

North Peace Housing Foundation

6780 – 103rd Avenue, Peace River, Alberta T8S 0B6
Tel: (780) 624-2055 Fax: (780) 624-2065
Email: tammy.menssa@nphf.ca

To: The Board of Directors
From: Tammy Menssa, Executive Director
Date: June 29, 2022
Re: Regional Needs Assessment

Please see enclosed letter to member municipalities for your review as requested in Board motion:

39.06.22 Moved MacLeod, that Administration draft a letter proposing a regional Needs Assessment and bring it to the next meeting for review.
Carried

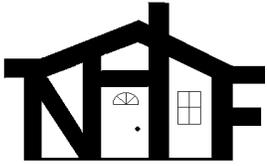
Recommendation:

Approve letter to member municipalities regarding NPHF taking the lead on completing a regional needs assessment and direct Administration to proceed accordingly.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tammy Menssa', written in a cursive style.

Tammy Menssa
Executive Director



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Member Municipalities,

Re: Regional Needs Assessment

Stronger Foundations: Alberta's 10-year strategy to improve and expand affordable housing lists 5 key action areas in providing affordable housing options that meet the needs of Albertans with low income.

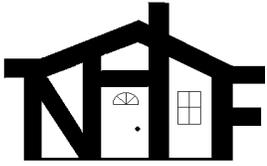
Action area #3 is to increase capacity, planning and governance. Actions include:

- 3.1 Co-ordinate planning with municipalities, regions, First Nation governments, Métis organizations and local housing providers.
- 3.2 Encourage regional/municipal needs assessments to inform GOA and community planning.**
- 3.3 Establish three-year targets for programs and new housing developments based on current and projected community need.
- 3.4 Continue to work with housing management bodies and operators to improve efficiency, increase capacity, and expand local decision-making.
- 3.5 Develop an operator performance-assessment framework and support capacity building.
- 3.6 Ensure all operators follow best practices and housing management body board appointments are competency based.
- 3.7 Increase the number of operating agreements with HMBs, non-profit and private sector housing providers.

Regarding action 3.2, “regional and municipal needs assessments can help improve capacity for meeting local needs. Through this strategy, communities will have access to a range of tools to help them meet the unique needs of their residents. To maximize investment and ensure co-ordinated supports for vulnerable Albertans, the government will work with municipalities, housing management bodies and non-profit providers to develop the capacity for needs assessments. This is particularly important in some rural and remote communities.”

The province has been working on refining the housing needs assessment (HNA) template and guidelines based on feedback sessions to date and expect to be able to release the template within the next month. The department is also working on a way to share 2021 Statistics Canada data (expected to be available this summer/fall) to help populate some of the template.

The template will not be mandatory, but encouraged, especially as part of a project proposal submission to help demonstrate how the proposal meets the local need/priorities.



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The North Peace Housing Foundation would like to offer our services to complete the needs assessment on behalf of your municipality, at no additional cost to you, as we have been advised that there is a lot of flexibility and regional approaches are encouraged where they make sense.

The Foundation would complete the HNA for the region, provide each municipality with a copy of the assessment including relevant local municipal data, asking each participating municipality on the Board to sign an endorsement statement, as required by Alberta Seniors and Housing.

The benefits are, that by taking this approach, each municipality will be aware of the regional affordable housing context. This will ensure planning that aligns with local and regional priorities, coordinating across levels of government, and ensuring an evidence-based approach that is more consistent throughout municipalities in the province.

To do this, we need your support. Alberta Seniors and Housing has been clear that in the event 2 needs assessments are submitted for the same municipality, the municipality's submission will take precedence over the management body's, which could cause not only duplication but confusion over the accuracy of information. The Foundation wants to ensure that we are making the best use of our, and your, resources.

If you are in agreement that NPHF take the lead on completing a regional needs assessment and submit the completed template to the province on your behalf, please respond accordingly.

Thank you very much for your consideration of our proposal.

Sincerely,

Tammy Menssa
Executive Director