



YOU HOLD THE KEY

FIX THE CO-OP HOUSING CRUNCH

Federal Election 2015 Campaign Co-op Champions Job Description

CARE ABOUT CO-OPS? GOT WHAT IT TAKES?

Are you passionate about your co-operative community? Do you want to see members who need financial help to stay in their homes get it? Do you want to make sure the candidates running in your riding support federal funding of provincially-delivered rent supplement programs for low-income co-op members? Talk to us! The Co-operative Housing Federation of BC is recruiting co-op members to act as “Co-op Champions” during the federal election campaign. This is your chance to hold the politicians’ collective feet to the co-operative fire.

HERE’S THE CHALLENGE

As a Co-op Champion, you’ll represent the co-op movement during the election campaign. Your job will be to get candidates to commit to supporting federal funding of a provincially-delivered rent supplement program for low-income co-op members. This program will replace vanishing federal subsidies, which end when a co-op’s operating agreement expires. The provincial government is responsible for delivering housing programs in B.C. and CHF BC has proposed a rent supplement program to assist our most vulnerable members.

But we believe the federal government has a big role to play too. Ottawa needs to fund the provinces and territories adequately so these kinds of rent supplement programs are affordable and sustainable. And the federal government should be reinvesting the money it saves from all those expiring operating agreements.

With your help, we’ll educate federal candidates on how important these two points are. In B.C. alone, nearly four thousand households need help to keep their homes affordable. During the course of the campaign, you’ll meet lots of people, talk to the media, mobilize your fellow co-op members and help ensure that low-income members, seniors and co-op members with disabilities are able to stay in their homes.

WHAT YOU’LL DO

Co-op Champions work like party candidates during an election. And just like candidates, you’ll hit the campaign trail running. Here’s what you’ll be asked to do:

- **Attend meetings and events** with members of the CHF BC You Hold the Key Campaign team and get candidates to commit to supporting federal funding of a provincially-delivered rent supplement program for low-income co-op members
- **Share your experience** with your fellow co-op members and the public by posting to Facebook, sending out Tweets and appearing in videos
- **Act as a spokesperson** at CHF BC-organized campaign events and be available for media interviews to get the message out to the public and politicians

HOW WE'LL HELP

You won't be alone! The CHF BC You Hold the Key Campaign Team will give you the resources you need to shine as a Co-op Champion. We'll be there to provide you with:

- Media training so you can get the message across clearly and powerfully
- Communications materials like brochures, backgrounders and other pieces that reinforce your arguments and get the message out
- A political primer with tips and hints on who's who, how to ask questions that get answers and other important info

Let's make a difference!

As a Co-op Champion, you'll act as an ambassador for the co-operative housing movement and be the CHF BC's "troops on the ground" during the federal campaign. You'll raise the profile of CHF BC's campaign goals with the candidates, the public and the media. You'll also provide the CHF BC You Hold the Key Campaign Team with material for social media and other communications materials to get the message out throughout B.C. and Canada. Working together, we can build a coalition of supporters to ensure that whoever forms the next federal government, they'll step up to the funding plate.

Sign up now

Got your running shoes on and ready to hit the campaign trail? Tell us! To sign up as a Co-op Champion, please contact:

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