



13-14 SEPTEMBER 2018

Urban Open Innovation Lab



Sustainable & Affordable Housing in Hamilton

The City of Hamilton in Ontario is investing in deep retrofitting in order to bring its extensive stock of social housing up to date. At the same time the city is facing a range of challenges related to their social balance and infrastructure. As such, the city wishes to connect future investment in its residential towers with people-oriented improvements. To do this, the city is looking towards the Nordic model of socially, environmentally and economically sustainable housing, seeking both inspiration and creative solutions from Nordic cities and solution providers. Through an innovative process, the Urban Open Innovation Lab will connect city officials, local businesses, citizens and other stakeholders with the Nordic participants in order to tackle the challenge of ensuring affordable and sustainable housing in Hamilton.

The Concept

The Urban Open Innovation Lab has two components and is based on proven concepts that the consortium of partners will deploy in Hamilton in collaboration with the City.

- The first component is led by the International Federation of Housing and Planning (IFHP) and the Swedish think tank Global Utmaning and features a cross-sectorial constellation of leaders and experts from the Nordic countries within city government, private sector companies and civil society organization. Together with Hamilton, the Nordic delegation will explore the feasibility of implementing solutions and best practices in the context of Hamilton.
- The second component is led by the EU's largest climate innovation initiative Climate-KIC and the Danish sustainability consultancy Quercus Group. Together with the City of Hamilton they will conduct an *open innovation* process, sourcing innovative Nordic solutions within the field of sustainable housing. The second day of the Urban Open Innovation Lab represents the culmination of this project in which the most exciting businesses will pitch their solutions to key Canadian stakeholders from Hamilton and beyond.

The Urban Open Innovation Lab is part of the Nordic prime ministers' initiative and is funded by Nordic Innovation and the project partners. The purpose is to gather expertise from Nordic and Canadian stakeholders to discuss challenges and propose solutions to the government officials, local housing organizations, local community groups, and social or public housing agencies.

Hamilton

The City of Hamilton is a medium-sized Canadian city located 60 kilometers south-west of Canada's largest city, Toronto. As Canada's economy and energy mix are changing in the 21st century, so are Hamilton's priorities as it shifts to a post-industrial age. Simultaneously, the skyrocketing housing market in nearby Toronto has meant that many young people are looking towards Hamilton for an affordable future.

Learn more and [sign up here](#)

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