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## SUBJECT

## INDIGENOUS HOUSING

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### KEY FACTS

#### Budget 2018

- **\$1.5B** for distinctions-based housing strategies (**delivered by ISC**)
  - **\$600M over three years** to support First Nations Housing Strategy that is being co-developed with First Nations (ISC);
  - **\$400M over 10 years** to support an Inuit-led housing plan in the Inuit regions of Nunavik, Nunatsiavut, and Inuvialuit (ISC);
  - **\$500M over 10 years** to support the Métis Nation's housing strategy (ISC);

#### Budget 2017

- **\$225M** to improve housing conditions for First Nations, Inuit and Métis people living in urban communities (\$200M delivered through provincial and territory agreements and \$25M for Indigenous housing projects will be delivered through the National Housing Co-Investment Fund.)
- **\$4B** for Indigenous community infrastructure, a portion of which may be dedicated to housing (to be determined) (**delivered by ISC**)
- **\$240M** over 10 years announced to support housing in Nunavut

#### Budget 2016

- **\$554.3M** over two years to address urgent housing needs:
  - \$416.6 million to address immediate housing needs.
  - \$127.7 million to support the renovation and retrofit of existing housing.
  - \$10 million for skills and capacity development for the design, construction, inspection and overall management of housing in First Nations communities.
- **5,717 homes** have been renovated/retrofitted (As at March 31 2018).
- **464 communities** have capacity development activities supported (As at March 31 2018)
- **\$10.4M** over three years (committed) for the construction of five new shelters for victims of family violence. As at March 31, 2019 construction of five shelters have been completed.

#### Budget 2016 and 2017

- **Budget 2016 provided \$5M for 2016-17 and Budget 2017 provided an additional \$12.8M** over three years under CMHC's Housing Internship Initiative for First Nation and Inuit Youth (HIIFNIY).
  - These investments provided **1,860 new internships** for Indigenous and Inuit youth between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2020.
- Enhancements to the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy (YESS) provided an additional **\$4 million** to support 275 paid HIIFNIY internships on June 25, 2020 as part of the Government's response to the affects of COVID-19 on youth employment.

#### Existing Funding (Section 95)

- \$326M annually to First Nation communities in support of housing. Funding is delivered through Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation (CMHC) and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC).
  - **\$183M**: CMHC portion
- **Some 750 new homes** built, **over 450 houses** renovated and ongoing subsidy to **over 22,600** households. (From April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020)

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## RESPONSE

- Our Government is fully committed to improving Indigenous housing outcomes, and to building a new relationship together with Indigenous peoples, based on recognition of rights, respect, cooperation, and partnership.
- With the National Housing Strategy, we aim to make a difference in the lives of Indigenous peoples, with initiatives that will support a range of housing options, from shelters to community housing to homeownership.
- That is why we committed new funding in successive federal budgets including 2016, 2017, and 2018 to support Indigenous housing across Canada, including support for First Nations living on reserve and in urban and rural communities, and in Inuit Nunangat and the North.
- We are also providing \$1.5 billion in distinctions-based support for a First Nations-led housing Strategy, an Inuit-led housing strategy, and the Métis Nation's housing strategy.

### *Specifically related to urban, rural and northern communities:*

- This government recognizes that URN Indigenous housing landscape is complex and that the majority (80%) of Indigenous households live in urban, rural and northern areas.
- As you are aware, my mandate letter asks that I support the Minister of Indigenous Services to address critical infrastructure needs in Indigenous communities including the development of a distinction-based Indigenous urban housing strategy.
- I am fully committed to supporting this coordinated and culturally informed approach.

### *Specifically related to National Housing Strategy (NHS)*

- Initiatives under the NHS support a range of housing options, from shelters to community housing to homeownership. CMHC continues to work with Indigenous partners and housing providers to address the distinct housing needs of Indigenous peoples.
- Under the \$13.2 billion National Housing Co-Investment Fund, projects serving Indigenous peoples will be prioritized and can include projects across the housing continuum – from shelters for victims fleeing violence to transitional and supportive housing, affordable and community rental housing, as well as affordable homeownership.
- The \$500 million Federal Community Housing Initiative will help protect affordability for low-income households, including Indigenous peoples, served by housing providers with expiring operating agreements.
- A new investment of \$225 million will ensure community housing providers can protect affordability and undertake necessary repairs to units for Indigenous peoples living in urban, rural and northern communities.
- In addition to the investments, the Government provides over \$326 million every year to First Nation communities in support of housing.