

Corporation of the County of Bruce Human Services Department brucecounty.on.ca

Media Release

August 9, 2019

Bruce County to develop 35 affordable rental units in Kincardine

WALKERTON, ON – In response to the lack of affordable rental housing in Bruce County, the Bruce County Housing Corporation (BCHC) is taking steps to develop 35 new residential rental units in Kincardine. The new development is planned for a 4½-acre property on Gary Street, pending finalization of the sale.

Bruce County's current rental vacancy rate is just above one per cent and the waiting list for Community Housing continues to rise. The development of additional housing stock furthers the actions outlined in the Housing & Homelessness Plan Update (<u>https://brucecounty.on.ca/housing-services</u>).

"Bruce County is working to ensure residents have access to appropriate, affordable, diverse and supportive housing choices. Creating housing options along the Bruce County shoreline, in areas of growth, will help to close the gap between income levels and meet the increasing demand for affordable rental housing," comments Bruce County Warden Mitch Twolan.

The project has significant partner support from both the Municipality of Kincardine and Bruce Power.

"Bruce Power is extremely supportive of this project to provide accessible and affordable housing for both existing residents and people who want to move here," said James Scongack, Bruce Power's Executive Vice-President, Corporate Affairs and Operational Services.

"Providing housing solutions that work for all residents is an important part of community development," says Municipality of Kincardine Mayor Anne Eadie. "The Municipality of Kincardine is excited to support this project to meet vital community needs".

A new service hub for Bruce County's Human Service Department is also planned for the location, in line with the County's strategic direction to improve efficiency and service to Bruce County's residents. Christine MacDonald, Bruce County's Director of Human Services, says the hub will "allow for increased access and innovation in service delivery."

For more information, visit the Bruce County website at www.brucecounty.on.ca or call 1-800-265-3005.

-30-

For more information, contact: Christine MacDonald, Director of Human Services Bruce County 519-881-0431 or <u>cmacdonald@brucecounty.on.ca</u>

Bruce County is an upper-tier municipality in Southwestern Ontario, Canada, made up of 8 lower-tier municipalities and 68,147 residents. The explorers who visit, live, and work here are the dreamers who take roads less travelled and see tried and true as an invitation to try something new. Be an Explorer and call Bruce County home.