

Independent Living BC
A Housing for Health Partnership

Call for Expressions Of Interest
to Non-Profit Societies

Interior Health Authority

June 21, 2003

**BC Housing &
Interior Health Authority**

**Call for Expressions Of Interest
IHA-EOI-General**

June 21, 2003

Closing Date and Time:

Proposals must be received by **2:00 p.m.** Pacific Daylight Time on
Tuesday, September 30, 2003.

Closing Location:

BC Housing
Attention: Co-ordinator, Program Implementation
EOI for *Independent Living BC* IHA-EOI-General
Suite 601 - 4555 Kingsway
Burnaby BC V5H 4V8

Contact:

Ashley Chester

Telephone number: (604) 439-4190

Fax number: (604) 439-4793

E-mail: achester@bchousing.org

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I. INTRODUCTION

Independent Living BC (the “Program”) is part of the government of British Columbia’s *New Era* commitment to add 5,000 additional community care spaces across the province by 2006. The Program objective is to provide affordable housing and services to help seniors and people with disabilities (the “Tenants”) maintain the independence they desire.

Independent Living BC is a partnership among British Columbia Housing Management Commission (“BC Housing”), the Ministry of Health Services (MHS) and the five regional health authorities of British Columbia.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, an agency of the federal government, is also a funding partner through the Canada-British Columbia Affordable Housing Agreement.

II. CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO NON-PROFIT SOCIETIES

BC Housing and the Interior Health Authority (“Interior Health”) invite non-profit societies to submit Expressions Of Interest (the “EOI Submission”) to develop and operate housing and services for Tenants in the following communities.

Thompson Cariboo Shuswap Health Service Delivery Area

- Kamloops – 77 units
- Ashcroft – 6 units
- Barriere – 6 units
- Lytton – 6 units

Okanagan Health Service Delivery Area

- Central Okanagan (Lake Country, Kelowna, Westbank, Peachland) – 117 units
- Princeton/Keremeos – 13 units
- Oliver/Osoyoos – 33 units
- Vernon – 38 units

East Kootenay Health Service Delivery Area

- Golden – 5 units
- Kimberly – 11 units

While a prime target of *Independent Living BC* will be persons 75 years of age and older, environments designed specifically for other eligible groups of individuals, such as younger people with disabilities, are also welcome.

EOI submissions may propose projects that fall into the following categories:

- new construction;
- renovation of existing non-profit housing or health facilities;
- a combination of new construction “in-fill” and renovation; or
- the conversion or change of use of existing housing to housing with hospitality and personal care for Tenants eligible through the Program.

The “conversion category” refers to Projects that involve a change in use from an open tenancy to targeting those eligible for assistance through *Independent Living BC*. Conversion Projects do not require the alteration of the existing units or significant change to the floor plan of the existing building.

In this Call for Expressions Of Interest (the “EOI”), BC Housing and Interior Health are requesting submissions from non-profit societies only.

III. BASIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The Program's detailed requirements are contained in *Independent Living BC Program Guidelines for Non-Profit Societies* (the "Program Guidelines") and *Independent Living BC Non-Profit Housing Design and Construction Standards* (the "Design and Construction Standards").

These documents can be found at BC Housing's Web site at www.bchousing.org/ILBC/

For paper copies, please contact:

Robbin Benson
Development Services Branch
BC Housing
Phone: 604-439-4761 or 1-800-257-7756, ext. 4761
E-mail: rbenson@bchousing.org

This call for Expressions Of Interest document must be read in conjunction with the *Program Guidelines* and the *Design and Construction Standards*. What follows is only a summary of the Program.

All Tenants for assisted living units funded through *Independent Living BC* will be selected and referred for tenancy by Interior Health and will require both hospitality and personal care services.

Projects funded through *Independent Living BC* will incorporate the following elements:

- self-contained rental housing which provides the Tenants privacy and the ability to exercise their independence as they are able;
- hospitality services (two meals daily, housekeeping, laundry service, social and recreational opportunities, and 24 hour a day response);
- personal care services for the activities of daily living according to the needs of the Tenants; and
- financial assistance from BC Housing and Interior Health to make both the housing, hospitality and personal care services affordable for lower income Tenants.

Personal care services – a key Program feature - is the provision of services to help with activities of daily living including assistance with bathing, dressing, mobility, and medication reminders.

Tenants will be seniors and adults with disabilities who are able to direct their own care and whose health will be better managed by support and care within a community setting rather than within a residential care setting.

People who are able to self direct their own care are cognitively capable of making decisions, can communicate effectively, have the ability to make informed, voluntary decisions regarding care requirements, and participate in the development of their care plan. They are able to use the response system and take direction in an emergency situation.

IV. THE ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Tenants will pay a maximum of 70% of their after-tax income for the accommodation and services they require. Many Tenants will have minimal monthly incomes, often the basic federal and British Columbia government pensions of Old Age Security (OAS), the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), and the Seniors Supplement, totaling approximately \$1020 monthly.

BC Housing and Interior Health will provide assistance to bridge the gap between what the Tenants will pay and the Society's breakeven costs.

Interior Health will fund the difference between what Tenants can contribute to the service package (hospitality and personal care services) and what the agreed-to costs are.

BC Housing will provide both capital and operating assistance for the housing base.

The assistance with the capital costs includes a grant of up to \$25,000 per unit from the government of Canada, through BC Housing's partnership with Canada Housing and Mortgage Corporation under the Canada-BC Affordable Housing Agreement. BC Housing will also provide interim mortgage financing and arrange mortgage insurance and takeout mortgage for the qualifying Project that requires a capital cost loan.

The on-going housing operating assistance will fund the difference between what the Tenant can contribute to the housing and what the agreed-to costs are.

V. CONTEXT FOR PROGRAM ALLOCATION IN INTERIOR HEALTH

Interior Health has determined unit allocation to communities by using a range of variables including, but not limited to, the population of seniors 65 and over, relative isolation from other services, and availability of other housing options. The units presented as part of this expression of interest form part of a larger assisted living strategy. Communities not receiving an allocation under this expression of interest may have already benefited from previous expressions, or may be under review for future initiatives.

Program Delivery

The Interior Health prefers submissions which include the provision by the Society of the required personal care services; however, Interior Health will consider submissions which include the provision of the housing base and hospitality services by the Society and require that Interior Health organize the personal care services.

For more information on Interior Health's approach to Independent Living, please visit Interior Health's Web site at www.interiorhealth.ca

VI. EOI AND FUNDING ALLOCATION PROCESS

The funding allocation process has the following stages:

- **EOI Stage.** The call for Expressions Of Interest is issued and interested societies submit their qualifications, their Project concept, and draft budgets. BC Housing and Interior Health evaluate the submissions received. The Society with the most promising submission (based upon established criteria) is asked to make a detailed proposal (the “RFP” stage).
- **RFP Stage.** The Society that has been asked to develop their concept into a detailed proposal will do so within a set timeline. In this stage, BC Housing will share some of the risk with the chosen Society by making Proposal Development Funding (the “PDF”) available to it.
- **Final Evaluation and Project Commitment Stage.** The detailed proposal is reviewed by BC Housing and Interior Health to confirm that the potential in the EOI submission has been realized with respect to the quality and cost of both the housing base and service delivery plan.

Project Commitment Conditions

BC Housing has standard Project Commitment conditions listed in the *Program Guidelines*, essentially confirmation of design and both capital and operating budgets.

Interior Health will require that the following conditions be satisfied in the RFP stage before Project Commitment can be granted:

1. Hospitality services: a detailed, confirmed first year operating budget, job descriptions for hospitality staff.
2. Personal care services: a detailed, confirmed first year operating budget, job descriptions for personal care staff and a complete staffing schedule for a full week.
3. A detailed commissioning plan and schedule.

The final evaluation determines if BC Housing and Interior Health will commit funding to complete the Project and enter into the necessary operating agreements with the Society.

NOTE:

BC Housing and Interior Health reserve the right at their sole discretion to cancel this EOI and to not ask any of the societies which respond to develop a detailed proposal. Societies are solely responsible for their own costs and expenses in preparing or presenting their EOI submission. Neither BC Housing nor Interior Health is liable to pay such costs and expenses nor to reimburse or compensate a society under any circumstances.

VII. EVALUATION AND SELECTION

The selection of a successful Society will be based on information from the Society's submission and, if the submission has reasonable potential, through an interview with the Society's representatives.

The evaluation of EOI submissions will be done by a team with representation from BC Housing and Interior Health.

The evaluation will include the following:

- An initial review will ensure that the mandatory requirements of the EOI have been met, that the submission is complete, and that the Project has a reasonable chance of success.
- If the above criteria are met, evaluators will interview the Society's representatives, and rank the submission.
- The evaluation team will identify the particular tasks that the Society with the highest ranking needs to fulfil in order to respond successfully to a RFP.

Within the parameters of Interior Health targets, the Society showing the best potential and strong indicators of success will be asked to develop a detailed proposal. In some instances, it may be asked to address major issues prior to developing their proposal fully.

VIII. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Number of Copies, Closing Date and Location

Four copies of the submission must be submitted, two in bound form and two in unbound form to facilitate easy reproduction. All four copies should be submitted in one package clearly addressed as follows:

BC Housing
Attention: Co-ordinator, Program Implementation
EOI for *Independent Living BC* IHA-EOI-General
Suite 601 - 4555 Kingsway
Burnaby BC V5H 4V8

The deadline for receipt of submissions at the above address is **2:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time on Tuesday, September 30, 2003.**

Submissions submitted by e-mail or facsimile will NOT be accepted.

Inquiries

Inquiries should be directed by e-mail, fax or post to:

Name: Ashley Chester, Co-ordinator, Program Implementation
E-mail: achester@bchousing.org
Fax: 604-439-4793

All questions must be made in writing no later than 2:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time on Friday, September 12, 2003.

Mandatory Requirements

All submissions must meet the following requirements:

- The Society must be an incorporated non-profit society or association, or in the process of incorporation. (For-profit entities are not eligible for this component of *Independent Living BC*.)
- The Society must control a mortgageable site for the Project.
- Submissions must be received by 2:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time on Tuesday, September 30, 2003:

BC Housing
Attention: Co-ordinator, Program Implementation
EOI for *Independent Living* IHA-EOI-General
Suite 601 – 4555 Kingsway
Burnaby BC V5H 4V8

- Four copies of the submission must be submitted, two in bound form and two in unbound form.
- Submissions must use the format on pages 13 to 45 of the EOI.

Format

Operators are required to provide the information requested in the specified format that can be downloaded for direct input at www.bchousing.org/ILBC/

- 1. Summary Information**
- 2. Letter of Committal**
- 3. Society Capacity**
- 4. Project Rationale**
- 5. Housing Concept**
- 6. Society and Community Equity Contributions**
- 7. Capital Budget**
- 8. Services Concept**
- 9. Operating Budget**
- 10. Schedules**