



Committee Report

HS-25-07

To: Chair and Members of the Joint Social Services and Land Ambulance Committee
From: Dave Purdy, Director of Housing Services
Date: Wednesday, May 14, 2025
Subject: **301 Tucker St., Arthur, Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative Project**

Background:

New Hope Community Housing is a 25-unit non-profit housing provider located at 301 Tucker Street, Arthur that transferred ownership of that property to the Corporation of the County of Wellington on February 03, 2025.

While operating as a Housing Provider, New Hope Community Housing received funding from the County, as the Housing Service System Manager, through the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) programme. The COCHI programme is traditionally used by the Housing Services Division to invest in needed capital repairs for our community's non-profit and co-op housing provider stock.

Through the 2024-2025 allocation of the COCHI programme, New Hope Community Housing received a commitment of \$218,000 for an exterior siding replacement project. To ensure compliance with the funding requirements, staff will need to ensure that the project is completed in 2025.

As a result of the transfer of ownership, the County is now responsible for administering the COCHI project for the 301 Tucker St. facility.

Update:

In the Fall of 2024, New Hope Community Housing was approved for an Exterior Siding Replacement Capital Project and was successfully funded through the 2024 COCHI funding to be completed in 2025 with a total project budget of \$218,000.

As a result of the transfer of ownership, the County is now responsible for administering this COCHI project. Since the transfer of ownership occurred after the 2025 Budget was approved, this capital project was not reflected in the 2025 Capital Budget. Therefore, County staff need to create a new capital project.

As the new property owner, the County is now assuming this work to meet the COCHI Funding requirements. As this was an approved COCHI project approval, the County will need to ensure that the project is completed within the Ministry Guidelines.

Staff completed a review of the Exterior Siding Replacement plan and have begun researching specifications and preparing a tender to meet the needs of the site. The scope of the project will be adjusted as needed to stay within the COCHI approved budget.

Through this report, Housing Services is requesting to proceed with the project with COCHI funding inherited from New Hope Community Housing.

Financial Implications:

Approval to create a capital project for the Exterior Siding Replacement required at the Tucker Street property will not have any impact on the municipal tax levy or replacement reserve balances as it will be entirely funded through the previously approved COCHI funding approved allocation.

Strategic Action Plan:

This report relates to the following objectives and priorities in the County's Strategic Action Plan:

Tackling a Major Community Opportunity – Housing

Recommendation:

That the Joint Social Services and Land Ambulance Committee recommend to County Council to approve the report, 301 Tucker St., Arthur, Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative Project; and

Approve staff to create a capital project for the exterior siding replacement in the amount of \$218,000 funded from COCHI.

Respectfully submitted,



Dave Purdy
Director of Housing Services

In consultation with/approved by:
Shauna Calder, Manager of Finance
Luisa Artuso, Social Services Administrator
Scott Wilson, Chief Administrative Officer