



Community and Health Services
Housing York Inc.

Memorandum

To: Members of the Housing York Inc. Board
From: Rick Farrell, General Manager
Date: June 7, 2018
Re: **Housing Operations – Monthly Activity Update**

This Housing Operations update highlights Housing York Inc. (Housing York) activities in April through to June 2018.

Site Updates

Housing York actively responds to recent extreme weather events

Throughout the year, Housing York provides residents with reminders on emergency preparedness through a variety of communication methods: at resident meetings, through resident newsletters and through information notices posted at each site. Frequent reminders help residents better prepare for significant weather events that could result in prolonged power outages.

In mid-April, an ice storm made its way through Southern Ontario. Freezing rain and winds resulted in widespread power outages and very icy road conditions. Housing York delivered information notices in advance of the storm encouraging residents to prepare for potential power outages. Residents were reminded to have enough medication in the event that roads were closed, to charge medical devices and have extra food and water available. Staff was on-call throughout the weekend to respond to any emergency situations. Staff responded to intermittent power disruptions and snow clearing related calls. Fortunately, no property damage was sustained from this storm.

On May 4, Housing York sustained some property damage as a result of a significant wind storm with gusts of up to 120 km/h. Several properties incurred minor damage to fences, shingles and siding, as well as downed tree branches. More significant damage occurred to the roof at Lakeside Residences in the Town of Georgina. The road in front of Lakeside was temporarily closed down as a safety precaution from loose roofing materials. There were no injuries resulting from the event. Roofing contractors arrived

on-site within an hour of the initial report of damage. Insurance adjusters have accessed the roof damage and repairs are estimated to be in excess of \$250,000. Repairs will take several weeks to complete.

Resident Engagement Updates

Provincial funds grant to run a Youth Basketball Program

In April, Housing York was awarded over \$6,000 in response to a Multicultural Community Capacity Grant proposal call. Funded by the Government of Ontario, the grant program's objective is to help build diverse and inclusive communities.

In response to the proposal call, Housing York proposed development of a Youth Basketball Program at Glenwood Mews in Georgina. The basketball program is designed for youth between the ages of 12 and 15. Participants learn basketball skill development, engage in full-length basketball games and will be invited to watch a Raptors 905 basketball game. The program aims to help youth develop sportsmanship, teamwork, cultural respect and fundamental skills that will increase positive community relationships.

The eight-week program will be available to Glenwood Mews' youth at no cost beginning in September 2018.

Welcoming 2018 summer students

For the past several years, Housing York has hired summer students. This summer, in addition to hiring university students, Housing York has offered positions to high school students who live in our family properties with the goal of supporting them in gaining work experience.

This year's summer students will work on resident engagement projects. A university student who first worked with Housing York while in high school has been hired as peer mentor and project lead for a number of high school students who also live in Housing York communities. To help with high school student recruitment, Housing York coordinated resume writing and interview skill workshops for youth at eight Housing York family properties. The workshops helped youth create or update their resume and provided guidelines for interviews.

Reinvesting in Housing York communities through the summer placement program will provide students living in our communities the opportunity for paid employment over the summer. They will gain valuable work experience in customer service, communications and marketing, and build teamwork skills while making a positive contribution to their community.

We are pleased to have Housing York summer students with us for Summer 2018 and look forward to their contributions in most Housing York communities.

360°Kids after-school program extended through the summer for second year

York Region funds a successful after-school program benefitting Housing York youth. The program, called “YOUTHrive,” is delivered by 360°Kids and has been promoting healthy and active lifestyles since 2015. YOUTHrive offers free activities such as homework support, animal therapy, cooking lessons, resume writing assistance and interview tips. After a successful pilot of the summer program in 2017, YOUTHrive will run again this summer at the two family Housing York locations in Newmarket, five days a week. The program will provide organized daily activities for students who may be home alone over the summer break.

Residents of Mapleglen Tour City of Vaughan

The Canada Green Building Council is a not-for-profit, national organization that advances green building and sustainable community development practices in Canada through its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building rating system. A number of Housing York properties are LEED certified.

As part of National Public Works Week, the City of Vaughan and Vaughan Public Libraries showcased their environmentally friendly, LEED certified buildings to residents of Mapleglen Residences. Residents toured the City Hall community garden and visited City Hall and the Civic Centre Resource Library, both of which are LEED certified buildings.

Waste education sessions for residents in the Town of Richmond Hill

In June, Town of Richmond Hill staff will visit Dunlop Pines to discuss the Town’s waste programs. The presentation will provide residents with tips to help reduce the amount of waste and increase diversion to landfills through increased and proper recycling and green bin use. Residents will be also receive information to properly dispose of fats, oils and grease. Proper disposal protects the buildings’ pipes from clogging.

Capital Updates

Parkland relief granted by the City of Vaughan

In May, Vaughan Council reviewed Housing York’s request to reimburse cash-in-lieu of Parkland Relief for the 162 unit redevelopment of Woodbridge Lane. Vaughan Council supported the request and will be reimbursing the Region \$1,184,000 of the \$1,377,000 parkland fees already paid.

Parkland Relief to be considered by the City of Markham

In June, Markham Council will be reviewing Housing York's relief request for cash-in-lieu of parkland payment of approximately \$4.4 million for the Unionville Seniors Affordable Housing Development. Given the City's previous support of affordable housing development, it is hopeful that there will be some relief from payment.

Fairy Lake Gardens exterior building enhancements – public engagement

Fairy Lake Gardens is a 13 storey seniors building located at 468 Eagle Street in the Town of Newmarket. Constructed in 1971, the building exterior has been declining including fading of exterior cladding, as well as rusting of balcony railings and panels.

Housing York will complete several enhancements to address the exterior condition of the building. Enhancements include balcony railing replacements, exterior windows and doors, cladding enhancements including colour change and landscaping.

A design consultant has been retained and is developing the building enhancement plan. The design is expected to be completed in the Fall of 2018 with a tender closing in early 2019. Construction is expected to start in Spring of 2019 with completion by the Fall of 2020.

A public engagement plan has been developed to create awareness of the project as well as to give the tenants an opportunity to provide input into the design. Key engagements include:

- June 11, 2018 / 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm - Presentation to Newmarket Committee of the Whole, Town of Newmarket
- June 13, 2018 / 10:00 am to 11:30 am - Tenant Information Centre, Fairy Lake Gardens
- June 19, 2018 / 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm - Public Information Centre, Newmarket Community Centre

Housing Services staff met with Town of Newmarket representatives to discuss the overall project to ensure the design intent is in line with plans for the downtown area.

Notice of the Public Information Centre meeting will be made through local newspapers, and direct mail drops to neighbours.

Rick Farrell
General Manager

RF/kh

#8432438