



DIGBY & AREA HOUSING COALITION

PO Box 250, Digby N.S. BoV 1A0 www.digbyhousing.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 22 2025

Digby Affordable Housing Project stalled as local volunteer group waits for funding commitment from the Federal Government through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

Background:

The Digby & Area Housing Coalition Society (DAHCS) was established by a group of volunteers four years ago with the goal of creating affordable housing for Digby area residents, especially seniors. As with many communities in Nova Scotia, the Digby area is in desperate need of housing. Statistics show that a higher proportion of Digby County residents are low-income earners compared to the N.S. Provincial average and 34% of households in the Town of Digby are living in inadequate housing. This point is very obvious considering that in 2025, one housing project under construction in Digby will provide 14 new rental units for low-income seniors, a few of which will be affordable. There were over 200 applications for these units.

The Project:

In June 2022 the DAHCS purchased an older motel in downtown Digby situated in an ideal location for affordable housing, close to the hospital, schools, shopping, banking and on a bus route. After getting expert advice, DAHCS decided that demolishing the existing motel and building a new affordable housing complex would be the most prudent way to proceed. The DAHCS accessed funding from the Nova Scotia Government to hire a local architect and a national not-for-profit development company, to help us plan and design a predominantly accessible 3-storey, 34 unit, affordable housing complex.

Current Situation:

As of May 2025, the DAHCS project was shovel-ready, with a complete set of plans, Town of Digby permit approvals, NS Provincial Government funding approval and a general contractor. All that is missing to enable construction to begin is approval from

the CMHC for the Federal Government's share of the project's cost. CMHC: "Affordable Housing Fund" was depleted recently, before the DAHCS' project in Digby and other projects were approved. Therefore, this incredibly important housing project for Digby is in limbo. Please help us lobby the Federal Government to replenish the Affordable Housing Fund so that desperately needed housing projects such as the Digby & Area Housing Coalition Society's project in Digby can proceed.

Contact: Nancy Robinson
Chairperson, DAHCS
Phone: 902-467-3191
Email: nrobbyn@gmail.com