

Clarksburg Village Association

March 1, 2020

The Clarksburg Village Association supports planned initiatives by the Attainable Housing Corp to improve attainable housing solutions within the Community.

Attainable housing can potentially generate employment opportunities for the community and stimulates the local economy by creating short-term and long-term jobs, boosts consumer spending, reliable employees for entrepreneurs, generates tax revenue, etc.

Our area is experiencing an extreme lack in attainable housing which affects many families' ability to meet essential expenses, placing many under tremendous financial strain. High housing-related costs place a particular economic burden on low-income families, forcing trade-offs between food, heating and other basic needs. Thinking of the children alone, this shift is critical.

Attainable housing improves the quality of life of residents by leading to better health, adequate jobs, financial stability, security, and population diversity. The effects of attainable housing on residents are profound and capable of transforming communities. Let the Town of Blue Mountains become a pioneer in this initiative and positive example for neighbouring communities.

Thinking of the positive effects attainable housing has for those who need it; it provides stable and healthy residences for those who many not have been able to afford such a "luxury". It allows families to manage their day-to-day lives which helps in relieving stress and improves mental health, let alone self-esteem and a sense of security.

Seeing this issue more and more every day. The younger generations are unable to find quality employment after graduation, which then end up living with their parents and depend on them rather than becoming self-sufficient. Seniors and disabled people on fixed incomes, too, are struggling to find housing. A senior in our community has been looking for decent housing for the past year, in order to remain in Clarksburg, the village he has called home for over 50 years. Due to the high cost of rent and purchasing a house has become less affordable for most, options are slim. Some members of our village have offered to take him in until he finds something more appropriate and permanent.

A house is not just a building. It is a home. Attainable housing is the possibility for a better life for our general population.

Sarah Fillion

President

Clarksburg Village Association