Welcome
New Supportive Housing for Victoria

We acknowledge our work is taking place on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen speaking people of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighbourhood Open House</th>
<th>Thursday, August 23, 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Doors open</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Respectful Dialogue
• Ensure comments and discussions are respectful;
• Recognize that the issues are complex and we need thoughtful discussion about how to meet community needs;
• Share your thoughts – fill out a comment form, join the conversation tonight or email communityrelations@bchousing.org.
Community Need

According to the 2018 Victoria Homeless Count

1,525 people experiencing homelessness

33% identify as Indigenous

40.3% of Indigenous people experiencing homelessness identify as women

Housing and services* currently available to Indigenous women in Victoria:

*Funded through BC Housing

**AVAILABLE TO WOMEN WHO ARE ELIGIBLE**

- Transition houses
  - Victoria Women’s Transition House
  - Older Women’s Safe Home
  - Cridge Transition House

- Second-stage housing
  - Margaret Laurence House
  - Cridge Second Stage

**SPECIFIC TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

- 34 housing units for people experiencing homelessness
- 30 rent supplements
- 87 units of housing for low-income families

875 units of housing for low-income families

BC HOUSING
New Supportive Housing Proposed for Victoria

**Proposed Project:**
21 self-contained culturally supportive studio homes

**Proposed Location:**
800 block of Hillside Avenue

**Operated by:**
Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness

**Who is it for:**
First Nations, Metis and Inuit women

**Housing Type:**
Safe, secure, self-contained studio apartments with shared amenity space.

**This site provides:**
- Proximity to services and transit
- Currently vacant land owned by the Provincial Rental Housing Corporation
- A site that can be developed in a timely way
Housing Along the Spectrum

**Highlights**

- Creation of 21 new homes for First Nation, Metis and Inuit women
- Provides stable and supportive housing
- Opportunity for women to move off the streets and out of precarious housing

**PLANNED**

21 units of supportive housing at 800 Hillside Avenue
Who would live in this housing?

Women who apply to live here will need to:

- Be a resident of Greater Victoria
- Identify as First Nations, Metis or Inuit
- Be over the age of 19
- Be experiencing or at risk of homelessness
- Need additional support to maintain housing

Tenant Selection Process:

- Women must apply through the Supportive Housing Registry.
- Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness will work with BC Housing and local service providers to ensure the needs of a potential tenant are well matched to the types of support services provided.
- Women will be assessed using a thorough and thoughtful process to determine the support services they need to remain housed and live a more healthy, stable life, while ensuring a healthy tenant mix within a building.

What are some of the contributing factors to homelessness?

There are various factors which contribute to homelessness for Indigenous women such as:

- Inter-generational trauma
- Racial and cultural discrimination
- Lack of access to affordable housing
- Societal marginalization and poverty
- Domestic violence and violence against Indigenous women

All tenants would pay rent, sign a program agreement and make a choice to work toward living a healthy, stable life.
Services

All tenants would have access to a range of culturally supportive housing supports on-site.

- **24/7 staffing and support services**
- **Safe place to sleep**
- **Connect to local community services**
- **Connection to employment programs**
- **Referral to health care, mental health and addiction services**
- **Trauma-informed support and care** to assist people in stabilizing and creating plans to move from homelessness to successfully housed.
- **Meals provided**
- **Social connection**
- **Affordable Rents**
- **Laundry**
- **Accessible units**

**Contact:**

BC HOUSING

Victoria
Culturally Supportive Housing

- Indigenous-led organization that hires Indigenous staff, provides opportunities to connect with Indigenous culture and supports culturally responsive programs.
- Grounding services in ceremony and traditional teachings, providing access to Elders, and focusing on community healing rather than individual healing.
- Offers supports that address and engage issues relating to cultural identity and historical experience as part of the recovery process.
- Ensures health professionals who provide support services are culturally and linguistically competent.
Culturally Supportive Housing

- Education, advocacy and programming around Indigenous issues and knowledge, and female empowerment.
- Peer support networks.
- Integrates family and community in the housing
- Encourages clients to preserve and practice their own Indigenous customs and traditions.
- Services are open, respectful and non-judgmental.
- An amenity space that offers opportunities for socialization, cultural events and ceremonies.
Renderings

Disclaimer: These images are subject to adjustment as part of the municipal approval process.
Floor Plans

Level 1

Level 2 & 3

Disclaimer: These plans are subject to adjustment as part of the municipal approval process.
Partners

We are committed to ensuring that everyone has a place to call home.

**BC Housing** would provide capital, undertake construction of the modular housing and provide operational funding for the supportive units.

*BC Housing* works in partnership with the private and non-profit sectors, provincial health authorities and ministries, other levels of government and community groups to develop a range of housing options.

**Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH)** will operate the housing and provide 24/7 staffing, with a focus on culture and safety.

ACEH works collaboratively with the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness to create a culturally-specific approach to Aboriginal (First Nations, Inuit, and Métis) homelessness on the traditional Coast Salish, Nuu-chah-nulth and Kwakwaka’wakw territories. Our way is to care for all of our people, from the youngest to the oldest. We are all one. Some of our people living away from home are suffering, isolated, and experiencing homelessness. We stand together to end homelessness.
Variances

As part of the Development Permit application, BC Housing will be seeking the following variances*, which will require City of Victoria council approval:

1. Number of Buildings
   The Evergreen Terrace site, which currently contains 21 buildings, was constructed prior to the current zoning bylaw implementation. This means that the site is currently legally non-conforming to the R3-2 zoning (1 building per site) that the City has designated for the area. BC Housing would like to add one additional building to the site for the proposed housing.

2. Minimum Unit Size
   The City of Victoria has a minimum unit size requirement of 33 meters squared. Some units in the proposed development are under this minimum. BC Housing is requesting a variance, as these units are temporary in nature.

Timeline:
BC Housing anticipates starting construction Fall 2018 and opening the building for occupancy in spring 2019. This timeline is subject to the municipal approval process.

* Please note that all necessary variances will be confirmed by municipal staff. These are known variances at this time and are subject to change.
How Can I Provide Input?

Email comments or questions to communityrelations@bchousing.org

Fill out a comment form today.

All comments received by August 27 will be added to a summary report submitted to the City of Victoria.