

**The B.C. Government is investing close to \$520 million in partnerships with eight B.C. communities to create more than 2,200 new units of supportive housing for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.**

### New Supportive Housing Sites

**Abbotsford** (Approximately 70 units): The *Christine Lamb Residence* is open and offers 41 supportive housing units for single mothers and their children who are at risk of homelessness; the *George Schmidt Centre* is in development.

**Campbell River** (Approximately 50 units): *Palmer Place* is open and offers 24 supportive housing units for women with or without children who are at risk of homelessness; *Rose Harbour* is in development.

**Kelowna** (128 units): *New Gate Apartments* (49 units) and *Willowbridge* (40 units) are open; *Tutt Street Place* (39 units) is open and offers supportive housing for women with or without children who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

**Maple Ridge** (46 units): *Alouette Heights* (46 units) is open.

**Nanaimo** (Approximately 160 units): *Salish Lelum* is open and offers 18 supportive housing units for Aboriginal youth at risk of homelessness and Elders; *Wesley Street* (36 units) is open; three other buildings are in development.

**Surrey** (103 units): *Alder Gardens* (36 units) and *Quibble Creek* (67 units) are both open.

**Vancouver** (Approximately 1,500 units) Out of 14 partnership developments, half are now open. The rest are under construction or in development and will be completed over the next two years.

**Victoria** (176 units): *Camas Gardens* (44 units) and *Swift House* (23 units) are open; *Rock Bay Landing* (23 supportive housing units and 87 emergency shelter beds) is open and offers transitional housing units and emergency shelter.

Supportive housing helps break the cycle of homelessness because it addresses the root causes of homelessness by connecting residents with the supports they need to stabilize and rebuild their lives.

These supports can include mental health, addictions and medical services, income supports, as well as education, training and life skills programs. The level of support varies and can be delivered by on-site staff or through outreach.

The cost of providing supportive housing is less expensive and has better outcomes for the person compared to the cost of providing someone with an emergency shelter bed. As a 'housing-first' model, supportive housing is low-barrier. People are not turned away because they have challenges. People have a safe place to live, where they are understood, supported and connected to the services they need to stabilize and rebuild their lives.

When they are ready to leave, they have the ability to start a new life much different than the one they knew when they first arrived.

Visit 'Our Stories' to read about how Supportive Housing helps change lives: [www.bchousing.org/Media/Stories](http://www.bchousing.org/Media/Stories)

***While shelters play an important role, the focus for the B.C. government is to create housing that helps people move off the streets permanently***