non-profits, faith groups, owners of existing housing, the federal and local governments and others to find and use or re-use available land in areas experience housing affordability stress
- The Office will act as a clearing house for financial partners seeking secure investments in housing.
- It will act as project coordinator/facilitator for land owners who are not experienced developers, but want to create affordable housing, at a reasonable cost and with a reasonable rate of return while benefiting their community
- As part of project coordination the Office will have available interim construction financing for approved projects
- The Office will work with the UBCM and individual municipalities to streamline development and approval processes for approved affordable homes. Tools might include:
 - Pre-approved building types and designs, allowing for expedited review and approval
 - Pre-authorized approvals for developments meeting certain criteria
- The Office will work within the provincial government to reduce or remove unnecessary barriers created by provincial regulations and policies.

Goal of the Office – to create affordable rental and owned housing for British Columbians. This mandate includes construction of new buildings as well as expansion/updating of existing facilities.

Within the first year, leverage land, financing and approvals from partners to double the 2017/18 planned affordable rental construction. This will mean the construction of 3,400 affordable rental homes will be approved.

Establish a plan to create more rental homes in areas of greatest need, including

Establish a program to build affordable owned housing for British Columbians, allowing them the benefits of stable, affordable housing for the long term.

Within the first year, establish partnerships with at least 5 organizations