

## **Kamloops Homelessness Action Plan**

<b>Responses</b>
<p><b>1. Economic Recovery and Growth</b></p> <p><i>Given the current climate of federal and global fiscal restraint, what specific federal measures do you feel are needed for a sustained economic recovery and enhanced economic growth in Canada?</i></p>
<p>We support the creation of a Federal Limited Tax Incentive System to enhance the creation of affordable rental housing in Canada. We have learned from Marion Steele, University of Guelph, that there is such a system in the United States (LIHTC) that could potentially be reworked to an appropriate system for Canada. We have discovered that lack of affordable, and moderately affordable, rental housing is one of the causes of homelessness. If we can keep people housed in appropriate, sustainable housing they will never enter into the cycle of homelessness. Subsidized housing and other services such as shelters, health care, and corrections are far more expensive than a system that will make it possible for the private sector to meet the need for rental housing.</p>
<p><b>2. Job Creation</b></p> <p><i>As Canadian companies face pressures resulting from such factors as uncertainty about the U.S. economic recovery, a sovereign debt crisis in Europe, and competition from a number of developed and developing countries, what specific federal actions do you believe should be taken to promote job creation in Canada, including that which occurs as a result of enhanced internal and international trade?</i></p>
<p>A Federal Limited Tax Incentive System would create incentives for the private sector to create rental housing across Canada. This would create jobs at all levels from planning and development to site prep and construction.</p>
<p><b>3. Demographic Change</b></p> <p><i>What specific federal measures do you think should be implemented to help the country address the consequences of, and challenges associated with, the aging of the Canadian population and of skills shortages?</i></p>
<p>A Federal Limited Tax Incentive System would create incentives for private developers to build rental housing that could be available to aging populations. The creation of new housing would also mean that current accessibility standards would be followed, creating more available stock of housing that could be appropriate for aging individuals.</p>
<p><b>4. Productivity</b></p> <p><i>With labour market challenges arising in part as a result of the aging of Canada's population and an ongoing focus on the actions needed for competitiveness, what specific federal initiatives are needed in order to increase productivity in Canada?</i></p>
<p>Many of the working poor will live in Rental Housing for the majority of their lives. In order to ensure a productive work force, we must ensure that there is ample appropriate, sustainable housing for all individuals. A Federal Limited Tax Incentive for the creation of Affordable Rental Housing would begin to answer a major gap in affordable housing that is often utilized by important parts of the labour force including the service sector and those who work in construction.</p>

## **5. Other Challenges**

*With some Canadian individuals, businesses and communities facing particular challenges at this time, in your view, who is facing the most challenges, what are the challenges that are being faced and what specific federal actions are needed to address these challenges?*

Housing is the greatest expenditure in any household next to Day Care. If we can answer housing needs for those who will not be able to afford a down payment to purchase housing we will be answering the greatest need for a significant portion of the Canadian population. A Federal Limited Tax incentive for the creation of Rental Housing answers the most important need for many Canadians.