



FOR RELEASE
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Request for affordable housing proposals attracts interest

WHITEHORSE—Twenty-two private contractors and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) responded to Yukon Housing Corporation's affordable housing request for qualifications.

The responses included six rural community project proposals and 16 in Whitehorse. The next step will be to evaluate the submissions and select up to 10 proponents to complete detailed proposals. That stage of the process is expected to begin in January.

"This initiative encourages partnerships that work together to create additional affordable housing in the territory," Minister responsible for the Yukon Housing Corporation Brad Cathers said.

Under this process, the government's intention is to leverage the remaining \$13 million from the Northern Housing Trust to stimulate the construction of more affordable rental housing in Yukon. The government will match private and non-government organization investment 50-50, potentially achieving up to \$26 million in affordable rental construction.

Projects funded under this process will carry guarantees that rental rates remain affordable for at least 10 years. For the purposes of this process, Yukon Housing Corporation defines 'affordable' as rental rates remaining at or below 95 per cent of median rates. The median rent for Whitehorse in June 2013 was \$875 per month.

"Yukon Housing Corporation's strategic plan identifies new approaches to help alleviate home ownership and affordable rental availability gaps and attainability challenges," Yukon Housing Corporation board chair Claire Derome said. "I believe we will see some very thoughtful proposals to address these challenges."

Learn more

Housing Action Plan: www.housing.yk.ca/housing_action_plan.html
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