



City of Peterborough

Media Release

For Immediate Release

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Peterborough, ON

Affordable Homeownership Assistance Loan Program – Funding Available

Renter households can now get help to realize the dream of owning their own home. The City of Peterborough offering homeownership assistance loans to eligible applicants beginning Monday, April 3, 2017.

Since 2008 the Canada-Ontario homeownership assistance program has assisted over 100 renters to purchase a home in the City or County of Peterborough. The 2017 program will assist approximately 10 renter households to purchase a new or resale home in the City and County of Peterborough priced at \$300,000 or below. The Homeownership Assistance Loan Program Fact Sheet, included below, provides a summary of the program requirements.

“Through the 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan, the City is committed to helping people across the housing continuum, including renters whose only barrier to becoming homeowners is that they need help with a down payment” said Rebecca Morgan Quin, Manager of the Housing Division with the City of Peterborough. “Rents are relatively high in the City of Peterborough, which can make it challenging for renters to save toward a down payment. The Homeownership Assistance Loan also helps renters move, which frees up their rental unit for another household.”

Funds for this program have been provided by the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario. For more information, please contact the City’s Housing Division in person at City Hall, by telephone 705-742-7777 extension 4663 (HOME) or by email housing@peterborough.ca. Application packages will available from the Housing Division at City Hall or online at www.peterborough.ca/housing beginning Monday, April 3, 2017.

This information is also available on the City of Peterborough website at www.peterborough.ca.

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For further information please contact the undersigned:

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Peterborough ON K9H 3R9
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Homeownership Assistance Loan Program 2017

Starts April 3, 2017

Fact Sheet

The City of Peterborough is offering a **\$15,000** loan to assist with a downpayment. The eligibility criteria for this Program include, but are not limited to, the following:

Applicants:

- Are currently renting;
- Do not presently own a home or property;
- Do not owe money to a social housing landlord;
- Have a gross annual household income up to \$78,400;
- Will use the purchased home as the sole and principal residence;
- Qualify for a mortgage from a qualified lender; and
- Are least 18 years old.

The Home:

- Is purchased for \$300,000 or less;
- Is a single detached, semi-detached, townhouse, row, or apartment unit (freehold or condominium);
- Is inspected by a professional home inspector (resale homes); or
- Is covered under the Ontario New Home Warranty Program (new homes);
- Is located in the City or County of Peterborough; and
- Is of a modest size (approx. 1100 sq. ft for a 3 bedroom home)

Application Process:

- Step 1**
- Household eligibility approval
 - Mortgage pre-approved by qualified lender
 - Homeownership Education complete
- Step 2**
- Requires signed-back Agreement of Purchase and Sale dated at least 5 days later than the date of your Step 1 Eligibility Approval Letter and with a minimum of 30 days notice of the closing date
 - Signed-back Loan Agreement to receive loan upon closing

Other Key Points:

- The loan is forgiven if the home is the sole and principal residence for 20 years, but is otherwise repayable.
- The loan is registered on title as a second mortgage on closing.
- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) mortgage insurance treats the **\$15,000** loan as equity.
- Additional funds may be available to applicants moving out of social housing.
- Household assets, including any gifting amounts from friends or family, savings, GICs etc. cannot exceed \$15,000.
- RRSPs do count towards personal assets if they can be accessed for home purchases as per Canada Revenue Agency guidelines.
- The loan amount may be decreased if \$15,000 is greater than 10% of the purchase price.
- Loans will be offered, subject to availability, on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- The Program ends when funding has been allocated or December 1, 2017.