

Black Community Housing Advisory Table

Presentation for the
Canadian Housing
Renewal Association
2024 Congress

Co-Leads: Margaret's Housing and Community
Support Services and CP Planning



Presented: 240410



Outline

- About Us
- Why We Established BCHAT
- Collaborative Strategic Planning Process
- Impact So Far
- Next Steps

About CP Planning

CPplanning.ca

- **Black-led** non-profit urban planning organization practicing a **human rights-based approach to community planning**.
- Founded 2017.
- Our comprehensive community planning services in affordable housing development include:
 - strategic planning,
 - facilitation,
 - collaborative design,
 - research,
 - capacity development and
 - network weaving

About Margaret's [Margarets.ca](https://margarets.ca)

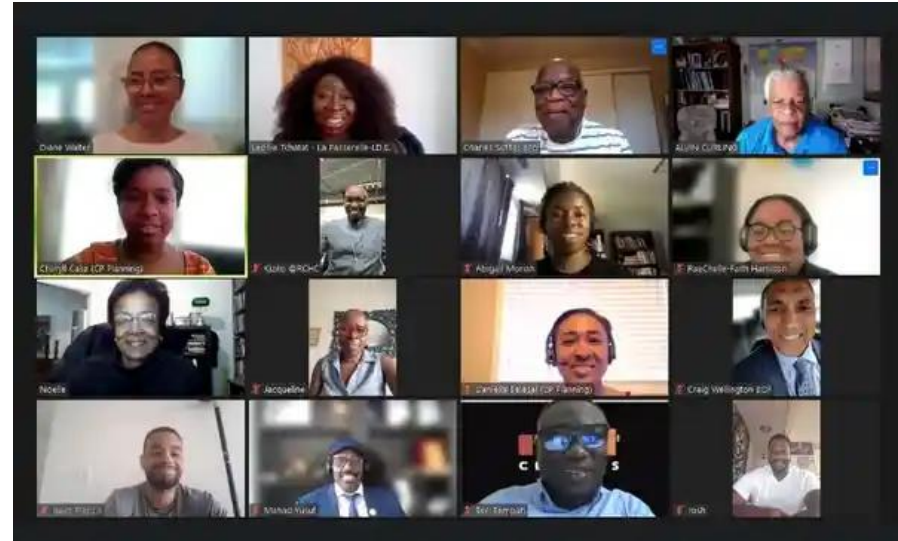
- a multi-service agency that provides a continuum of housing options to women living with mental illness and substance use, and innovative community-based support services for individuals experiencing intersectional issues tied to mental health challenges and homelessness.
- Founded 1984
- Black-led organization, large proportion of clients are Black
- Margaret's is recognized by the City of Toronto as a **Black Housing Hub**.

Who is BCHAT

Black Community Housing Advisory Table

Blackhousing.ca

- Founded in 2021
- A coalition of social service and housing providers, developers, planning experts, government, academics, and community leaders
- Aim's to eliminate housing inequity for Black residents across the Greater Toronto Hamilton Area (GTHA).



Why was BCHAT established?



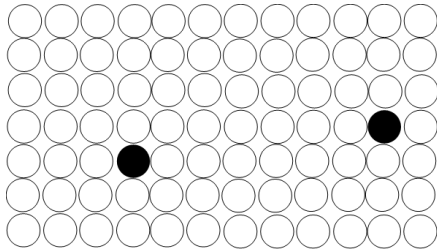
2017 – 2022

\$14 million dollar project to create 35 self-contained units of supportive rent-geared to income housing.

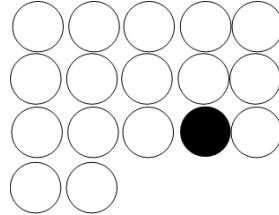
Approximately 0.5% of project costs went to Black consultants or contractors.

Economic Exclusion and Under-representation

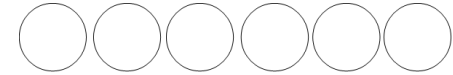
Planning



Real Estate Development



Public (leadership)



The pattern is similar for other racialized communities

The above illustrates representative examples of industry teams. Black circles indicate that staff is Black.

- **CP Planning's 2023 study identified that, though 7.5% of the Toronto Region's population is Black, in the local industry**
- 2% of staff in the planning industry are Black
- 1% of those in leadership are Black
- Per the Ontario Provincial Planning Institute, Urban Planners make an average income of \$98,991 ([Ontario Provincial Planning Institute: Ontario Compensation and Benefits Survey, 2019](#))

Collaborative Strategic Planning Process

Funding for the 2023 Strategic Planning sessions provided by the City of Toronto Confronting Anti-Black Racism Unit and CP Planning's Roadmap for Redevelopment Plans to Confront Systemic Racism

2021

- Co-leads met and conducted outreach with initial group of BCHAT members

2022

- Hosted group meetings to prepare BCHAT's Terms of Reference, including 2 meetings where members provided direct feedback and approved the finalized copy

2023

- Agreement to prepare a Strategic Plan
- June – August, hosted numerous workshop sessions, online and in person, and a survey, to collect feedback on directions for the Strategic Plan*
- Strategic Plan published September 2023

Impact so Far

Support to African Asylum Seekers

- Provided staffing and expert services to the establishment of a Black Emergency Crisis Response, sheltering over 400 African Asylum Seekers in Black-led faith groups and service centres.
- Coordinated meetings between Black leaders and government, strengthening relationship and facilitating knowledge exchange.
- Coordinated and supported for over \$500,000 to flow through to Black-led groups to provide services.

Supporting Black-led housing development

- Supporting 3 Black housing leaders advance affordable housing projects

Policy

- Raising attention on importance of maintaining and increasing \$50 million Black carve out in federal Affordable Housing Fund

2024 Next Steps

Continue to serve as a network building relationships and facilitating knowledge exchange

Centre policy decisions that address systemic barriers and scale the Black housing economy

Support Black-led housing development

Knowledge sharing with aligned leaders from across Canada

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