

July 19, 2021

City of Saskatoon Rapid Housing Initiative with CMHC Request for Letters of Intent

RE: Rapid Housing Initiative - Round 2 Submissions

The City of Saskatoon is pleased to announce that the City has been identified for immediate funding to create new permanent affordable housing under Round 2 of the Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI) – Cities Stream. The City of Saskatoon has until August 31st, 2021 to submit proposed projects through CMHC's online platform.

The City is using a two-stage process to identify projects for this funding stream. Stage 1 is a brief Letter of Intent, due by July 30th. Stage 2 is the detailed submission, which must be submitted *by the City* to CMHC's online platform by August 31st. The City of Saskatoon will contact the selected applicants following Stage 1 and work with you to complete the detailed submission requirements prior to CMHC's August 31st deadline.

Stage 1 - Letter of Intent

The City of Saskatoon is seeking a Letter of Intent from any potential partner organizations that are able to complete the project within 12 months of signing the contribution agreement (signing estimated to be between October 15th and December 31st 2021).

The following are the eligible forms of housing:

1. **New Construction:** Support the new construction of multi-unit rental projects, which includes the acquisition of the land.
2. **Conversions/Rehabilitations:** Support the acquisition and conversion of a non-residential building to an affordable rental project. Support the acquisition of an existing building in state of disrepair or abandoned for the purpose of rehabilitation where units were previously lost from the housing stock.

Letters of Intent must **confirm** that projects will meet the mandatory minimum requirements:

- Applicants will be required to achieve building occupancy within 12 months of the date of the contribution agreement.
- All projects are expected to maintain financial viability for the 20 years of the contribution agreement. Affordability must be maintained for a minimum of 20 years.
- Non-government entities which do not have confirmed sources of government subsidies will be asked to demonstrate their capacity to support units without additional sources of financial support.
- All units must serve and be affordable (i.e. household is paying less than 30 per cent of gross income on housing costs or the shelter component of any provincial or territorial income assistance as an equivalent) to targeted people and populations who are vulnerable and who are, or otherwise would be, in severe housing need.
- At least 25 per cent of RHI funding will go towards women-focused housing projects.

Priority will be given to Indigenous-led organizations and/or projects which are targeted to urban Indigenous peoples.

Deadline for submission of the Letter of Intent is **FRIDAY JULY 30th**. Letters of Intent can be sent to city.planning@saskatoon.ca.

Stage 2 – Formal Submission

The City of Saskatoon will contact those selected to move forward to Stage 2 for a formal submission, as soon as possible following July 30th, in order to complete the detailed submissions by the August 31st deadline.

The City will work with CMHC and review and prioritize applications based on program criteria by the end of October 2021. Once the agreement is signed, you will have one calendar year to complete the approved project.

More Information and Contacts

More information is available on the Rapid Housing Initiative on CMHC's website:

[Applicant Guide](#)

[Webinar \(July 6, 2021\)](#)

[Rapid Housing Initiative - Documentation Requirements](#)

Please contact Blaire Prima, Senior Planner at blaire.prima@saskatoon.ca or 306-657-8681, or Andy Collin, Customer Service Manager at andy.collin@saskatoon.ca or 306-986-5788 with any questions.

I apologize in advance for the very tight timelines required for this funding stream. The City of Saskatoon looks forward to working with potential partners to help address urgent housing needs of people in our community.

Sincerely,



Lesley Anderson, RPP, MCIP | tel 306.975.2650

Director, Planning and Development Department

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