

Regional Strategy on Housing and Infrastructure

What We Heard !

Highlights of the Stakeholder Meeting (Sept. 2018)

The following findings emerged during discussions held with the participants.

Skills and Capacities

- Sensitize elected officials and familiarize them with housing stock, programs, political and administrative aspects, roles and responsibilities of managers, local and regional issues, challenges and opportunities.
- Equip managers in their role of generalist: training (work-study balance), support, access to local and tribal expertise, strengthen the networks, access to best practices.
- Empower all long-term, new and future occupants (and the young people), by sensitizing them and accompanying them with innovative methods of communicating financial and housing literacy.

Funding and Finance

- Increase the use of modern financing tools, in particular to accelerate the development of individual ownership and the establishment of new infrastructures. To compose with the realities specific to the First Nations while thinking "outside the box".
- Establish partnerships at all possible levels: financial institutions, private sector, developers, lot holders, governments, etc.
- Integrate the actions of all stakeholders to maximize local benefits: Works carried out internally, local contractors, bundled purchases, incentives, mentoring, etc.
- Explore all avenues to better meet needs inside and outside communities: target needs, analyze existing models (eg Kativik), increase and make better use of available funds, develop a continuum of housing, accompany individuals, partnerships with SHQ, access to lands off-community, etc.

Governance and Delivery

- Target common needs in order to properly define local, tribal, regional and national responsibilities. Consider the frequency of need and critical mass.
- Explore ways to integrate governance and housing delivery with off-community members, including engaging dialogue with the stakeholders (SHQ, HMN, NFCQ, etc.) and determining current and desired jurisdiction and responsibilities.
- Increase community autonomy, including retaining young people and encouraging their return, adapting programs to needs and not the opposite, and achieving the necessary legislative changes.

General findings, which are not necessarily related to a single component, but which have significance in all aspects of the regional strategy, were also identified, including:

- identify "disincentives" to housing and infrastructure development and work towards their elimination;
- take into consideration the diversity that characterizes the communities: needs, context, level where they are at, desire for appropriation.

All the interventions collected can be found in the report of the meeting and its appendix as well as in the subsequent work done by the FNAESC.