



## Aboriginal Housing Management Association

**For Immediate Release**

December 2, 2021

### **Official Statement to Extreme Climate Disasters and Crisis in British Columbia**

**Unceded territories of the Skwxwú7mesh Nation (West Vancouver, BC)** – The Aboriginal Housing Management Association is deeply saddened by the impact of the catastrophic climate disasters that have forced many communities to evacuate across British Columbia

AHMA is working closely with our Indigenous Housing and Service providers to respond to the growing crisis. We are grateful to each of our members who are leading AHMA's effort to aid and support community members in the affected areas across the province. AHMA has provided our membership and their affected communities emergency funding and will continue to allocate all available resources and support as we continue to experience extreme rainfall, widespread flooding, and landslides across BC.

Indigenous peoples are among the most vulnerable to direct consequences of climate change and weather-related disasters. AHMA calls on our provincial government to prioritize collaborating with Indigenous housing and service providers in order to develop sustainable long-term solutions, drawing on traditional knowledge and resources to respond to the ongoing climate related emergency in British Columbia. Climate change and crisis, exacerbates the barriers already faced by Indigenous communities including political and economic marginalization, loss of land and resources, human rights violations, discrimination, and unemployment.

AHMA will continue to work with our members to ensure safe and secure access to housing and shelter is made available for communities affected by the disaster. AHMA extends a heartfelt thank you to all first responders, front line workers, volunteers and recovery crews working relentlessly to help communities through this crisis.

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