Using an Innovation Lens to Find Solutions to Seniors’ Housing Insecurity

Friesen Conference 2019
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**Areas of Focus under the NHS**

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<td>Innovation and Research</td>
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National Housing Strategy
Priority Areas

- Housing for those in Greatest Need
- Community Housing Sustainability
- Indigenous Housing
- Northern Housing
- Sustainable Housing & Communities
- Balanced Supply of Housing

Data / Research / Policy
Innovation and Research Program

Solutions Labs

Overview

Solutions Labs fund housing stakeholders to rapidly incubate and scale potential solutions to housing issues that would otherwise not be achieved through previous approaches.

Contribute to NHS objectives and priorities through increased awareness, capacity building and replication of solutions.

Foster a culture of innovation.
Innovation and Research Solutions Labs

Funding

Annual budget of $3 million

$25,000 – $250,000 per lab.

Highlight of Applications for the 2018-19 Fiscal Year

Top 3 NHS Priority Areas Targeted

- Community housing sustainability
- Housing for those in greatest needs
- Sustainable housing and communities

Seniors
People with disabilities
People experiencing homelessness

Majority of applications targeted multiple or all priority areas and multiple or all populations.
What might enable low-income senior renters to retain their housing, age in the right place successfully, and thrive?
Innovation and Research
College of Reviewers

• Help CMHC find the most impactful projects
• Learn about new innovative housing ideas
• Learn about new government programs
• Continuing education units for professional credentials*
• Be part of CMHC’s Expert Community on Housing (ECoH)

* Associations requirements may vary
Innovation and Research Expert Community on Housing (ECOH)

- Share housing knowledge and contribute to the development of housing solutions
- Engage with Canadian and international housing experts from across the housing spectrum:
  - Government
  - Academia
  - Associations
  - Private sector
  - Persons with lived experience

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An interesting piece by Dr. Hannah Robertson on Indigenous housing and building policies in remote Australia. In it, she shares recommendations for improving building policy decision-making. She concludes that policies which are regionally determined can better align with community needs and contribute to the local economy.


Building in ways that meet the needs of Australia’s remote regions
Centralised policies are not meeting the needs of remote Indigenous settlements. Increasing their decision-making input and the role of local industry can overcome the challenges of building remotely.

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