

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

**2019/20
Annual Service Plan Report**



For more information on the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing contact:

PO BOX 9490
STN PROV GOVT
VICTORIA, B.C.
V8W 9N7

(250) 387-2283

Or visit our website at

www.gov.bc.ca/mah

Published by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Minister's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing *2019/20 Annual Service Plan Report* compares the Ministry's actual results to the expected results identified in the [2019/20 – 2021/22 Service Plan](#) created in February 2019. I am accountable for those results as reported.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Robinson', written over a faint rectangular stamp or watermark.

Honourable Selina Robinson
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
July 10, 2020

Table of Contents

Minister’s Accountability Statement	3
Purpose of the Annual Service Plan Report.....	5
Purpose of the Ministry.....	5
Strategic Direction	5
Operating Environment.....	6
Report on Performance: Goals, Objectives, Measures and Targets.....	7
Financial Report.....	16
Discussion of Results.....	16
Financial Report Summary Table 2019/20.....	17
Appendix A: Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Tribunals.....	18

Purpose of the Annual Service Plan Report

The Annual Service Plan Report is designed to meet the requirements of the [Budget Transparency and Accountability Act](#) (BTAA), which sets out the legislative framework for planning, reporting and accountability for Government organizations. Under the BTAA, the Minister is required to report on the actual results of the Ministry's performance related to the forecasted targets documented in the [previous year's Service Plan](#).

Purpose of the Ministry

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing touches many aspects of the daily lives of British Columbians – by bringing safe, affordable homes to people, by providing leadership and support to local governments, by investing in not-for-profit organizations that deliver vital services to people, by investing in the infrastructure that build vibrant and healthy community and local economies. Working with all levels of governments, Indigenous leaders and community groups, the Ministry helps make life affordable for people where they can thrive in safe, prosperous and environmentally responsible communities across the province.

The Ministry oversees two Crown Agencies; the BC Assessment Authority, and the BC Housing Management Commission. The Ministry also oversees the University Endowment Lands, administers the annual Property Assessment Review Panel process and supports the Audit Council for the Auditor General for Local Government. The Ministry partners with Technical Safety BC, and the Building Officials Association of BC as delegated authorities to deliver services for British Columbians. The Ministry is also responsible for TransLink policy and governance.

The effective delivery of the Ministry's mandate relies on [key legislation](#), including: the *Assessment Act* and *Assessment Authority Act*, the *Auditor General for Local Government Act*, the *Community Charter*, *Vancouver Charter* and *Local Government Act*, the *Commercial Tenancies Act*, the *Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing Act*, the *Municipal Aid Act*, the *Municipal Finance Authority Act*, part six of the *Gaming Control Act*, the *Islands Trust Act*, the *South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority Act*, the *Strata Property Act*, the *Assistance to Shelter Act*, the *Manufactured Home Tax Act*, *Manufactured Home Park Tenancy Act*, the *Residential Tenancy Act*, the *Building Act*, the *Building Officials' Association Act*, the *Homeowner Protection Act*, the *Safety Authority Act*, the *Safety Standards Act* and the BC Building, Plumbing and Fire Codes.

Strategic Direction

The strategic direction set by Government in 2017 and expanded upon in Minister Robinson's [Mandate Letter](#) shaped the [2019/20 Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Service Plan](#) and the results reported in this Annual Report.

Operating Environment

A number of factors impacted the Ministry's operations during the 2019/20 fiscal. The most significant of these were:

- Housing starts¹ across B.C increased 12.4 per cent year-over-year in 2019 with 43,215 units started, accounting for approximately 22 per cent of all housing starts in Canada for the year. Starts of purpose-built rental housing made up almost one-third of all housing starts in B.C., with 12,095 units started in 2019. Despite the elevated pace of purpose-built rental construction however, the vacancy rate² for units in the primary rental market in B.C. remained relatively unchanged in 2019 at 1.5 per cent, and lower in the major census metropolitan areas of Vancouver and Victoria.
- Statistics Canada found that 260,220 BC households were in core housing need³ as per the 2016 Census, most of them renters. Much of the existing purpose-built rental stock is aging and in need of repair, and stock is frequently being lost to redevelopment, speculation and short-term rentals, which intensifies the problem and leaves displaced tenants challenged to find a vacant unit they can afford.
- Due to sharp increases in insurance costs and deductibles for many strata properties, beginning in late 2019, the Ministry has been working with the insurance sector, the Ministry of Finance, strata stakeholders and others to better understand and address this emerging issue. The suspension of the spring 2020 legislative session delayed measures designed to mitigate the challenges facing strata corporations. Upon returning to the Legislature, the Ministry worked to amend the Strata Act to support owners.
- In response to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, and associated declarations of a province-wide state of emergency, the ministry initiated an immediate shift in priorities and effort.
- The Ministry worked to manage adverse impacts on vulnerable populations by leverage BC Housing supports and capacity to establish Emergency Response Centres for unsheltered people and implementing the BC Temporary Rental Supplement (BC-TRS) Program for renters. The Ministry also supported local governments through the pandemic by undertaking additional significant engagement sessions, issuing Ministerial Orders to ensure local governments could continue to meet and provide financial support through the Municipal Finance Authority.

¹ Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Housing Market Information (HMI) Portal, Housing Starts.

² Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, HMI Portal, Primary Rental Market, Vacancy Rate.

³ Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation considers a Household in Core Housing Need if: i. its housing does not meet one or more of the adequacy, suitability or affordability standards, and ii. it would have to spend 30% or more of its before-tax income to access acceptable local housing.

Report on Performance: Goals, Objectives, Measures and Targets

Goal 1: Safe, affordable and functional housing

Objective 1.1: Increase supply of market rental, non-profit, co-op, student and supported housing

Key Highlights

- Worked with BC Housing to support affordability through government-funded investments in new housing units.
- Facilitated new community partnerships to leverage investments in affordable housing.
- Worked with the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills, and Training to create new affordable student housing (currently 8,000-unit target).

Performance Measure	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals ³	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target
1.1 Number of affordable housing units initiated ¹ under the Building BC program in support of the 36,700 ² units funded to date.	4,180	2,935	Discontinued*	Discontinued*	Discontinued*

Data source: BC Housing.

*This indicator is no longer relevant. In 2019 BC Housing developed a more comprehensive set of indicators that more completely assesses its overall progress in providing new affordable housing units, as reported in BC Housing's quarterly Affordable Housing Investment Plan Report, available on its website. See discussion of Results below. Performance measure 1.1 has been modified in the 2020/21-2022/23 Service Plan.

¹ Initiated is defined as – a project that has been approved or committed to by the BC Housing Management Commission.

² The 36,700 units referenced include 28,700 units that are the responsibility of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MAH) plus 8,000 student housing units that are the responsibility of the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training (AEST). Progress towards building the 8,000 student housing units can be found in the AEST Service Plan.

Discussion of Results

This performance measure was discontinued in the 2020/21-2022/23 Ministry Service Plan, and is discontinued in this report, as the indicator does not accurately reflect the significant progress that has been made toward the total number of units that are in progress since the start of the housing plan. As noted in the 2020/21 Ministry Service Plan, the target was developed in the very early stages of the Building BC program. When the measure was created, the new housing initiatives announced in Budget 2018 had only been recently developed and the targets set did not reflect the efficiency of BC Housing in quickly identifying new projects with the significant new funding provided in as part of the 30 Point Plan for Housing Affordability in BC. The measures now are comprised of “units completed,” “under construction” as well as those in earlier stages of approval (i.e., “in development” and “initiated”), and are consistent with the reporting that is now included in BC Housing's quarterly *Affordable Housing Investment Plan Report*. As of March 31, 2020, since the Budget 2018 announcement, the following has been

achieved in terms for progress on units towards the revised 10-year target of 39,100 units that was reported in the 2020/21 Ministry Service Plan.

Progress Towards the 10-year Target of 39,100 units as at March 31, 2020

Category	Completed & Under Construction	Earlier Stages of Approvals
BC Housing's <i>Building BC</i> and other Funded Units*	6,941	7,594
BC Housing's <i>HousingHub</i> Units	2,005	875
Student Housing Units**	3,155	2,258
Sub-Total	12,101	10,727
Overall Total	22,828	

*Includes progress on the 200 Homelessness Action Plan supportive housing units funded in Budget 2019 as well as the Regional Housing First program, which is cost-shared between the Capital Regional District, CMHC, and BC Housing.

**Managed through the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training as announced in Budget 2018. The overall actual progress of 5,413 student units is referenced in that Ministry's 2019/20 Annual Service Plan Report as part of its Performance Measure 2.1.

Objective 1.2: Increase affordable housing options through effective and coordinated provincial programs and services for British Columbians, including people with distinct needs

Key Highlights

- Worked with BC Housing to better communicate the enhancements to its Renter Assistance Program (RAP) and Shelter Assistance for Elderly Renters (SAFER) program that were announced as part of Budget 2018. Further in March, the agencies also collaborated to design the Temporary Rent Supplement program that responded to the COVID-19 crisis as was implemented in April.
- Supported BC Housing as it seeks Cabinet and Treasury Board direction in order to ensure its operations are consistent with government priorities and that programs for those precariously housed are funded appropriately to deliver on government's 10-year Building BC commitments from Budget 2018.
- In partnership with SDPR's Office of Homelessness Coordination, worked on improving the data on homelessness, and tracked homeless encampments throughout this province.

Performance Measure	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target
1.2 Number of households benefitting from provincial programming ¹	110,464	116,094	113,183	121,203	126, 132

Data source: BC Housing. Over 70 programs, including non-profit housing, co-op housing, directly managed housing and rental assistance are reflected in this count.

¹Performance measure 1.2 has been removed in the 2020/21 – 2022/23 Service Plan.

Discussion of Results

The target for number of households that benefit from provincial housing programs was not achieved in 2019/20 fiscal year due to the lower than anticipated take up of the Rental Assistance Program (RAP) and Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters (SAFER) program despite the enhancements that were implemented in September 2018.

While the target was not met, the program enhancements assisted approximately 1,250 new households by making rents more affordable since the enhancements were implemented, as well as increased the monthly subsidy amounts for all 33,976 households receiving rental assistance by up to 10%.

The *Rental Assistance Program* provides eligible low-income working families with cash assistance to help with their monthly rent payments in the private market. Similarly, the *Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters* program provides monthly assistance to eligible B.C. residents who are age 60 or over and who pay rent for their homes in the private market. Applicants of both programs must meet eligibility criteria. Outreach and communications activities are in place to help ensure that more eligible households are aware of the programs.

Objective 1.3: Enhance safety, occupant health and accessibility, and sustainability of the built environment

Key Highlights

- The elevating, electrical and gas safety regulations were amended with the most recent national standards for safe technical systems and equipment.
- New provisions were added to 2018 BC Building and Fire Codes in 2019 that enable the construction of mass timber buildings up to twelve stories in height in select local jurisdictions. The provisions, which are the result of comprehensive national and provincial review processes, have been adopted by twelve local governments and the University of British Columbia. Mass timber is a low carbon material, often sourced from BC manufacturing plants using BC wood products and is aligned with the Clean BC plan as referenced in the 2019/20 Provincial Economic Framework⁴.
- The changes to the Building Code also enabled secondary suites in more types of houses, which will allow for an increase of affordable rental housing stock with gentle densification. There were also expanded requirements for carbon monoxide detectors and alarms, safety enhancements for rooftop enclosures, and revised standards for lighting in recycling and garbage rooms.

⁴ Framework for Improving British Columbians Standard of Living: Economic Framework 2019-2020 (p.69)
<https://www.gov.bc.ca/sites/default/files/article/file/2020/0205/bceconomicframework2020.pdf>

- Amendments were made to the BC Energy Step Code to provide greater flexibility for homebuilders across the province, and preliminary BC Energy Step Code requirements were introduced for many public sector buildings types such as community centres, care facilities, and other public buildings for voluntary opt-in by local government in bylaws, policies and/or incentives.
- The Ministry is acting on the CleanBC mandate to develop a code for existing buildings by 2024. A series of one-on-one consultation meetings were held to inform stakeholders of government direction and to document the values they would like to see reflected in a future strategy on existing buildings. Twenty-seven stakeholder groups across five sectors were engaged in these consultations, including building owners, renovation professionals, local government professionals, non-government organizations, and utilities.
- Completed consultations on the Building Accessibility Handbook 2020, aligned with the GBA+ diversity lens, for planned release in 2020.

Performance Measure	2018/19 Actuals ²	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals ²	2020/21 Target ^{2&3}	2021/22 Target ^{2&3}
1.3 CleanBC: Number of local governments referencing the Energy Step Code in bylaws and policies ¹	22	30	38	40	40

Data source: Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in cooperation with the Energy Step Code Council and member local governments.

¹ In 2022, the British Columbia Building Code will require higher levels of energy efficiency for all new buildings, matching or exceeding local government requirements under the BC Energy Step Code and changing the number of local governments voluntarily adopting standards more stringent than the BC Building Code.

² Excludes City of Vancouver, as it is not regulated under the *Building Act*.

³ Forecast assumes that communities that have committed to consulting on the BC Energy Step Code (ESC) will later reference the ESC in policy, bylaw or through an incentive program.

Discussion of Results

The Pan Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change commits the model National Building Code, which serves as the foundation for the British Columbia Building Code, to significant improvements in energy efficiency for all new buildings by 2030. British Columbia’s Energy Step Code provides a proactive roadmap for local governments and industry to voluntarily build capacity for anticipated changes in the Building Code. By supporting and tracking local government implementation of the BC Energy Step Code, the Province is establishing key benchmark indicators of capacity for energy efficient construction throughout the province.

The Province successfully met and surpassed its target due to the collaborative work with the Energy Step Code Council (the Council) in supporting industry and local governments with the BC Energy Step Code. The BC Energy Step Code is an integral part of the strategy for achieving the Province’s goals in CleanBC, and the Council has established guidelines, processes and success measures to ensure we are making progress towards the goal.

By 2022, the British Columbia Building Code will require higher levels of energy efficiency for all new buildings, likely reducing the demand for local governments to set their own requirements prior to the building code changing.

Goal 2: A fair residential tenancy framework.

By implementing a fair residential tenancy framework, the Ministry is providing stronger protections for renters and improved security for renters and landlords.

Objective 2.1: Create modern, affordable and accessible services that facilitate housing security (stability) and fairness for renters and landlords.

Key Highlights

- Launched an action plan to further implement the Rental Housing Task Force recommendations endorsed by government.
- Supported a Private Members' Bill introduced in the Legislative Assembly by the B.C Green Party to help renters escape household violence by providing the ability to end fixed-term tenancies (will come into force by regulation on May 30, 2020).
- Launched a new Dispute Management System, which will support ongoing service improvements.
- Continued to strengthen the RTB’s enforcement role and make greater use of its authority to investigate and levy administrative penalties.

Performance Measure	2017/18 Baseline	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Target*	2021/22 Target*
2.1 Percentage of dispute resolution hearings that meet service standard wait times	25%	47%	75%	35%	80%	90%

Data source: Residential Tenancy Branch dispute management system and web analytics

*This performance measure has been changed for the 2020/21 Service Plan to better reflect service delivery with respect to wait times. There are a range of wait time targets depending on the type of dispute. Rather than measuring the percentage of all hearings that are within standard times, the Branch will look at the average wait time for each dispute category. This will provide a more accurate portrayal of service delivery effectiveness.

Discussion of Results

Reducing RTB hearing wait times will promote housing stability for landlords and tenants by ensuring tenancy disputes are resolved in a timely, efficient manner, and will boost public confidence in the dispute resolution process.

The 2019/20 performance measure was not met due to the launch of a new Dispute Management System which required greater than anticipated resources and substantial time for staff training. The new system also required a complex data migration and cut over processes that resulted in system downtime thus increasing the backlog of applications.

Additional resources were dedicated to address staff turnover and training requirements and the substantial backlog has subsequently been resolved. The initial impact temporarily reduced

information and dispute resolution service standard gains. However, the long-term system improvements will enhance service delivery and greatly benefit landlords and tenants.

Goal 3: Strong, sustainable and well governed communities.

By cultivating strong partnerships and delivering services that support sustainable and well governed communities, the Ministry establishes a platform to support improved affordability, accessibility and community infrastructure that benefits all British Columbians.

Objective 3.1: Further a governance system that considers local government and provincial interests and builds strong relationships for the benefit of all people.

Key Highlights

- Supported and partnered on the annual Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention providing a comprehensive exchange of ideas and optimizes cooperation and collaboration among the Province, UBCM and individual local governments.
- Over 580+ meetings with the Premier and Cabinet Ministers' and 420+ meetings with provincial staff occurred with UBCM delegates, as well as Cabinet and staff participation in provincial workshops and clinics and four Cabinet Town Halls.
- With the Covid-19 pandemic, launched weekly direct calls between the Minister and locally elected leaders and senior staff on issues, impacts and response.
- Supported local governments in reconciling with First Nations and building respectful relationships, including by helping to sustain (fund) and enhance the Community to Community Forum program.
- Reviewed and enhanced the policy, legislative and education framework for local governments where needed, including working with key partners on lessons learned from the 2018 local government elections and on furthering responsible conduct among locally elected officials.
- Provided advice, resolved problems and gave targeted support and oversight on a range of local and regional governance matters of local government and provincial interest, both directly and in partnership with others including the first of a number of unprecedented emergency orders due to COVID-19 pandemic (e.g. by-elections; public and electronic meetings, expedited bylaw passage); working with local government partners on "triage" support for communities facing governance challenges.
- Launched the University Endowment Lands (UEL) Services, Structure and Governance Study as an important phase of work in finding a longer-term solution given pressures (such as development and a representation gap) that continue to challenge the UEL as the only urban area directly administered by the province. Day-to-day, the UEL Administration continued to provide key local services to the UEL community (e.g. land

use, public works, drinking water, waste and recycling) and provide support to a changing community (e.g. Area D neighbourhood plan process).

Performance Measure	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target
3.1 Actively engage with UBCM and local governments with ongoing meetings between elected officials and staff, including:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> number of formal meetings held annually between UBCM Executives and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; and 	11	4+	[8]	4+	4+
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> number of meetings held annually between the Ministry, UBCM and local governments during UBCM Convention and throughout the year 	170	100+	[287]	100+	100+

Data source: Meeting schedules (calendar meeting invites) and agendas for Senior staff and Minister’s meetings. Informal meetings with staff are not counted.

Discussion of Results

Ensuring a sound and balanced governance system requires active communication between the provincial government, local governments, and UBCM on varied issues and initiatives. While such interactions occur informally at many levels, quarterly formal meetings between the Minister and the UBCM Executive provide an important forum to identify priority topics and exchange provincial and local government perspectives. This offers the right balance between local government autonomy and provincial responsibilities on specific issues and initiatives. Regular formal engagement is a key indicator of the health of provincial government-local government relations.

For fiscal 2019/20, the Ministry exceeded its targets; there was a total of eight meetings held between UBCM Executives and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. These included four quarterly UBCM Executive meetings and four meetings with the UBCM President. Meetings between the Ministry, UBCM and Local Governments during UBCM Convention and throughout the year totaled 287. There was an overall 68.82 % increase in the number of meetings with local governments, including with ministry staff at the 2019 UBCM Convention as well as with the Minister and senior Ministry Staff throughout the year.

The variance in the number of meetings from fiscal 2018/2019 can be attributed to conference agendas, rotating hosting locations (2019 UBCM Convention was held in a larger venue, in Vancouver, B.C.) and emergent issues.

Objective 3.2: Maintain local governments’ financial sustainability so they can meet the service needs of their communities.

Key Highlights

- Provided advice and statutory approvals on local government finance (revenues and expenditures) to support sound local government financial management practices and stewardship that ensures fiscal viability.
- Delivered stable, predictable and timely grant funding for professional administration to smaller and rural local governments throughout B.C. and provided targeted funding to municipalities with populations over 5,000 for community safety initiatives, through the Small Community Grants, Regional District Grants and the Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing Program.
- Supported the Municipal Finance Authority (MFA) in obtaining a high credit rating and low rates for borrowing through: overseeing the *Municipal Finance Authority Act*; setting local government borrowing limits; reviewing and approving loan authorization bylaws and setting financial reporting requirements; and ensuring local government financial data is available to the MFA and the broader public.
- A credit rating score of AAA for the MFA was achieved for fiscal 2019/20.

Performance Measure	Baseline	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target
3.2 Municipal Finance Authority’s Credit rating	AAA	AAA	AAA	AAA	AAA	AAA

Data source: Municipal Finance Authority. Ratings provided by the Moody’s, Standard & Poor’s, and Fitch rating agencies

Discussion of Results

The legislative framework for the local government system is built on an independent, autonomous decision-making model enabling locally elected officials and staff to be accountable stewards of their local government’s financial sustainability. This includes powers to earn revenues and accumulate funds to plan for and manage the provision of services in their communities. Local governments are required to follow strong financial management practices to ensure their fiscal viability. The cost of borrowing is a critical concern for local governments when planning capital projects. The MFA was created in 1970 to act as a collective borrowing agency for local governments to provide access to low-cost financing.

The Ministry supports the MFA in obtaining a high credit rating and low rates for borrowing through:

- The administration of the *Municipal Finance Authority Act*;
- Setting local government borrowing limits;
- Reviewing and approving loan authorization bylaws;
- Setting financial reporting requirements; and

- Ensuring local government financial data is available to the MFA and the financial community.

Objective 3.3: Support improvement of community and regional infrastructure and local government planning to further the environmental, economic and social health of communities.

Key Highlights

- In September 2019, released a final report from a province-wide consultation on challenges and opportunities for improvement in the local government development approvals process.
- Worked in partnership with UBCM to deliver the Housing Needs Report program to assist local governments in meeting new legislative requirements for housing needs assessments.
- Continued to work with the UBCM to identify opportunities for local governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and respond to the impacts of climate change.
- Encouraged strong community planning, fiscal and asset management practices to support the development of sustainable communities.
- Supported local governments to make effective, integrated and collaborative choices, through problem solving, guidance and program support for delivery of local and regional services such as water, recreation and economic development, and integrated and sustainable land use and infrastructure planning.
- Partnered with the federal government to develop and implement community capital funding programs for local governments and First Nations that build and upgrade local infrastructure including drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, clean energy, connectivity networks, recreation facilities, community centres and arts and culture spaces.

Performance Measure	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target
3.3 Number of local governments funded under the Housing Needs Reports Program.	N/A	40	120 local governments	30	20

Data source: Housing Needs Reports Program Evaluation Committee approval of funding applications.

Discussion of Results

On April 16, 2019, new legislative requirements took effect requiring local governments to collect data, analyze trends and develop reports that describe current and anticipated housing needs in B.C. communities. The reports are required to assess key housing needs, including the need for affordable housing, rental housing and homes for seniors, people with special needs, families and people at risk of homelessness. Completed reports are presented to local councils and boards and made available online.

As part of new legislative requirements, the Ministry established the Housing Needs Reports Program, a three-year, application-based fund of \$5 million, which supports local governments to undertake housing needs reports in line with the requirements. A large majority of local government applied for funding in 2019/20, greatly exceeding service plan targets, and several local governments have already completed their housing needs reports. This strong performance indicates that most local governments are on track meet the legislative requirements.

Many of the successful applicants submitted proposals that include engagement with First Nations, neighbouring communities, housing providers and other stakeholders to gain a better understanding of the housing needs for their community. The first reports to be completed are broadening understanding of local housing needs and sparking important community conversations about how best to address these needs.

It is anticipated that the number of local governments requiring financial support will decrease over time as the initial three-year deadline to meet the legislative requirement approaches.

Financial Report

Discussion of Results

The Discussion of Results reports on the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's financial results for the year ended March 31, 2020 and should be read in conjunction with the Financial Reporting Summary Table provided below.

In 2019/20, the Ministry received a total of \$355.149 million in Operating Expenses other authorizations to fund a number of priority investments, including:

- Clean Water and Wastewater Fund
- New Building Canada – Small Communities Fund
- Investing in Canada Infrastructure program
- Northern Rockies Regional Municipality Infrastructure Plan
- Kelowna Water Integration Project
- Capital Regional District Wastewater Treatment Project
- Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing
- Northern Capital and Planning Grant
- BC Northern Healthy Communities Fund

In 2019/20, the Ministry realized a surplus of \$1.294 million before adjustments of prior year accruals. This surplus was due to lower costs incurred in the administration of the University Endowment Lands related to utilities, materials and supplies and changes in the timing of expenditures in Housing.

Financial Report Summary Table 2019/20

	Estimated	Other Authorizations ¹	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
Operating Environment (\$000)					
Local Government	308,258	355,149	663,407	663,432	25
Community and Legislative Services	3,171		3,171	3,569	398
Executive and Support Services	7,130		7,130	6,707	(423)
Housing	486,365		486,365	485,414	(951)
Ministry Total	804,924	355,149	1,160,073	1,159,122	(951)
Special Accounts					
Housing Endowment Fund	12,884		12,884	12,884	0
University Endowment Lands Administration Account	10,495		10,495	10,152	(343)
Sub-Total	828,303	355,149	1,183,452	1,182,158	(1,294)
Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual	0	0	0	(1,123)	(1,123)
Ministry Total	828,303	355,149	1,183,452	1,181,035	(2,417)
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)					
Executive and Support Services	402		402	398	(4)
University Endowment Lands Capital	0	4,697	4,697	4,697	0
Total	402	4,697	5,099	5,095	(4)
Capital Plan (\$000)					
Housing	247,002		247,002	174,018	(72,984)
Total	247,002		247,002	174,018	(72,984)

¹“Other Authorizations” include Statutory Appropriations and Contingencies. Amounts in this column are not related to the “estimated amount” under sections 5(1) and 6(1) of the Balanced Budget and Ministerial Accountability Act for ministerial accountability for operating expenses under the Act.

Appendix A: Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Tribunals

As of July 10, 2020, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing is responsible and accountable for the following:

Crowns

[BC Assessment Authority](#)

[BC Housing Management Commission](#)

Agencies, Boards and Commissions

[Auditor General for Local Government](#)

[Board of Examiners](#)

[Building Officials' Association of BC](#)

[Islands Trust Fund](#)

[Property Assessment Review Panels](#)

[Technical Safety BC](#)

[TransLink](#)

The Ministry also oversees the [University Endowment Lands](#)