



CEO Message-June 2025

The Process of Becoming Resilient - From the Desk of Candace Bennett, CEO of FNHPA

Kwey Kwey, FNHPA Members, Partners, and Friends,

Rather than my usual update on our packed schedules full of meetings, planning sessions, presentations, and conferences, this month, I want to take a moment to speak to something that lives at the core of who we are, both as professionals and as people: resilience.

Working in the First Nations housing sector is not easy. The challenges we face are layered, unique, and deeply rooted in systems that haven't always served our communities. But we rise each day not just because of the work itself, but because of what it represents. We are building more than homes—we are rebuilding hope, restoring dignity, and protecting the future of our communities.

What fuels that fire? It's the knowledge that we are not just workers—we are mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, kokums, mooshums, nieces, nephews, and cousins. We come from families and communities that celebrate together, grieve together, and lift each other up when times are tough. We carry that collective spirit with us into every boardroom, job site, community hall, and policy meeting.

Resilience isn't just something we're born with—it's something we build. And the process of becoming resilient is often painful. It asks us to stretch, to endure, to hope when it's hard, and to lead when we feel like resting. But the beauty of resilience is that its impact ripples far beyond the moment. The strength you carry today becomes the foundation for the next generation. The changes you fight for today will be the legacies your children inherit tomorrow.

So when the road gets heavy I ask that you remember your "why." Let it ground you. Let it guide you. Let it remind you that you are not alone. Every step you take is part of something bigger, more powerful, and more enduring than any single hardship. You are part of a movement of heart, spirit, and transformation.

Thank you for continuing to show up with passion, integrity, and unwavering commitment. Your resilience is changing lives, and it will be felt for generations to come.

Kitchi Migwetch,

Candace Bennett, FNHP, CIL, CAPA Chief Executive Officer First Nations Housing Professionals Association
(FNHPA)

