

Small Housing | mddl: Media Release

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Small Housing and mddl join forces to accelerate missing middle housing across Canada

Across Canada, nearly 8 million homes - 53% of the national housing stock - are single family dwellings. These homes aren't the problem - they're part of the solution. In many communities, these single family homes represent one of the biggest untapped opportunities to increase housing supply, while simultaneously allowing homeowners to unlock the financial potential of their properties.

In Vancouver alone, 65,000 mortgage-free homes - accounting for 26.4% of the region's housing stock - could be leveraged for gentle density. The right mix of policy, education, and financial tools could turn these properties into more attainable multi-unit homes that meet Canada's growing housing needs.

That's why two of Canada's champions of missing middle housing are joining forces.

Small Housing, British Columbia's leading non-profit advocate for gentle density solutions, has signed a Letter of Intent with mddl, Alberta's foremost group dedicated to delivering scalable, simplified, and sustainable middle housing solutions for the residential construction and development industry. Together, the two organizations are poised to become the largest advocacy and industry support group for missing middle housing in Canada.

Through this partnership, Small Housing and mddl will work to accelerate missing middle housing solutions across Canada, focusing on advocacy, government policy advising, industry education, and homeowner-developer delivery support to enhance gentle density adoption nationwide. Overall, their ambition is to make gentle density projects easier to finance, approve, and build.

"Canada needs more ground-oriented homes that families can afford," said Dan Winer, Executive Lead of Small Housing. "Collaborating with mddl means scaling our impact and taking a giant leap forward in supporting municipalities to make gentle density solutions more feasible and attainable for industry. Sharing our advocacy and research efforts in public policy combined with the deep development-industry knowledge of mddl and our shared interest in education means we can help industry transition more efficiently so that Canadians can build and enjoy the homes they need."

Mddl's President & Co-Founder, Darlene Jehn echoed this enthusiasm: "By bringing our skills and experience together, we can really kickstart housing projects and spark some innovative ideas in communities from coast to coast. This partnership is all about creating real impact and putting Canadians at the centre of delivering missing middle housing."

Mddl's CEO & Co-Founder Alkarim Davani added: "mddl is excited to partner with Small Housing to empower small-scale developers and homeowners in delivering middle housing – it's a powerful demonstration of how the non-profit and private sectors can collaborate to create meaningful change."

Housing supply remains a top concern across Canada. Small Housing and mddl will focus on overcoming restrictive policy & design guidelines, modernizing financing options to better support gentle density projects, and ensuring small-scale, multi-unit housing can be built efficiently and affordably. By leveraging their collective expertise, the two organizations will work to reshape the landscape for missing middle housing, advocating for smart policies and equipping both industry professionals and everyday homeowners with the knowledge and resources they need to succeed.

ENDS

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