

# **Housing Resource Booklet**



This booklet is meant to be used as a helpful tool and quick-reference guide to housing resources in Niagara Falls.

Please note that information in this booklet is subject to change based on changes in community resources.

### Are you housed, but want to know your rights as a tenant?

The **Niagara Community Legal Clinic** is an agency that can answer legal questions for low-income households. Legal advocates can provide guidance on housing issues, such as evictions, conflicts, and maintenance issues. The Niagara Community Legal Clinic accepts phone calls only at this time. **Phone:** 905-682-6635 | **Website**: <a href="https://www.niagaracommunitylegalclinic.com/">https://www.niagaracommunitylegalclinic.com/</a>

You can also check out these helpful tools for renters:

**Educational Resources provided by Community Legal Education Ontario:** 

https://www.cleo.on.ca/en/resources-and-publications/housing-law

Tool to Determine Rights in a shared housing accommodation:

https://www.cleo.on.ca/english/roommates/index.html

Tenant/Landlord rights Fact Sheet:

https://tribunalsontario.ca/documents/ltb/Brochures/Information%20for%20New%20Tenants.html

How to obtain Legal Advice for Tenants and Landlords with a Pending Landlord Tenant Board court date:

https://tribunalsontario.ca/documents/ltb/Hearing%20Resources/ACTO-LLSH%20Insert.pdf

**Landlord Tenant Board Forms:** 

https://tribunalsontario.ca/ltb/forms/

### **Are You Searching for Housing?**

#### If you are seeking a room or apartment to rent, please refer to the list of websites below that often have rentals posted:

| https://www.kijiji.ca   | https://rentals.ca/niagara-falls   |
|---|--|
| https://www.rentboard.ca/niagara-falls-on   | https://www.rentcafe.com/apartments-for-rent/ca/on/niagara-falls/                                      |
| https://www.zillow.com/niagara-falls-on/rentals/                                      | https://www.skylineliving.ca/en/apartments/ontario/niagara-falls                                       |
| https://gottarent.com/apartments-for-<br>rent/canada/ontario/niagara-falls            | https://www.viewit.ca/rentals/niagarafalls   |
| https://www.point2homes.com/CA/Real-Estate-<br>Listings/ON/Niagara-Falls.html         | https://www.facebook.com/marketplace/104083606294021/search?query=niagara%20falls%20apartment          |
| https://www.orangelist.com/listings   | https://www.panoramicproperties.ca/apartments-for-rent/cities/niagara-falls                            |
| https://www.realstar.ca/apartments/on/niagara-<br>falls/lyndon-place/nearbyproperties | https://athenapropertymanagementinc1.managebuilding.com/Resident/public/rentals?bedrooms=2&bathrooms=0 |

**Note:** Rental scams are on the rise nationwide. We encourage you to not send payment for any rental opportunities until you have seen the unit in-person and have a signed rental agreement/lease. For information on common scamming practices, please visit the <a href="Ontario Canada Website">Ontario Canada Website</a>.

#### Other Sources to find Rental Leads:

- Landlords and individuals seeking roommates may post rental leads in the newspaper under classified ads.
- Try asking your friends and family who are housed if their landlords are looking for new tenants.
- Ask friends and family if they can offer a space for you. You never know unless you ask!
- Try reaching out to a Broker, who can conduct personalized searches for you, free of charge! https://www.niagararealtor.ca/brokerages

#### **Affordable Housing:**

For community housing programs, you will need to apply for **Niagara Regional Housing (NRH)** to be added to the Centralized Waitlist. Once you have applied for NRH, your household income will be assessed to determine if you are eligible for community housing programs. If your income is not eligible, you may still be eligible for NRH's market value rentals.

Niagara Regional Housing also offers subsidies, however there is no separate application for these subsidies. Criteria for a subsidy offer is reviewed internally by Niagara Regional Housing staff. As a result, subsidy offers are not guaranteed to all applicants.

Please note: There is a waitlist for NRH housing, and your wait time to receive an offer cannot be determined.

### **Common Questions about Community Housing:**

1. What will I need to apply for Niagara Regional Housing?

Applicants interested in community housing will require the following documentation:

- One of the following forms of ID: A Canadian Birth Certificate, Valid Canadian Passport, a Native Status ID card, or verification of
  having or have applied for Refugee Status/Permanent Residency for <u>ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS</u>. For inquiries on if your ID type is
  accepted, please see Niagara Regional Housing's website. (*Please note*: OHIP, Driver's License, or Ontario ID cards are not accepted
  by NRH).
- Verification of Income for household members 16-years-of-age or older. NRH will accept 2 recent pay stubs, a recent 30-60 day bank statement, a recent OW/ODSP statement, or Notice of Assessment from CRA for the previous tax year.
   (*Please note*: Verification of income can vary depending on income source. Please check Niagara Regional Housing to ensure you have everything you require for your application. NRH requires a Notice of Assessment at the time of offer).

2. I share access with another caregiver. Can I still apply for Community Housing with my dependent?

Yes. In addition to ID (and income verification if they are 16, or older), a document outlining the access agreement for the dependent you are applying with may be requested. Please contact Niagara Regional Housing if you have questions.

3. Can I apply to other community housing providers outside of the region?

Yes. You can have your name on as many Community Housing waitlists as you would like. However, you may be required to take your name off of these waitlists if you receive an offer.

4. What does "Centralized Waitlist" mean?

Niagara Regional Housing is one application for many community housing providers. What this means is that a combination of Non-Profit agencies, Co-Ops, and other organizations offer community housing through Niagara Regional Housing. Applying to NRH means you are applying to multiple organizations, depending on what properties you have selected in your building selections.

5. What does "Rent-Geared-to-Income" mean?

Rent-Geared-to-Income means that your rent is determined based on your household income. Individuals who are low-income and qualify for community housing are expected to pay only 30% of their monthly household income toward rent.

Further information about Niagara Regional Housing Programs and Subsidies can be found at: <a href="https://www.nrh.ca/">https://www.nrh.ca/</a>.

The online Niagara Region housing application can be found here: <a href="https://survey.alchemer-ca.com/s3/50169808/Housing-Application">https://survey.alchemer-ca.com/s3/50169808/Housing-Application</a>.

### Are You Missing Documents Required to Apply for Housing?

#### **Identification:**

If you are a Canadian Resident and require a birth certificate, the **Niagara Falls Community Health Centre** has a Birth Certificate Clinic that operates between **1-4pm** on **Fridays**. The clinic is located at 4790 Victoria Avenue, beside the Public Library and is first-come, first-serve; No appointments!

To receive assistance with OHIP and Ontario ID cards, please call the MPP Wayne Gate's office. Fees not covered. 905-357-0681

#### Income:

If for any reason you are not able to provide verification of your monthly income, you can provide a Notice of Assessment from the CRA for the most recent tax year. If you require assistance in accessing your CRA account, you can contact the local MP Tony Baldinelli's office, who can speak to the CRA for you with a signed Authorization of Parliamentarian form. **905-535-9590**, or call Project SHARE for assistance.

### Are You a Youth (16-24 years-old) looking for Housing Assistance?

**The RAFT** can assist youths at-risk of, or are experiencing homelessness. The RAFT can offer shelter, and outreach services, as well as summer and afterschool programming. **905-984-4365** or email **INFO@THERAFT.CA** 

**The Boys and Girls Club Niagara** has short-term residence and transitional housing programs for youths 30 and under through the Nightlight program. Nightlight programs are open 24 hours/day, 7 days per week. Call **905-358-3678.** 

For more youth services, please visit the Ontario Canada Website

## **Emergency and Short-Term Housing:**

#### **SHELTERS**

After hours contact 2-1-1 for emergency shelter referrals. Niagara Assertive Street Outreach (NASO) can assist individuals experiencing homelessness with case management and community referrals.

| Shelter Name  | Address              | City              | Phone Number     |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| YWCA (women and children)   | 6135 Culp Street     | Niagara Falls     | 905-988-3528     |
| YW Shelter (men)  | 8004 Lundy's Lane    | Niagara Falls     | 905-988-3528     |
| YW Family Shelter (two parent and male led families)              | UNDISCLOSED          | Niagara Falls/STC | 905-988-3528     |
| Nightlight Youth Services (16-30 years)                           | 5519 Ontario Avenue  | Niagara Falls     | 905-358-3678     |
| Birchway (women and children experiencing abuse)                  | UNDISCLOSED          | Niagara Falls     | 905-356-5800     |
| Gillian's Place (women and children experiencing abuse)           | 15 Gibson Place      | St. Catharines    | 905-684-8331     |
| Southridge Shelter (co-ed)  | 201 Glenridge Avenue | St. Catharines    | 905-682-2477     |
| Summer Street Shelter (Housing Focused; men & women)              | 5925 Summer St.      | Niagara Falls     | 289-969-1464     |
| Silver Spire Church (temporary shelter; men & women)              | 366 St. Paul Street  | St. Catharines    | 289-783-9350     |
| The Salvation Army Booth Centre (men)                             | 184 Church Street    | St. Catharines    | 905-684-7813     |
| The RAFT Shelter (co-ed 16 – 24 years)                            | 17 Centre Street     | St. Catharines    | 905-984-4365     |
| The Hope Centre   | 570 King Street      | Welland           | 905-788-0744     |
| Women's Detox   | 264 Welland Avenue   | St. Catharines    | 905-687-9721     |
| Men's Detox   | 264 Welland Avenue   | St. Catharines    | 905-682-7211     |
| CMHA Safe Beds (Co-ed 16 years and older in mental health crisis) | 264 Welland Avenue   | St. Catharines    | 1-866-550-5205x2 |
| Abbey House (Indigenous women 16 years and older)                 | UNDISCLOSED          | UNDISCLOSED       | 905-688-6484     |
| Chez Marie Refugee Assistance Centre (Refugees)                   | 16 Pelham Road       | St. Catharines    | 905-682-5795     |
| Casa El Norte (Refugees)  | 281 Central Avenue   | Fort Erie         | 905-871-4483     |
| Matthew House (Refugees)  | 183 Central Avenue   | Fort Erie         | 905-871-6059     |

#### **MOTELS**

| Name                           | Address                   | Phone         | Comments  |  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|---|--|
| Niagara Inn & Suites           | 7225 Lundy's Lane         | 905-354-0281  | No pets. Free wireless internet. Fridge and microwave. Flat screen TV. Free parking.  |  |
| Ritz Inn                       | 5630 Dunn Street          | 905-356-4490  | Weekly and monthly stays welcome at same weekly rate. No pets. Free wireless internet. Fridge.  |  |
| Sunrise Inn                    | 6267 Lundy's Lane         | 905-356-5135  | Pet friendly, free Wi-Fi. Free parking. Pool. A/C. Refrigerators available.   |  |
| Space Motel                    | 8618 Lundy's Lane         | 905-354-8157  | Clean, non-smoking motel. Free Wi-Fi. Free parking. Pool. A/C. Refrigerators available.   |  |
| Falls Lodge                    | 6276 Main St.             | 905- 358-8136 | Free Wi-Fi. Parking onsite. Rooms equipped with A/C, mini fridge and microwave. No pets allowed.                                      |  |
| Niagara Lodge & Suites         | 7720 Lundy's Lane         | 905-358-9833  | Free parking, free Wi-Fi and free breakfast daily. No pets. Every room is equipped with A/C.  |  |
| Howard Johnson<br>By Wyndham   | 8100 Lundy's Lane         | 905-358-9777  | Pets allowed for \$20 fee around 30 lbs. Free Wi-Fi and A/C, parking is \$5 day.  |  |
| Advance Inn                    | 6019 Lundy's Lane         | 905-356-0541  | Budget rooms with free Wi-Fi & flat-screen TVs, plus complimentary parking. No pets allowed.  |  |
| Super 8 by<br>Wyndham          | 5577 Ellen Avenue         | 905-581-0034  | Free Wi-Fi & air conditioning. Continental breakfast included. Parking is \$10 a day.  No pets allowed.                               |  |
| Oasis Motel                    | 5107 Centre St.           | 416-907-0994  | Straightforward, functional rooms feature free Wi-Fi, TVs and en suite bathrooms.  Fridges and microwaves are available upon request. |  |
| Niagara Parkway<br>Court Motel | 3708 Main St,<br>Chippawa | 905-295-3331  | Free Wi-Fi, Free onsite parking, Includes TV, Fridge/Freezer, Microwave, Toaster, Coffee Maker, AC and Heater in each room.           |  |
| Lundy's Motel                  | 8646 Lundy's Lane         | 905-374-2664  | Free Wi-Fi, Free parking, access to pool.   |  |
| The Falls Family Lodge         | 5612 Ellen Ave            | 289-296-5566  | Free Wi-Fi and A/C, Free parking, Breakfast for an extra charge.  |  |
| Kingsway Motel                 | 8988 Lundy's Ln           | 905-354-5297  | Free Wi-Fi and free parking.  |  |
| 7 Nights Stay                  | 5334 Kitchener St         | 289-296-3953  | Free Wi-Fi and parking, TV included.  |  |

Project SHARE compiles this list of community resources based on information available at the time of print. Information and resources are subject to change. Project SHARE does not endorse, or have a formal partnership with any of the rental motels, and individuals are strongly encouraged to view, research and/or seek legal advice before entering a rental agreement.