

## **Single Room Occupancy Expressions of Interest Frequently Asked Questions – Aug. 24, 2007**

**Would the Society matched with Pender Street (small suite concept) building receive additional funds to pay for their costs during the development phase? If yes, can you provide any additional information? (i.e. Has a funding formula or amount been determined? Do we apply for it separately?)**

- The selected Society will receive funding for their costs during construction.
- There is no set funding formula, but organization expenses typically include remuneration for some staff time and reimbursement of direct expenses.

**Section 7.5 asks for information related to funding of current programs. What does the column "funding value" mean?**

- The funding value refers to the amount committed by the funding source, which may or may not be an annual amount.

**Can you describe the make-up of the tenant population at each of the hotels?**

- The tenant population is diverse, but typical of the range of people who live in the Downtown Eastside.
- Societies will be able to offer new tenancies to their priority tenant groups as vacancies become available.

**What are the physical conditions of each of the buildings?**

- BC Housing has done an assessment of the buildings' conditions. This information will be shared with the successful proponents.
- Some buildings will require more repairs than others but the intent is that each building will be upgraded to a common, acceptable standard to ensure tenants and staff feel safe and secure.

**Are the proposals to use the same configurations or can there be renovations such as adding a dining room or individual bathrooms?**

- The selected societies will have an opportunity to provide input into the scope of work for the specific buildings as it relates to the requirements of the tenant population and the anticipated support services and staffing component.
- If you are interested in providing a service that is not addressed in response to the information requests contained in the EOI, please provide supplemental information about your intent/interest to do so.
- There are no plans to redesign any of the building's unit layouts, such as adding bathrooms to units that don't have them.

**Is there a mandatory meeting for societies interested in submitting proposals?**

- No.

**Are partnerships between a non-profit housing society, and an organization that is not a non-profit housing society, acceptable?**

- Yes, provided the housing provider is the non-profit that would enter into the agreement with BC Housing, the party that the non-profit contracts with does not need to be a non-profit.

**Section 3.3 states: “BC Housing's funding does not include professional and clinical support services. If professional and clinical support services are required for the target tenants, the society is responsible for coordinating the delivery of these services directly with support ministries and agencies.” Are societies required to submit letters of support from the support ministries or agencies as part of the proposal?**

- Letters of support are not mandatory, but they would generally make for a stronger proposal.

**Do we need to comment on the items in the Evaluation and Service Matrix in Appendix A?**

- No, this is just for information.

**Appendix B states that this EOI is related to the operation of the residential portion of the buildings only. It does not include any commercial or retail space. Could it later be incorporated?**

- The use or any potential change of use for occupied or vacant commercial/retail space will be considered at a later date.
- It would have been a complicating factor for this EOI, so this EOI is focused solely on the operation of the residential portion of the buildings.

**What does it mean that the 339 West Pender project is “in the design development phase”? How far along is the planning? Who has been involved?**

- dysarchitecture was engaged by BC Housing to undertake the design of the project. They have completed schematic drawings.
- The non-profit housing society selected to operate the project will be involved in the design process.

