

Housing Ecosystem

In order for Edmonton’s housing ecosystem to be considered whole and healthy, it needs to provide a range of housing types for the full diversity of the city’s residents and their diverse and varied needs.

Edmonton’s housing ecosystem is currently short 900 units of permanent supportive housing and lacks important low-barrier safety net housing with supports to transition people into longer term housing - we call this bridge housing because it serves as a bridge out of shelters, or sleeping rough, and into long term housing with supports.

Within the context of this report, permanent supportive housing is a type of housing that falls into the category of housing with supports. Supportive housing combines subsidized housing with on-site primary health and mental health care. Supportive housing provides Edmonton’s most vulnerable people with the safety and stability they need to maintain housing and lead healthy and connected lives. Supportive housing is a proven model for the residents and saves taxpayers millions in policing, justice and health care costs.

