

and local administrators. In 1973 the Ontario Housing Corporation experimented with this idea in a building going up in Etobicoke—a Toronto suburb.⁽¹⁾ The Dundas Maybelle Housing Development will contain 510 units, 58 of which are buddy units. These buddy units are specifically designed for aged single people. The two single people have individual bed-sitting rooms but they share the kitchen and bathroom facilities. The building is scheduled for completion in December, 1974.⁽²⁾

Recommendation 42

That CMHC develop manuals for use by housing authorities and private sponsoring groups, giving precise information and advice regarding varieties of accommodation needed, housing designs including safety features, site selection, financing, and the procedures to be followed under the limited dividend, non-profit and public housing sections of the NHA.

ACTION TAKEN

CMHC acts in an advisory capacity. Adherence to CMHC specifications, while recommended, is not a requirement. Pamphlets and brochures covering every aspect of accommodation for the elderly are available from CMHC offices across Canada.

Housing the Elderly—1972⁽³⁾ examines the provision of housing in relation to the needs and preferences of the elderly, the aging process, the housing market, type of accommodation available and sponsors for housing for the aged. This brochure also deals with various safety features which contribute to the enjoyment of their homes by the elderly.

Housing the Handicapped will be published by CMHC in 1974. Although an advisory document dealing with desirable standards of housing for physically handicapped persons of all ages, it is also especially useful to those involved in the design and provision of housing for the elderly.⁽⁴⁾

Recommendation 43

That CMHC appoint to its staff one or more persons with specialized knowledge relating to housing for old people and that their advice and technical assistance be available to housing authorities and other sponsoring groups.

(1) Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Information Division. Letter dated November 2, 1973.

(2) Ontario Housing Corporation. Telephone conversion of April 17, 1974.

(3) Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, *Housing the Elderly*, Ottawa, 1972, 38 pages.

(4) Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Information Division. Letter dated November 2, 1973.

ACTION TAKEN

The advice and assistance of professional CMHC personnel is readily available to organizations and individuals interested in sponsoring housing for the elderly. Social Development officers, appointed 1968-69, focus on the implementation of guidelines and policies to improve the social environment of low-income housing, and have a thorough understanding of the needs of our senior citizens.

At CMHC Head Office an advisory group was formed from people in the Corporation who have considerable involvement with the provision of housing for the elderly. The group includes, architects, planners, economists, appraisers, administrators, policy formulators and those advising on research issues. These people are available both to Head Office and Branch staff as well as to the public.⁽⁵⁾

Recommendation 44

That a review be made of experience to date in rehousing within the area old people dispossessed by urban renewal schemes and that consideration be given to further measures, such as assistance with the purchase of small homes or rent subsidies for a limited period, which might be taken to ease the impact of the changeover and to assist generally in the process of resettlement.

ACTION TAKEN

In any urban assistance plan, every effort is made to relocate families and individuals in their own neighbourhoods. High density apartment complexes that make the best use of expensive land, are built in core urban areas for the elderly who might otherwise have to be rehoused in an unfamiliar setting. In addition it is a pre-requisite of both the newly introduced (1973) Neighbourhood Improvement Program and the Site Clearance Assistance Program that dwelling units, equal in number to those removed, be provided as part of the rehabilitation program.⁽⁶⁾

Recommendation 45

That insured NHA loans be provided to finance the construction of hostel, dormitory and similar type accommodation for elderly persons who could afford to pay a rent set by the normal operations of the market.

ACTION TAKEN

The National Housing Act was amended in 1969 to include provisions, under Part I of the Act, for insured loans for the construction of hostel and dormitory type accommodation for the elderly who can afford open market rental rates.

(5) Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Information Division. Letter dated November 2, 1973.

(6) Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Information Division. Letter dated November 2, 1973.