

Campbell River Temporary Bridge to Housing



What is bridge to housing?

While it will look like a temporary shelter offering beds, showers and meals, this bridge housing will provide many of the service supports typical of permanent supportive housing. This is an important first step to support people into housing, while providing them with an opportunity to leave the shelter system. This also creates additional capacity in local shelters. The building at 1221 Cedar Street will be renovated to provide 20 spaces with 24/7 support staff, meals and showers, to be operated by Vancouver Island Mental Health Society (VIMHS).

Housing options for Campbell River

Not everyone has a home. People experiencing homelessness face the reality every day that they don't have a safe space to call their own. Many people experiencing homelessness are living in situations where the COVID-19 virus could spread more quickly. They also have higher rates of health concerns and may be at greater risk if exposed to the virus.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, BC Housing has purchased the former Rose Bowl Restaurant to convert it to temporary housing. This bridge to housing will provide 20 short-term supported beds for people experiencing homelessness. Bridge to housing provides an immediate and important first step to getting people off the streets, while creating additional capacity in the shelter system for people living outside.

Emergency Shelter	Bridge to Housing
First come first served	
Designated beds are provided to shelter guests based on shelter policies	
24/7 on-site staff	
Some meals may be provided	

Resident selection process

Residents will be selected through a collaborative and thorough assessment process between BC Housing, VIMHS, and local service providers. The overall selection of residents for 1221 Cedar Street will be balanced to ensure success for the residents, staff and community. There will be staff on-site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to ensure residents are supported and that the property is well maintained.

Community safety

We are committed to building a safe community both inside and outside the housing with:

Experience: VIMHS has over 40 years of experience providing services and housing to people experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness across the region.

Staffing: Minimum of two experienced and skilled staff will be on-site 24/7 to support residents, manage the building, and be available to respond directly to any related concerns.

Resident Mix: Residents will be selected based on a resident mix that ensures the right level of support to all.

Property Maintenance: Regular cleanups of property and immediate area will ensure cleanliness.

Security Features: Security doors, monitored access to the building, 24 hour staffing.

Agreements: Residents will sign a program agreement, which includes expectations around appropriate and respectful behaviour.

How can I reach out with questions?

Email: communityrelations@bchousing.org



Who would live here?

Residents of the former Rose Bowl Restaurant will be Campbell River residents who are over the age of 19 and meet the eligibility requirements around income, homelessness, and required housing supports and programming. Potential residents are considered on an individual basis to ensure that the housing and support services provided match the support services that they need. All residents will sign a program agreement.

Support services

There are a variety of potential support services. Each resident may require different support to work towards living a healthy, stable life:

- 24/7 professional support staff
- Safe, secure place to sleep
- Light breakfast and 2 meals per day
- Social connection
- Referral to health care, mental health and addiction services
- Trauma-informed support and care
- Individualized case planning

Housing First

BC Housing follows the widely recognized and proven Housing First model. The goal is to provide stable shelter, and then work with people to promote recovery and well-being. A harm reduction approach means staff are available to support any residents who are in various phases of substance use. In order to help people who use substances, we need to first give them a safe and secure place to sleep, food to eat, and access to services so that they can move forward with their lives. It is also important to remember that not all people living here will be using substances. However, if we exclude people with substance use issues, they would remain on the street with deteriorating health.