



# Bruce County Housing Corporation Report - For Information

**Title:** Bruce County Housing Corporation's Community Housing Safety - Video Surveillance initiative Update

**From:** Tina Metcalfe  
Chief Executive Officer, Bruce County Housing Corporation

**Date:** October 17, 2024

**Report Number:** HS-2024-042

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## Report Purpose:

This report is for information.

## Report Summary:

This report provides an update on the completion of the Bruce County Housing Corporation's Community Housing Safety Video Surveillance initiative, detailing the deployment of the unified security platform Genetec Security Center.

## Background/Analysis:

In 2021, Bruce County Housing Corporation started the Community Housing Safety Video Surveillance initiative to enhance the safety and security of our tenants, staff, properties and community partners. This initiative included the allocation of surplus capital funds from the 2021 approved capital budget, Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative Funding (COCHI), as well as the use of capital reserves to install and upgrade video surveillance systems across various BCHC properties.

The initiative was driven by concerns from tenants, staff, community members and input from local police services. As part of this initiative, a specialized security consultant was engaged to conduct a comprehensive survey of all BCHC security system needs and to develop a CCTV technical standards document to guide future deployments. Additionally, our security consultant prepared a panel of security system manufacturers, which were interviewed and assessed.

The key themes guiding this system selection included:

- A holistic, unified security platform (incorporating access control, CCTV, intercom, and security systems)
- Scalable campus architecture

- Future-proof and commercial grade hardware specifications
- Non-proprietary architecture
- Compatibility with both on-premises and cloud solutions
- Accessibility and ease of use
- Support and integration with local law enforcement agencies
- Compliance with corporate cyber security standards

Staff is pleased to announce that the Community Housing Safety: Video Surveillance initiative has successfully lead to the deployment of the Genetec Security Center - a unified and holistic security platform that integrates access control, video surveillance, Intercom, automatic license plate recognition (ALPR), communications, and more into a single, intuitive system.

Additionally, Genetec Clearance, a collaborative digital evidence management system, has been implemented to streamline the collection, management, and secure sharing of video evidence when required with law enforcement agencies. Over the next few months, BCHC will pilot this system across select properties, ensuring all CCTV digital evidence requests are processed through Genetec Clearance.

The Genetec Security Center/VMS (Video Management System) has now been fully deployed at 8 BCHC properties with planned deployment at 15 additional BCHC properties underway.

The deployment of the Genetec Security Center and Genetec Clearance is expected to significantly enhance the safety, security and operational efficiency of BCHC properties. The system's integrated approach will improve staff response times and enhance security for tenants, staff, and assets.

Staff will continue to monitor the effectiveness of the Genetec Security Center and Genetec Clearance and will provide updates as needed.

#### **Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:**

\$215,543 from COCHI (Canada Ontario Community Housing Initiative) funding was used to support this project.

#### **Interdepartmental Consultation:**

The Housing Facilities Team has worked closely with the ITS and Corporate Services Department to ensure that all specifications and installations meet the required cyber security standards.

Ongoing collaboration will continue to ensure the integration and successful operation of all BCHC security systems.

**Link to Strategic Goals and Elements:**

Growth and Innovation - Strengthen County's use of technology and innovative initiatives

Community and Partnerships - Build a strong and inclusive community

**Report Author:**

Devon Gordon, Housing Facility Manager

**Departmental Approval:**

Tina Metcalfe  
Chief Executive Officer

**Approved for Submission:**

Christine MacDonald  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Attachments**

- 1065H Building Photo
- 920 ODR Building Photo
- 659A Building Photo
- Typical Building System Infrastructure