



# HOUSING MATTERS BC

## Housing Investments in Victoria

In 2015/16, the B.C. government provided approximately \$32 million to support affordable housing for more than 5,100 low-income individuals, seniors and families in Victoria.

### Support for Seniors and People with Disabilities

The B.C. government provides support to more than 2,280 seniors' households in Victoria through a range of housing options, including:

- More than 880 households receive [Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters \(SAFER\)](#) benefits. The program was expanded in 2006 and enhanced in 2014 to better meet the needs of low-income seniors. With the new enhanced benefit the average monthly payment is approximately \$175.
- Close to 480 seniors live in supportive and assisted living units in Victoria.
- There are more than 920 affordable homes for independent seniors in Victoria.
- The [Home Adaptations for Independence](#) program offers financial assistance for home adaptations to help eligible low-income seniors and people with disabilities improve accessibility and safety in their home.

More than 380 new units of housing for seniors and people with special needs have been built in Victoria since 2001.

### Families

The B.C. Government provides support to nearly 1,500 low-income families in Victoria through a range of housing options, including:

- More than 220 low-income working families receive rent assistance to keep the cost of private market rental housing affordable through the [Rental Assistance Program](#).
- Over 1,220 low-income families live in subsidized housing.
- Nearly 70 provincially funded spaces available for women and [women with children at risk of violence](#).

### New Affordable Housing Highlights Since 2006

- **Former Central Care Home** (2016) – Supportive housing for people who are homeless or at risk.
- **Mount Edwards Court Care Home** (2016) – Supportive housing for people who are homeless or at risk.
- **550 Goldstream Ave.** (Langford, 2016) – Affordable rental housing for Aboriginal families.
- **Dahli Place** (2014) – Affordable rental housing for people with low-to-moderate incomes.
- **Loreen Place** (2012) – Affordable apartments for small families with low to modest incomes.
- **Pembroke Mews** (2012) – Affordable rental development for low to moderate income adults.
- **Queens Manor** (2012) – Affordable and supportive apartments for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
- **Olympic Vista** (2011) – Supportive apartments for people who are homeless.
- **Swift House** (2012) – Supportive housing for individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
- **Camas Gardens** (2011) – Supportive housing for people who are homeless.
- **Rock Bay Landing** (2010) – Shelter spaces, transitional housing units and emergency family shelter units.
- **The Wing** (2010) – Affordable rental housing for low to moderate income earners.
- **Our Place** (2008) – Supportive housing for individuals who are homeless or at risk.
- **Parry Place** (2008) – Assisted living units for seniors and persons with disabilities.
- **Marrion Village** (Oak Bay, 2007) – Subsidized assisted living units, along with market housing units, for seniors.
- **The Cornerstone** (2007) – Affordable housing with support services for families with children and youth at risk.
- **Cridge Village Seniors Centre** (2007) – Assisted living apartments for seniors.

Over 350 units for families have been created in Victoria since 2001 with close to 190 units for families currently under construction or in development.

## New Affordable Housing

- Since 2001, **close 1,180** units of affordable housing have been developed or preserved in Victoria.
- **As of 31 March, 2016 close to 190** units are in development or under construction.

## Homeless Supports Overview

Last year, over **\$13 million was provided to support nearly 990 housing units** for the homeless or those at risk of homelessness in Victoria, including:

- Nearly 150 year-round homeless shelter spaces were provided through the [Emergency Shelter Program](#); more than 400 subsidized or supportive units for homeless or at-risk individuals; and more than 430 homeless rent supplements.
- Additional shelter spaces are available during [extreme weather](#).
- [Homeless outreach](#) and shelter workers across Victoria connected people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to housing, income assistance and a range of support services.

The B.C. government partnered with the City of Victoria to build new supportive units for those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, including three new and upgraded developments, all of which are now open:

- Rock Bay Landing (23 supportive housing units and 86 emergency shelter beds)
- Camas Gardens (44 units)
- Swift House (23 units)

## Aboriginal Housing

There are **over 135** units of designated Aboriginal housing in the City of Victoria.