

Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit

Presentation to
Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association

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May 3, 2021



Presentation Outline

- National Housing Strategy Background
- Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit Background & Funding
- Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit Program Streams
- Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit and Non-Profit Organizations
- Q&As

National Housing Strategy Background

- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) – Manitoba Bilateral Agreement under the 2017 National Housing Strategy
 - \$302.7M in federal funding between 2019/20 and 2027/28
 - Cost-matched by Manitoba
 - Three provincially administered initiatives:
 - Canada Community Housing Initiative
 - Manitoba Priorities
 - Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit (CMHB)

Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit Background & Funding

What is the CMHB? A portable shelter benefit targeted toward vulnerable populations in core housing need

- Co-designed by Manitoba and CMHC
- \$77.3M in federal funding between 2020/21 and 2027/28
- Cost-matched by Manitoba
- Funding is back-ended

Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit Program Streams

Three streams:

1. Youth Stream
2. Homelessness Stream
3. Mental Health and Addictions Stream

Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit Program Streams

1. Youth Stream:

- Delivered by Provincial Services
- Youth transitioning (or have recently transitioned within the last year) out of care of CFS
- Benefit provided for up to two years, for a maximum of \$250 per month
- Will form the basis for the Supporting Youth Transition Initiative

Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit Program Streams

1. Youth Stream – Eligibility:

- Complete a program application
- Be receiving EIA or non-EIA Rent Assist; or net income at or below Disability PIL of the non-EIA Rent Assist program
- In core housing need
- Canadian citizen, permanent resident of Canada, or refugee claimant
- Live in private rental accommodation
- Have tenancy agreement

Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit Program Streams

2. Homelessness Stream:

- Delivered by Manitoba Housing, then EHW
- Those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness
- Maximum of \$250 per month
- Initial onboarding of former HFRS and EHF recipients
- No time limit

Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit Program Streams

2. Homelessness Stream – Eligibility:

- Complete a program application
- Receiving EIA or non-EIA Rent Assist
- In core housing need
- Connected to a community housing support program
- Canadian citizen, permanent resident of Canada, or refugee claimant
- Live in private rental accommodation
- Have tenancy agreement

Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit Program Streams

3. Mental Health and Addictions Stream:
 - Delivered by Manitoba Housing's Rent Supplement branch
 - Those living with mental health and addictions issues in designated housing buildings
 - Benefit to assist in transition to private market
 - In the private market, provided for up to two years, for a maximum of \$250 per month

Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit Program Streams

3. Mental Health and Addictions Stream – Eligibility:

- Complete a program application
- Receiving EIA or non-EIA Rent Assist
- In core housing need
- Canadian citizen, permanent resident of Canada, or refugee claimant
- Residing in designated housing project
- Live in private rental accommodation after transition
- Have tenancy agreement in the private market

Program Launch

CMHB launch April 1, 2021

1. Youth Stream:

- Intake beginning May 2021

2. Homelessness Stream:

- Transition existing rent subsidy clients to the CMHB from April to June
- Intake beginning July 1, 2021

3. Mental Health and Addictions Stream:

- Intake beginning as Supportive Recovery Housing providers open

Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit and Non-Profit Organizations

- Current design of CMHB is for private market and designated supportive housing buildings
- Relatively small funding allocations in first years of the benefit
- Future possibilities for greater alignment within community housing sector
- Stakeholders consultations – more details to come

Q&A

Q: Would people applying for the CMHB be eligible to live in non-profit housing buildings that do not have an agreement (e.g. no rent supplement or operating agreement)?

A: Yes, people who are eligible for the three streams of the CMHB could choose to move in to a non-profit housing building that does not have any agreements with the provincial government.

Q&A

Q: How would an organization become a “designated supportive recovery building”?

- Is it possible for existing housing providers, that don't have an agreement or have an expiring agreement, to apply?
- Will it be possible for new organizations developing/wanting to develop housing to apply?

A:

- Current supportive housing units have been designated via a Request for Proposals process
- Projects reviewed on case-by-case basis
- Organizations and other housing providers will not be able to apply for this designation at this time

Q&A

Q: How will tenants access the benefit?

A: Separate applications for each stream (will be available online).

Payment method:

- Youth stream: Paid directly to recipient or to landlord/owner
- Homelessness stream: Paid directly to recipient, to landlord/owner, or to a public trustee
- Mental health and addictions stream:
 - Supportive housing: Paid directly to housing provider
 - Private market: Paid directly to recipient, to landlord/owner, or to a public trustee

Q&A

Q: Will accessing the benefit be different for people in Winnipeg and people outside of Winnipeg?

A: The process to access the youth and mental health and addictions streams will be the same across the province. The Homelessness stream is only being offered in Winnipeg right now but will expand across the province in the next two to three years.

Q&A

Q: Will there be any requirements or regulations for the housing units for people who receive the benefits (e.g., quality standards, rents registered with RTB, etc.)?

A: No, though tenants will be required to have a lease agreement.

Questions?