



Information Sheet: Housing Facilitated Discussion Prioritized Actions

In November 2016, the Refugee Response Team – Fraser Valley (RRT-FV) hosted a facilitated discussion on housing for refugees in the Fraser Valley. The objective was to identify short-term, achievable actions to address some of the housing challenges faced by refugees in the Fraser Valley that were identified through research conducted by the RRT-FV. The information and input gathered in the Housing Facilitated Discussion was summarized and themed, including a list of 28 actions identified by participants. The full report is available on the RRT-FV website (fraservalleyrrt.ca/resources/reports).

Members of the RRT-FV Housing Working Group met to review the actions emerging from the Housing Facilitated Discussion. The following actions were recommended for prioritization.



1. Develop common messages, tools, and resources for settlement workers who assist refugees in finding housing and completing income assistance applications, including a resource on conflict resolution and mediation.



2. Engage with Ready to Rent BC to develop training and/or resources for the settlement sector.



3. Build relationships with property managers and landlords to identify local rental housing that can accommodate large families.



4. Host an information session or event to bring together property managers and refugee clients so that they better understand each other's needs.



5. Develop a campaign to get each property manager to commit to renting one unit to a refugee family (e.g. *Roofs for Refugees* – roofs4refugees.ca).



6. Recognize landlords who rent their property(s) to refugees at a reduced rate (e.g. letter, municipal awards ceremony).



7. Engage with other sectors working to address affordable housing for low-income residents (e.g. become involved in local and/or provincial housing and poverty reduction committees).