



National Housing Council **Working Group on Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing**

Roundtable Discussion on the Establishment of an Independent, Non-Political, Indigenous-Controlled Body to Administer Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing

Who We Are:

The National Housing Council (the Council) is an advisory body that promotes participation and inclusion in the development of housing policy. The purpose of the Council is to further housing policy and the National Housing Strategy by providing advice to the Minister. It contributes to the success of the National Housing Strategy with the aim of improving housing outcomes for everyone in Canada.

What We Are Doing - Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing Priority:

The Council recognizes the existing gaps in housing approaches and outcomes in urban, rural, and Northern (URN) Indigenous housing and the urgency with which they must be addressed. In this context, URN Indigenous housing is used to refer to housing for Indigenous people, status or non-status, who are living outside of reserves, the Metis settlement areas, and Inuit Nunangat. This is the reality for the majority of Indigenous people in Canada.

There is a clear need to specifically address URN Indigenous housing as distinct from the existing Indigenous housing approach. In response, the Council identified URN Indigenous housing as one of its [three priority areas](#) of focus for its first year of work and convened a working group to explore the current URN Indigenous housing landscape and look at decolonial approaches to URN housing policy.

Preliminary Report:

The working group contracted InFocus Consulting to provide [a preliminary report outlining the current state of URN Indigenous housing](#), highlighting the consistent gaps in understanding, research, and delivery of URN Indigenous housing.

Roundtable Discussion on the Establishment of an Independent, Non-Political, Indigenous-Controlled Body to Administer Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing

The report finds that there is a clear need for an URN Indigenous housing specific strategy in Canada, as the existing funding and provision models are consistently not meeting URN Indigenous housing needs. The report presents a proposal for a national Indigenous Housing and Homelessness Entity (IHHE) that is independent and grounded in Indigenous approaches

Engagement:

As the working group investigates the specifics of establishing an IHHE, roundtable sessions will gather insight on the structures that could support such a body to administer funding and set policy on urban, rural and northern Indigenous housing.

Participants will be asked to provide insights on the proposed IHHE model as well as a second model for an independent, non-political, Indigenous-controlled body proposed by the [Canadian Housing Renewal Association \(CHRA\) Indigenous Caucus](#). In addition, the roundtables will be used to explore options to provide short-term funding during the time a long-term model is being developed.

This engagement is being conducted solely on behalf of the members of the National Housing Council and not on behalf of the Government of Canada and/or Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). The views or opinions expressed in this invite and any other material related to this event are solely those of the National Housing Council, and do not necessarily represent or reflect the official policy or position of the Government of Canada and/or the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

Questions for Consideration:

Designing a National Body

- How could a national Indigenous housing body be structured?
 - What are the key elements necessary for a model's success?
 - What are your thoughts on the model proposed by the National Housing Council (IHHE Model)?
 - What are your thoughts on the model proposed by the CHRA Indigenous Caucus (FIBI Model)?

Addressing Immediate Needs

- How can immediate needs be addressed in the short term during the time a long-term model is being developed?
- In the interim (estimated two years), what are some approaches or structures that could be leveraged to allow resources to flow to communities in need?
 - What are the pros and cons of these options?
- Should an interim structure be established?
- What are some models that have previously been successful in distributing funds to communities in need?