



City of  
**Peterborough**

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**TO:** Members of the Joint Services Steering Committee

**FROM:** Malcolm Hunt, Director of Planning and Development Services

**MEETING DATE:** September 9, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Report PLHDJSSC10-02  
Housing is Fundamental 2010 – Information Report

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## **PURPOSE**

A report to introduce "*Housing is Fundamental*" 2010, which is an annual publication of the Affordable Housing Action Committee (AHAC).

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That Joint Services Steering Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report PLHDJSSC10-02 dated September 9, 2010, of the Director of Planning and Development Services, as follows:

That the report "*Housing is Fundamental 2010*" of the Affordable Housing Action Committee (AHAC) be received for information.

## **BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget and financial implications arising from this recommendation.

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## BACKGROUND

*Housing is Fundamental* is published annually by the Affordable Housing Action Committee (AHAC) and is compiled by of the Community Education Sub-Committee of AHAC. This is the fifth year of its publication.

In 2010, *Housing Is Fundamental* focuses on the central role of affordable housing in community health.

*Housing is Fundamental 2010* will be available to the public through a targeted mailing, by request, accessible through the City website and the media, and distributed at city, county and community forums. Upcoming housing forums over the coming year include the annual Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association (ONPHA) conference, the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) conference and City meetings with community partners interested in promoting housing solutions.

*Housing is Fundamental 2010* will be shared with other municipalities, the province and the federal government.

As a tool for public education on the housing needs in the greater Peterborough area, this report is a comprehensive, single source document. Similar reports are now being replicated, using local statistics and information, by City of Kawartha Lakes, and Belleville, Ontario among others.

## HOUSING IS FUNDAMENTAL 2010 FOCUS AND FINDINGS

*“Housing is Fundamental 2010”* focuses on housing that is affordable for households with low incomes, with a special emphasis this year on the connections between Health and Housing. The document updates income and rental market trend information; shows how housing is an important community health issue; and makes recommendations for action by city, county and senior governments.

Some housing facts and figures in 2010 include:

- no decrease in the social housing waiting list (approximately 1,500 households waiting for rent-geared to income) in spite of Peterborough’s success in attracting new rental housing at average or 80% of average market rents under senior government program funding
- good housing policy and interventions can contribute to better quality neighbourhoods

- at current average market rents, 6,679 renter households cannot afford monthly rent for a 1-bedroom apartment (\$749); 7,590 cannot afford monthly rent for a 2-bedroom apartment (\$891) when affordability is defined as 30% of gross income.

## SUMMARY

The Community Education Sub-Committee of the Affordable Housing Action Committee will continue its work to provide factual information and to follow housing trends and indicators to help guide program and policy decisions of municipal councils, community agencies, and other levels of government.

Submitted by,

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Attachments:

Appendix A – Housing is Fundamental 2010