### Housing Provider Forum November 2011

**Presentation by: Lora Beckwith** 

General Manager

Niagara Regional Housing

- Update on NRH
  - Committee Review
  - Strategic Planning
- Program Update
- New Legislation

## NRH Update

#### **NRH Board**

## The 14 Directors on the NRH Board represent the following community partners:

- 5 Regional Councillors representing Council's interests
- 5 Housing Providers from Non-Profits and Cooperatives bringing a social housing perspective
- 3 Community representatives with backgrounds in legal, business and mental health services
- 1 Tenant representative bringing the customer perspective

### **Committee Structure**

#### **Board of Directors**

#### **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Executive** 

Governance

Investment

**Tender Award** 

Applicant/Tenant Appeals

#### **ADVISORY GROUPS**

**Tenant Advisory** 

**Provider Advisory** 

**Community Advisory** 

## **Current Strategic Plan Goals**

### Innovative affordable housing solutions

To seek out innovative solutions to address the growing need for affordable housing in Niagara

### **Environmentally responsive** sustainable communities

Continue to improve the safety, efficiency and environmental sensibility of new and existing buildings while maintaining affordability and cost-effectiveness

### Strong partnerships with stakeholders

To develop and foster partnerships that are instrumental in the development of affordable housing and providing its residents with supports

#### Adaptable service-delivery network

To put the appropriate supports in place that will assist NRH and the housing provider network in its work

## Program Update

## Substantial Increase in the Demand for Affordable Housing



5530 Households

> 10,132 People

### **Fewer Move-Ins**

2008 - 771 households placed

2009 - 727 households placed

2010 - 662 households placed

At the rate we are going we will never be able to house everyone on the wait list

### Relief to Applicants Waiting

Rent Supplement and Housing Allowance programs offer assistance to applicants by reducing their rent while they wait

Rent	Supp	lement

**Total units** 

907

#### **Housing Allowance**

**Total units** 

111

**Over 150 Landlords** 

# **Eviction Prevention and New Affordable Housing**

Rent Bank - Loan for up to two months arrears

# of households	73
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Homeownership Program – Loan for down payment

# of homeowners	181
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New Development – Creation of new units

# of units	530
Funding	\$38M

# Investing in Affordable Housing (IAH Program)

- \$13.1 M Federal/Provincial funding until March 31, 2015
- 5 Program Streams
  - Rent Supplement
  - Housing Allowance
  - New Development
  - Homeownership
  - Ontario Renovates

Plan to Province by Feb 29, 2012

## New Legislation

## Housing and Homelessness Plan

The Housing Services Act requires each service manager to have a plan to address housing and homelessness

Period of plan Must be for at least a 10 year period

Due Date Submitted to Ministry by January 1, 2014

**Consultation with the Public is Mandatory** 

## NRH/Housing Provider Relationship

Based on legislation with two key roles

#### **SUPPORT**

- Advice
- Information Sharing
- Forums/Training

#### **COMPLIANCE**

- Operational Reviews
- Legislated Remedies

## **Results from Today**

- Gain a better understanding of the new legislation
- Further define the relationship with NRH

## **Questions?**