

## RENT SUPPLEMENT/HOUSING ALLOWANCE STREAMS

There are currently a variety of Rent Supplement / Housing Allowance Streams:

- o Commercial and OCHAP are legislated, municipally funded and do not have an expiry date
- o When looking at the other *not legislated* rent subsidy programs that are primarily provincially funded, programs expire beginning in 2022 with the largest impact happening in 2024.
- Housing Services has some experience mitigating expiring subsidy programs, however this will be on a larger scale.
- Housing Services has been emphasizing that households currently in receipt of a rent subsidy should make an application to the CHR-WEC prior to the program expiry. This is NOT a requirement of receiving a subsidy. The CHR-WEC provides "green light" verifying the household meets the eligibility criteria to receive a subsidy.

Housing Services has begun to explore establishing potential contingency plans / mitigation strategy which may include but are not limited to:

- o Canada Housing Benefits, as part of the National Housing Strategy (2020) - specific details are unknown at this time. It is likely the subsidy will not be as deep as what households are currently receiving. (\$2,500 / household per year (approximately \$200 / month).
- o Community Housing Renewal Strategy (OPHI similar to IAH/COCHI for EOA) Phase 2 (2022-2025) - specific allocation details are unknown at this time, however program is *intended to be a short-term subsidy* and is provided as an in-year allocation, no carry over, which may not be predictable or sustainable beyond the year granted. Again, it is likely a subsidy from these streams of funding would not be as deep as what households are currently receiving.
- o PHB-SPP - an eligible benefit to Survivors of Domestic Violence and/or Human Trafficking - benefit administered by the Ministry of Finance.

### ***Eligible households must:***

- o Be currently designated SPP on the CHR waitlist,  
Have the latest Notice of Assessment completed with CRA,  
Complete separate application and upon approval are removed from the CHR waitlist
- o Participation is on a first come first serve basis and is tied to the household and not a physical housing unit.
- o Recipients will receive a monthly benefit based on a calculation using a unit size no smaller than a one bedroom and no larger than three bedrooms. Program maximum rents are program specific and unique for each service area
- o Recipients will receive a monthly benefit based on a calculation using a unit size no smaller than a one bedroom and no larger than three bedrooms.
- o The calculation is based on the individual's AFNI (adjusted family net income; line 236 on their notice of assessment) & 80% of the program maximum rent for the eligible household

The minimum monthly benefit payable is \$10.

Expiry date unknown at present

- o Create local Priority subcategory on the CHR
  - Risks include - wait times and lack of turnover in RGI housing
  - Housing Services to continue to monitor the number of units and current and projected allocations. Housing Services will likely need to make decisions on when to cease re-filling or offering new rent subsidies on attrition.

Housing Services will work with the administrators of the various programs and the CHR-WEC to create a communication plan to inform households who will be potentially affected approximately 18-24 months in advance of program expiry