

Whitehorse Affordable Family Housing Project

Who will this project focus on?

In October 2007, the Government of Yukon proposed a housing initiative to meet the needs of the most vulnerable population experiencing housing insecurity in the Yukon. Following research of priority needs, trends relating to the demographics of the Yukon Housing waitlist and targeted consultations with service providers and social housing clients, it was determined that this project will focus on lone-parent families on the Yukon Housing Corporation waitlist.

Where will it be built?

The housing complex is being built on a parcel of Government of Yukon land located on Nisutlin Drive and Selkirk Street in Riverdale. During the consultations, being close to schools, grocery stores and other amenities was identified as very important for this project.

How is the project being planned?

Yukon Housing Corporation and the Women's Directorate are working closely in the planning of this project. An Advisory Committee has been established, and has been meeting since November 2008. The Advisory Committee is co-chaired by Yukon Housing Corporation and the Women's Directorate with member representatives from Riverdale Community Association, Yukon Status of Women Council, Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre, Grey Mountain Housing, Teen Parent Centre and tenants who are currently residing in social housing.

What will it look like?

The site will include four separate residential buildings, each with up to eight living units. A fence will surround community green space and there will be a roadway around the perimeter of the property. The design focuses on creating a space that is family friendly and promotes a sense of community.

Where are we at in the process?

Construction of the up to 32-unit affordable housing project has been underway since July of this year. The site clearing, levelling and underground services were completed in early fall. A local contractor, NGC Builders Ltd., has been awarded the building construction contract to complete construction of all 32 units.

NGC Builders completed the foundation and concrete main floors for the four separate buildings prior to freeze-up. NGC Builders are now concentrating on framing the first two buildings with the third and fourth to follow early in the new year. The sequenced construction of the buildings will allow the mechanical, electrical and finishing trades to work through the winter, moving from one building to the next until all four buildings are complete.

Completion is anticipated for the fall of 2010.