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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**ONTARIO RENOVATES PROGRAM NOW OPEN**

**County of Renfrew Residents: Applications to Access Funding For Home Repairs Are Now Available**

**Pembroke, ON:** The County of Renfrew, in partnership with the Province of Ontario, is pleased to announce Ontario Renovates will be accepting new applications for funding starting on May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019, to assist homeowners to access funding for upgrades to their homes to enhance their quality of life. Ontario Renovates is a program which is part of the Investment in Affordable Housing for Ontario (IAH) 2014 Extension Program. This program provides financial assistance to homeowners by way of a forgivable loan to repair their home to acceptable standards while improving the energy efficiency and/or increasing accessibility of their unit.

Chair of the County of Renfrew Social Services Committee, Councillor Debbie Robinson explained that; *“The target groups for Ontario Renovates include low to moderate income homeowners residing in the County of Renfrew. This is a great opportunity for some of our residents to make the necessary upgrades to their home and also improve their quality of life. I really encourage our local residents to inquire about this program. The program is based on a first-come, first-serve basis.”*

In order to qualify for the program, residents must meet certain criteria, including but not limited to:

- The property must be located in the County of Renfrew,
- Applicants must own the home that is their sole and principle residence with a market value below \$242,704,
- Applicants must have a total household income that does not exceed \$85,200 which includes all sources of income.

In order to qualify for the program, there is a formal application process that is administered through Renfrew County Housing Corporation. Funding is provided in the form of a 10-year, interest free forgivable loan to homeowners based on the cost of approved work items up to \$10,000. In addition, funding for accessible repairs made to a home and /or unit up to a maximum of \$3,500 do not require repayment provided they are used for the intended purpose. The application must provide verification of need from a healthcare professional.

For more information on this exciting program, or to request an application package, please call 613-432-3679. Residents of the County of Renfrew can also pick up an application package at any of the Renfrew County Housing Corporation offices or download the application package by visiting [www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca](http://www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca)

**PLEASE NOTE: Applications will not be accepted at any of the Renfrew County Housing Corporation offices prior to May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

**Application packages received prior to May 14<sup>th</sup>, will be returned to sender.**

For more information, please contact:

Carol Neill                      General Manager, Renfrew County Housing Corporation                      613-432-3679

Michael Barber                Media Relations/ Grants Coordinator, County of Renfrew                      613-735-7288