



**A HEALTHIER NB:
**THIS IS MY
ONE CHANGE****

**Mr. Mike O'Brien's one change is safe, affordable
and convenient housing in New Brunswick
communities.**

Through federal and provincial programs, the return on investment is about threefold when you get somebody into a safe place to live, and take the fear away from their daily life. They can start to collect their thoughts, finish their high school education, they don't have to worry about theft and abuse, and some of their limited means can be put towards healthier eating.

It has to do with planning. We have to increase our density in our downtown so there's more options for people to live – mixed use, affordable apartments, and rentals in our downtown core. They have to be close to amenities. It has to be a walkable city so people can have a lifestyle choice not to use their car – if people don't have a car, that's probably a \$10,000 decision

we're putting right back in the residents' pockets. If they can walk to their place of work and recreation facilities, we've made a big contribution to the affordability of living in our city. Also, with affordable housing, making sure we give benefits and bonuses to developers to promote the development of more affordable housing locations in our downtown core. One of the worst things you can do with affordable housing or social programs is to isolate people from outside the downtown core, because land is cheaper on the outskirts, but the services aren't there to support them... So we have to make sure our city is planned for everyone.

Mike O'Brien, Mayor, Fredericton