

# Frequently Asked Questions

Expression of Interest – EOI HO02-21



**Q: What is an Expression of Interest (EOI)?**

A: An EOI is the process Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (SHC) uses to identify and develop a partnership with an organization looking for housing opportunities for their clients. The EOI process ensures that the most appropriate, viable and cost-effective partnership is chosen.

**Q: What does SHC consider when partnering with organizations?**

A: SHC partners with organizations to address community housing needs. SHC looks for partnership opportunities that:

- align with government priorities;
- address a service gap in the community;
- improve the use of SHC vacant housing stock;
- enhance service for clients; and/or
- increase revenue for SHC.

**Q: What should organizations consider when developing their EOI proposal?**

A: Organizations are encouraged to examine innovative funding options, including third-party partnerships, to support clients with programs or services and ensure the long-term financial viability of the proposed partnership.

**Q: How will the successful proposal be selected?**

A: SHC will review all proposals and select the organization that best meets all criteria in the EOI advertisement.

**Q: What responsibilities will the successful applicant/organization have?**

A: While SHC will retain ownership of the property, day-to-day management of the property will be the responsibility of the organization.

The organization will also be responsible for:

- selecting potential clients with incomes based on Saskatchewan Household Income Maximums (SHIM);
- setting rents based on the shelter benefit for Saskatchewan Income Supplement (SIS) and Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID), or low employment income rent geared to income (RGI) rates;
- providing support services that reflect the needs and culture of the clients; and

- creating an environment that ensures the safety and security of clients and staff.

Responsibilities will be outlined in the lease agreement between the partner organization and SHC.

**Q: What will SHC provide as part of the lease agreement?**

A: SHC will maintain ownership of the property and will be responsible for capital costs, modernization and major improvements, insurance and property taxes.

Before a lease can be signed, SHC will help with the development of a business plan to ensure funding for supports are in place before preparing the lease. Once this is in place, the organization will work with the Regina Housing Authority under the terms of the lease agreement.

**Q: How much is the annual lease and what is the length of the agreement?**

A: SHC requires the agreement to be revenue neutral for SHC. The organization should include the amount it is proposing to lease the property for in its EOI proposal. SHC will work with organizations on their proposal to determine if the partnership is feasible and aligns with SHC's principles.

The terms of the agreement will be negotiated based on the needs of the organization and its clients. The lease will provide SHC and the organization with the option of extending or cancelling under certain circumstances.

**Q: Are there any eligibility requirements for the clients that the partnership will serve?**

A: Clients must be homeless or at risk of homelessness.

The client's household income must not exceed the [Saskatchewan Housing Income Maximum \(SHIM\) – Low](#).

**Q: Is funding available from government to provide support services for this partnership?**

A: The Ministry of Social Services has no operating funding available for this partnership, but organizations are encouraged to work with other government agencies and ministries to develop their proposal. Clients living on the property are able to access any government programs they are eligible for, including income assistance and training programs.

**Q: Is there funding available to do upgrades on the property?**

A: The property is in rent-ready condition. SHC has no plans to do or fund upgrades on the property at the present time. SHC will not fund upgrades needed for programming or for clients' apartments. However, as the owner, SHC will continue to invest in modernization and improvements in the property based on its capital investment schedule.