

## **For Immediate Release**

**January 27, 2025**

### **Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation Announces Housing Accelerator Fund Agreement with Loyalist Township**

Loyalist Township, ON – On January 27<sup>th</sup>, the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) announced that it had reached an agreement with Loyalist Township to accelerate the construction of 165 housing units over the next three years. Through this agreement, CMHC will provide \$3.58 million in funding to eliminate barriers to faster housing development, supporting the township's efforts to address local housing needs.

The HAF program, launched to reduce restrictive zoning, expedite permitting processes, and increase density – especially near transit hubs and post-secondary institutions – is part of the government's commitment to addressing the province's housing challenges. Through this funding, Loyalist Township will be able to streamline construction and contribute to the creation of more affordable housing.

"Our government is committed to removing barriers and cutting red tape to enable housing development, and these partnerships with Ontario communities will do just that," stated The Honourable Nathaniel Erskine-Smith, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities.

Loyalist's application to the HAF outlined an Action Plan which incorporated eight local initiatives that will help increase different housing types and density. These include:

- the donation of Township-owned land to Lennox and Addington County to be used for an affordable housing project aimed at increasing the availability of housing for low and moderate-income residents
- a new Affordable Housing and Purpose-Built Rental Community Improvement Plan, designed to reduce financial barriers and foster the development of affordable and purpose-built rental housing units
- undertaking processes to implement as-of-right zoning permissions to allow for additional residential units and different housing forms including four (4) residential units as-of-right within the urban service areas through Township initiated Zoning By-law Amendments and Official Plan Amendments

Loyalist Township was one of 23 local governments in Ontario to receive funding under the second round of the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF). This round of funding will provide close to \$138 million to support the acceleration of over 4,200 new homes across the province.

"We are grateful to have been selected to receive federal funding through the Government of Canada's Housing Accelerator Fund," said Jim Hegadorn, Mayor of Loyalist Township. "This funding, along with partnerships with the County of Lennox and Addington, the development community, and our residents, will allow us to take meaningful steps toward increasing the supply of safe and affordable housing in Loyalist Township."

The Housing Accelerator Fund is part of Canada's National Housing Strategy and Canada's Housing Plan, the most ambitious federal housing plan in over 40 years.