

Project Update Report

1. Design Updates

Otter Housing Association (OHA) is proceeding with a Class B cost estimate based on the current drawings. This will provide a more accurate estimate of construction costs. The design work is mainly funded through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Study Grant with co-funding from the Newcomer Housing grant, Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) and NL Community Growth Fund. Completing the Class B cost estimate will enable FCM to release the remaining funds and officially close out the FCM Study Grant.

2. Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) Initiative Updates

The Project Management Team (PMT) agreed to hire the Town Planner, Mary to aid with an infographic on the affordable housing policy changes in simple language to share with the community.

3. HAF Funding Update

Since the previous PMT meeting on January 12 2026, HAF funds have been used to pay for architectural design services provided by Chris Woodford, totaling \$94 355 + HST and Project management fees for OHA, totaling \$5000 + HST.

4. HAF Reporting

HAF reporting activities are ongoing. Annual reports are due in late March (one month after the agreement date of February 21) and are currently being prepared by OHA. PMT agreed to send PMT reports to all of the council in their monthly meeting packages. OHA to decide whether PMT reports can be added to the town website.

5. AOB

Olivia found a new FCM grant focused on energy retrofits for municipal buildings. PMT agreed that this aligns with HAF's climate-resilient communities initiative and would be a good fit for replacing the oil furnace at the Town's fire hall and heritage building. Chris noted that Cathy (Town Clerk) has already been exploring this opportunity. Olivia will follow up with her directly.

6. Next PMT meeting: March 9th 2026 at 10am on Google Meet.

Questions on the project or this update can be directed to olivia@otterhousing.ca.