

THE RIGHT FIT PILOT PROJECT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS | FAQs



Q: What is the Right Fit Pilot Project (RFPP)?

A: RFPP is a multi-partner effort to address challenges in matching affordable, wheelchair-accessible homes and independent living support services in Metro Vancouver with people who need them.

Q: Who is involved in this project?

A: RFPP is led by Disability Alliance BC in partnership with the Individualized Funding Resource Centre, BC Housing, City of Vancouver, Fraser Health Authority, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority & the Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction.

Q: How is the pilot funded?

A: The project is generously funded by Vancouver Foundation & BC Rehab Foundation, with in-kind contributions from project partners.

Q: What are the eligibility criteria for interested applicants?

A: Applicants must be power or manual indoor wheelchair users who need fully wheelchair-accessible housing, live in the Vancouver Coastal Health or Fraser Health Regions, and seeking housing within Metro Vancouver.

There are no age restrictions. You are not required to be approved for provincial PWD (Persons with Disabilities) benefits. You are not required to have a current application for wheelchair accessible subsidized housing with BC Housing; however, we strongly encourage you to consider doing so.

Q: How does this help wheelchair users who need affordable housing?

A: Case management support can help better match needs to available housing and supports and ease the transition process for indoor wheelchair users moving to a new home. Working directly with participants will also help us identify barriers so that we can propose systemic changes and improvements. Supports offered through RFPP may also reduce the risks of missing potential housing opportunities due to delays in securing supports for independent living.

Q: Will participating in the pilot help an applicant be housed faster?

A: No. The Right Fit is not an emergency housing program. Our navigators can provide resources and help clients clearly identify their needs and priorities. Case management support can also help smooth the transition process once a suitable housing match is identified.

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Q: What kind of housing will be available through the pilot?

A: We work with non-profit members of The Housing Registry who have a financial relationship with BC Housing and who provide subsidized, accessible housing in the Metro Vancouver region. The list includes family housing, single units, co-ops and some specialized housing providers. It does not include supportive housing, care homes or assisted living, as the focus is on indoor wheelchair users who can live independently with home supports.

Q: What will happen once I contact a navigator?

A: Navigators will schedule intake meetings, usually by phone, to confirm eligibility, clarify housing needs and ensure the applicant has all the necessary paperwork to access subsidized housing and support services. If a potential housing match is identified, navigators will reconnect with the applicant to ensure they are still interested and ensure all paperwork is up-to-date. They will help with applications for health services or equipment and work with the applicant, housing and service providers to facilitate the process of providing independent living supports and moving.

Q: What supports and equipment does this cover?

A: Our navigators will help RFPP participants apply for Home Support services funded through the Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Health Authorities, including access to the CSIL (Choice in Supports for Independent Living) program. They will also help arrange medical assessments for medical equipment and devices from the Ministry for Social Development & Poverty Reduction (e.g. for bathing & toileting aids, hospital beds, pressure relief mattress and/or floor or ceiling lifting devices, based on Ministry eligibility and the individual's assessed need).

Q: How do I apply?

A: Reach out to our navigation team at the Individualized Funding Resource Centre at Right-Fit@IFRCSociety.org or 604-777-7576.

Q: What are the benefits for participating housing providers?

A: Our navigators can help participating housing providers successfully match accessible unit vacancies with wheelchair users who are a good match, thus ensuring that the region's limited accessible housing stock is effectively utilized by those who need it. By helping applicants secure the right home and independent living supports, navigators will also help ensure a successful and stable new tenancy. BC Housing may also provide financial assistance to help eligible providers reserve vacancies for RFPP participants who are the right fit.

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Q: How do eligible housing providers arrange to have their costs covered for reserving a unit?

A: Eligible housing providers will work with our navigators to arrange for required BC Housing subsidies, once a suitable match is identified with an RFPP participant.

Q: If a housing provider isn't affiliated with BC Housing, will they still be financially supported to reserve units?

A: No. BC Housing is only offering financial incentives to support housing providers with whom they have a financial relationship, to help them reserve available units for additional time while applicants arrange the necessary home supports to move in.

Q: Are there plans to expand beyond Metro Vancouver?

A: Our three-year pilot is limited to indoor wheelchair users who want to move within the Metro Vancouver region. However, we hope that lessons learned and recommendations will have province-wide relevance and future application.