

Neighbourhood Update

June 12, 2024

2245 6th Avenue, Castlegar

Dear Neighbour,

We are writing to share that BC Housing has purchased the property at 2245 6th Avenue. In this building, we plan to open a year-round shelter with up to 20 beds. This shelter is a response to the urgent need to support people experiencing homelessness in Castlegar. Once open, this will replace the temporary winter shelter at 1660 Columbia Avenue.

This site will require renovations. We will work with the City to secure the necessary approvals for the site's new use as a year-round shelter. We currently expect this shelter to open in 2025. We will share more details about this project as they are available.

The shelter at 1660 Columbia Avenue will re-open in late Fall 2024 to support guests through the 2024/2025 winter season.

About the shelter

This shelter will be open 24/7, year-round. Services will include 24/7 staff onsite, semi-private beds, meals, laundry and shower facilities. There will also be safety and security features for the benefit of shelter guests as well as the surrounding community. This includes controlled access, site fencing, outdoor lighting and security cameras. BC Housing will select a shelter operator in late Summer 2024 through a public Request for Proposals.

People staying in shelters can include seniors, people with disabilities, people who have experienced trauma or poverty, people with health concerns including mental health or substance use challenges, and people who are struggling with the high cost of housing. Shelter guests can access case management, resources and services that address their individual needs and support them on their housing journey.

Community engagement

A caring community can contribute greatly to the success of people transitioning out of homelessness. We commit to keeping lines of communication open throughout this project. We will reach out again to introduce the shelter operator when selected and share a direct phone number for the shelter when it is available.

Stay informed about this project by visiting letstalkhousingbc.ca/castlegar-2245-6th-avenue . You can also email communityrelations@bchousing.org at any time with questions.

Kind regards,
BC Housing