
SUBJECT

Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy

ISSUE

How is the Government working with Indigenous Communities to help address housing needs in urban, rural and northern areas?

RESPONSE

- **The Government is 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.**
- **Improving the quality, supply and affordability of housing for Indigenous Peoples living in urban, rural and northern areas is a priority for the Government of Canada and an important commitment on the path toward reconciliation. It also supports the Government’s work with Indigenous Peoples toward the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.**
- **While the National Housing Strategy focusses right now on Indigenous and northern housing projects, significant gaps exist in addressing the housing needs of Indigenous Peoples living in urban, rural and northern areas.**
- **At present, federal funding for Indigenous housing flows through three distinctions-based housing strategies. The First Nations Housing and Related Infrastructure Strategy, the Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy and the Métis Nation Housing Sub Accord were each co-developed with National Indigenous Organizations.**
- **Mr. Speaker, the Indigenous housing landscape is complex and almost 80% of Indigenous households live in urban, rural and northern areas. Budget 2022 committed \$300 million to co-develop and launch an Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy with Indigenous partners to address the housing needs of Indigenous Peoples living in urban, rural and northern areas. A portion of this funding is being flowed through Canada Mortgage**

and Housing Corporation (CMHC) to support Indigenous led engagements on the Strategy.

- **Budget 2023 proposes to commit an additional \$4 billion, over seven years, starting in 2024-2025, to implement a co-developed Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy.**
- **The engagement builds on the important work of previous studies and advocacy by Indigenous groups, non-profit associations, stakeholders, parliamentarians, and others to shape a housing strategy designed by, and for, Indigenous Peoples.**

Engagement on an Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy

- **The Government of Canada, through CMHC, gathered input and ideas on an Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy at the start of 2023, through an online survey and via written submissions. A total of 965 surveys were completed.**
- **We held Indigenous-led engagement sessions to help inform the Strategy. We sought input and ideas from Indigenous housing and service providers, Indigenous governments and organizations, Indigenous Peoples living in urban, rural and northern areas and advocacy organizations.**
- **These sessions build on the important work of previous studies and advocacy by Indigenous groups, non-profit associations, stakeholders, parliamentarians, and others to shape a Housing Strategy designed for, and by, Indigenous Peoples.**
- **Co-development of the Strategy was ongoing throughout the engagement process. CMHC will collaborate with partners to validate the results and options from the engagement sessions.**