



The state of urban Indigenous housing in British Columbia: big wins, big gaps and AHMA's fight for a brighter future

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We are on Indigenous Land

AHMA acknowledges that this presentation is taking place on and near beautiful and unceded Anishinabewaki (ᐱᐢᐣᐣᐢᐱᐢᐱᐢᐱᐢᐱᐢ) and Michif Piyii (Métis) territory.

At AHMA, we honour Indigenous Elders past, present, and future from all First Peoples' traditional territories.



ABOUT AHMA



- AHMA is BC's Indigenous housing expert for those not living on reserve
- Approximately 75% of Indigenous people in BC do not live on reserve
- Our housing providers build and operate trauma-informed, culturally safe urban Indigenous housing solutions to foster more equitable, livable and sustainable communities
- We are For Indigenous, By Indigenous (FIBI)



BRIEF HISTORY OF AHMA

Federal government announces it will stop building new urban Native housing units and devolves social housing to the provinces.

AHMA forms

1993 - 1996

AHMA and BC Housing sign the Indigenous Social Housing Management Agreement (ISHMA) & all provincial Indigenous housing programs go to AHMA.

2012

AHMA celebrates 25th anniversary!

In 2022 AHMA releases BC's first Urban Indigenous Housing Strategy with broad endorsement.

AHMA advocates federal funding through formation of NICHI.

2019 - 2022

2004

AHMA and the Province of BC officially sign an interim self-management agreement - the first of its kind in Canada.

2018

BC Govt & AHMA announce the Indigenous Housing Fund (IHF) making BC the first province to fund both on and off reserve housing.

2022 - 2026

AHMA Celebrates 30 Years!

AHMA continues to work closely with First Nations in BC on housing.

AHMA releases Youth and GBV strategies.

UNDERSTANDING INDIGENOUS HOMELESSNESS

Homeless on your own homeland:

Indigenous people are 13 TIMES more likely than non-Indigenous people to experience homelessness

45% of women experiencing homelessness in Metro Vancouver are Indigenous



AHMA'S UNIQUE VALUE PROPOSITION – AN URBAN INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVE

- Urban Indigenous populations have specific needs.
- AHMA members support all urban indigenous people regardless of origin or status
- Wraparound supports are critical for those coping with trauma
- We take a culturally-grounded, For Indigenous, By Indigenous approach
- Culturally supportive housing = safety & belonging





BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN ON AND OFF RESERVE HOUSING

- AHMA is an additional support for Indigenous people in need of housing throughout BC
- We conduct extensive research and government advocacy
- Support for First Nations members
- A separate stream of funds to protect on reserve efforts



MEMBERSHIP

Corporate Members

- ✓ Active Funding agreements with AHMA
- ✓ Offer Housing exclusively for Indigenous tenants
- ✓ Get a voting right
- ✓ 43 Indigenous housing and service providers

Non-Corporate Members

- ✓ Indigenous or Non-Indigenous organizations
- ✓ Actively involved in the provision of Indigenous housing or related services
- ✓ 12 organizations

ONE HEART,
Unifying Urban
Indigenous Housing **ONE VOICE**



FUNDING

35 housing programs, 6,000+ units,
and 10,000+ tenants

- \$50M in Operating Subsidy
- \$50M in Capital Renewal

PARTNERSHIPS

BC Non-Profit Housing Assoc & the
Cooperative Housing Federation of BC

- CHRA, CAEH, HART, WNHHN
- First Nations Health Authority
- Fortis, Hydro, Vancity
- BC Friendship Centres
- And many more



AHMA'S URBAN, RURAL AND NORTHERN INDIGENOUS HOUSING STRATEGY FOR BC

- 30,000 Indigenous households in BC will be in Core Housing Need over the next 10 years
- 35% of existing stock is in critical condition
- For each \$1 invested in Indigenous Housing, the social return is almost \$7 including an estimated \$3 in government savings resulting from decreased service use



Indigenous Youth Housing Strategy (IHYS)



For Indigenous
Youth, By
Indigenous
Youth (FIYBIY)
Housing
Solutions That
Work



Housing is inextricably linked to safety, and Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people are overrepresented among victims of violence in Canada

Gender-Based Violence Housing Strategy

ABORIGINAL HOUSING
MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION





Supporting Our Members

What urban Indigenous housing and service providers need most:

1. **Stability** – basic operational funding to address the shortfall in non-controllable cost pressures
2. **Capacity** – the ability to meet increasingly complex and intersecting needs of Indigenous residents with wraparound services
3. **Equity** – support to reduce the disproportionately high rates of Indigenous homelessness

Affirming Our Power

FOR INDIGENOUS, BY INDIGENOUS



WORKING TOGETHER

AHMA members provide housing and supports for Indigenous people living in municipalities across BC.

Both on and off reserve housing efforts need to be supported adequately and equitably so ALL Indigenous people can access safe, affordable, culturally grounded housing.

Let's collaborate!



THANK YOU

Connect with us on social media



ahma_bc



Aboriginal Housing
Management Association

