



First Nations Housing
Professionals Association

L'Association des professionnels de
l'habitation des Premières Nations

For Immediate Release:

December 5, 2024

FNHPA Brings Enhanced Housing Support to Atlantic Canada's First Nations Through Education and Capacity Building

The First Nations Housing Professionals Association (FNHPA) is excited to announce its strategic expansion into Atlantic Canada, bringing its comprehensive education and support services to address the unique housing needs of First Nations communities in the region. Through a collaborative partnership with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), FNHPA is committed to working alongside First Nations in New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island to enhance housing management and operations through targeted education, certification, and capacity-building initiatives.

As the leading Canadian organization for the certification and training of First Nations Housing Professionals, FNHPA is at the forefront of addressing housing challenges and developing critical resources for frontline workers. FNHPA's mandate is to create the capacity required to deliver housing programs, manage the multi-million-dollar assets constructed in communities, and effectively plan future housing projects, all while protecting both people and property.

FNHPA's innovative "two-eyed seeing" approach, which blends traditional First Nations perspectives with contemporary Western methodologies, ensures that our programs are not only culturally relevant but also highly effective. This "by First Nations, for First Nations" philosophy underpins all our initiatives, ensuring they resonate with and truly benefit the communities we serve. The goal is for every First Nation in Atlantic Canada to have at least one staff member who has achieved FNHP certification, with remaining staff completing the FNHPA Housing Management Assessment and Learning Pathway. This pathway equips them with a deep understanding of housing policies, tenant responsibilities, and best practices, ultimately creating a robust capacity plan.

"Our expansion into Atlantic Canada represents a key milestone in FNHPA's national strategy to provide region-specific support. We understand that each area comes with its own unique challenges and opportunities, and we are committed to working collaboratively with local communities to tailor our services to meet these regional needs. The newly hired Regional Coordinator for Atlantic Canada will be instrumental in fostering open dialogue, building partnerships, and co-developing strategies that directly address the housing challenges faced by First Nations in the region. By working closely with



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communities, this role will also help build a comprehensive database of information, ensuring that we collectively navigate and improve the housing landscape together” says Candace Bennett, FNHPA CEO.

FNHPA’s efforts in Atlantic Canada are amplified by our strong partnerships with key regional organizations. We are proud to work alongside the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs Secretariat (APC), the Confederacy of Mainland Mi’kmaq (CMM), the North Shore Mi’kmaq Tribal Council Inc. (NSMTC), and the Union of Nova Scotia Mi’kmaq (UNSM). These collaborations are instrumental in aligning our initiatives with the needs of the communities we serve, ensuring that our programs are impactful, relevant, and supportive of broader regional goals.

FNHPA is dedicated to building strong, lasting relationships with First Nations in New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. We offer a wide range of resources and services designed to help these communities develop the capacity to manage their housing programs and assets successfully.

“Our work is driven by a deep commitment to supporting communities in building the capacity needed to tackle their regional-specific housing challenges. Ultimately, FNHPA is responding to the capacity and education gap by equipping staff with the certification and tools critical to managing their housing departments. We believe that by focusing on a community-centric approach, we ensure that the solutions developed are not only sustainable but also deeply rooted in the unique needs and aspirations of the people they are meant to serve. Housing is more than just four walls and roof —it’s about creating healthy, safe environments where families can thrive. That’s why we go beyond traditional methods, integrating cultural perspectives and local knowledge into our programs” adds Bennett.

All First Nations in Atlantic Canada are encouraged to connect with FNHPA and explore the full spectrum of support they have to offer. Housing staff are encouraged to participate in educational programs and national certification, national conferences, engage in webinars, participate in regional networks, and access our extensive knowledge center.

“We are here to provide the tools and resources necessary for long-term success. Together, we can build stronger, more resilient communities that are empowered to manage their housing programs effectively and meet the challenges of today and tomorrow,” concludes Bennett.

All First Nations in Eastern Canada are invited to take advantage of ISC-sponsored memberships and the FNHP course pathway. The Atlantic Coordinator is ready to provide the support needed to ensure that every community’s voice is heard and that their specific housing needs are addressed effectively.



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About FNHPA

The First Nations Housing Professionals Association (FNHPA) is dedicated to enhancing the capacity of First Nations in Canada by providing education, training, and certification for front-line housing staff. Our goal is to empower First Nations communities to manage their housing programs effectively and sustainably.