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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**August 21, 2020**

## **County of Renfrew Housing Corporation Introduces a New Housing Benefit**

**Pembroke:** Renfrew County Housing Corporation (RCHC) is now offering the new Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB) to Renfrew County residents seeking housing assistance.

With long waitlists for social housing, the Ontario-Canada Housing Benefit (COHB) has been implemented. The COHB is a new housing allowance program, delivered by the province. The COHB program provides another option to households eligible for rent-geared-to-income assistance. A COHB benefit is payable monthly to eligible households to assist with rental costs. The benefit is tied to the household and not to a physical housing unit, this allows the benefit to move with the household anywhere in Ontario. As a result, eligible households will have more flexibility to choose where they live. The amount received is determined using a calculation based on applicant's income, their rent and Average market rents for the area.

Households may either choose to apply for a COHB benefit or wait for a rent-geared-to-income unit to become available. Households approved for a COHB benefit will no longer be included on the social housing waitlist.

The COHB benefit is available on a first-come, first-served basis, and funding is limited. For more information contact one of RCHC offices

"We are pleased to be able to now offer the new Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit to eligible County residents. We strongly believe that every resident should have access to safe and affordable housing and we will continue to work towards new ways to deliver these important services to our residents." Said James Brose, chair of the County of Renfrew Social Services Committee.

For more information, visit our website at [www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca](http://www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca) or call:

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