

Housing in the GTA: What's at Stake?

WAYS YOU CAN TAKE ACTION

GO PAST THE HEADLINES IN HOUSING CONVERSATIONS

- Write down 3 things you heard tonight that you hadn't thought about before and **share them at your next gatherings with family and friends.**
- Encourage 2 people in your network to watch the recording from this lecture,** or to attend the next lecture in this series with you.
- Post your thoughts** on how we can address the housing crisis on social media.
- Compare views on the argument that home prices should stall** so earnings have a chance to catch up. How can we reconcile housing as a way to build equity and financial security while making access more open and affordable to all?
- Tell your kids or a newcomer that being unable to afford a home isn't a personal failure.** It's harder than it used to be to pay rent or save a down payment.

CHALLENGE -- AND SUPPORT -- YOUR POLITICIANS

- Seek out at least one political leader** in the reception and ask them what they will do about the ideas discussed tonight.
- Let your local, provincial, and national elected reps know that you will support them on pro-housing policies.** Gen Squeeze's [housing solutions framework](#) is a good guide.
- Stay informed** about what all three levels of government are doing on housing, and subscribe to Housing Action Plans in your city to keep up with local housing policy.
- Join or follow housing organizations pushing for policy change** at municipal, provincial and federal levels – because their influence grows with the size of their network. Some examples:
 - Generation Squeeze
 - Habitat for Humanity GTA
 - More Neighbours Toronto
 - HousingNowTO
 - Right to Housing in Toronto (R2HTO)
 - Housing Matters
 - Canadian Centre for Housing Rights
- View housing policy through a diversity and inclusion lens.** Ask yourself whether new policies consider the needs of diverse groups – including young people, newcomers, and disadvantaged residents. Making sure housing is inclusive will help lead us to the best *future* wellbeing for all residents of the GTA.

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY

- Follow housing organizations to learn when to attend city council meetings** to support housing solutions like new rental housing, co-ops and additional density.
- Watch for signs and notices about community consultations** on new housing developments in your community. Make a commitment to go to at least two of these meetings this year and speak out in favor of more housing in your community.
- If you've benefitted from rising home prices, **share your good fortune by donating to a housing charity.**
- Offer to rent a room in your home** to students or newcomers.

HOST ORGANIZATIONS

About **The Ismaili Centre Toronto**

The Ismaili Centre is situated, together with the Aga Khan Museum, within a 6.8-hectare landscaped park. Through programmes ranging from lectures, seminars and exhibitions to cultural and social events, the Centre creates an understanding of the values, ethics, culture and heritage of Ismaili Muslims, and of the work of the Aga Khan Development Network. Visit our site: the.ismaili/ismaili-centre-toronto.

About **the Future Ready Initiative**

The Future Ready Initiative – designed in partnership with Focus Humanitarian Assistance (FOCUS) Canada and the Aga Khan Council for Canada – is an integrated, institutional response to the significant and urgent challenges faced by those whose livelihoods have been impacted by the pandemic, forced migration and downturns in the economy. Learn more at icanada.org/future-ready-initiative.

About **Habitat for Humanity GTA**

Habitat for Humanity GTA is a local non-profit housing organization with a global vision of a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to live. We help working families acquire affordable homes and build strength, stability and self-reliance through affordable homeownership. We collaborate with governments, real estate partners, volunteers and donors to create inclusive, affordable communities across the GTA. Join us: habitatgta.ca

About **Generation Squeeze**

Generation Squeeze is a charitable Think and Change Tank promoting wellbeing for all generations. We're championing generational fairness to preserve what Canadians hold sacred—a healthy childhood, home and planet—so we all leave a proud legacy. We have received multiple awards for our work to restore housing affordability forever, including the Government of Canada's inaugural "Gold Roof" award for excellence in moving housing evidence into action. Learn more at gensqueeze.ca.



Visit the Aga Khan Museum where you can tour the Museum Collections and Temporary Exhibitions and enjoy a quick bite at the Courtyard Café. **Museum entrance is free Wednesday evenings from 4-8pm.**

For more information, visit agakhanmuseum.org.



THE ISMAILI CENTRE
TORONTO



GENERATION | squeeze



Brampton, Caledon,
Durham Region, Toronto
& York Region