



Staff Report to Council - for Direction

Title: Canada Ontario Community Housing Initiative and Ontario Priority Housing Initiative- Project Funding Agreements

From: Tina Metcalfe, Director Human Services

Date: December 7, 2023

Staff Recommendation:

That a by-law be introduced authorizing the Warden and Clerk to execute a Project Funding Agreement between Bruce County and Russell Meadows Non-Profit Accommodations for the Ontario Priority Housing Initiative's repair component; and

That a by-law be introduced authorizing the Warden and Clerk to execute a Project Funding Agreement between Bruce County and Formosa Senior's Non-Profit Accommodations for the Ontario Priority Housing Initiative's repair component; and

That a by-law be introduced authorizing the Warden and Clerk to execute a Project Funding Agreement between Bruce County and Bruce County Housing Corporation (BCHC) for the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative's repair component.

Report Summary:

Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) and Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI) allocations to be approved to fund capital projects for Russell Meadows Non-Profit Accommodations, Formosa Senior's Non-Profit Accommodations and Bruce County Housing Corporation. Capital projects will be determined by the housing provider and approved by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Background:

Bruce County entered into a transfer payment agreement with the Province of Ontario for the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) and the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI) on August 1, 2019, and submitted an Investment Plan, confirming how COCHI and OPHI planning funding allocations would be used.

The guidelines for COCHI set out parameters to protect affordability for households in social housing, to support the repair and renewal of existing social housing supply, and to expand the supply of community housing over time. It is the role of the County, as housing service manager, to enter into funding agreements with housing providers, administer payments, and monitor projects to ensure timely completion.

Bruce County received an allocation of \$364,000 for COCHI (2023-2024), and \$314,800 for the OPHI. The portion of the funds that has been allocated to assist the non-profit housing

providers to make necessary repairs to the buildings is \$88,235 for Russell Meadows, \$63,059 for Formosa Non-Profit from OPHI funding and \$345,800 for BCHC from COCHI funding.

The Project Funding Agreement outlines the funding arrangements and the responsibilities of each party.

Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

COCHI and OPHI are cost matched under the Province's bilateral agreement with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

Housing service managers are required to report municipal social housing expenditures that match the annual COCHI allocation. Therefore, the total reported municipal funding for social housing projects is to be equal to or great than the current year COCHI allocation. However, there is no specific municipal or levy contribution for this program. COCHI allows the service manager to use up to 5% of the allocation for administrative purposes.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

The Corporate Services Department was consulted regarding the inclusion of the COCHI and OPHI allocation in the appropriate budgets.

Link to Strategic Goals and Objectives:

Community and Partnerships - Enhance and grow partnerships

Report Author:

Tania Dickson, Housing Services Manager

Departmental Approval:

Tina Metcalfe, Director of Human Services

Approved for Submission:

Christine MacDonald, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer