

## TAKING ACTION

√	<b>I make the commitment to take the following action(s):</b>	<b>by ... (when?)</b>
	I will write or email my councillor to ask him/her to take concrete action to aid the homeless and increase affordable housing.	
	I will write email my Ontario MPP to ask him/her to take concrete action to increase housing allowances and support the development of affordable housing.	
	I will write or email my federal MP to ask him/her to provide direct financing for the construction of affordable housing.	
	I will arrange for me/my group to meet with our Councillor, MPP, or MP to discuss what actions he/she will take to ensure every person and family can find a place to call home.	
	I will investigate the feasibility of offering a second suite (e.g. basement apartment) in my home and, if feasible, take action to create it.	
	I will talk to a housing provider about providing or obtaining funds, land or material.	
	I will call a community meeting to discuss a housing initiative.	
	I will talk to a service organization about volunteering my help.	
	I will arrange a homelessness/housing information session for my group/organization ( <i>contact the Conference office for resources</i> ).	
	I will discuss with my family the plight of the homeless and those at risk, and decide what we can do as a family.	
	<b>I will ...</b>	

### HOUSING INFORMATION

To challenge a <i>rent increase</i> file for a rent <i>abatement</i> due to poor maintenance, or to find out your <i>legal maximum rent</i> (the most rent your landlord is allowed to ask) <b>Ontario Rental Housing Tribunal</b> 1-888-332-3234 • <a href="http://www.orht.gov.on.ca">www.orht.gov.on.ca</a>	<b>Let them know your views on homelessness ...</b> Premier Mike Harris - 416-325-1941 Prov. Min. of Housing, Al Leach - 416-585-7000 Fed. Min. of Housing, Alfonso Gagliano – 613-995-9414 Your local MP, MPP, or Councillor
<b>Canadian Housing Information Centre</b> 1-800-245-9274 • <a href="http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/">www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/</a>	<b>Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation</b> 416-944-0087 • To report housing and human rights discrimination by landlords. • <a href="http://www.web.net/cera/">www.web.net/cera/</a>
<b>Children's Aid Society</b> (See your local phone book – business section)	<b>Community Legal Education Ontario</b> 416-408-4420 • to acquire tenant pamphlets
<b>Local Shelters</b> (See your local phone book – business section)	<b>Ontario Coalition Against Poverty</b> 416-6939 • protests against homelessness, direct action for the poor.
<b>Out of the Cold</b> – 416-782-0122 (See Bell White pages – business section)	<b>Political action to end homelessness:</b> <b>Toronto Disaster Relief Committee</b> 416-703-8482 x411 • <a href="http://www.tao.ca/~tdrc/">www.tao.ca/~tdrc/</a>
<b>Public Health Office</b> (See your local phone book – blue pages)	<b>Putting Housing Back of the Public Agenda</b> 416-598-4144 • <a href="http://www.housingagain.web.net">www.housingagain.web.net</a>
Housing Recommendations in the <i>Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples report</i> , 1996 <a href="http://www.indigenous.bc.ca/rcap.htm">www.indigenous.bc.ca/rcap.htm</a>	<b>Statistics Canada for '96 Census Information:</b> <a href="http://www.statcan.ca/english/census96/nation.htm">www.statcan.ca/english/census96/nation.htm</a>
<i>Understanding Homelessness in Muskoka</i> , report – contact Muskoka District Housing Authority	