

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

### **Social Infrastructure Spending Strengthens Communities and Grows the Nunavut Economy**

**November 3, 2016, Iqaluit, Nunavut** – The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Federal Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, and the Honourable George Kuksuk, Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, today announced measures to give Canadians greater access to more affordable housing, including doubling the current funding under the Investment in Affordable Housing initiative, addressing high housing needs in the North, supporting affordable housing for seniors, renovating shelters for victims of family violence and addressing repairs to existing social housing.

Federal Budget 2016 investments in affordable housing will provide targeted support to those who need it most, including in Nunavut, and create good jobs that help grow Canada's economy in a clean and sustainable way. The federal and territorial governments will work together to quickly deliver the new funding.

### **Quotes**

“All Canadians need and deserve housing that is safe, adequate and affordable. Through new investments in housing, the Government is helping to strengthen the economy and improve the quality of life for Canadians, providing better places to live and grow.” - ***Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development and Minister Responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation***

“An investment in Nunavut housing is an investment in Canada's future. Increased affordable housing and improved quality of life is a top priority for our government. The Government of Nunavut welcomes additional funding to help alleviate our critical need for housing in the territory.” - ***George Kuksuk, Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation***

### **Quick Facts**

- The Government of Canada is investing an additional \$84 million over the next two years to help the people of Nunavut in need access affordable housing.
- Over the next two years, the Government of Canada, through the IAH, will provide Nunavut with:
  - more than \$1.2 million to support the construction, repair and adaption of affordable housing for seniors;

- almost half a million dollars to support the renovation of shelters and transition houses for victims of family violence; and
- more than \$2.6 million dollars to help address the increasing demand for repairs as social housing units age.
- In addition to existing funding under the Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH), the funding levels by the governments of Canada and Nunavut have been doubled to more than \$6 million over two years.
- As the need for affordable housing is also particularly high in northern communities, the Government of Canada is providing an additional \$76.7 million over two years to address urgent housing needs in Nunavut.
- The Government of Nunavut, through the Nunavut Housing Corporation, is responsible for choosing the programs they design and deliver, and also has the flexibility to invest in a range of affordable housing programs in order to meet local needs. For example, initiatives can include new construction, renovation, affordability assistance and independent living (accessibility, modifications for persons with disabilities and seniors), and support of accommodations for victims of family violence.

## Stay Connected

- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) has been helping Canadians meet their housing needs for more than 70 years. As Canada's authority on housing, CMHC contributes to the stability of the housing market and financial system, provides support for Canadians in housing need, and offers unbiased housing research and advice to Canadian governments, consumers and the housing industry. Prudent risk management, strong corporate governance and transparency are cornerstones of CMHC's operations. For more information, please call 1-800-668-2642 or visit [www.cmhc.ca](http://www.cmhc.ca) or follow us on [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#)
- The Nunavut Housing Corporation (NHC) is a public agency of the Government of Nunavut, created through the Nunavut Legislature by the Nunavut Housing Corporation Act. The NHC's vision is to ensure families and individuals in Nunavut have access to a range of affordable housing options. For more information about our programs and services, please visit [www.nunavuthousing.ca](http://www.nunavuthousing.ca).

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# BACKGROUND

## **Investments in Affordable Housing in Canada**

Measures over the next two years to give Canadians greater access to more affordable housing include:

- Doubling of the current IAH funding levels by the Government of Canada and provinces and territories, to more than \$1 billion over two years, starting in 2016-2017 and 2017-2018.
- Through the IAH, the Government of Canada is also providing over two years:
  - \$200.1 million to support the construction, repair and adaption of affordable housing for seniors;
  - \$89.9 million to support victims of family violence, and the construction and renovation of shelters and transition houses; and,
  - \$177.7 million<sup>i</sup> to address the housing needs in northern communities.
  - \$490 million for retrofits and renovations of social housing units in Canada. This funding is in addition to the \$77.7 million being delivered by the Government of Canada, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

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<sup>i</sup> Part of this funding may be delivered through Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC).