PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST: A HOUSING STRATEGY FOR PEI

LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS							
Recommendations	What will this do?	Context	Timeline	Estimated costs In 12 months			
Regulate Short Term Rentals	Clarify definition of tourist accommodation Implement restrictions to owner-occupied properties Require web-based service providers to register and provide data to province	Charlottetown has indicated it is working on SRT regulations, subject to further consultation Victoria-by-the-Sea has already regulated SRTs	Legislative Sitting Fall 2019	none			
Amend or Replace the Rental of Residential Property Act	New or updated tenancy legislation on PEI must include: stronger enforcement mechanisms and stricter penalties limit to exemptions Defining wear-and-tear Clarity around subletting	Previous recommendations from 2006 were not implemented IRAC review is underway but not public	Legislative Sitting Spring 2020	none			
Enforce Inclusionary Zoning	Any projects receiving any form of government assistance / funding must meet minimum requirements for: • Affordable units (%) • Accessible units (%) • Mix / Family units (%)		immediately	none			

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BUILD AND INVEST							
Recommendation	What will this do?	Context	Timeline	Estimated Costs In next 12 months			
Fund homeless and emergency shelters across the province	Provide necessary operational funding for Blooming House Expand FVPS services (emergency and transitional shelter support)	Blooming House has received short term funding but needs consistent reliable funding to offer essential services, equivalent to that provided to Bedford MacDonald House (men's shelter)	Immediately	\$250k (annual recurring) \$250k (annual recurring)			
Fund feasibility studies and planning for new development on public land	Prioritize new development concepts that adds capacity for truly affordable housing options across the province, with initial investment in feasibility and planning for community organizations, municipalities and developers Fast track land and permit approvals	Cross reference with proposed case management working group in Housing Hub	Feasibility and planning winter 2019/20	\$1.5m for feasibility and planning			
Provide seed funding for affordable housing developments	Include various approaches such as adaptive reuse of commercial property and land, co-operative housing options, and mixed-use housing developments Include land transfer costs, property tax waivers, transportation and infrastructure development, and financial investment, as well as navigation to address systemic barriers	Transportation and infrastructure development within normal operating budget	Occupancy for first phases in fall 2020 / spring 2021	Up to \$4.5 for minimum of five major projects providing 500+ new units, subject to funds from CMHC via the National Housing Strategy			
Provide renovation rebates and incentives to landlords	Assist property owners to bring older properties to code, to reduce the occurrence of tenants being evicted for safety reasons, and to incentivize existing landlords to maintain existing long-term rental properties	There are programs via Efficiency PEI for limited investment for energy-efficient upgrades	January 2020	\$2m for cost sharing investments into property upgrades			
	TOTAL \$8,500,000						

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SUPPORT AND SERVICES						
Recommendations	What will this do?	Context	Timeline	Estimated Costs In next 12 months		
Establish and support independent tenant and landlord associations	Provide annual operating funding for two non-governmental organizations, using provincially owned premises or via existing organizational structures Enables non-partisan coordination of advocacy efforts, data collection, and a focal point for coordination and delivery of government services	Housing PEI (www.fahpei.ca) are providing ad-hoc tenants' advocacy on a volunteer basis Tenant support worker (funded by provincial government on contract basis) currently located at Community Legal Information	January 2020	\$250k per year (shared administrative and operational resources)		
Enhance the Housing Hub	Dedicated case management team (including government departments and key community partners) Provide single point of contact for housing issues and information for the public that can actually provide solutions Housing Navigator with delegated authority and responsibility for implementing Housing Action Plan recommendations	Special Advisor for Housing (Clifford Lee) appointed August 2018 (approximately) with no clear public mandate for this role to date	Fall 2019	Case management within existing operational staffing Housing Navigator role \$100k		
Grow and support the labourforce	Double the enrollment in the trades program for PEI students, with full tuition subsidy for current and new students and contractual agreement for return of service	Approximately 30 students per year in trades program at Holland College, at cost of \$11k for two year program		\$300k to provide program subsidy to current and new PEI students		
Establish a rental registry	Central point for tenants, prospective tenants, and landlords, including availability, trends, and pricing	IRAC or Dept of Social Development & Housing do not currently track data relevant (ie renovictions), and data they do track is not publicly available	Spring 2020	Development / ongoing management / oversight staff \$250k		
				TOTAL \$900,000		

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