About this survey
The City of Toronto is embarking on a review to address issues related to rooming houses. Thank you for taking the time to participate. This survey is one method of gathering feedback from the public. To learn more about the Rooming House Review, please visit www.toronto.ca/mlshaveyoursay.

This survey should take approximately 10 to 15 minutes to complete, however you may answer as many questions as you like. Input will be collected until May 10, 2015.

What is a rooming house?
For the purpose of this survey, a rooming house is defined as a house, apartment or building where you share a kitchen and/or washroom with four or more people who pay individual rent.

Contact us
You can take the survey online at www.toronto.ca/roominghousereview, email this survey to roominghousereview@toronto.ca, return this survey to us by mail or contact us to give us your feedback by phone. Our contact details:

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About you

All respondents are invited to complete this section.

1. Please select all responses that apply to you.

For the purpose of this survey, a rooming house is defined as a house, apartment or building where you share a kitchen and/or washroom with four or more people that pay individual rent. Your responses will determine which survey questions that you are asked to complete.

☐ I live in a rooming housing.
☐ I live near a rooming house.
☐ I own or operate a rooming house.
☐ I provide services to people who live in rooming houses.
☐ I live in Toronto in and am interested in rooming house issues.
☐ None of the above.

2. To your knowledge, who usually lives in rooming houses?

Please select all that apply.

☐ People who are having a difficult time finding housing in Toronto.
☐ People who are dealing with mental health or addiction issues.
☐ Seniors.
☐ Immigrants and newcomers.
☐ People who can only afford to pay very low rent.
☐ Students.
☐ Families.
☐ I don't know.
☐ Other, please specify... _______________
3. In your opinion, why do people live in rooming houses?
Please select all that apply.

☐ They are affordable.
☐ They like living with other residents.
☐ The rooming houses are close to the places they have to go.
☐ They have no other housing options.
☐ I don’t know.
☐ Other, please specify... ________________

Please complete this section if are part of an organization that works with persons who live in rooming houses. If you are not part of an organization that works with rooming house tenants, please go to the next section.

4. Does your organization refer clients to rooming houses, as a housing option?

☐ Yes.
☐ No.
☐ I don’t know.

5. If you answered yes to question 4, please indicate whether the rooming houses are licensed.
If you answered no or I don’t know, please skip this question. Please select one answer.

☐ They are licensed.
☐ They are unlicensed.
☐ I don’t know whether they are licensed.
☐ Both licensed and unlicensed.
6. If you answered yes to 4, please indicate the condition of the rooming houses they live in.
If you answered no or I don’t know, please skip this question. Please select one answer.
- Generally well maintained.
- Generally not well maintained.
- Generally as well maintained as other houses.
- Some are well maintained, some are not well maintained.
- I don’t know.

Please complete this section if you live near a rooming house. If you do not live near a rooming house, please go to the next section.

7. How many rooming houses are there in your neighbourhood?
Please select one response.
- A lot.
- A few.
- None.
- I don’t know.

8. Please indicate whether these rooming houses are licensed.
Please select one response.
- Most or all are licensed.
- Some are licensed and some are unlicensed.
- Most or all are unlicensed.
- I don’t know.
9. How close do you live to the nearest rooming house?
Please select all that apply.

☐ I live beside a rooming house.
☐ There is one or more rooming houses on my street.
☐ There is one or more rooming houses in my neighbourhood.
☐ I don’t know.

10. What issues (if any) do you see with the rooming house(s)?
Please select all that apply.

☐ Fire hazards.
☐ Garbage problems.
☐ Increased crime.
☐ Increased pest infestations (e.g., cockroaches, rats).
☐ Increased risk of accidents.
☐ Lower property values.
☐ Maintenance problems.
☐ No impact on my neighbourhood.
☐ Overcrowding.
☐ Parking problems.
☐ Safety issues.
☐ Other, please specify... ____________________

11. What, if anything, would need to change for rooming houses to have a positive impact in your neighbourhood?
Tenants of rooming houses

Please complete this section if you are a tenant in a rooming house, i.e., a house, apartment or building where you share a kitchen and/or washroom with four or more people that pay individual rent. If you are not a tenant in a rooming house, please go to the next section.

12. Why did you choose to live in a rooming house?
Please check all that apply.

- It's affordable.
- It's close to where I go to school.
- It's in the neighbourhood I want to live in.
- I like the people I live with.
- It's the only place I could find.
- It's close to where I work.
- Other, please specify... ________________

13. Is the rooming house you live in licensed or unlicensed?
Please select one answer.

- It is licensed.
- It is unlicensed.
- I don't know.
- I don't want to answer this question.

14. Please describe your rooming house. Is your rooming house ____?
Please select one answer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>I don't know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Affordable</td>
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<td>Quiet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Well-maintained</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
15. Please describe your rooming house in more detail.
This question is optional.

16. Have you experienced any of the following issues with your rooming house?
- Conflicts with other tenants
- Crime
- Fire hazards
- Garbage problems
- Inadequate shared facilities (such as a kitchen, washrooms)
- Inconvenient location
- Maintenance problems
- Noise problems
- Not enough outdoor space
- Overcrowding
- Parking problems
- Pest infestations (such as cockroaches or rats)
- Safety issues
- Visually unpleasant
- Other, please specify... _______________
17. How would you describe your relationship with people in your neighbourhood?
Please select one answer.
- I feel welcome in my neighbourhood.
- I feel neither welcome nor unwelcome in my neighbourhood.
- I do not feel welcome in my neighbourhood.
- I don’t know.

18. How important is it to you to feel welcome in your neighbourhood?
Please select one answer.
- Very important.
- Somewhat important.
- Neither important nor unimportant.
- Unimportant.
- I don’t know.

19. Please describe your landlord’s activities and your interactions with your landlord.
Please select all that apply.
- The landlord collects my rent.
- The landlord manages the property.
- The landlord does not manage the property.
- The landlord is concerned about my safety and well-being.
- I do not have any interaction with my landlord.
- My landlord is not available.
- I do not know who my landlord is.
- Other, please specify... ______________
- The landlord is not concerned with my safety and well-being.
Owners and operators of rooming houses

Please complete this section if you own and/or operate a rooming house, i.e., a house, apartment or building where you share a kitchen and/or washroom with four or more people that pay individual rent. If you are not an owner or operator of a rooming house, please go to the next section.

20. How many properties do you currently own or operate as a rooming house?
Please select one answer.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- Other, please specify... ________________

21. How long have you owned or operated rooming houses?
Please select one answer.

- 0 to up to 5 years
- 5 to up to 10 years
- 10 to up to 15 years
- 15 to up to 20 years
- 20 or more years

22. Are the rooming houses you own or operate licensed or unlicensed?
Please select one answer.

- All are licensed.
- Some are licensed and some are unlicensed.
- None are licensed.
- I don’t know.
- I don’t want to answer this question.
23. What are the barriers to obtaining licences for rooming houses?
Please check all that apply.

☐ Applying for a licence is expensive.
☐ I am in an area of the City where the bylaws prevent rooming houses.
☐ I do not have the financial resources to maintain standards.
☐ I do not know where to find the information about the process.
☐ I do not understand the process.
☐ Meeting the property standards is expensive.
☐ My property wouldn’t qualify because of parking, room size, or other problems.
☐ The rules are too confusing.
☐ The rules change too often.
☐ There is too much interference from the City.
☐ Other, please specify... ___________________

24. Do your neighbours have concerns about your rooming house(s)?
Please select one answer.

☐ Yes.
☐ No.
☐ I don’t know.

25. If you answered yes to 24, what are their concerns?
Please select all that apply.

☐ Crime.
☐ Fire hazard.
☐ Garbage.
☐ Lack of maintenance.
☐ Lack of parking.
☐ Noise issues.
☐ Overcrowding.
☐ Pest control.
26. What would assist you in operating a well-maintained, licensed rooming house?
- Standard city licensing and enforcement across the city
- Financial supports and incentives to improve my property
- Clear information about how to apply for a licence
- A simpler licence application process
- Assistance with the licence application process
- Better relationship with neighbours
- Better monitoring and enforcement of all rooming houses
- Better tenants
- Other __________________

Legislation

All respondents are invited to complete this section about existing legislation.

27. How familiar are you with the City or Toronto’s existing rooming house licensing rules?
- Familiar.
- Unfamiliar.
- I don’t know.

28. How well do the City’s existing licensing rules and enforcement systems for rooming houses work?
- They work well.
29. **If you think that they need to be changed, what changes do you think are needed?**
Please select all that apply.

- [ ] The rules governing landlords should be better enforced.
- [ ] The rules governing landlords should be less rigid.
- [ ] The rules governing landlords should be tougher.
- [ ] There should be better protection for tenants.
- [ ] There should be better protection for the neighbouring community.
- [ ] Other, please specify... ____________

30. **In 1998, six smaller cities joined to become the current City of Toronto, some retaining their previous legislation. As a result, rooming houses are only permitted in the former cities of York, Toronto and Etobicoke. Rooming houses that operate in Toronto and Etobicoke must be licensed.** Where do you think **Toronto should have licensed rooming houses?**
Please select one answer.

- [ ] Fewer areas of the City.
- [ ] The same areas we have now.
- [ ] More areas of the City.
- [ ] All areas of the City.
- [ ] I don't know.

31. **If rooming houses were not available, what would people who currently live in them do for housing?**
Please select all that apply.

- [ ] They would find other rental housing options.
- [ ] They would use shelters.
They would live with friends and family.
They would be homeless.
I don’t know.
Other, please specify... ________________

32. Sometimes enforcement of rooming house bylaws leads to the closure of a rooming house and the eviction of the tenants. Do you think this is:

- A serious problem that needs to be addressed
- An unfortunate situation that can’t be helped
- Not a problem at all
- Don’t know

Reaching out to Torontonians
For the Rooming House Review, we are trying to reach as many Torontonians as possible. By filling out the questions below, you will help us get a sense of those we have reached.

33. What are the first three digits of your postal code?

34. What is your gender?
Please select one answer.
- Female
- Male
- Other
35. How many people live at your current address?
Please select one answer.
- up to 3
- 4 to 6 people
- more than 7

36. How long have you lived in Toronto?
Please select one answer.
- Less than 1 year.
- 1 to up to 5 years.
- 5 to up to 10 years.
- 10 to up to 20 years.
- 20 years or more.

37. In what country or region were you born?
Please select one answer.
- Canada
- The Caribbean (e.g., Jamaica, Trinidad, Barbados etc...)
- China/Hong Kong/Taiwan
- Eastern Europe (e.g., Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Czech Rep., Slovakia, Hungary, Romania etc...)
- India/Pakistan/Bangladesh
- Latin American country (e.g., Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Cuba, Chile, Colombia etc...)
- Mediterranean Europe (e.g., Italy, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Cyprus)
- Northern Europe (e.g., Germany, Netherlands, Scandinavian countries, Switzerland, Austria)
- Sri Lanka
- USA/UK/Ireland/Australia/New Zealand
- Other, please specify... ____________________

38. Do you rent or own your home?
Please select one answer.
39. **What is the highest level of schooling you have completed?**
Please select one answer.
- Elementary school.
- High school.
- Community college/ vocational/ trade school/ commercial CEGEP
- Bachelor’s degree.
- Graduate degree.
- I don’t know.

40. **What was the total annual income of your household in 2014 before taxes?**
Please select one answer.
- Under $30,000.
- $30,000 to less than $60,000.
- $60,000 to less than $80,000.
- $80,000 to less than $100,000.
- $100,000 and over.
- I don’t know or I prefer not to answer.

41. **Please indicate any areas of Toronto where you live or own a property.**
Please select all that apply.
- East York.
- Etobicoke.
- Former Toronto.
- North York.
- Scarborough.
- York.
- I do not live or own a property in Toronto.
42. What language do you speak most often at home?
(check as many as apply)

☐ English
☐ French
☐ Aboriginal Language
☐ Arabic
☐ Chinese (Cantonese/Mandarin/other dialect)
☐ German
☐ Greek
☐ Gujarati
☐ Hindi
☐ Italian
☐ Korean
☐ Persian (Farsi)
☐ Polish
☐ Portuguese
☐ Punjabi
☐ Romanian
☐ Russian
☐ Somali
☐ Spanish
☐ Tagalog
☐ Tamil
☐ Urdu
☐ Vietnamese
☐ Other, please specify... ____________________

What is your age?

☐ Under 18
☐ 18 to 24
Thank you for your interest in our project and for taking the time to complete the rooming house survey. If you have further questions or comments, please contact roominghoussereview@toronto.ca.

Updates to the City of Toronto Rooming House Review will be posted on www.toronto.ca/roominghoussereview.

Please share the link to the survey with others in your neighbourhood.

The survey will be closed on May 10th, 2015.