

Healthy homes are fueled by clean air.



Benefits of adopting a smoke-free policy in non-profit housing include:

- ✓ Keeps non-profit housing in a state of good repair
- ✓ Offers a healthier indoor environment for both tenants and staff
- ✓ Reduces staff time spent dealing with second-hand smoke complaints
- ✓ Reduces the risk of fires
- ✓ Offers potential savings with insurance premiums

Access to clean, safe, and affordable housing

There are at least 165,000 Ontarians waiting for rent-g geared-to-income housing. Many wait about four years to get access to housing only to find that they are involuntarily exposed to second-hand smoke (SHS) on a regular basis. Since they cannot afford to move, many experience adverse health effects.

There is no safe level of exposure to SHS—it contains over 60 carcinogens and has both short and long term negative health consequences. It exacerbates conditions such as angina and asthma, and over the long-term substantially increases the risk for heart disease and several cancers. Non-profit housing should be a clean and *safe* environment.



LEARN MORE ONLINE AT

smokefreehousingon.ca

Keeping non-profit housing in a state of good repair

Keeping units and buildings in a state of good repair is a priority for non-profit housing providers. Developing a smoke-free policy will prevent damage and save considerable amounts of money.

For example, prior to Bruce County Housing Corporation passing its no-smoking policy in 2011, staff noted increasing ***costs associated with tenant smoking—on average \$300 to \$450 more per unit for cleaning, priming and painting.***

Leading the way

Some non-profit housing providers are leading the way. For example:

- Ottawa Community Housing
- Royal Canadian Legion Zone K1 Veterans Homes
- Cochrane District Social Services Administration Board