

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Maple Ridge Announces BC Housing Citizen Engagement

Maple Ridge, BC: BC Housing is launching a series of virtual dialogue sessions for Maple Ridge residents to discuss the local housing continuum and identify their priorities.

The online sessions will provide information about the full scope of BC Housing's funding opportunities, with a focus on affordable housing.

The City's just-released Housing Needs Report highlights the urgent need for affordable housing for seniors and families in Maple Ridge. These groups represent 45 per cent of local population, with many living on a low or fixed income.

Between 2015 and 2020, the number of applicants living in Maple Ridge placed on BC Housing's waitlist for non-market housing increased by 49 per cent. As of 2020, seniors represent the largest category on this waitlist with 39 per cent of total applications, followed by families at 30 per cent.

"We need more affordable housing, especially for seniors and families," said MLAs Lisa Beare and Bob D'Eith. "The city's recently completed housing needs assessment is a reason why BC Housing is holding these engagement sessions. We look forward to what proposals come out of these sessions that will help address the housing needs of Maple Ridge residents."

"Council continues to build a complete local housing continuum, as part of our Community Social Safety Initiative," said Mayor Mike Morden. "We look forward to providing residents an opportunity to engage and learn more about the future of affordable housing in our community."

Sessions will be held by BC Housing via Zoom and are limited to 25 participants each. They are scheduled for the following dates:

- February 16, from 5:30 to 7:00 pm
- February 18, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm
- February 25, from 1:30 to 3:00 pm

For more information or to register, visit: <https://letstalkhousingbc.ca/maple-ridge>