



Aboriginal Housing Management Association
Celebrating 25 Years

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

**Traditional Territory of the x̱m̱əθḵʷəy̱əm (Musqueam),
S̱ḵw̱x̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and s̱əlilw̱ətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.**

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Vancouver, BC

Community leaders stand together in Vancouver to spark understanding, support, and action in the prioritization of Indigenous Housing

Traditional Territory of the x̱m̱əθḵʷəy̱əm (Musqueam), S̱ḵw̱x̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and s̱əlilw̱ətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nation – Community leaders stood today demonstrating support for safe, affordable Indigenous housing. The Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA) invited elected officials, municipalities, Indigenous communities, affordable housing providers, and community stakeholders to join in the gathering.

“There is no reconciliation without inclusion and belonging. Indigenous housing offers intention, it honours Indigenous communities, cultures, and values, and these differ between communities,” said Margaret Pfoh, AHMA CEO. “Today we stand collectively to demonstrate the role Indigenous housing plays in strengthening our communities, supporting individuals and families, and creating a sense of belonging and wellbeing.”

AHMA’s long term vision is for every Indigenous community to access and reclaim their inherent rights to housing. This includes supporting members who live away from their home communities. This event created a special opportunity to community leaders to collectively demonstrate the importance of Indigenous community led housing and to connect over common goals.

“Indigenous peoples in Canada are being denied their basic human right of access to adequate housing. For years, we have heard this Federal Government promise to tackle the issue, yet Indigenous peoples are still disproportionately affected by the homelessness crisis and 11 times more like to use a shelter,” said Jenny Kwan, Member of Parliament for Vancouver East and NDP Housing Critic “It is time to act in accordance with the UN Declaration for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by ensuring Federal supports to a For Indigenous, By Indigenous urban, rural and Northern Housing Strategy is commensurate with need.”

The leaders gathered at Vancouver Native Housing Society’s building on Fraser Street in Vancouver for the event.

“We are honoured to host the gathering at our building, and this shows the families and Elders who live in our housing that they are supported,” Richard George, President of Vancouver Native Housing Society.. “There is a housing crisis across this province and country. We need to meet people where they are at and respect people for who they are. There are no one-size fits all solution to the housing crisis, and honouring the need for Indigenous housing demonstrates that.”

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Quick Facts

- In early 2022, AHMA released British Columbia's first [Provincial Urban Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy](#). The historic strategy is an integral step forward in claiming and protecting the social, economic, and Indigenous housing rights of all urban, rural, and northern Indigenous Peoples in British Columbia.
- The Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA) was established in 1996 with a mission to "lead and advance housing rights for ALL Indigenous Peoples in British Columbia".
- AHMA is comprised of 55 Indigenous housing and service providers located all across BC. These members manage more the 95% of all Indigenous housing units in urban, rural, and northern areas of the province (off reserve).

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