



THE AGENCY  
FOR CO-OPERATIVE  
HOUSING

L'AGENCE  
DES COOPÉRATIVES  
D'HABITATION

# Information Sheet: The Community Housing Transformation Centre

The vision of the Community Housing Transformation Centre is to support a resilient, growing, sustainable and inclusive community-housing sector.

The Centre is a pan-Canadian non-profit organization founded in 2018. Led by the housing sector, it is backed by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Co-operation (CMHC) through Canada's National Housing Strategy.

## The Centre's Mission

- To connect and partner with sector, service and community housing providers to facilitate sector-wide transformation
- To fund, support and build organizational capacity where gaps and needs exist.

## The Centre's Priorities

- Answering to gaps in services for First Nations communities
- Reducing community housing's environmental footprint
- Supporting innovative and sustainable business practices
- Increasing social inclusion and community engagement
- Facilitating the growth of the community housing sector

## The Centre's Main Activities

- Resource Centre
- Funding (CBTIF, STF)
- The Self-Assessment Tool
- Convening the Sector

## Who is eligible?

- Housing co-operatives
- Co-op housing federations
- Other (CBTIF only)

## Contact a Program Manager at the Centre

The Centre's program managers can help you define your idea and assist with your grant application. Call them at 1-833-360-3967.

For more information, please visit <https://centre.support/> or call 1-833-360-3967

Frequently Asked Questions:  
<https://centre.support/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/FAQ-ENG.pdf>

## Funding

The Centre offers grants to housing co-ops, federations and community organizations (CTBTIF only). There are two types of funding available:

1. Community Based Tenants Initiative Fund (CBTIF)
2. Sector Transformation Fund (STF)

### Community Based Tenants Initiative Fund (CBTIF)

This fund supports projects that will improve co-op members' engagement, as well as tenant participation. Available until 2024, the fund has a \$150,000 maximum limit with no deadline. For co-ops the purpose of the CBTIF is to

- increase the participation of members in housing decisions
- improve their skills as members and increase their access to information, and
- create opportunities, spaces and structures that encourage and enable members to be more involved

The objectives of the CBTIF are to

- increase / promote access to information
- build capacity around housing decisions and responsibilities, and
- increase participation in housing-related decisions and projects

### Sector Transformation Fund (STF)

The Sector Transformation Fund (STF) provides access to financial resources for transformative changes that will make housing organizations more resilient and develop innovative housing solutions. STF supports initiatives by housing co-operatives, federations and similar organizations.

The Sector Transformation Fund (STF) has two streams: **local and sectoral**.

Both are dedicated to helping co-ops and federations provide more and better housing or support services by increasing their capacity and efficiency. The objective is to reinforce the community housing sector's strength and help it grow by developing and spreading successful models and practices.

Stream	Objective
Local Project	<p><b>Focuses on projects of smaller scope: within a municipality, a neighbourhood, or one or two organizations working together</b></p> <p>Maximum funding of \$150,000</p> <p>No deadline</p>

Stream	Objective
Sectoral Impact	<p><b>Aims to support projects of wider scope: provincial or national, larger partnerships, and solutions to gaps in services</b></p> <p>No maximum</p> <p>No deadline</p>

Objectives of the STF include the following:

- **Leverage:** Leverage of existing funding
- **Lead:** Lead the sector to reduce its environmental footprint
- **Encourage:** Encourage housing initiatives for First Nations
- **Develop:** Develop tools and make them more accessible
- **Support:** Support sectoral consolidation and other partnerships
- **Reinforce:** Reinforce organizational capacity
- **Enhance:** Enhance sector resilience
- **Identify and Fill:** Identify and fill sectoral gaps in housing services
- **Engage:** Engage the community

## Evaluation Criteria

The Centre will prioritize projects based on the outcomes they expect to achieve:

Fund	Outcome
Community-Based Tenant Initiative Fund (CBTIF)	<p><b>Tenant Engagement:</b></p> <p>Clarity of the request, feasibility, clearly identified need, social inclusion, transformation, project scale and budget, partnerships.</p>
Sector Transformation Fund (STF)	<p><b>Transformation:</b></p> <p>Clarity of the request, feasibility, clearly identified need, partnerships, project scale and budget, organizational capacity, capacity to innovate, scope of impact.</p>



## How to Apply

The Centre accepts and reviews applications on an ongoing basis, with no deadlines for the funding initiatives. Eligible participants can apply to both the Community-Based Tenant Initiative Fund (CBTIF) and/or the Sector Transformation Fund (STF).

The Centre's Program Managers can help you define your idea and complete your grant application. To get started on your application, call 1-833-360-3967 or visit <https://centre.support/>.

## The Centre: Regional Energy Coach

The Centre is collaborating with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) on the Sustainable Affordable Housing Fund (<https://centre.support/fcm-green-fund>). The Centre is working with FCM to support a new initiative: The Regional Energy Coach (REC) pilot program (<https://centre.support/regional-energy-coach/>).

The REC program seeks to improve your ability, as an affordable-housing provider, to launch, build and operate projects that reduce your environmental footprint. The coaches will help you to increase your understanding of “sustainable housing” and to apply for funding and financing that can help you achieve your goals.

Regional Energy Coaches (RECs) can support your organization in three ways:

1. By providing coaching on energy-smart ideas and opportunities.
2. By guiding you in how to identify and evaluate the feasibility of energy-efficient retrofits.
3. By assisting you in applying for and accessing funding and financing opportunities, particularly the FCM's Sustainable Affordable Housing Fund.

For more information about the REC pilot program or the Sustainable Affordable Housing Fund, please contact program manager and REC, Amy Bolt, at [a.bolt@centresupport.com](mailto:a.bolt@centresupport.com)