



Canadian
Federation
of Apartment
Associations

Fédération
Canadienne Des
Associations
De Propriétaires
Immobiliers

440-55 Metcalfe Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 6L5
Tel. 613-235-0101
Fax 613-238-0101
www.cfaa-fcapi.org

News Release

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(For Immediate Release)**

CFAA Board appoints new officers

At its recent Annual General Meeting in Edmonton, the Board of the Canadian Federation of Apartment Associations appointed new officers for the upcoming year. The new officers are:

Chair: Avrom Charach from Winnipeg, Manitoba

Secretary/Treasurer: Jonathan Brimmell from London, Ontario

Chair of the Membership and Finance Cmte: Clarence Rusnell from Edmonton, Alberta

Chair of the Government Relations Cmte: Vince Brescia from Toronto, Ontario

The past Chair is Jean-Francois Bigras from Montreal, Quebec.

John Dickie continues as the President, representing the CFAA on a permanent basis in Ottawa.

CFAA's Policy Prescription

More than one million Canadian renter households are considered to be in core housing need. However, most of those households are in core need because they need to spend more than 30% of their incomes on housing. Since existing housing is more economical than new construction, CFAA suggests that the governments will achieve the optimal housing result for the most people if they adopt the following policies:

- 1. Provide fairer tax treatment for the rental-housing industry to lower the cost of rental housing and make rents more affordable;**
- 2. Increase funding for shelter allowances and portable housing allowances to address the incidence of very low incomes; and**
- 3. Focus funding for new construction programs on housing for special needs that cannot be met by the private sector.**

CFAA's policies would lead to a better situation for tenants, landlords and taxpayers. Tenants would gain more housing, and would see more choice and better maintenance and services through private competition. Landlords would see better after-tax returns, more investment opportunities, and a greater ability to buy or sell as their investment goals change. In turn, that would lead to more, better and more affordable housing. Taxpayers would save money, as the cost of tax reforms and helping tenants directly with their affordability problems is less than the cost of subsidizing the building of new housing.

CFAA Chair Avrom Charach says, "The income tax changes over the last 35 years have made rental housing more costly, and prejudiced tenants many of whom are not in a position to take advantage of the massive tax benefits provided to homeowners." CFAA President John Dickie says, "Tenants badly need tax reforms to move toward an equal playing field for tenants and homeowners."

For more information, contact:
John Dickie, President, CFAA – FCAP
(613) 235-0101

OR
Avrom Charach, Chair, CFAA - FCAP
(204) 339-0461

The Canadian Federation of Apartment Associations represents the owners and managers of more than one million residential rental suites in Canada, through 17 organizations across Canada. CFAA is the sole national organization representing the interests of Canada's \$30 billion rental housing industry.