



February CEO Address

From the Desk of Candace Bennett, CEO of FNHPA

Kwey Kwey FNHPA Members,

As we step into February, I want to take a moment to recognize the dedication and hard work that each of you brings to the First Nations housing industry. Your commitment to improving housing in First Nations communities across Canada is truly inspiring, and I am honored to support your efforts through the work of FNHPA.

With 2024 well underway, our focus remains on advancing housing excellence in First Nations communities. The challenges we face—ranging from infrastructure gaps to policy development—require innovative solutions and strong collaboration. At FNHPA, we are committed to providing the resources, training, and advocacy needed to build capacity in your communities and support housing professionals in navigating these complexities.

FNHPA's Growing Impact: 359 Students Strong!

This semester has been phenomenal as enrollment numbers reached their highest yet. A significant milestone has also been reached in FNHPA's educational journey—370 students have now participated in our courses! This achievement reflects the growing impact of our programs. This Winter 2025 semester has been particularly active, with students engaged in intensive, virtual, and cohort-based learning. In January, we welcomed 15 students to our Manitoba Intensive Program (MIP) Course 200 and 12 to the MIP Course 500, while 36 students joined Course 100, along with additional enrollments across Courses 200, 300, 400, and 500 in our regular virtual sessions. Our Atlantic Cohort saw participation grow from 23 to 33 students, and in March, we will launch an Ontario cohort with 15 students.

Additionally, we continue to support students in their certification journey, with four preparing to write their exams this February and 16 eligible for the June exam. These numbers highlight the ongoing success of our programs in strengthening First Nations housing capacity, and we look forward to seeing even more professionals benefit from FNHPA education in the years ahead.

Upcoming Events

We are excited to announce several upcoming opportunities for engagement and professional development.

- **Planning for and Controlling Housing Costs workshop** - March 12 & 13 in Calgary, we will be hosting the Planning for and Controlling Housing Costs workshop. This in-depth training session will provide essential strategies and tools to help First Nations housing professionals manage budgets, reduce costs, and optimize resources effectively.
- **March Board Member - Meet and Greet** - We are excited to invite you to an exclusive meeting with our regional board members, taking place throughout the month of March. This is a unique opportunity to connect with your regional Board member who shape the direction of our association and discuss the issues that matter most to you.





- Research Survey – Your voice matters and as we continue our commitment to strengthening First Nations housing, we invite you to participate in an important research study focused on housing strategy, policy, and accountability. Your insights will help shape future FNHPA education and resources, ensuring housing professionals have the tools needed for effective strategic planning. [Click here](#) to fill out the survey.

Looking Forward

I am optimistic about what we can achieve together this year. Your feedback, insights, and experiences help shape the direction of FNHPA, and I encourage you to reach out, get involved, and make your voices heard. Together, we will continue to drive the First Nations housing industry forward.

Wishing you all a productive and inspiring February.

Kitchi Migwetch,

Candace Bennett, FNHP, CIL, CAPA

Chief Executive Officer

First Nations Housing Professionals Association (FNHPA)

