

Toronto municipal election & EQUITY IN HOUSING SUPPLY



**Balanced
Supply
of Housing**

Academic / Community Partnership



WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

HOUSING IS NOT A COMMODITY

When housing is treated as a stock market *investment* rather than a *place to call home* (i.e. financialization), it **drives prices up** and **people out**. Financial institutions and investors play a large role in the rise of unaffordable housing, rent increases and unfair evictions.

THE CONSEQUENCES ARE NOT EQUITABLE

The financialization of housing affects those from **marginalized** and **disadvantaged** groups the most. This includes women, those with disabilities, Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC), low income families, and many others.



WHO DOES IT EFFECT?

HOUSING IS A HUMAN RIGHT

We need to prioritize **affordable housing** for our most vulnerable populations. **Equity-centred policies** and **stricter regulations** can help ensure everyone has the right to housing.



WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

SOLUTIONS

Housing is a **human right**, and it's time we start treating it as one.

THE SHIFT

THE SHIFT outlines 7 key **priorities** for advancing the right to housing in Canada. These priorities outline the steps that municipalities like Toronto can take.

To address inequity, **Priority #5** calls to Advance Substantive Equality for Marginalized Groups and Prioritize those Most in Need

Vote

On **October 24th, 2022** vote for municipal leaders that **spotlight vulnerable groups** in their platforms around right to housing. At the municipal level, this could mean to remove incentives for financialized landlords—this will help protect affordable housing, and re-establish the right to housing.

CHECK OUT OUR RESEARCH:



LISTEN TO OUR PODCAST:



Toronto municipal election & **ZONING BY-LAWS**



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WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

WE'RE MORE THAN SINGLE FAMILIES

Around **70% of the land** in Toronto is zoned for single-detached or semi-detached homes. "Zoning" is what determines what kind of house can be built, and where. Basically, this means there are little to no **affordable rental options** within urban boundaries.

RE-ZONING HELPS EVERYONE

Making way for **multi-family homes, condos, and apartments** allows communities to be more diverse and inclusive. Adding density to urban areas results in **better use of infrastructure**, like transit and public services.



WHO DOES IT EFFECT?

HOUSING IS A HUMAN RIGHT

Many single-family zoning by-laws are in place to **preserve 'neighbourhood character.'** We need to move past such **discriminatory policies** that work to impede the availability and affordability of housing for individuals and families.



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To address re-zoning, **Priority #2** calls for Progressive Realization

Vote

On **October 24th, 2022** vote for municipal leaders who include policies that **secure the right to housing** in their platforms, like "as of right" zoning. At the municipal level we need to **increase density** in areas with schools, transit, and other public services. This can mean modernizing zoning by-laws to allow for the development of multi-unit residential housing.

CHECK OUT OUR RESEARCH:



LISTEN TO OUR PODCAST:



Toronto municipal election & **COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS**



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To promote housing for all, **Priority #5** calls to Advance Substantive Equality for Marginalized Groups and Prioritize those Most in Need.

Vote

On **October 24th, 2022** vote for municipal leaders who include policies that **support affordable housing** in their platforms. At the municipal level, this can mean creating a municipal policy framework that guarantees the success of community land trusts and other non-market housing options.

**CHECK OUT
OUR RESEARCH:**



**LISTEN TO
OUR PODCAST:**



WHAT IS THE SOLUTION?

WE NEED NON- MARKET HOUSING

We need homes that are **actually affordable**. Community Land Trusts are **non-profit** corporations that acquire and hold land for the **benefit of a community**. The land is held in trust, removing it from negative market forces and allowing the community to decide its best uses.

LET'S MAKE HOUSING MORE AFFORDABLE

Protecting affordability is especially important to ensure that cities are **equitable** and **inclusive**. Racialized Canadians, new immigrants, single-parent families, women, and gender-diverse folks are more likely to be impacted by housing unaffordability.



HOW DOES IT WORK?

HOUSING IS A HUMAN RIGHT

The City of Toronto's Multi-Unit Residential Acquisition (MURA) program has helped **secure affordable housing** across the city. Programs like MURA can be scaled up to **protect affordability** and prioritize those most at need.



WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?