

BARRIE HOUSING TENANT NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2025/2026

Message to Tenants

As we step into this new year, we're excited to share our Winter 2025/2026 Newsletter with you!

Inside, you'll find seasonal updates, helpful tips to navigate the colder months, and a few important reminders to keep things running smoothly throughout winter.

We're truly grateful to have you as part of our community and look forward to another year filled with meaningful connections and shared moments.

Here's to a bright, healthy, and fulfilling 2026!

In This Edition

- Survey & Colouring Contest Winner's
- Santa Clause Parade
- Returning/New Staff & Holiday Hours
- Tenant Testimonial
- Beyond Homes Foundation
- Programs in the New Year
- Winter/Maintenance Reminders
- Who to Contact



Follow us on Social Media

Stay updated on community events, and important notices. Search Barrie Housing on Instagram & Facebook



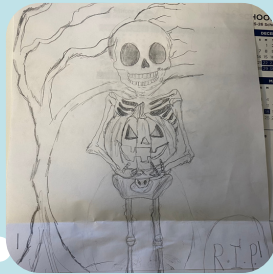
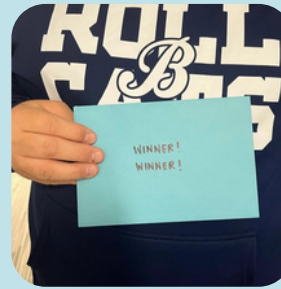
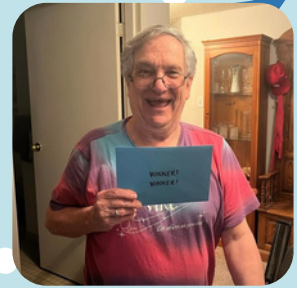
@barrie_housing



Survey Winners!

Thank you to everyone who completed this year's Tenant Survey's! In total, we received over 200 responses! All of your feedback will help guide future programming, upgrades and planning across Barrie Housing Sites!

A big congratulations to our 6 draw winners! Each received a \$100 Walmart gift card as a thank you. We loved delivering these prizes and hearing how tenants planned to use them. Thank you for helping us continue to grow, inspire and improve our communities.



Colouring Contest!



Halloween Colouring Contest



This October, our Community Development Department brought Halloween fun to all 14 sites! We were thrilled to see all of the creativity. Congratulations to our 4 spooky winners



Christmas Colouring Contest



Get your markers ready as we are launching a Christmas Colouring Contest! Keep an eye out for posters at your site, and make sure to include your age and unit number for a chance to win!



Santa Clause Parade

This year Barrie Housing took part in the Santa Clause Parade for the first time, and it was a **HUGE** success!

Staff and the Barrie OSPCA came together with only 2 weeks to plan, organize and design our classic Radio Flyer Float.

This float truly celebrated teamwork, creativity, and the spirit of the holiday season. Our team's energy and collaboration helped bring this float to life!

We are proud to announce that our entry in this year's Santa Clause Parade earned us **SECOND PLACE!**

A huge thank you to Park'N Fly for delivering our prize and certificate, and to all who contributed their time, ideas, and holiday cheer. This has been an amazing milestone for Barrie Housing, and we look forward to building on this new tradition in the years ahead!



PARK'N FLY



Welcome

Returning & New Staff

New Staff at Barrie Housing

Marianna Stoicheve joined Barrie Housing on October 20th. She is the Cleaner at Edgehill and Grove Place.

Tim Sterling joined Barrie housing on October 31st. He is the maintenance tech at Berczy Glen and Cundles Terrace.

Make sure to give them a wave and a warm welcome when you see them!

Returning Staff at Barrie Housing

Kristopher will be returning on December 8th to his role as Building Services Supervisor. You can find him working out of Head office at 571 Bayfield Street.

Ayanna Cabrera returned from maternity leave on November 3.

She is the NORC coordinator (Naturally Occurring Retirement Coordinator) You can find her working out of 339 Huronia Road or doing programming at Coulter Glen, Summitview and Grove Place.



Marianna



Tim



Kristopher



Ayanna

Holiday Hours

Locations:

Head Office
571 Bayfield St

Community Development &
Tenant Services
339 Huronia Rd

Friday December 12

Both locations closed at 12 PM
(All-staff meeting)

Wednesday December 24

Both locations closed at 12 PM

December 25 & 26

Both locations closed all day

Wednesday, December 31

Both locations closed at 12 PM

January 1 & 2

Both locations closed all day

Tenant Testimonial



Meet Michael

Michael's path to finding stable housing has been anything but easy. Growing up, he faced more change and loss than most people experience in a lifetime. After spending time in foster care and later becoming a ward of the state, Michael navigated periods of homelessness, moving in and out of places whenever he could. He worked on and off, always trying to stay afloat, but without steady support it was difficult to keep a home.

At 18, Michael connected with Simcoe Community Services, but stepped away after losing his stepmother to cancer. Two years later, he experienced the loss of his stepfather as well. Through all of this, Empower Simcoe remained a support within his circle.

When an opportunity finally came for him to move into stable housing, he describes it as "getting lucky." A roommate who also needed support meant they could hold onto the unit together—and with help from workers, he was finally able to settle into a place of his own. That support, combined with the caring people around him, made all the difference.

Today, Michael is building the kind of life he once wasn't sure was possible. He has a circle of friends within the community and neighbours who look out for him. Living close to downtown makes it easy for him to get around, meet up with people, and stay connected.

Michael loves being outdoors—biking, exploring, and trying new things. He's the kind of person who can strike up a conversation with anyone. His openness and determination have helped him create a sense of belonging here.

Michael's story is one of resilience, community, and the power of support. It's a reminder that when housing, people, and opportunity come together, lives can change in meaningful and lasting ways.

Beyond Homes Foundation

The Beyond Homes Foundation has officially been a charity for over a month! We are excited to expand donation opportunities to support tenant-focused programs, community initiatives, and in-kind supports across our Barrie Housing Communities.

We are grateful for the generous contributions already received from community members and partners, which have helped us begin expanding services and supports with community initiatives.



Donations

If you or someone you know would like to donate to the Beyond Homes Foundation, contributions of any size are appreciated and help support the expansion of initiatives across all 14 of our Barrie Housing sites.

To donate or discuss donation opportunities please contact beyondhomesfoundation@barriehousing.com

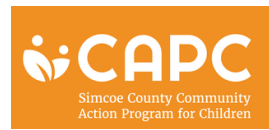
Programs in the New Year

Play, Learn, Share with CAPC at Millcreek

We are excited to announce that our partnership with CAPC will be coming to Millcreek. This program offers a safe, engaging environment where families can interact with each other, enjoy children's activities and connect to resources.



January 22 - February 26 - March 26
10 - 11:30am



Life Skills With Empower at Millcreek

We are excited to introduce a partnership with Empower Simcoe! Tenants can join a hands-on learning experience building confidence and gaining skills in budgeting, household management, employment readiness, social and communication skills, and personal care! Keep an eye out for dates!



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

NORC

Community & Tenant programs finish up the week of December 15th-19th and will return in the new year on January 5th, 2026.

- Homework Hub at Cundles will resume in the new year.
- Art Corner Café will resume at Coulter in the new year.
- Book Club will resume in the new year

- Keep an eye out for pop up programming & informational resources
- NORC can look forward to regular programming rolling out in the new year

Stay connected!

Follow our social media and look out for monthly calendars and posters at your site for updates on programs and events coming your way.



@barrie_housing



Winter/Maintenance Reminders

There has been an increase in plumbing calls to the buildings due to items being flushed down the toilet. These items cause major backups, damage to the plumbing system and further damage to the building. ***Please be advised if your unit has been identified as the cause, you risk being charged back for all necessary repairs to clear the blockage.***



What NOT to Flush or Pour Down the Drain



- Hygiene products (e.g. sanitary napkins/liners, paper towels, wipes (Flushable), cotton swabs, dental floss, diapers and rags).
- Fats, oils and cooking grease.
- Medication (e.g. pills or liquid).
- Household hazardous waste (e.g. paints, pesticides, cleaning products).
- Car and garage products (e.g. motor oil, antifreeze).



Townhomes: Tenants are responsible for clearing their own driveways & walk ways

Main Roads/Parking Lots/Townhome Visitor Parking: Barrie Housing's snow contractors handle the clearing and salting of these areas.

Scheduled Lot Clearing: Notices will be given to tenants and posted in common areas asking vehicles to be removed. If vehicles are not removed those areas will not be serviced.

Additional Winter Tips

- Keep a small emergency kit on hand (flashlight, batteries, bottled water, blankets, etc.).
- Check that windows and doors are sealed to avoid heat loss—use weather stripping or draft stoppers if needed.
- Never use ovens or stoves to heat your home. Use only approved heating devices.
- Report any cold spots or heating issues to Maintenance as soon as possible.

Market Rent Reminders

Reminder for our "Market" Rent Tenants of Barrie Housing that Rent Increase Notices (N2) have been mailed out in September.



If you did not receive an N2 please connect with your Tenant Service Worker.

Who to contact

Point of Contact

Tenant Services
339 Huronia Rd L4M 8Z1
(705) 727-0414
Monday – Friday
8:30am–4:30pm



Issue or Inquiry

- Lease signings/renewals/terminations
- Rent Collection & Arrears Management
- Rent Geared to income (RGI) rent calculations and income verification
- Assisting tenants with income changes and supporting documentation (e.g. Notice of Assessment)

Community Development
(705) 727-0414 ext. 102
339 Huronia Rd L4M 8Z1
Monday–Friday
8:30am– 4:30pm



- Food Security
- Support with completing applications for financial supplements (Rent/Utilities etc.)
- Connections to outside agencies for support (Mental Health, Addictions, At Home Care etc.)
- Guidance for Aging Tenants in making informed decisions about their future

Maintenance Department
(705) 727-0414 ext.333
Monday–Friday
8:30am–4:30pm



- General Repairs (doors, locks, walls, floors)
- HVAC (heating, ventilation, A/C)
- Pest Control
- Garbage & Sanitation
- Electrical (outlets, smoke detectors)
- Plumbing (hot water, pressure issues)
- Appliances (broken or malfunctioning)
- Security & Safety (locks, windows, doors)
- Exterior Concerns

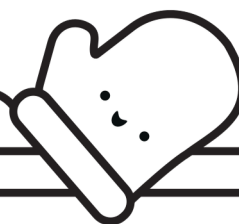
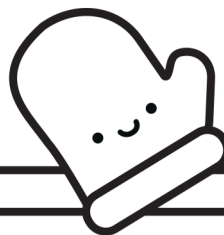
After Hours Point of Contact
1-833-961-2541
4:30pm – 8:30am & Weekends



- After hours maintenance emergencies that need immediate attention
- Fire, Flood, Loss of power or Locked out of Unit

WINTER

WORD SEARCH



Y	P	U	O	E	H	F	S	C	W	E	F	B	O	O	T	S	A
X	U	S	K	Y	R	D	X	O	L	H	N	C	E	O	R	F	G
B	O	C	T	K	M	V	A	E	D	B	S	K	O	J	M	W	J
C	R	A	Y	E	X	E	C	R	R	V	A	Y	B	H	P	G	A
H	G	R	J	W	L	A	U	S	K	L	B	C	M	N	G	A	C
B	A	F	E	C	L	X	D	X	F	H	W	A	N	B	N	O	K
E	R	T	I	P	F	L	Z	W	V	K	E	N	M	E	N	R	E
G	M	C	E	Y	R	S	O	W	Y	S	E	C	Z	A	B	N	T
F	I	R	U	N	E	N	M	O	C	Z	D	O	M	S	L	R	V
F	I	B	T	I	S	H	I	I	C	U	R	W	S	N	I	I	I
F	G	H	R	Z	E	D	T	I	D	F	O	I	R	O	Z	Y	L
O	D	R	C	E	T	M	T	G	T	N	X	Y	Y	W	Z	Z	P
Q	E	O	J	O	A	Q	E	Y	S	M	D	W	G	C	A	X	Y
B	O	X	B	O	S	Y	N	R	C	E	T	O	Z	O	R	M	M
P	L	G	C	A	A	V	S	H	L	A	Q	T	I	L	D	A	M
E	X	O	K	W	I	C	E	S	K	A	T	E	E	D	X	L	A
J	C	D	C	A	X	C	A	T	H	C	D	J	P	Z	T	P	V
S	B	E	F	D	R	E	E	K	P	L	O	W	T	W	G	N	K



BERRIES
BLIZZARD
BOOTS
COCOA

COLD
DARK
FIREPLACE
FROZEN

HAT
ICE
ICESKATE
ICICLE

JACKET
MITTENS
PLOW
SCARF

SLED
SNOW
SNOWFLAKE
SNOWMAN