

Purpose: To guide the public system as it provides safe and suitable affordable housing for households with low-income.

Vision: Albertans have access to appropriate housing and related supports.

Guiding Principles:

- People-focused
- Evidence-based
- Transparency
- Equitable and Fair
- Mutual Responsibility
- Fiscally Responsible

Drivers	What We Heard	Strategic Directions	Outcomes	Tracking Progress
Growing demand and limited supply	Supply	1. Investing now and for the future	➤ Integrated	➤ Facility Condition Index rating of "Good" or "Fair"
Aging infrastructure and increasing costs	Waitlists and building services			
Complex citizen needs	Integrated supports	2. Integrated housing and supports	➤ Housing Stability	➤ New and regenerated affordable housing units
Aging population who want to remain in their community	Aging in community			
Federal commitment to funding and development of a National Housing Strategy	Collaboration and coordination	3. Successful transitions and aging in the community	➤ Quality	➤ Access to a tenant support worker
Municipal interest and commitment to create big city charters	Rural and urban differences			
<i>Alberta Housing Act</i> regulations expire March 31, 2017	System data	4. Fair and flexible	➤ Sustainable	➤ Mixed income tenants are offered choice to stay in their current unit as their circumstances change
		5. A sustainable system	➤ Easily Navigated	➤ Assisted Albertans accessing the affordable housing system in meeting their housing goals
			➤ Adaptive	➤ Environmentally friendly and energy efficient design
				➤ Fiscal capacity generated through mixed income and new units coming on stream

Affordable Housing includes government owned and supported housing provided by the public, non-profit, and private sectors for persons who because of financial, social or other circumstances are unable to obtain or maintain housing accommodation through the private market.

Seniors' Lodges	Seniors' Self-Contained	Community Housing	Rent Supplement	Special Needs Housing	Affordable Housing Grant
Governed by the <i>Alberta Housing Act</i> , which enables most of Alberta's affordable housing programs.				Governed by operating and grant agreements.	

1. Investing now and for the future

1.1 Increase the supply of affordable housing

- Support the creation of new affordable housing to provide a spectrum of non-market housing options.
- Collaborate with Indigenous populations on a plan for off-reserve, non-market affordable housing for Indigenous people in need.
- Jointly plan new permanent supportive housing initiatives with Alberta Community and Social Services, Alberta Health and community partners to increase housing for the homeless and other populations with service support needs.
- Advance and support affordable cooperative housing models through the federal government and in collaboration with Alberta's housing cooperative associations.
- Work with Alberta Municipal Affairs and other government partners to support inclusionary housing throughout communities.

1.2 Improve and maintain the condition of existing affordable housing

- Meet growing housing demand by increasing the number of units when replacing aged social housing and seniors' lodges.
- Ensure units remain available by investing consistently in maintenance.
- Complete fire and safety upgrades within seniors' lodges and plan for upgrades of seniors' self-contained buildings.
- Develop and implement an asset management strategy, including lifecycle costing.

2. Integrated housing and supports

2.1 Enhance integration with community support services

- Support housing providers to integrate community support services for tenants as part of a tenant support program.
- Work with Alberta Community and Social Services, Alberta Health and community partners to examine integration models and implement pilot projects.

3. Successful transitions and aging in the community

3.1 Enable transitions through the continuum of housing and supports

- Enable tenants to hold more assets to improve their opportunity of transitioning to market housing or home ownership.
- Pilot mixed-income buildings that enable tenants to stay in their homes as their income increases.
- Collaborate with providers to ensure the Seniors Lodge Program has long-term sustainability to meet the needs of seniors in their community.

3.2 Support the desire of Albertans to age in their community

- Establish design guidelines for new units, that together with appropriate Building Codes, allow Albertans to stay in their homes longer as their health and social service needs increase.
- Partner with Alberta Community and Social Services and Alberta Health to develop projects that provide multiple options for housing and support service needs.
- Support options that enable mixed-age residents in affordable housing buildings.

4. Fair and flexible

4.1 Modernize the regulatory framework to support equitable treatment and continued housing stability

- Update the *Alberta Housing Act* regulations.
- Implement a new point scoring standard that supports vulnerable Albertans, including those receiving income supports and those who were homeless transitioning into affordable housing.
- Work with housing providers to develop a best practice tenant dispute resolution process.

4.2 Improve system access and navigation

- Support the development of a 'one-stop' community pilot where Albertans can more easily access affordable housing.
- Work with government and community partners to promote better awareness of and better access to housing options.

4.3 Promote enhanced understanding of and coordinated response to rural and urban community needs

- Model housing needs across the province to support planning for all communities, large and small.
- Support coordinated planning at the community level among local system players.
- Advance Indigenous representation in the governance and management of affordable housing to reflect housing needs of Indigenous people and promote culturally appropriate programming.
- Work with partners to achieve an appropriate distribution of affordable housing throughout communities and to encourage neighbourhood diversity.

5. A sustainable system

5.1 Support operational and environmental sustainability of affordable housing projects

- Implement standards in construction projects to reduce environmental impacts and improve energy efficiency.
- Prioritize investments of maintenance funding to address not only life/safety issues but also improve energy efficiency.
- Define business case parameters for case by case asset transfer decisions.

5.2 Partner with other governments to support a sustainable system and meet the housing and support needs of Albertans

- Strengthen collaboration with municipalities.
- Prioritize federal and provincial capital investments to make the operations of the housing system more sustainable.
- Ensure all orders of government share information to help identify opportunities to collaborate, maximize investments, and develop innovative housing solutions for Indigenous peoples.
- Work closely with the Government of Canada as it develops a national housing strategy and housing for Indigenous populations on reserve.

5.3 Improve knowledge of the housing and support needs of Albertans

- Work with housing providers to improve data collection.
- Work with partners to expand the evidence and understanding of effective policy and program responses to affordable housing challenges and to assess the benefits/impacts.
- Develop an information sharing plan to make more housing data and information resources available
- Partner in the organization of an annual provincial research and best practice conference.