PRESS RELEASE



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District of Ucluelet Receives Two Million Dollars in Funding from Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation's Federal Housing Accelerator Fund to Support Local Housing Initiatives

Ucluelet, B.C. – In 2023, the <u>Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation</u> announced the <u>Housing Accelerator Fund</u>, a new performance-based grant initiative to distribute \$4 billion in federal funding to local governments and First Nations across Canada.

The primary intent of this funding is to encourage local governments to implement initiatives that will speed up housing development and increase supply. At the June 8, 2023 Regular Council Meeting, Council endorsed a District of Ucluelet grant application to the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation's Housing Accelerator Fund. This application proposed a wide range of housing-related projects and initiatives that could help expand the supply and improve the quality, diversity, and affordability of housing in Ucluelet.

Today, Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, announced that Ucluelet will be awarded \$2,095,000 from the Federal Housing Accelerator Fund Initiative. Ucluelet's successful bid features five initiatives that include updating bylaws, guidelines, and policies; streamlining processes; realigning regulations to match housing needs; pre-zoning lands for more attainable housing types; developing incentives for the creation of housing; as well as creating resources to support development of secondary suites, accessory dwelling units, and infill housing.

"We are very excited to be one of a very small group of rural municipalities that were approved for this grant funding. The District has been working on many of these initiatives over the past ten months and will be continuing to improve our systems and policies leading into the future. We would like to thank Minister Fraser for supporting Ucluelet through the Housing Accelerator Fund, which will not only help advance key priorities of Council related to housing but help offset some of the costs of sanitary capital improvements which are a key element to advancing future housing and development initiatives." – said Ucluelet Mayor, Marilyn McEwen.

For more information on Ucluelet housing, please visit <u>Ucluelet.ca/Housing</u>

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