

- (1) A Neighbourhood Improvement Program, offering a broad range of federal contributions and loans through Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to assist in the improvement of living conditions in seriously run-down neighbourhoods. The purpose of the program is to encourage and support the efforts of municipalities, in concert with neighbourhood residents, to improve their environment and to develop social and recreational amenities.
- (2) A Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program, under which federal funds are available from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to assist in improving and repairing substandard dwellings. This aid, in the form of a loan and partial "forgiveness", is available to home-owners earning \$11,000 a year or less, landlords who agree to rent controls, and non-profit corporations and co-operatives. The program applies to home-owners and landlords in areas participating in the Neighbourhood Improvement Program. In other areas, it operates through special agreements with provinces, and it applies to non-profit corporations and non-profit co-operatives in any area.

The National Housing Act also provides assistance through Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation for the development of communities either by way of cost-sharing arrangements agreed on between the federal and provincial governments or by way of loans and certain "forgiveness" elements to the provinces or their designated agencies. CMHC may participate in the acquisition of land, including land for transportation corridors and open space in or around the communities, the planning of the communities and the design and installation of services in them. Grants are available to induce municipalities to approve medium-density subdivisions, instead of the low-density zoning that often leads to "urban sprawl". A "new community" is an area of planned urban growth having all the facilities of a self-contained community. Spatially separated from an established community, it may be independent in its economic base or integrated with an existing urban centre.

To stimulate good housing-design and to encourage further research on urban planning, CMHC supports the Community Planning Association of Canada, the Canadian Housing Design Council and the Canadian Council on Urban and Regional Research. These