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Vancouver Housing Association - Miscellaneous

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Buck, Frank E.

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SHORT HOUSING BIBLIOGRAPHY

BOOKS

HOUSES FOR CANADIANS - A Study of Housing Problems in the Toronto Area. Humphrey Carver, 1948. 156 pp. \$2.50. University of Toronto Press, Toronto 5, Ontario.

An excellent study of Canadian housing requirements which, while specifically related to the Toronto area, is equally applicable to the whole field of urban housing.

THE SEVEN MYTHS OF HOUSING - Nathan Straus, 1944. 313 pp. \$3.00. Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 501 Madison Ave., New York 22.

One of the best statements on the American case for public housing.

AMERICAN HOUSING - Problems and Prospects. Miles Colean, 1944. 448 pp. \$3.00. Twentieth Century Fund, 330 W. 42nd St., New York 18.

A searching analysis of the defects of American organization for building, with recommendations for modernizing the industry's structure and finance.

THE FUTURE OF HOUSING - Charles Abrams, 1946. 428 pp. \$5.00. Harper & Bros., 49 E. 33rd St., New York 16.

A comprehensive study of the American housing problem in all its phases.

REBUILDING BRITAIN - A Twenty-Year Plan. Sir Ernest Simon, 1945. 256 pp. 6/-.. Victor Gollancz Ltd., London.

A broad survey of recent housing and planning developments in Great Britain.

PUBLIC HOUSING DESIGN - A review of experience in low-rent housing. National Housing Agency, 1946. 294 pp. \$1.25. Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C.

A critical analysis of American public housing projects and the technical lessons to be derived from them.

REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY PLANNING - Report of the Advisory Committee on Reconstruction (Curtis Report), 1944. 339 pp. King's Printer, Ottawa.

This report contains an exhaustive survey of Canadian post-war housing requirements together with recommendations for legislative and administrative action. The most authoritative report on housing yet published in Canada.

A NATIONAL HOUSING POLICY FOR CANADA - Canadian Welfare Council, 245 Cooper St., Ottawa. 1947. 21 pp. 15¢.

A cogent plea for a positive housing policy for Canada.

A HOUSING PROGRAM - FOR NOW AND LATER. 1948. 60 pp. 25¢. National Public Housing

- (2) An annual subsidy per dwelling to local housing authorities and limited dividend corporations sufficient to reduce rents for accommodation as provided in (1) above to 20% or less of the Tenants income.

2.

Conference, 1015 Fifteenth St.N.W., Washington 5, D.C.

A well written and authoritative statement on the goals of American housing policy.

NATIONAL HOUSING ACT 1944, and subsequent amendments. 10¢. King's Printer, Ottawa.

VANCOUVER HOUSING ATLAS, 1944. Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa.

Extracts from the 1941 census of statistical material relating to housing.

THE HOUSING SITUATION IN VANCOUVER, January 1948. 10 pp. Vancouver Housing Association, 505 Hamilton St., Vancouver.

HOUSING FOR OUR OLDER CITIZENS, March 1949. 27 pp. Vancouver Housing Association, 505 Hamilton St., Vancouver.

Publications by the Central Mortgage & Housing Corporation, Ottawa. (Unpriced).

Annual Report of the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply.

Housing in Canada - A Factual Summary. Quarterly.

Housing Progress Abroad. Quarterly.

The National Association of Housing Officials, 1313 East 60th St., Chicago 37, publishes an excellent monthly JOURNAL OF HOUSING (Subscription to members, \$4.00 a year) containing articles on housing policy and practice, including reviews of current literature on the subject.

The Housing Centre, 13 Suffolk St., London S.W.1, England, publishes a monthly bulletin, containing reviews of recent housing literature. Orders can be placed for English books or reports on housing through its bookshop.

Some Publications on Community Planning Containing Useful Housing Background Material

NEW CITY PATTERNS - Sanders and Rabuck, 1946. 197 pp. \$7.50. Reinhold Publicity Corp., 330 W. 42nd St., New York 18.

THE CITY IS THE PEOPLE - Henry S. Churchill, 1945. 186 pp. \$3.00. Reynal and Hitchcock Inc., 8 W. 40th St., New York 18.

THE CULTURE OF CITIES - Lewis Mumford, 1938. 586 pp. \$3.75. Harcourt Brace & Co., 383 Madison Ave., New York 17.

LAYOUT FOR LIVING - published monthly by the Community Planning Association of Canada, 56 Lyon St., Ottawa. (Membership subscription \$3.00 a year).

An excellent planning review containing numerous references to housing throughout Canada.

- (2) An annual subsidy per dwelling to local housing authorities and limited dividend corporations sufficient to reduce rents for accommodation as provided in (1) above to 20% or less of the Tenants income.

APPLICATION FORM

VANCOUVER HOUSING ASSOCIATION

I/WE Hereby make application to become a member of the Vancouver Housing

Association, and enclose herewith my/our membership fee of \$ _____

Individual:	\$1.00 per annum	Name _____
Organization:	5.00 per annum under 100 members	
	10.00 per annum over 100 members	Address _____

Tel.No. _____

(Please mail to the Secretary, Mrs. B. Marsh,
Vancouver Housing Association,
505 Hamilton St., Vancouver, B.C.)

- (2) An annual subsidy per dwelling to local housing authorities and limited dividend corporations sufficient to reduce rents for accommodation as provided in (1) above to 20% or less of the Tenants income.

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VANCOUVER HOUSING ASSOCIATION

(Member agency of)
(The Welfare Council of Greater Vancouver)

March 1946

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the urgency of the shelter problem is conceded by governmental, social, industrial and citizen groups and

WHEREAS the National Housing Act is useful only to that group enjoying substantial income and

WHEREAS the Curtis Report states that "A complete revision of Part 2 of the National Housing Act should be undertaken with a view to the inauguration of a comprehensive low-rental housing program" and

WHEREAS the same report indicates clearly that the initiative for such a program must come from the Federal Government and

WHEREAS the report further recommends "For the purpose of meeting the low-rental character of the project....an annual subsidy is considered the best and most practical system" and further "It seems questionable that a substantial part of this subsidy should come from the Dominion Government".

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this conference of delegates of citizens of the Greater Vancouver Area urge the Dominion Government to bring in legislation implementing the Curtis report as follows:

- (1) Financial loans and guarantees to proper constituted local Housing Authorities set up by local or provincial governmental bodies on the same terms as those extended to limited dividend corporations for the purpose of erecting housing for the lower third income group.
- (2) An annual subsidy per dwelling to local housing authorities and limited dividend corporations sufficient to reduce rents for accommodation as provided in (1) above to 20% or less of the Tenants income.

VANCOUVER HOUSING ASSOCIATION

(Member agency of)
(The Welfare Council of Greater Vancouver)

March 1946

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS the multiplicity of existing governmental authorities concerned with Housing is handicapping attempts to deal with the problem, and

WHEREAS it is undesirable that the Minister responsible for initiating and administering the expenditure of public monies for low-rental housing should also be the Minister responsible for controlling those expenditures, and

WHEREAS the creation of a separate Ministry to handle all aspects of Housing and Community Planning would greatly stimulate the orderly reconstruction and development of our urban and rural communities,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Conference urges the creation of a Ministry of Housing and Community Planning with the following functions:

- (1) To unify the efforts of all government departments now engaged in the fields of Housing and Community Planning.
- (2) To initiate federal legislation for the provision of Housing for the lower income groups.
- (3) To promote effective local and regional planning by the authorities concerned.
- (4) To secure the equitable distribution of building materials, with special reference to Housing requirements.
- (5) To encourage the training of skilled labor for the building trades.
- (6) To carry out research and educative work on Housing and Community Planning.

A.M. Morrison
Chairman

Elgin J. Ruddell
Hon. Secretary

VANCOUVER HOUSING ASSOCIATION

member agency of
The Welfare Council of Greater Vancouver

-----oOo-----

The Vancouver Housing Association was formed in January, 1938, as a voluntary association of organizations interested in housing, and in September 1945 joined forces with the Citizens' Housing Committee of the Vancouver Welfare Council.

The objects of the Society are:

- (a) to provide for the association of individuals and groups interested in the problems of housing and community planning;
- (b) to maintain a headquarters or central agency for collection and dissemination of housing and planning information;
- (c) to provide for publicity and research in relation to housing and community planning;
- (d) to assist in obtaining adequate low rental housing and planning legislations;
- (e) to promote the organization of agencies for the building of low reantal housing;
- (f) to co-ordinate and give leadership to the groups interested in housing and community planning;
- (g) to aid in development of administrative standards and procedures.

Will you assist in the promotion of better housing in Vancouver by filling in the form below?

(tear off here)

APPLICATION FORM
VANCOUVER HOUSING ASSOCIATION

I/WE, hereby make application to become a member of the Vancouver Housing Association and enclose herewith my/our membership fee of \$

Membership Fees:

Individual: \$1.00 per annum
Organization: 5.00 " "
" 10.00 " "

(To be mailed to the Treasurer, Mr. P. R. U. Stratton, 309 Royal Trust Bldg, 626 W. Pender Street, Vancouver. B.C.
(Tel. Bayview 0418-L)

Name

Address

Telephone No.

W. S. Owen
Chairman

John Jopson, Jr.
Secretary

VANCOUVER HOUSING ASSOCIATION

Affiliated With

THE NATIONAL HOUSING AND PLANNING ASSOCIATION (OF CANADA)

---oOo---

Your name has been suggested as a prospective member in the above Association. The Vancouver Housing Association was formed in January, 1938, by a group of persons interested in housing, as a result of a visit to this city by Mr. George S. Mooney, Secretary of the National Housing and Planning Association of Canada.

OBJECTS: The objects of the Association are to improve existing housing conditions in Greater Vancouver, and to prevent the further development of slum areas similar to those which deface nearly every large city of the world. Slums breed disease, crime and unrest; they spell unhappiness for thousands of individuals, and they are a vast economic loss to the community.

The Association proposes to achieve its objects:-

1. By carrying out a survey of existing conditions in order to ascertain the extent of sub-standard housing.
2. By educating the public to the need for better housing through pamphlets, lectures, the press, films, etc.
3. By pressing for the revision and effective enforcement of by-laws governing sanitary conditions in the city.
4. By stimulating interest in town planning in relation to housing.
5. By formulating specific proposals for a low-cost housing scheme for Vancouver.
6. By assisting the National organization in promoting the passage of suitable Dominion housing legislation.

Will you assist in the promotion of better housing in Vancouver by filling in the form below?

----- (tear off here) -----

APPLICATION FORM

VANCOUVER HOUSING ASSOCIATION

(To be mailed to the Treasurer, P. R. U. Stratton, 309 Royal Trust Building, 626 West Pender Street, Vancouver, B.C. Telephone Bay. 418L).

I hereby make application to become a member of "The Vancouver Housing Association" and enclose herewith my membership fee of \$.....

Name

Address

Telephone No

Membership Fees:
Individual: \$ 3.00 per annum
Organization: \$10.00 per annum

- 2 -

A PLAN FOR CIVIC ACTION ON HOUSING

Thousands of Vancouver families live today in conditions which are a menace to health and social stability. The present housing crisis is not simply the outcome of war conditions. Even before the war there was an acute shortage of adequate low-rental housing, and until positive action is taken this condition will grow steadily worse.

Cold facts show that, apart from the misery and discontent fostered by slums, the dollar cost of maintaining a slum in terms of health, police, fire protection and other services far exceeds the cost of tearing down the houses and rehousing the occupants in decent accommodation.

To quote a recent statement of the City Social Services Administrator, "it is socially unsound and economically absurd to pay more in human value and hard cash for lack of housing than it would cost to provide adequate living quarters for everyone".

Housing, as one aspect of public health, is the direct responsibility of the City Council. This principle has been generally recognized in other countries for many years.

Unassisted private enterprise cannot build houses within the means of the lower income groups. Housing of these groups and the elimination of slum conditions can be achieved only by concerted action on the part of both local and central governments through a subsidized low-rental housing program.

Surveys, while essential, are not enough. The time has come to get houses built. The City can attack this problem here and now by two clear-cut methods:

1. 1,000 More Wartime Houses:

Wartime Housing is the only agency at present in existence ready to build houses at moderate rentals. Over 1,200 persons living in the old Hotel Vancouver will require new homes when they are evacuated in 1948. It is imperative that the City enter into a contract for building 1,000 more Wartime houses without delay so that construction can commence this spring.

- 2 -

Rt. Hon. Mr. Howe, Minister of Reconstruction has put the responsibility for initiating Wartime Housing projects squarely up to the municipalities. In the House of Commons last July he stated that future operations of Wartime Housing would be dependent upon "the willingness of the municipalities to sponsor additional projects within their boundaries". At the same time he announced new financial provisions permitting the City to recover full taxes from Wartime houses.

Vancouver has a sufficient number of lots for the purpose which are already serviced or which can be serviced at a reasonable cost. No obstacle, therefore, stands in the way of immediate action on the part of the City Council.

2. A Low-Rental Housing Project:

The second method is for the Council to work out concrete plans for a specific low-rental housing project, and to approach Ottawa for:

(1) An amendment to the National Housing Act to permit local public housing authorities to qualify for loans to build low-rental housing on conditions similar to those granted to limited dividend corporations (it will be recalled that provision for such loans was included in the Housing Act of 1938).

(2) A subsidy to local housing authorities to bring rents within the means of the low-income groups.

Further, the City Council should seek a Charter amendment from the Provincial Legislature at the coming session permitting the City to set up a local housing authority on the lines of those established in cities throughout the United States.

There is nothing novel in the proposal that the City of Vancouver should sponsor low-rent housing. Over 600 American cities have initiated such programs, as have all the more progressive cities throughout the rest of the world. Among postwar projects, none is more necessary than a vigorous housing program to clean up our slums and give our people an opportunity to bring up their families in healthful and beautiful surroundings.

21/1/47

Vancouver Housing Association