

# PETITION FOR THE RENOVATION OF LOW-COST HOUSING

To the Government of Canada  
Chamber of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

1. Considering that, after evaluating the health and safety of Low-Cost Housing units across Quebec, the 544 Quebec Housing Offices have judged that important renovations are needed in these units
2. Considering that the Federal Government is in part responsible for this situation, having not sufficiently invested in the maintenance and renovation of Low-Cost Housing units built in Quebec since the 1970s
3. Considering that the 65,000 households living in Low-Cost Housing in Quebec depend on these renovations to improve their quality of life
4. Considering that these renovations would protect the sustainability of this housing stock valued at more than \$7 billion, and that it would allow for significant energy savings as well as for the creation of jobs in every region of Quebec
5. Considering that the *Société d'habitation du Québec* needs an adequate financial contribution from the Federal Government in order to complete its renovation plan

**We, the undersigned, respectfully demand that the Government of Canada give the *Société d'habitation du Québec* the necessary public funds to allow this agency to complete its renovation plan for Low-Cost Housing, including its accumulated maintenance deficit.**

	Signature	City	Province
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

Please, turn this petition in to your Federal MP by January 31<sup>st</sup> 2011



**Fédération des locataires d'habitations à loyer modique du Québec (FLHLMQ)**  
2520, av. Lionel-Groulx, local 202, Montréal (Québec) H3J 1J8  
1 800 566-9662 • [www.flhlmq.org](http://www.flhlmq.org) • [info@flhlmq.org](mailto:info@flhlmq.org)

# PETITION FOR THE RENOVATION OF LOW-COST HOUSING

To the Government of Canada  
Chamber of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

**We, the undersigned, respectfully demand that the Government of Canada give the *Société d'habitation du Québec* the necessary public funds to allow this agency to complete its renovation plan for Low-Cost Housing, including its accumulated maintenance deficit.**

	Signature	City	Province
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			
26			
27			
28			
29			
30			



**Fédération des locataires d'habitations à loyer modique du Québec (FLHLMQ)**

2520, av. Lionel-Groulx, local 202, Montréal (Québec) H3J 1J8

1 800 566-9662 • [www.flhlmq.org](http://www.flhlmq.org) • [info@flhlmq.org](mailto:info@flhlmq.org)



# ABC's of a Good Petition Campaign

## A. Sign the Petition and Get Others to Sign

The best way to get a petition signed is to do it systematically.

Ideally, you can organise a meeting with the tenants of your building to explain the situation (see the above text) and ask the people present to sign the petition. Afterwards, you can make a visit to each of the apartments in your building.

For the Tenant's Associations that include several different buildings, you can identify someone responsible for each building who will do a door-to-door visit.

**Everyone can sign the petition, including people who do not live in Low-Cost Housing.** You can ask your friends and family to sign. If you participate in other groups (seniors groups, bowling clubs, collective kitchens, etc,) don't hesitate to bring the petition with you and ask the other members to sign.

**The tenants who sit on the Board of Directors can ask the other members of the Board** of Directors to sign the petition. As well, the Board of your Municipal Housing Office can vote a model resolution to support the petition.

Employees at the office can also sign the petition.

A blank copy of the petition is available on the website of the FLHLMQ at [www.flhlmq.org/petition-renovations-english](http://www.flhlmq.org/petition-renovations-english)

## B. Give Your Petition to Your Member of Parliament

The petition is designed to put pressure on the federal government. Each MP can, if his or her constituency demands, read the petition in the Chamber of Commons in Ottawa. In order to do this, you must give them the petition.

We invite you to ask for a meeting with your local MP in order to give them this petition and to ask them to do everything in their power, including reading the petition in the Chamber of Commons, in order to ensure that the renovation budget for Low-Cost Housing are not cut by the federal government.

## C. Send the Summary Form to the FLHLMQ

In order for us to have an exact idea of the number of signatures gathered for the petition and the number of MPs pressured by this campaign, we are asking you to send us the summary form that is included with this package.



## Summary of the petition campaign for the renovation of Low-Cost Housing units

Number of signatures: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of association and/or CCR and/or  
tenant on the Board of Directors: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Municipal Housing Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of your Federal Member of Parliament: \_\_\_\_\_

### 4 ways to send this summary:

- **By Mail**  
FLHLMQ  
2520 Lionel-Groulx #202  
Montréal (Québec) H3J 1J8
- **By Fax**  
514 521-6444
- **On Line**  
[www.flhlmq.org/compte-rendu-petition-renovation](http://www.flhlmq.org/compte-rendu-petition-renovation)
- **By Phone**  
Montreal Area : 514 521-1485  
Everywhere else in Québec : 1 800 566-9662



## A budget cut of 30% Please sign this petition!!

Dear fellow tenants,

We have just learned from *Société d'habitation du Québec* President John MacKay that the 2011 budget for the renovation of Low-Cost Housing (HLM) units across the province will fall to 200 million dollars from 276 million dollars.

This means that in 2011 a cut of 30% will be imposed on all Municipal Housing Offices that administer over 500 housing units and that other cuts will follow for the smaller housing offices in 2012. These cuts also mean that important construction work will again be delayed.

In concrete terms, these cuts will affect thousands of tenants who will continue to live in apartments with bad windows, frayed linoleum, and washrooms and kitchens without ventilation or proper plumbing. It will also mean that several buildings will remain inaccessible for people using personal mobility devices such as wheelchairs and scooters and that, amongst other things, the housing offices will have to abandon its program to retrofit apartments so as to enable the occupants to install individual washing machines and dryers.

These cuts are due to the refusal of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) to finance these renovations. The CMHC should dedicate 140 million dollars of funding per year, however it now wants to limit its contribution to only 70 million dollars. That is why we need your help!

If each of the 400 Low-Cost Housing Tenant Association does its part, we will deposit a petition with tens of thousands of signatures to the 75 Quebecois Members of Parliament. This will be a strong lobbying tool in the run-up to the next federal budget as well as to the possible up-coming elections.

**With your help, we will obtain the necessary money to renovate our homes!**

Yours in solidarity,

FLHLMQ Chairperson



## Model Resolution for Organisations

Below is the text of a model resolution that Municipal Housing Office Board's of Directors, Municipal Councils, Community Groups, and other groups can adopt to demand that the federal government makes its proper contribution to the Low-Cost Housing renovation program.

1. Considering that, after evaluating the health and safety of Low-Cost Housing units across Quebec, the 544 Quebec Housing Offices have judged that important renovations are needed in these units
2. Considering that the Federal Government is in part responsible for this situation, having not sufficiently invested in the maintenance and renovation of Low-Cost Housing units built in Quebec since the 1970s
3. Considering that the 65,000 households living in Low-Cost Housing in Quebec depend on these renovations to improve their quality of life
4. Considering that these renovations would protect the sustainability of this housing stock valued at more than \$7 billion, and that it would allow for significant energy savings as well as for the creation of jobs in every region of Quebec
5. Considering that the *Société d'habitation du Québec* needs an adequate financial contribution from the Federal Government in order to complete its renovation plan

We \_\_\_\_\_ respectfully demand that the Government of Canada give the *Société d'habitation du Québec* the necessary public funds to allow this agency to complete its renovation plan for Low-Cost Housing, including its accumulated maintenance deficit.

Moved : \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: \_\_\_\_\_



Once voted on, you must send a copy to your local Member of Parliament as well as to the FLHLMQ.

Thanks!