

What Rent Payment Option is BEST for you?

In February, we shared that CCOC is phasing out e-transfers, which were a temporary solution during the pandemic. As of **July 15, 2024**, we will no longer accept e-transfers and will stop the auto-deposit. Any bank fees incurred in order to cancel an e-transfer sent after that date will be at your charge. But don't worry, there are three great options you can use instead! Find the one that is best for you.

Pre-authorized Payment:

What is it? You sign an agreement and give CCOC a void cheque. Your rent will come out of your bank account on the first business day of the month.

Who is it good for? You know you'll have enough money in your bank account to pay your rent and you don't want to have to keep track of dates or amounts.

This is CCOC's preferred method of payment because payments are automatically processed and applied to your account.

We also continue to receive cheques and money orders. These payments take longer to process so it can take two weeks or more for rent to come out of your account.

In person with your debit card:

What is it? You come to CCOC's office and pay your rent just like you'd make a purchase with your debit card. CCOC's office is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm (except public holidays).

Who is it good for? You like to pay for things in person and you're available during the day. The rent will come out of your bank account right away.

New! TenantPay:

What is it? You talk to your Rent Collections Officer to get your TenantPay Account number. You search for TenantPay and add it as a payee in your online banking app. You pay your rent like you would make a bill payment through online banking.

Who is it good for? You bank online but want to make sure you have the money in your account when you pay your rent. The rent will come out of your account as soon as you make the payment.

CCOC NewsNotes May 2024

housing the community since 1974
nous logeons la communauté depuis 1974



Office Closure

CCOC will be closed on Monday, May 20 for Victoria Day. We will re-open at 9:00 am on Tuesday, May 21.

CCOC sera fermé le lundi 20 mai pour la Fête de la Reine. Le bureau sera ouvert à 9h00 le mardi 21 mai.



Inside...

- Office Closure
- Plant Days
- Staff Spotlight: Rentals
- You're invited to CCOC's Annual General Meeting!
- Candidates for the Board of Directors
- What Rent Payment Option is BEST for you?
- Board Business and Committee Meeting schedule



Contact CCOC at
613-234-4065 ext. 0 or
info@cchohousing.org

"NewsNotes" is written and published by CCOC's communications team. Your comments, submissions and suggestions are welcome. Contact engagement@cchohousing.org for info.

Please recycle this newsletter!

Save paper and sign up to receive NewsNotes to your inbox:
bit.ly/SubscribetoNewsNotes

Board Business and Committee Meeting schedule

CCOC committee meetings are open to everyone!

For more information, please call **613-234-4065 ext. 0** or email engagement@cchohousing.org.



GET INVOLVED!

STANDING COMMITTEES	MAY	JUNE	TIME
Tenant & Community Engagement	No meeting	June 3	7:00 pm
Development Committee	May 14	No meeting	7:00 pm
Facilities Management Committee	May 22	No meeting	7:00 pm
Rental Committee	No meeting	June 18	7:00 pm
Finance Committee	No meeting	June 20	7:00 pm
Board	May 29	June 26	7:00 pm

At a special members meeting on April 17, CCOC's membership adopted a new bylaw, which will come into effect July 31st, 2024. This new bylaw will bring us into compliance with the Ontario Non Profit Corporations Act. We'll share more information about the impact in the months to come.



Plant Days

Plant Days is coming up on **May 4 and 5!**

Please remember to be home to receive your plants, or arrange for a neighbour to pick them up from your doorstep.

We will send a reminder to everyone who requested plants with your plant delivery day and time.

After Plant Days, please help us reduce waste by returning the black plastic pots and trays from your plants! We are able to reuse the containers from year to year. There will be a bin for returns in front of the reception desk at the office.



Staff Spotlight: Rentals

The Rentals team handles everything from the beginning to the end of the rental process. This includes helping tenants move in and out smoothly, dealing with any concerns they have along the way, and addressing issues with neighbours. They carefully balance our legal obligations and rights as a landlord with the rights and the needs of tenants. They also play a big part in renewing leases, ensuring compliance and continuity. Rental collection officers make sure rent is paid on time and help tenants who are struggling with payments and any extra charges. With all these responsibilities, the rental department shows professionalism and care in managing the business and legal side of renting and setting folks up for a successful tenancy.

Connected for Success Partnership

- Rogers Connected for Success offers high-speed, low-cost internet to subsidized tenants.
- To create an account, please call **866-689-0758** between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, or 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. A Connected for Success representative will guide you through the process.

You're invited to CCOC's Annual General Meeting!

Join us at the **RBC Foundry at Bayview Yards, 7 Bayview Station Rd**, for an in-person meeting on **Thursday, May 16**. Doors open at 6 p.m., with call to order at 7 p.m.

All are welcome! To vote, you'll need to be a CCOC member.

Become a Member:

To become a CCOC member or renew an existing membership, please complete and submit the membership form on our website: ccochoosing.org or fill out a paper form at the office during business hours.

Questions?

Please contact Mara at **613-234-4065 ext. 254** or engagement@ccochoosing.org.

Micah Melnyk

Micah is a long-time Centretown resident with a background in environmental engineering, economics and urbanism. He holds a B.Sc. in Civil Environmental Engineering and a B.A. in Economics from Queen's University, and a Master's Degree in Engineering for Sustainable Development from the University of Cambridge (UK). He currently holds a position with the federal government working on energy policy to address climate change. Micah is also the Director and Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee for a crown corporation. He joined the CCOC Board of Directors in 2022, as he has an interest in building community and supporting affordable housing in Centretown.

Olu' Meso

Olu offers more than ten years of experience in project management, sustainability initiatives, and financial management. He works for Gloucester Housing Corporation as the facilities manager. Olu has a master's degree in information science and is currently honing his talents at the University of Ottawa by enrolling in an MBA program with a focus on sustainable management. Olu's first full-time position at CCOC, as a newcomer to Canada in 2019, had a profound impact on his career path and sparked a lifelong interest in social housing. His desire to further CCOC's goals is evidence of his dedication to giving back to the community that accepted him.

Emmanuel Netochukwu Momah

I am currently in my 4th year in the field of international relations and globalization. I grew up in Nigeria where the poverty rate is so high, I began to cling to such social concerns at young age. Since arriving to Canada in 2019, I have engaged in community service such as the Terry Fox run in order to donate funds to the Terry Fox Foundation cancer research. I'm also currently a member of the student union where I play a vital role in enhancing student experiences, advocating for student rights and interests, and fostering a vibrant and inclusive campus community.

Candidates for the Board of Directors (continued)

Doris Qian

I am well-equipped to contribute to CCOC's mission of providing housing for low- and moderate-income individuals. Bringing a diverse skill set as an IT manager, I excel in business analysis, strategic planning, financial planning, and project management. With a Master's in Digital Transformation and Innovation, I've led teams to address complex enterprise architecture needs with various stakeholders. I've also earned certifications in Business Relationship Management and Process Improvement. Through volunteer work and leadership roles, I've been honored with Leadership Excellence Award by Women in Communications and Technologies in 2021 and Pathway to Possibilities Award by Volunteer Ottawa in 2022.

Janoah Willsie

I'm a long-time resident of Ottawa and have been a CCOC tenant for almost four years. I've lived in many rental properties and knew CCOC was different since day one. I appreciate the way CCOC cares about its tenants and the Ottawa community. I'm passionate about affordable, good quality housing in the city's downtown and I'm interested in joining the board to give back to the organization and have a positive impact on the future of CCOC. I work as a policy advisor at Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami in downtown Ottawa and love walking and biking around the city.



Candidates for the Board of Directors

CCOC's Board of Directors has 14 members who are elected for a 2-year term. This year, there are 9 seats up for election. Below is the list of candidates who are standing for election. To vote for the Board, make sure you are a CCOC member, and attend the Annual General Meeting to cast your ballot!



Chris Yordy (Running for board president)

Chris is finishing up his first year as President of the CCOC Board. He is a grassroots entrepreneur, working and volunteering in the areas of affordable housing, mental health and 2SLGBTQ+ events over the past 10+ years. After serving as Chair of Rental Committee for six years, he took on the role of Vice President of the Board in 2021, and serves on many committees. In his spare time, he enjoys making music, connecting with neighbours, and gardening. He'd like to continue to support the people-centred culture of CCOC, but also to move beyond crisis management to help inspire the next wave of CCOC's governance and leadership.

Femi Ajiduhan

I am a long-time resident of the National Capital Region where I live and work. I hold a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and a Master of Engineering in Infrastructure Protection & International Security from Carleton University. My work experience spans finance, security solutions, technology, and administration. As an accomplished higher education administrator and project manager, I have a diverse set of skills combined with a passion for creativity. In my spare time, I'm whipping up culinary delights, or dancing kizomba, and advocating for social change in our world.

Liz Allan

Liz is retired after over 35 years in the military and public service. During this period Liz gained experience in areas including strategic planning, business planning, risk management and project management. Through her work with refugee sponsorship and resettlement Liz gained a deeper

understanding of the difficulties people have in securing affordable housing in Ottawa. It was while working to secure affordable housing for a refugee family that Liz learned about CCOC. Liz had been a member of the Development committee since late 2023. Working with CCOC and the Development committee has sparked a deep interest in the complex issue of affordable housing.

Nnamdi Anyene

Nnamdi has over 12 years of experience in the banking, financial services and consulting industries. He is well-versed in strategy, advisory, policy development, process improvements and change management. Nnamdi holds a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and a Masters in Taxation from St. John's University, New York. He has previously served on the board of local and foreign non-profits including Kids on The Block, Ottawa. Nnamdi is passionate about social development, innovation, creativity and communities that are healthy, energy efficient and respectful of nature. In his spare time, Nnamdi enjoys writing and hiking.

Mitchell Cogan

Mitchell Cogan is an Ottawa native and a retired Senior Project Leader with academic training as a professional city planner and significant experience in corporate real estate, investment analysis, acquisition, disposal, and leasing. His training and expertise have led to a successful 35+ year career, with long-standing positions at the City of Ottawa and Public Services and Procurement Canada, where he analyzed and advised senior management on real property portfolios.

Yohanan Demeke

Yohanan Demeke holds an Honours Bachelor from the University of Ottawa in International Development and Globalization, specializing in Gender studies and African studies. She has experience in project management, ESG analysis for impact investing, workshop facilitation, and proposal writing. She is passionate about climate resilience, youth empowerment, and gender equality. Yohanan is the manager of the TWC Mentorship Program at the Somali Centre for Family Services. She is also a DYLOTT Black Diplomats Academy fellow and Co-Creath Lab research fellow. With the Canadian Center for Women's Empowerment, she is a volunteer policy analyst. With Youth Action Now, she is a grant reviewer. With CCOC, she is a member of the development committee.

Elizabeth Fraser

I have been a renter since 2016 in both Ottawa and Montreal, where I currently live. I have become increasingly engaged in issues in and around housing. I currently organize with Community Cooks Collective, a grassroots group which regularly cooks meals for various shelters in Montreal and am a member of Montreal's Autonomous Tenant's Union. I believe in the power of community organizing and its ability to influence real change. The work of non-profit housing providers helps to fill a massive gap in Canada's rental market by providing housing to those that need it most, and I am excited at the opportunity to support CCOC as a BoD member.

Nooreen Haider

Nooreen is a local intern architect who has lived and worked in Centretown for the past 14 years. She holds a Bachelors and a Master's Degree in Architecture. She also has a wealth of volunteer experience, having worked with Architecture for Humanity and Habitat for Humanity, and has been a CCOC board member for the last two years. She believes that providing safe and stable housing is beneficial, not only for individuals, but for the community, and that affordable housing represents a fundamental human right. She is seeking to extend her Board tenure and leverage her experience to ensure the corporation transitions and this new vision carries forward.

Candidates for the Board of Directors (continued)

Shireeh Jan

As a technology leader, I bring extensive experience in spearheading transformative projects, amassed over 15+ years within the Federal Government. Presently employed at the Canada Border Service Agency, holding an Executive MBA from the Telfer School of Management and belonging to a female diversity group, I am devoted to community engagement, especially in assisting new immigrants through volunteer work with Ismaili institutions in Ottawa. I advocate for balanced leadership, emphasizing respect and open communication. As a candidate for the Board of Directors at CCOC, I aim to work with fellow members to address escalating housing challenges in Ottawa.

Sophia Kelly-Langer

Sophia Kelly-Langer is a lifelong resident of Centretown, and Project Coordinator for the Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa. Her work generally addresses the concept of pipelines into homelessness and the steps we can take to make it rare, brief, and non-recurring. She believes strongly in by-community for-community initiatives. Coming from a Child and Youth Care background and into Social Work, she sees home as the heart of a family or community's safety and well-being. Outside of work, Sophia shares her home with her spouse, three children, five animals, and a consistently half-finished craft pile.

Jeremy Kirkham

My name is Jeremy Kirkham I have over 25 years combined experience between landscape, snow removal and pest control. I have worked in the geared to income sector and feel my knowledge can help the board in procurement as well as pest knowledge.