



Ottawa Social Housing Network Strategic Plan

4 Pillars

Knowledge Exchange:



Convening sector stakeholders to share best practices and policies, support operational problem-solving, supporting educational initiatives

STRATEGIC GOAL:

- To explore ways to communicate with all housing providers, including boards and staff.
- To produce a shared calendar of events in the sector and explore possible collaboration for AGM.
- To continue education events, lunch and learns, and check-ins.
- To co-ordinate a think tank for sector development.
- To identify funding possibilities to develop educational opportunities.

Shared Services:



Fostering discussions amongst housing providers to support shared service initiatives and to create economies of scale within the system

STRATEGIC GOAL:

- To continue Shared Service project over the next two years.
- To explore potential for in-house shared services and collaborations.
- To engage in opportunities with the Ottawa Community Land Trust and development of housing.

Advocacy:



Participation in municipal election campaigns and budget cycles seeking funding for community housing, be it for supports, capital work, etc.; engaging in discussions with Housing Services toward policies and rules that will successfully advance community housing

STRATEGIC GOAL:

- To develop a campaign in recognition of the success of Community Housing.
- To take advantage of opportunities to collaborate with the City.
- To create a website.
- To consider ways that OSHN can support members and tenants.

Leadership Development:



Supporting mentorship and coaching for emerging leaders in the community housing space to enable succession planning and to create opportunities for emerging leaders

STRATEGIC GOAL:

- To invite new members to participate at OSHN.
- To support coordinated access and coordination of housing services.
- To work with organizations within the housing and homeless sector to address the current housing crisis.
- To investigate a paid employee for OSHN.



OSHN wanted to hear from all of our stakeholders and sent out a survey in September 2020. 30% of those surveyed responded. These are the results from the 42 organizations:

33%

have heard about OSHN but are not too involved

23%

of boards have never heard about OSHN

44%

of managers and staff are very involved and attend most events

75%

agree that The Ottawa Social Housing Network (OSHN) supports networking, knowledge exchange and relationship-building among Ottawa's Community Housing Providers

72%

OSHN received a grade of 72% on how effective they are in representing the perspectives and interests of community housing providers when advocating to the City of Ottawa (eg: Housing Services, Municipal Elections, etc)

50%

Half of those who answered are ready to engage in a shared services project.

15%

answered that OSHN does not represent them,

45%

answered that they feel somewhat represented

40%

think OSHN represents them very well.

“OSHN plays a critical role in providing opportunity for providers to share ideas, to network, and to have a common voice.”

“OSHN is extremely relevant – it informs the housing community, the community at large, the policy and funding decisions makers.”

“OSHN is doing all the right stuff. Keep your hand on the rudder.”

“Smaller organizations need to get organized to showcase the best of what Community Housing can be.”

“OSHN is such a unique group that is always welcoming and supports each other.”