

Regional Housing and Homelessness Plan

York Region Accessibility
Advisory Committee

Sylvia Patterson
April 25, 2012

Today's Objectives

- ❑ Overview of the Housing & Homelessness Plan requirements and process
- ❑ Overview of Regional programs and initiatives
- ❑ Seek your advice as to how to enhance the Region's housing need information

Housing & Homelessness Plan

The 10 year Plan must address the entire housing spectrum and related services:

- ❑ Ownership housing
- ❑ Rental housing
- ❑ Supportive Housing
- ❑ Emergency Housing
- ❑ Homelessness prevention

Housing & Homelessness Plan

Components of the Housing and Homelessness Plans:

1. An assessment of current and future local housing needs
2. Objectives and targets to address identified housing needs
3. A description of actions proposed
4. A description of progress measures that will be publicly reported

Programs and Initiatives

414 wheelchair accessible units in our Social Housing portfolio

- ❑ 95 applicants on the Region's accessible unit waiting as list of December 2011
- ❑ 37% of the applicants are Seniors
- ❑ 13 applicants were housed in 2011

Programs and Initiatives

A Catalogue of Accessible Units is available
on the Region's website

[York Region's Accessible Units Catalogue](#)

Programs and Initiatives

Partnerships

- ❑ Some RGI units are reserved for clients of support agencies such as:
 - ❑ March of Dimes
 - ❑ Participation House
 - ❑ Canadian Mental Health Association
 - ❑ Canadian Hearing Society
 - ❑ Alternative Community Living

Programs and Initiatives

York Region Official Plan

- ❑ encourages development of new affordable and accessible housing
- ❑ supports accessibility policies for new communities, interconnected and accessible mobility systems, safe roadways, transit and pedestrian networks



Housing York Approach

**Universal Design criteria is considered
when the Region develops
affordable housing**

- ❑ New buildings have universal access to support tenants and visitors with disabilities
- ❑ “Visitable” design to all new units
- ❑ Different design features to accommodate different disabilities

Housing York Approach

In new senior's buildings, 10% of the units are fully accessible

- ❑ Roll-in bathroom showers with adjustable hand-held shower wands
- ❑ Grab bars
- ❑ Enhanced adaptive kitchen
 - ❑ stoves with front mounted controls
 - ❑ power outlets mounted on the face of lower cabinets
 - ❑ cabinets that have slide-out working surfaces

Housing York Approach

Accessibility upgrades in existing Housing York buildings

- ❑ Installation of raised toilets and grab bars
- ❑ Lighting upgrades to common areas
- ❑ Widened paths to better accommodate walking devices
- ❑ Ramp installations

Regional Support to Community Housing Providers

Social Housing Innovation Fund

- ❑ Enables Housing Providers to:
 - ❑ Install safe, accessible playgrounds
 - ❑ Retrofit their buildings to increase accessibility
 - ❑ Implement energy saving initiatives that benefit all tenants

Seek AAC's Feedback

As part of the Housing and Homelessness Plan process, the Region will consider the housing needs of people with disabilities.

How can we best enhance the understanding of the housing needs of York Region residents with disabilities?

