

## 1. Authority

1.1. This Policy is issued under the authority of the Yukon Housing Corporation (“YHC”) Board of Directors.

1.2. *Housing Corporation Act, RSY 2002, c. 114:*

4 (2) Without restricting the generality of subsection (1), the corporation may undertake, carry to completion, or assist in the provision, development, maintenance, and management of housing

- a) generally;
- b) for families and individuals;
- c) for employees of the public service;
- d) for students;
- e) for senior citizens; and
- f) for families and individuals receiving social allowances or social assistance.

## 2. Application

2.1. This policy applies to all applicants to the Medical Accommodation Policy and their household members.

## 3. Purpose

3.1. The purpose of this policy is to assist Yukoners who must relocate from their primary residence based on health or medical needs that cannot be accommodated by available housing in the private market.

3.2. The intent of this policy is to accommodate Yukoners by offering housing under the Rent Geared to Income Housing Program either:

- a) Within their current community in a Rent Geared to Income Housing Program unit that better meets their critical health or medical needs; or
- b) In another Yukon community served by YHC that can better meet their critical health or medical needs.

## 4. Definitions

4.1. A “medical accommodation” is for a household member whose present residential location or community cannot safely accommodate:

- a) their life threatening medical/health problems that require prolonged or recurring treatment, or
- b) their significant mobility issues that prevent the safe use of stairs and require a barrier-free living environment.

4.2. A “health care provider” for the purpose of this policy is defined as a physician or a community nurse practitioner.

## **5. Eligibility**

5.1. The Applicant must provide an “independent living” support plan (i.e., a list of supports who will help the Applicant maintain independence).

5.2. In order to be considered under this policy, applicants must provide a completed Verification Form for Critical Medical Accommodations signed by a health care provider as defined in the definitions section of this policy.

5.3. Medical accommodation applicants must meet all YHC Rent Geared to Income Housing Program eligibility criteria and adhere to all YHC policies.

## **6. Process**

6.1. Applications for medical accommodation must include a completed Verification Form for Critical Medical Accommodations signed by a health care provider and outline how independent living will be maintained.

6.2. If an applicant is moving from their current community to a new community, the Verification Form for Critical Medical Accommodations must indicate that care is available in the new community that meets the applicant’s specific health or medical needs.

6.3. If an applicant is staying in their current community, the Verification Form for Critical Medical Accommodations must indicate that relocation to a YHC unit will improve access to care that will meet the applicant’s specific health or medical needs.

6.4. If an applicant’s specific health or medical needs may be met in Dawson City, Watson Lake or Whitehorse, YHC staff may offer social housing units in these communities.

6.5. No other documentation (from a physician or otherwise) will be accepted in lieu of the Verification Form for Critical Medical Accommodations. An applicant will not be considered for medical accommodation until the Verification Form for Critical Medical Accommodations is received and approved by YHC. The Verification Form for Critical Medical Accommodations is valid for three months from the date of signature.

6.6. The applicant is entitled to turn down any unit based on reasonable cause without affecting their wait list priority.

6.6.1 Reasonable cause will be determined by the Director of Housing Operations but may include: accessibility, location or size of unit as well as suitability for approved pets as outlined in the YHC Pet Policy.

6.7. If the applicant declines two units without cause, the applicant shall be removed from the wait list and must re-apply if they wish to be re-considered for the Rent Geared to Income Housing Program.

6.8. Applicants must be made aware of their opportunity to decline a unit and the number of declines they are allowed (without reasonable cause) before impacting their wait list priority.

6.9. The program Director may make exceptions to any of the program parameters on a case by case basis. This is to be defined in the Program procedures to ensure accountability and consistency.


## **7. Policy Review**

7.1 This policy will be reviewed as required after implementation to ensure its effectiveness and compliance, as well as its alignment with Yukon government legislation.



Yukon Housing Corporation  
Policy – Medical Accommodation

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YHC APPROVAL	Effective Date: May 30, 2019	
	Chair, YHC Board of Directors Approval: 	YHC President Approval: 