

**Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council
Housing Matters Network**



*My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes,
in undisturbed places of rest.” (Isaiah 32:18)*

The United Church of Canada believes every person living in Canada deserves a safe and affordable place to live that meets their needs. Such housing is a fundamental human right. As people of faith, we are called to act justly and advocate for those who face housing challenges.

The mission of the EOORC Housing Matters Network is to be a forum for the exchange of information about (in)affordable housing issues around the region—spanning the inner city to rural locations – and sharing ideas and resources about how we as a church can be responsive to these issues.

What Housing Matters Does

1. Build a circle of connection among EOORC church leaders and members with an interest in affordable housing issues including collaborating with other EOORC networks where appropriate;
2. Hold quarterly online meetings to share experiences about the specific housing issues we are facing (e.g., teen homelessness, lack of affordable housing, isolation of seniors) and engage in theological reflection about how our Christian tradition calls us to care about housing matters;
3. Maintain a list of available resources about housing issues (links to research reports, names of community organizations involved with housing issues, housing activists, academics, ecumenical partners, etc.);
4. Host annual online webinars with an invited speaker to talk about a specific housing issue, initiative, research project or resource (e.g., someone from UPRC, CMHC, Housing Partnership Canada, MHI, Housing First, Alliance to End Homelessness, etc.);
5. Develop communication processes to disseminate housing related information to pastoral charges that could include contributing an occasional “housing matters” note to the EOORC newsletter; developing a new, specialized newsletter for network issues; leveraging the EOORC website as well as social media platforms such as Facebook...;
6. Take on occasional projects related to a specific housing issue;
7. Where feasible, act as a Christian advocacy group on behalf of affordable housing issues within the wider church and to relevant political bodies.

Future plans

How Housing Matters Works

The work of Housing Matters is carried out by a team of volunteers who share the work of maintaining a distribution list, organizing and facilitating meetings and events, and establishing small working groups to work on specific projects.

Contact

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