



FIRST NATIONS HOUSING CONFERENCE

PRESENTED BY:



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HOUSING
COMMUNITY





FIRST NATIONS
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**STRONGER
ALLIANCES
STRONGER
HOMES**



FIRST NATIONS HOUSING CONFERENCE



BUILDING MEANINGFUL ALLIANCES

**Presented by: First Nations Housing Community
Facilitator: Clarence Meekis, FNHC Working Group
Keewaytinook Okimakanak Technical Manager**



Collaboration – What & Why

- ➔ Working together toward shared outcomes
- ➔ Provide long-term solutions for shared challenges
- ➔ Collaboration can strengthen outcomes when done right

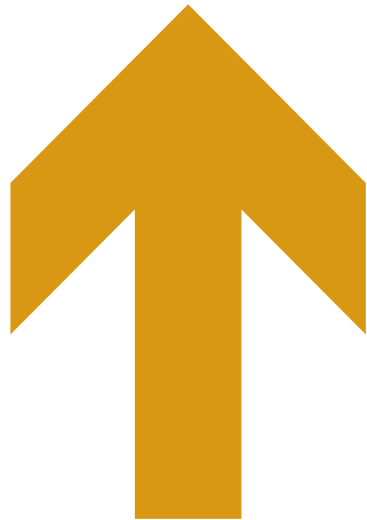


**If you want to go fast, go alone
If you want to go far, go together**





Advantages of Collaboration



Shared knowledge and experience



Pooled capacity and resources



Stronger collective outcomes



Opportunity to grow and expand



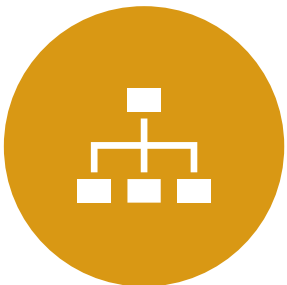
Disadvantages & Challenges



Requires time and trust



Complexity and slower decision making



Fails without structure and accountability



Needs clear roles and expectations



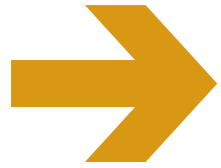
Governance Matters

- ➔ Collaboration requires a governance model
- ➔ Clear roles, responsibilities, and decision-making (clarity in the roles of board and management)
- ➔ Structure supports trust and accountability
- ➔ Collaboration without governance increases risk

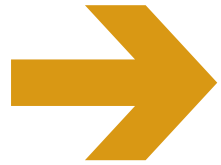




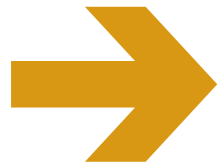
Collaboration is a skill



Collaboration improves through practice and experience



Mistakes and adjustments are part of the process
(lessons learned)



Skills needed for a collaborative effort are different



Ego and Defensiveness



- ➔ Trust and openness are foundational
- ➔ Effective collaboration requires letting go of ego
- ➔ Over defensiveness limits shared progress
- ➔ Shared purpose must outweigh individual ownership

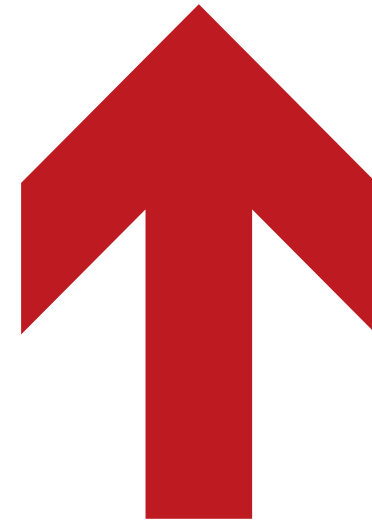


Collaboration Requires Sharing (Not Just Teamwork)

- ➔ Sharing knowledge and resources
- ➔ Sharing responsibility and accountability
- ➔ Sharing outcomes and risk or liability
- ➔ Shared influence and mutual accountability
- ➔ Participation alone is not collaboration



**A rising tide
lifts all boats.**





Ideas Must be Open

- ➔ Collaborative environments can evolve and improve ideas
- ➔ Ideas improve when others contribute
- ➔ Holding back limits collective potential
- ➔ Need to take the competition out of the process





Panelists

- ➔ Jonathan Gregg – Independent First Nations Alliance (IFNA) – Housing Factory
- ➔ Tom Sayers – Windigo First Nations Council – Water and Wastewater Solutions
- ➔ Don Marrion – Sioux Lookout Area Aboriginal Management Board (SLAAMB) – Training Programs



Panel Discussion



Sample Questions

1. Describe your project and tell us how the alliance formed in the first place?
2. What needs does your alliance serve?
3. What's the biggest takeaway from your experience?
4. What would you do differently?



Sample Questions 2

5. If money wasn't limited, what would you do?
6. How has government involvement affected your project?
7. What surprised you the most about working with others?
8. How do you bring in new partners to an existing alliance?



Personal Reflection

What is my story?



Audience Questions?



Closing Remarks



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