



YOU HOLD THE KEY

FIX THE CO-OP HOUSING CRUNCH

April 13, 2015

Dear Friend,

Alberta is facing an affordable housing crisis. As we head into the 2015 Provincial Election, please join us at a forum for the You Hold the Key: Fix the Co-op Housing Crunch Campaign. It is a chance to learn more about the campaign, share your ideas, and show your support.

Date: Sunday, April 19, 2015
Time: 2:00 – 3:00 PM
Location: Edmonton City Hall.

The forum is about what can be done in Alberta to address the crisis that may lead to over 500 families being forced out of their homes. Currently, 537 households in Alberta depend on rent subsidies from federal co-op housing operating agreements that help low-income people living in housing co-operatives. Within the next five years, the majority of these rent subsidies will end and families will not be able to afford to pay the ever increasing full market rent in their co-op. In 2014, the average rental costs in Edmonton increased by 9% (CMHC, 2014).

Secure, permanent housing provides stability for our most vulnerable neighbours; low-income seniors, single-parent working families, persons with disabilities, and newcomers. Stable housing also saves all taxpayers money in reduced social service and healthcare costs.

When the existing federal subsidies expire, that money could be reinvested into new long-term rent subsidy programs delivered by the province. We are asking the provincial and federal governments to work together to find a cost-shared solution immediately so that vulnerable families do not face eviction from their homes.

But we can't do it alone. We need your help. It is time to let the provincial government know that supporting affordable housing for low-income families should be a top priority. Come to the call to action event to learn how you can make the difference. You hold the key!

For more information or to let us know that you plan to attend, contact Wendy Tario at 780.482.6128 or via email at info@nacha.ca. We look forward to your participation.

Thank you,

Ayanna Inniss
Acting Executive Director, NACHA