

A Framework to Evaluate Progress on the Right to Housing

Right to Housing Toronto's Presentation to the Housing Rights Advisory Committee

June 3, 2025



AGENDA

- Overview of R2HTO
- Developing R2HTO's Evaluation Framework
- Elements of R2HTO's Evaluation Framework
- Applying R2HTO's Evaluation Framework
- Next Steps
- Q&A

About Right to Housing Toronto (R2HTO)

R2HTO is a network of organizations and individuals working to support the implementation of the right to housing by the City of Toronto.

About R2HTO

Our mission

R2HTO works alongside communities, organizations, and advocates to advance the right to housing in Toronto by:

- Holding the City accountable to its commitment to implement the right to housing
- Ensuring the City adopts a human rights-based approach to its housing planning and policy and prioritizes the housing needs of marginalized communities
- Building awareness of housing issues in Toronto
- Building the capacity of communities and decision-makers to advance the right to housing

About R2HTO

Our goals

Policy:

Provide policy advice to the City by translating the right to housing into concrete policy recommendations

Implementation & Monitoring:

Hold the City accountable for implementing the right to housing

Education & Engagement:

Foster a culture of human rights in Toronto

Network Capacity:

Strengthen R2HTO as an effective and representative group of housing advocates

About R2HTO

Our policy priorities

Preservation of affordable housing:

- Multi-tenant housing framework
- Rental replacement policy
- Multi-Unit Residential Acquisition (MURA) program

Tenant protections and supports:

- Eviction Prevention in the Community (EPIC)
- Rent Bank
- Toronto Tenant Support Program (TTSP)

Developing R2HTO's Evaluation Framework

- Ensure the City employs a human rights-based approach to its 10-year housing plan
- Builds on previous R2HTO resources on the right to housing
- Drafted by R2HTO members with review by Canadian Centre for Housing Rights staff
- Initial engagement with Ombudsman Toronto - Housing Unit and Housing Secretariat to align with internal City processes

Elements of R2HTO's Evaluation Framework

Process elements

Based on work with Leilani Farha and in recognition of the municipal role in advancing the right to housing:

- 1. Rights-based decision making**
- 2. Coordinated governance and action**
- 3. Goals, targets, timelines, and mechanisms**
- 4. Transparent, evidence-based monitoring**
- 5. Rights-based participation and leadership**
- 6. Accountability mechanisms**

Elements of R2HTO's Evaluation Framework

Substantive elements

Based on standards of the right to adequate housing identified by the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights:

- 1. Affordability**
- 2. Security of tenure**
- 3. Habitability**
- 4. Accessibility**
- 5. Cultural adequacy**
- 6. Availability of services**
- 7. Location**
- * Equality/non-discrimination**

Elements of R2HTO's Evaluation Framework

Guiding framework

Based on the OPERA Framework developed by the Center for Economic and Social Rights to analyze a state's obligations to fulfill human rights:

- 1. Outcomes**
- 2. Policy efforts**
- 3. Resources**
- 4. Assessment**

Applying R2HTO's Evaluation Framework

Draft evaluation framework

- General questions to guide assessment
- Most useful when applied to specific policy/program area
- Not all elements relevant for all policy/program areas

Assessment

- Engage with impacted communities, City staff, and other stakeholders to gather, analyze, and evaluate relevant data
- Develop recommendations to support the City in employing a rights-based approach

Next Steps

- **First assessment:** Multi-tenant housing (MTH) framework, including engagement with City staff, MTH tenants, operators, advocates, and other stakeholders
- **Living document:** Ongoing community engagement to continue improving evaluation framework and ensure it responds to community needs
- **Community tool:** Translate evaluation framework into accessible tool for other advocates and stakeholders to use to assess other City policy/program areas

Q&A

1. Are there any areas of the R2HTO Evaluation Framework that are **unclear or need further explanation**?
2. Are there elements of the right to housing that should be further elaborated to ensure that we're **tracking and measuring human rights outcomes**?
3. Can R2HTO support **engagement with communities of rights holders** as part of the evaluation process?

Thank you



Keep in touch



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