

Final Program and Summit Presentations

Canada's First National Summit

on

Affordable Homeownership

Hosted by

Habitat for Humanity Canada

“Building a Policy Agenda for Affordable Homeownership”

November 6 – 8, 2003

Ottawa, Ontario

Habitat for Humanity Canada

Habitat for Humanity Canada, with the support of CMHC under the Voluntary Sector Initiative, was pleased to host this invitational Summit dedicated to addressing affordable homeownership in Canada and strengthening the policy capacity of voluntary and community organizations associated with affordable homeownership.

The expected outcomes of the Summit were: to build an affordable homeownership policy agenda ♦ to strengthen the capacity of voluntary and community organizations to engage in policy dialogue ♦ to understand the relationship between affordable homeownership issues, policies and political readiness for change, and ♦ to examine and if feasible, develop an affordable homeownership network.



November 2003

Dear Delegates:

Welcome to Canada's first **National Summit on Affordable Homeownership**.

This Summit is being hosted by Habitat for Humanity Canada (HFHC), in partnership with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), to focus on affordable homeownership as one of the important options to be considered in the broader discussion on affordable housing.

Central to the preparations of this Summit were two interrelated ideas.

The first was the proposition that a multidisciplinary approach is needed to find innovative and sustainable ways to overcome common barriers to affordable housing. More specifically we felt that attention needed to be placed on the following issues to make homeownership both accessible and affordable:

- Land and land use planning
- House designs and construction methods
- House costing, pricing and financing
- Homeowner education, support and integration into the community

The second idea behind this conference is related to partnerships. We acknowledge that countless well-intentioned people from the non-profit, private and public sectors have been working for years to deliver affordable homeownership to families in need.

Unfortunately much of this work has been done in isolation. Instead, we propose that a more collaborative and interdependent approach be adopted, where the collective strengths of these sectors be pooled together for greater good.

By bringing academics, policy makers and practitioners under one roof – and by encouraging you to share your ideas and work on solutions together – we hope to set the foundation for an informed and inspired policy agenda for affordable homeownership. In the next couple of days you will also be asked to consider the feasibility of establishing an Affordable Homeownership Policy Network and to take the first steps toward making this network a reality.

On behalf of the volunteers, board members and staff of Habitat for Humanity throughout Canada, we look forward to working with you to help families in need of a home.

Sincerely,

David Hughes
President & CEO

Habitat for Humanity Canada is a nonprofit faith-based organization helping to provide simple, decent and affordable housing solutions to low-income families through volunteers and community partnerships. This national association delivers the Habitat program through its 59 affiliates from coast-to-coast, and is part of a worldwide movement that now extends to 89 countries and which has built over 150,000 homes since its inception in 1976.

Thursday, November 6

Pre-Summit Tour

Included:

- Habitat for Humanity, National Capital Region build site
- Habitat for Humanity ReStore
- CMHC – CHIC (Canadian Housing Information Centre)

Official Opening of Exhibit

- Habitat for Humanity Canada
 - Canadian Housing & Renewal Association
- Sponsored in part by the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association*

Exhibitors:

[Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation](#)
[Canadian Housing and Renewal Association](#)
[Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation](#)
[Habitat for Humanity Canada](#)
[Options for Homes](#)
[Social and Enterprise Development Innovations](#)
[Status of Women Canada](#)

Opening Keynote Address

*Honourable Steven Mahoney
Secretary of State Responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation*

Sponsored in part by The Home Depot Canada

Friday, November 7

Opening remarks

*Doug Stewart, Vice-President, Policy and Programs, CMHC
David Hughes, President and CEO, Habitat for Humanity Canada*

Keynote Presentation

[Avi Friedman](#) *Faculty of Architecture, McGill University*
Affordability, Accessibility and Innovation - a Multi-stakeholder Vision of Affordable Homeownership in Canada.

Panel Presentation (1)

[John Burrett](#), *Manager, Economic and Social Policy, Federation of Canadian Municipalities*
[Russell Mawby](#), *Housing Director, City of Ottawa*
José Di Bona, President, ANOBID Construction, Montreal
Affordability, Accessibility and Innovation in Land and Land Use Planning: What factors and drivers will make affordable, accessible land and land use planning a reality for affordable homeownership?

Panel Presentation (2)

[Scott Brown](#), VP Residential Mortgages, RBC Financial Group

[Steve Pomeroy](#), Focus Consultants, Ottawa

[Roger Greenberg](#), President and CEO, Minto Developments Inc.

Affordability, Accessibility and Innovation in Pricing, Costing and Financing Homeownership: From pricing to financing – what are our opportunities to make affordable homeownership a reality?

Panel Presentation (3)

[Maureen Crawford](#), VP Affiliate Services, Habitat for Humanity Canada

[Barbara Gosse](#), Director, Asset-Building Initiatives, Social and Enterprise Development Innovations

[Charles Catto](#), Founder, Frontiers Foundation (Operation Beaver)

Affordability, Accessibility and Innovation in Supporting Homeownership for Families and Communities: Why it takes more than money.

Policy Priorities and Plenary Discussion

What are the top land/development; design/production; and homeowners related policy agenda items delegates want to see implemented at all levels of government?

[Discussion Summary](#): Post-Summit Summary Report

Saturday, November 8

Presentation

[Peter Elson](#), Policy & Research Consultant, Habitat for Humanity Canada (link)

The results of the national survey pertaining to the need for an Affordable homeownership Policy Network will be presented as will the highlights of a feasibility report concerning the establishment of a network and related comparisons to existing affordable housing networks and the relationship of those networks to affordable homeownership and affordable housing.

Round-table and Plenary Discussion

Following this presentation, delegates were invited to discuss the implications of the proposed Network in the context of the following questions:

- What would be the purpose of the AHPN?
- What would be the lead activities of the proposed Network?
- What is the best structure for the Network?
- Steering Committee Nominations

[Discussion summary](#): Post-Summit Summary Report

Closing Remarks

David Hughes, President and CEO, Habitat for Humanity Canada