

The NDP platform commits to building 500,000 units of quality, affordable housing in the next ten years, with half of that done within five years. This will be achieved with the right mix of effective measures that work in partnership with provinces and municipalities, build capacity for social, community, and affordable housing providers, to provide rental support for co-ops. In order to kick-start the construction of co-ops, social and nonprofit housing and break the logjam that has prevented these groups from accessing housing funding, we will set up dedicated fast-start funds to streamline the application process and help communities get the expertise and assistance they need to get projects off the ground now, not years from now. We'll mobilize federal resources and lands for these projects, turning unused and under-used properties into vibrant new communities.

We will ensure strong representation from people with lived experience and experience with human rights on the National Housing Council, and work with the council and marginalized communities to ensure individual needs are met and barriers are reduced. We will engage with Housing First advocates and people with lived experience to ensure the needs of vulnerable people are reflected within supportive services. We would also increase reporting and transparency with disaggregated data collection and finally appoint the Federal Housing Advocate to strengthen accountability, a position that was first announced in 2017 but never filled.

People with lived experience have the greatest expertise in being able to identify the supports that are required to meet demands of our most vulnerable. An NDP government would ensure that they are consulted at every step of the way, from policy development to implementation, to ensure that relevant supportive housing services are accessible and respond appropriately to individual needs, including mental health and addiction supports.