

ASCHA EMERGENT RESOLUTION NO. 1 2015

COLLABORATIVE APPROACH AND INVOLVEMENT IN THE CREATION OF A PROVINCIAL HOUSING STRATEGY

WHEREAS The Alberta Seniors Communities and Housing Association (ASCHA) and its members have been advocating for a clear directional Provincial Housing Strategy that will assist with planning and meeting the housing needs of Albertans;

WHEREAS ASCHA members represent all sectors of the housing industry, including supportive living (lodges, designated supportive living, personal care homes, etc.), and independent living (seniors self-contained, life lease, etc.) who directly deliver housing to Albertans;

WHEREAS ASCHA members represent the majority of Housing Management Bodies established by Ministerial Order to deliver social housing on behalf of the Government of Alberta;

WHEREAS ASCHA has a strong successful history of effective collaboration with the Government of Alberta and stakeholders;

WHEREAS the Provincial Housing Strategy will affect business plans of all Housing organizations in Alberta;

WHEREAS ASCHA members represent a majority of the seniors housing units operated by public, voluntary and private sectors;

WHEREAS the Provincial Housing Strategy will establish a vision and strategies that will be directly implemented by housing providers;

WHEREAS ASCHA, with its members, has conducted significant research of other Housing Strategies and met with member groups to develop a *Draft Table of Contents as a starting point in the development of a Provincial Housing Strategy;

WHEREAS an inclusive and consultative process with all key stakeholders will avoid duplication and create a stronger Provincial Housing Strategy for Albertans; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT ASCHA urge the Government of Alberta to actively involve and collaboratively work with ASCHA and all key stakeholders in the development of a comprehensive Provincial Housing Strategy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT ASCHA will advocate for a Provincial Housing Strategy that may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Aligning all housing-related provincial strategies including Homelessness, Social/Affordable Housing, Continuing Care, Dementia Care, etc.;
- Embracing a ‘person-centred housing’ philosophy;
- Incorporating a ‘housing first’ principle with all other services layered on to support the individual’s wellbeing and unique needs;
- Ensuring strong financial sustainability and stability across all sectors;
- Aligning the comprehensive Capital Real Estate Plan with the housing and health continuum; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT ASCHA develop and propose a consultative approach to the Government of Alberta that ensures the opportunity for broad stakeholder discussion and input.

Submitted by the Board of Directors, Alberta Seniors Communities and Housing Association

* See over page - Draft Table of Contents – Provincial Housing Strategy

DRAFT TABLE OF CONTENTS - PROVINCIAL HOUSING STRATEGY

Introduction

In preparing this Provincial Housing Strategy Draft Table of Contents, Alberta Seniors Communities and Housing Association (ASCHA) has reviewed core elements from the Housing Strategies across Canada, along with input from various ASCHA member groups. This Table of Contents is intended to be a starting point for collaborative work with government and all stakeholder associations to identify key areas and gaps.

1. Vision

Build on our successes and ensure Albertans have access to housing that enhances their well-being, builds local communities and contributes to a growing province.

2. Principles

- a. **Housing First**
- b. **Person-centred Housing**
- c. **Aging in Community**

3. Goals/Directions/Strategies

a. Building the Future

- i. Market demand
- ii. Demographics
- iii. Framework for housing, building and technical safety equipment

b. Putting People First

- i. Provincial housing programs, supply and services
- ii. Income/Asset Testing
- iii. Priority Tenant/Resident selection
- iv. Self-reliance education for social housing clients
- v. Rental assistance programs
- vi. Public education and awareness

c. Collaboration and Integration

- i. Cross government ministry and Industry collaboration (stakeholder associations) and integration (Federal, Provincial, Municipal, community partners, housing and service providers)
- ii. Partnerships to leverage financial and human resources
- iv. Best practice communication within the housing sector

d. Increase and Maintain Appropriate Housing Supply

- i. Financing programs for new affordable rental housing
- ii. Zoning and services to land for development
- iii. Existing social housing stock
- iv. Affordable housing development processes
- v. Sustainability incentives and new financial options

e. Enhance Strategic Planning for Housing

- i. Community and regional housing planning
- ii. Transparency of the planning process
- iii. Housing data accuracy and availability
- vi. Sustainable housing industry labour force

f. Creativity and Innovation

- i. Innovative housing approach incentives

g. Sustainability

- i. Business model
- ii. Predictable funding

h. Accountability

- i. Public governance
- ii. Financial risk management

4. Implementation of the Strategy

5. Evaluating the Results

* See over page - ASCHA Emergent Resolution No.1, 2015