



Aboriginal Housing Management Association

For Immediate Release

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AHMA's Official Response to the Throne Speech 2021

Traditional Territories of the Squamish Nation/West Vancouver - AHMA is cautiously optimistic in response to the speech from the throne marking the opening of the 44th Parliament. "Canada has renewed its commitment to reconciliation. However, we are two years behind the 2019 commitment towards a National Urban Strategy. We urge our government to act within their first 100 days to create, fund and implement a National Urban Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy" said Margaret Pfoh, AHMA's Chief Executive Officer.

In the speech, the government said it intends to accelerate Indigenous reconciliation efforts through responding to the numerous still unfulfilled calls to action, implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), eliminating water advisories, and appointing a 'Special Interlocutor' to advance justice on residential schools.

AHMA views further delays to implementing an Urban Indigenous National Housing Strategy and our calls to action a significant threat to all Indigenous communities. The postponement of an adequate strategy causes hundreds of thousands of Indigenous peoples to continue living in unacceptable and deplorable conditions.

Canada must ensure that Indigenous peoples have accessibility and the power to exercise their rights to adequate housing. Only through meaningful engagement with AHMA and Indigenous housing and service partners across Canada can the social, economic, and Indigenous rights of urban, rural, and northern Indigenous peoples in Canada be claimed and protected.

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AHMA is an umbrella organization composed of 41 Members that are each Indigenous Housing and Service providers. Our members represent over 8000 Indigenous families living in urban, rural and northern regions of British Columbia. Created for Indigenous by Indigenous, AHMA is the first Indigenous Housing Authority in Canada.

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