

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Region of Durham exists on lands that the Michi Saagig Anishinaabeg inhabited for thousands of years prior to European colonization. These lands are the traditional and treaty territories of the Nations covered under the Williams Treaties, including the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, Alderville First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, Curve Lake First Nation, and the Chippewa Nations of Georgina Island, Beausoleil and Rama.

We honour, recognize, and respect Indigenous Peoples as rights holders and stewards of the lands and waters on which we have the privilege to live. In our efforts towards reconciliation, we continue to build and strengthen relationships with First Nations, as well as the large Metis communities and growing Inuit communities here in Durham. We commit to learning from Indigenous values and knowledge, building opportunities for collaboration, and recognizing that we are all connected.

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SPRING 2025 NEWSLETTER



Durham Region is a community made up of diverse cultures, faiths, and traditions, and is especially vibrant during the summer season. From cultural festivals and community gatherings to joyous celebrations like Eid al-Fitr, Juneteenth, Canada Day, and more, the summer months are alive with the spirit of unity and diversity. It's a wonderful time to embrace the warmth of the season and the richness of our collective heritage.

WWW.DURHAM.CA

Mother's Day - May 11 - A heartfelt celebration dedicated to honoring and showing appreciation for the incredible mothers and maternal figures who play a vital role in our lives.

Father's Day - June 15 - An occasion dedicated to honoring and expressing appreciation for the love, guidance, and contributions of fathers and father figures in our lives.

Canada Day - July 1 - A national holiday commemorating the anniversary of the Confederation of Canada, celebrated with festivals, fireworks, and community events across the country.

OFFICE CLOSURES

Friday April 18 - Monday April 21 - Monday May 19 - Tuesday July 1



WWW.DURHAM-HOUSING.COM
DRNPHC@DURHAM-HOUSING.COM
905-436-6610

Tracy Greg - CEO - Update

We are very happy to say goodbye to winter and HELLO SPRING!

The DRNPHC team has been focusing on working with our tenants these past months on a one-on-one basis to provide support for any area of need. And, our Community Support Specialists have started community hubs at Mearns Meadows, Bowmanville Heights in Bowmanville, Marigold Court in Whitby and Orchard Valley in Pickering. The hubs are packed full of resources including computers with internet connection, printers, games, musical instruments and much more. Programming for kids, teens and adults is also in progress. Everyone is welcome. If you have participated in any of these – thank you! – you matter, and you are an important part of our community. If you have not been able to connect with us yet, you have an open invitation to do so. Anytime. A quick call or email to Katie Sansom and she will be able to get you connected or let you know the schedule. katie.sansom@durham-housing.com, or 905-436-6610 x 210.

It is true that our vacancies are at an all-time low, with little to no rental movement at most of our properties. Wait lists are also at an all-time high and so, DRNPHC continues to build new units to meet the need! Our Conant Place site in Oshawa has been undergoing an intensification of 54 new one-bedroom units. This building will be ready to be rented for July to seniors and people with disabilities.



DRNPHC has just broken ground on a new site in North Oshawa for 66 stacked and back-to-back townhouses for families. Initial occupancy is scheduled for December of 2026.



Thank you to those who participated in our 2025 Tenant Survey. We are tabulating the feedback and will let you know the results soon. Remember, although there may be strong headwinds in front of us at this time, be they personal, economic or anything else, DRNPHC cares about you and your tenancy with us. We are here to help as best we can, so please reach out to us at any time.

drnphc@durham-housing.com, 905-436-6610

Be safe! Talk to you soon.

Tracy Greig, CEO



COMMUNITY GARDENING



DRNPHC recognizes the pressing need for affordable food within our communities. Partnering with We Grow Food, we embarked on a mission to address this vital issue. We now have Community Gardens at 11 of our 19 properties which supply fresh produce and we hope to increase this number this coming Spring/Summer with help from community grants. These gardens not only provide nutritious food, they also increase socialization and learning opportunities.

These gardens require care in order to keep them healthy and flourishing and we are always looking for volunteers to plant, water and care for the gardens. If you are interested in assisting, please call our Tenant Engagement Specialist Ashley Featherstone (905) 436-6610 x 236. No experience necessary! Volunteers keep our community thriving!

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

5 tips for Taking Care of Your Mental Health

Practice Mindfulness

Take daily moments for mindfulness, like meditation, to find inner calm.

Stay Active

Do regular exercise, as it can boost your mood and reduce stress.

Get Enough Sleep

Prioritize quality sleep with a healthy bedtime routine.

Practice Gratitude

Cultivate a positive mindset by counting your blessings daily.

Seek Support When Needed

Reach out to family, friends or mental health professionals when necessary.

SPRING SAFETY UPDATES

SAFETY

As Spring is springing, we encourage the children of our community to utilize the playground and green spaces as opposed to the roadways. We encourage all drivers to be extra diligent in the warmer weather and take extra care when driving through our community as children are out in full swing and don't always look both ways before entering the street. Reminder with the warm weather is approaching, please ensure to secure your personal property by making sure windows and doors are locked.



VISITORS PARKING



Friendly reminder that visitors parking is strictly for visitors and is not to be used for tenant parking. We will be updating our records in the near future and will be collecting updated vehicle information.

PET REMINDERS

Please ensure that your dog is on leash at all times and that you are cleaning up after your pets in your yards and in the common areas. Please note that pet owners are required to keep their dogs securely leashed and under the control of a person as per the Responsible Pet Ownership By-Law in your city. Please be sure to keep your pets away from the playground as this is a space reserved for children.



SERVICE ANIMALS



Animals are great companions and sources of joy. Did you know that some animals are working? Many people have service animals that have a distinguishing vest to demonstrate that they are on duty. Please do not interact with a working animal by petting, calling, talking, giving treats, guiding, steering or holding this animal without permission from their owner. This allows these professionally trained animals to provide the best possible support to their persons.

KEEP OUR COMMUNITY CLEAN

With the warmer temperatures, the thawing of the snow has revealed a lot of garbage and litter throughout our community. Please ensure that you are cleaning up after yourselves and not using the community garbage cans for your household garbage. Any garbage left outside is like an invitation for pests and wildlife to infiltrate. Please ensure you are doing your part.



SPRING CLEANING

If you have any large items you would like to get rid of during your spring cleaning, please ensure that you are disposing of these items by arranging a large item pick up and not leaving them on the boulevards. To book a large item pick up, please reach out directly to your local garbage removal. Please note the cost for the large item pick up is \$25.00 for up to 12 items.

TENANT SURVEY

Thank you to everyone who participated in our tenant survey! Your feedback is invaluable, and we truly appreciate your time and input. A big congratulations to our four lucky winners of the Visa Gift Cards – enjoy your prizes! Stay tuned for more opportunities to get involved and share your thoughts with us.

TENANT SATISFACTION SURVEY

Durham Region Non-Profit Housing Corporation is conducting a 2025 tenant satisfaction survey. We want to hear from you!

Return your survey by **March 7th** and be eligible for early bird **\$150 VISA gift card draw!!!** ... or by March 19th for 1 of 3 \$50 VISA gift cards!!!

Survey can be completed one of three ways:

- 1) You will receive an email with the survey link.
- 2) Surveys will also be delivered to your door and can be returned at your superintendents office.
- 3) Scan the QR code

We look forward to your feedback!

CONTACT US

Trouble filling out the survey? We can help.

TENANT INSURANCE PROTECTS YOU

Everyone should have Tenant Insurance and it is part of your signed lease agreement. Although DRPNHC has insurance for its properties, this insurance does not cover damages to your belongings or personal costs if you need to leave your home due to a fire or flooding. If you accidentally cause damage to your home or someone else's property, you are responsible for paying to repair the damages. Maintaining insurance can help to offset these costs.



YOUR BELONGINGS



LIVING EXPENSES



LIABILITY CLAIMS

DRPNHC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR

Adrian Foster

VICE-CHAIR

Joanne Dies

SECRETARY & TREASURER

Elizabeth Roy

BOARD MEMBERS

John Henry

Kevin Ashe

Sheila Penny

Rose-Ann Lee

Sharlene Smith

Ted Smith

The Board of Directors plays a pivotal role in steering the strategic direction and governance of an organization. They set the mission, vision, and goals, ensuring alignment with stakeholder needs, including tenants in housing organizations. Oversight of executive leadership, financial management, and major decisions falls under their purview, alongside approving budgets for property maintenance, developing tenant-centric policies, and addressing community needs. Serving as a bridge between the organization and stakeholders, the Board engages in outreach, advocacy, and community engagement efforts, ensuring effective service delivery and mission fulfillment.

RENT GEARED TO INCOME - ANNUAL REVIEWS



Tenants please be sure to get your 2024 taxes completed. RGI tenants who have annual reviews from January to June are required to provide proof of 2023 Notice of Assessments. Tenants who have annual reviews between July and December are required to provide 2024 Notice of Assessments. There are many free clinics available during tax season at public libraries, John Howard Society and through the Region of Durham. Please watch for signage at your site when Annual Reviews are mailed out and contact the office if you do not receive one.

MAINTENANCE REQUESTS

Did you know that it is your responsibility to report a maintenance or pest problem right away? For emergency repairs call your superintendent, and for day to day repairs, please go online to www.durham-housing.com and submit a request for repair right from the home page. Just look for this symbol and fill out the required information, a confirmation will be emailed to you once complete. If you are unable to access a computer please call 905-436-6610 and your call will be directed accordingly.



TENANT RESOURCES

To find supports in your community including local foodbanks, healthcare, financial assistance, crisis support, addictions support, mental health support and much more, contact 211 Ontario by dialing or texting 2-1-1 or by visiting their website at www.211ontario.ca

Feeling overwhelmed and need help connecting to supports and services?

Contact Katie Sansom, Manager, Tenant and Housing Services:
905 436 6610 ext: 210

TENANT RESOURCES

With the warm weather and school summer holidays approaching, are you looking for low-cost or subsidized recreation for your family in your community? Programs are available based on financial need. Reach out in your community for more information:

Brock: 705-432-2355 extension 243 or email Alicia.Bagshaw@brock.ca

Clarington: 905-623-3379 extension 2552 or email subsidy@clarington.net

Oshawa: 905-436-3311

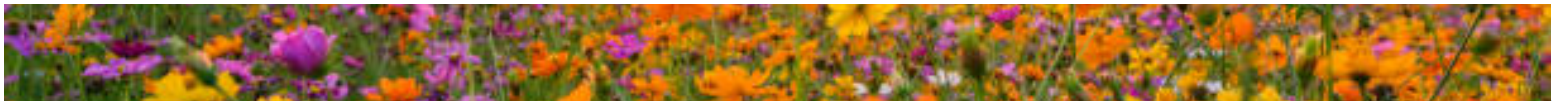
Pickering: 905-420-4620 extension 3601 or email smilton@pickering.ca

Scugog: 905-985-8698 or email recreation@scugog.ca

Uxbridge: 905-852-9181 extension 400 or email aferraro@town.uxbridge.on.ca

Whitby: 905-655-2893 or email subsidy@whitby.ca

On behalf of Durham Region Non-Profit Housing, we would like to extend our warmest wishes for a happy and bright spring season! We'd love to hear from you! Let us know what you'd like to see in our next newsletter – your feedback helps us keep the content relevant and engaging for everyone. Here's to a season filled with growth, connection, and happiness!



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