

The Community Housing Affordability Collective (CHAC) is a network focused on improving housing affordability in Calgary through collaboration and community-based advocacy.

Since our founding in 2016, CHAC's member base has grown to include roughly 40 organizations and 100 individual members who represent the full spectrum of market and non-market affordable housing providers, public agencies, social service providers and all levels of government.

Our Collective shares resources to advance the goals of CHAC. Members of the Steering Committee and Working Groups volunteer their time and insight at no cost. Additional financial and human resources are secured through grants and contributions from member organizations.

CHAC is guided by an action plan focused on delivering three key outcomes:

Our Outcomes:	1. Integrated Approach to Housing	2. Stable and Diverse Housing Mix	3. Predictable, Sustainable Funding
<p>What We've Accomplished</p>	<p>One Window Phase 1 of the project, scoping and planning, has been completed Phase 2 of the project is now underway and is focused on the design of a centralized intake system. <i>Lead: One Window Steering Committee with The City of Calgary support.</i></p> <p>Common Voice Established a common voice to engage with all orders of government and the general public. We have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed shared positions on COPTER, the National Housing Strategy and other policies. • Encouraged information sharing, as with the CHAC's recent session on cannabis policies for housing operators. • Secured resources to develop a proactive strategy for future government and public relations. • Established a website, e-news, and social media channels. <p><i>Lead: Policy Working Group with BILD and Horizon Housing support.</i></p>	<p>makeCalgary Research Partnered on research into the lived experience of affordable housing residents in order to understand the impacts of affordable housing and identify barriers and gaps in the housing system. <i>Lead: University of Calgary's makeCalgary Initiative.</i></p> <p>Building a Sustainable Sector Prepared to build the capacity of the sector by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing scoping report: Developing a Non-Market Real Estate Strategy in Calgary. • Hosting our first public event, a screening of the documentary "Us and Them". • Identifying sector training needs through a sector survey. • Securing resources to deliver training and development sessions. <p><i>Lead: Sustainable Sector Working Group with Calgary Homeless Foundation and Horizon Housing support.</i></p>	<p>Conducted research into leading affordable housing finance practices that could offer more predictable, sustainable funding sources.</p> <p>Identified promising and innovative financial products through the Housing Partnership Canada Housing Investment Corporation, NewMarket Funds and CMHC (National Housing Strategy). <i>Lead: CHAC Steering Committee</i></p>

At CHAC, we believe there is an immediate and unprecedented opportunity before us: the announcement of strategies and funding at all levels of government reflect an unparalleled level of alignment. There is an urgent need for a strong voice to advocate for action and investment in order to add more than 15,000 units of affordable rental housing to merely reach the national average of 6% of housing stock.

To capture this opportunity and address the growing need, CHAC will build on its early successes by:

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What's Next in 2018	<p>One Window Recommendations to PFC in Q4 2018 on whether to move forward with Phase 3 – Implementation which will include establishing the governance and operating model and selecting a technology solution. The project is working with the ultimate aim of having 80% of the non-market housing units in a One Window system.</p> <p>Common Voice Plan and execute proactive government and public relations strategies.</p> <p>Develop a Common Vision for affordable housing in Calgary and an associated action plan to achieve that vision, including securing Calgary's fair share of funding under the National Housing Strategy.</p>	<p>makeCalgary Research Share findings of makeCalgary research and identify opportunities for policy and systems improvements.</p> <p>Building a Sustainable Sector Increase capacity in the sector through a series of learning and networking events that address the identified needs.</p> <p>Build on the completed scoping report to develop a baseline assessment of development potential in the non-market sector.</p>	<p>Building a Sustainable Sector Increase the affordable housing sector's ability to leverage the promising financial products identified.</p>