

Regional Tripartite Committee on Housing

June 18-19 2019

Attendance : Lance Haymond, AFNQL (June 18) Bruce Labrador, ISC
André Dansereau, ISC François Sauvageau, CMHC
Guy Latouche, AFNQL Jean-François Samuel, CMHC
Pierre Bélanger, CMHC Liliane Guttierrez, (DGSPNI) June 19
Oumar Ba, SAC (FNIHB)

Moderator : Jean-Francois Samuel

1. Welcome and introduction (reading and adoption of the agenda)

Pierre Bélanger welcomes everyone. The agenda is accepted.

2. Update for a new member – PB

Guy Latouche gives a brief summary to Pierre Bélanger, the new regional manager for CMHC's Eastern Region, on the changes to the RTCH over the past three years. He gives an overview of the regional strategy and the various actions in progress. He explains the role of partners in support of our work.

3. Follow-up on the actions of the last meeting (April 2019)

Action 1: AFNQL will share with the Operational Committee the questionnaire that will be used to collect data on the housing needs at the national level. Done

Action 2: FNAESC should be asked for a proposal for the implementation of the "skills and capacities" axis of the Regional Strategy. At the same time, ask the FNAESC for a drafted terms of reference or main principles for skills and capacity development. Done

Action 3: It is proposed to invite the Fund to a future RTCH meeting and to ask them for the funding of the Skills and Capacity Development Initiative. It would be premature to approach the Fund before having the official OK from the Chief's assembly in September on the Regional strategy. Invitation will come after September.

Action 4: NRC agreed with a follow-up mechanism, such as the expansion of the RTCH Research and Development Working Group with an action plan and deliverables schedule, to advance specific projects.

It was agreed that each partner will identify the persons who will constitute the working group, including the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Sustainable Development Institute (FNQLSDI) and the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB). . It's up and running, CMHC, FNIHB and ISC have to delegate their appropriate representatives for activities starting in the fall.

Action 5: Add, in the Action Plan, the follow-up with the NRC (working group). Done

Action 6: FNIHB will share with the Operational Committee the housing inventory data for which the presence of mold is noted. Done

4. National and Regional Environment

ISC

Call for proposals on the Housing construction component has been launched. Very good response rate. We have many requests; therefore, we have some hard choices to make. We had to manage the high expectations from the communities. The Renovation part is on the way. The Skills and innovation component part is expected a little later. Deadlines have been staggered over time.

Infrastructure Fund for the servicing of lots in collaboration with ABSCAN. 4-5 communities would be affected very significantly.

Mamit Innuat, Circuit Rider training, ISC has increased funding for fire protection. Same thing for the maintenance at the level of the community buildings. The emphasis is on prevention.

2 Mobilization Sessions were recently held on Water and Operations and Maintenance (O & M). ISC has participated significantly.

FNIHB

54 agreements to renew this year (First Nations and Inuit). Will align with ISC for planning with communities. Is evaluating the impacts of the actions on the communities. Currently identifying individual wells to assess appropriate funding opportunities.

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CMHC

The structure has changed as well as the role and responsibilities of the employees. We are going through a transition period that should last a few more months. We work to minimize the negative impact it may have on our current services.

All the changes come from the new vision that by 2030 every person in Canada will have a house that meets their needs. It is very ambitious, but everyone now at CMHC is working to make sure we reach that goal.

In the past, the two main pillars of CMHC were Mortgage insurance and Housing assistance. Now the two big pillars are customer solutions and customer operations. Customers are at the center of the new vision.

Now it is the responsibility of all CMHC to support housing solutions for FN on-reserve, off-reserve, Inuit and Métis.

The role of the Specialists, customer solutions, is to work with all Aboriginal groups in Quebec and the Atlantic to help implement solutions that meet their needs.

For on-Reserve FN, we will continue to deliver our usual programs (Sec 95, Renovation and Capacity development).

For FN on reserve, off reserve, Inuit and Métis we will expand our offer with programs under the National Housing Strategy. One of our important role will be to fully understand Aboriginal realities and to recommend changes to CMHC's guidelines to facilitate access to programs and the delivery of real estate projects tailored to the needs.

An important aspect of the changes is that the specialists will be very little involved at the operational level. This work has been split into new specialized divisions which will increase the number of stakeholders for clients which will require an adjustment period for CMHC and clients. There is another team that will be responsible for managing section 95 agreements and other teams will also be responsible for delivering our programs on reserve.

Budgets 2019-2020

Allowance letters will be sent by the end of June.

Youth Internships - Envelope of \$ 596,781 for Quebec (approximately 50 internships)

Capacity Building - we are going back to the National base budget we had a few years ago and also putting some money for existing National initiatives. Our ability to support some important initiatives will be affected this year. The exact amount we will have is not yet definitively determined.

Section 95 -The Quebec region will have \$ 11.4M in lifetime costs. 73 units are planned so far (should be close to 80 at the end of the process).

Renovation - For the moment, the budget is \$ 540,000 for Quebec, which is lower than usual. Discussions are currently under way so the exact amounts will be known soon.

AFNQL

National data collection for all FNs is being done (under the leadership of AFN). It allows us to update our data and have a lot of additional data. 100% response rate expected. This information will then enable AFN to make representation to Government authorities based on the actual needs and on the ability of the various regions to deliver the budgets.

National strategy in progress, a little slow now.

Technical Resource Group. Upcoming meeting on all tribal councils involved to refocus the intervention.

5. Annual Report

Guy Latouche presented the draft of the annual report of the RTCH for 2018-2019. The Action Plan is over a two year period. The documents of the RTCH are all accessible on the website of the AFNQL in French (in English also available soon)

Strategy in progress with the FN partners concerning the capacity development axis and the financing axis. Future development of the Governance axis.

Continued ongoing initiatives with Technical Resource Group, the Community of Practice CoPh, CEGEP Garneau training program, ABSCAN and NRC.

It is suggested that the report include the meeting of the Deep Dive in Quebec City and the meeting with the deputy minister in Wendake.

6 Update – Regional Strategy

Skills development Axis.

Rola Hélou's team will present a proposal for the first stage of implementation by the end of August. Before an upcoming Chief's meeting in September. A little late but things are progressing well. It will be necessary to foresee the post-report and the actions to be taken to bring this project into concrete realization.

Funding Axis.

Some aspects of the mandate are progressing rapidly. In September, we should have moved forward on this axis. The exact mandate and expected accomplishments of the FN Economic Development Commission remain to be clarified.

Governance Axis.

Put on hold for the moment while we properly launch the first two priority axes. Discussion will have to take place beforehand with the assembly of the Chiefs.

7. Regional Meeting –Fall 2019

Mobilization meeting.

Presentation of the regional strategy and preferred axis.

Discussion on other likely topics.

Survey the housing officers on potential topics by Workplace.

We want to recognize the success of the students who graduated recently with CEGEP Garneau.

Opportunity to share the National survey's results on housing.

The exact date in November 2019 will be defined according to the probability of having all the actors available. The location will be specified later according to the availability of rooms.

8. ISC Housing Initiative 2019-2021

Explanation from ISC of its recent housing initiative and its various components.

Explanation on the selected prioritization and selection criteria based on a set of data collected to identify projects and communities that address the greatest housing need under the initiative.

Initiative over 2 years. The budget is split as follows: 85% in construction, renovation and servicing of lots and 15% in capacity development and innovation. For information, the request for construction of social housing = \$ 51M requests for \$ 9.8M funding ... There is some flexibility of allocation from one component to another but we must respect the sharing of 85 / 15 (as it is a National requirement).

June 19 2019

A brief overview regarding the work of the RTCH is made for Liliana Gutierrez of FNIHB attending our meeting today.

10. Update –RTCH Action Plan 2018-2020

The current version of the action plan is discussed. We are now entering the second year.

The 3 main axis of the 2018-2020 Action Plan are reviewed.
The plan shows the progress of the various actions.

We are still to get the official approval of the Chief's assembly to continue the actions undertaken in the action plan. This should be done in September.

Capacity development axis: Several actions are advanced at 90%. Others are in development in the coming months as planned. The Health and Safety issue needs to be clarified later this year.

Financing and financial management axis: less advanced axis.

The mandate is defined, the supplier is identified (FNQLEDC) and currently developing the approach. Provider's preliminary report will be available by the end of the summer. Validation by the end of 2019.

Report on needs will be finalized by the end of 2019.

Governance axis: will be developed in the third place after the first two axes. (in accordance with the priorities defined in our plan)

11. Web Site AFNQL and Workplace

Updates and new features on the AFNQL website and Workplace will be presented at a future RTCH.

12. Housing Connection

Potential subjects are identified. The next edition will be produced by September 15th. As usual, everyone will be involved in the production of this next edition.

13. Next meeting

The next meeting will be organized by ISC in Quebec City on September 16, 2019.

Prepared by : François Sauvageau
June 30th 2019