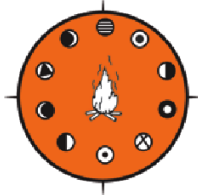


Regional Tripartite Housing Committee



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2021-2022 Annual Report

June 2, 2022 (Approved)



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Background

This report is a summary of the Regional Tripartite Housing Committee's (RTHC) activities during the year 2021-2022 as well as the main orientations that will guide its actions in 2022-2023.

The RTHC regroups representatives from the Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador (AFNQL), Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). The Committee is, in its current form, since 2005. Its mission is to make recommendations to the respective authorities of the three parties for the purpose of promoting housing conditions of First Nations members.

The RTHC activities are governed by a framework which provides for the holding of at least 3 meetings per year. The Committee identifies regional issues and ensures their monitoring with an action plan that is approved at the beginning of the year. The Committee counts on partnership, dissemination of information to First Nations communities and organizations, exchanges of views and networking in order to advance the files of mutual concern.

The current Action Plan of the Committee covers a period of 2 years (2021-2023). It is part of the Draft Regional Strategy, which itself stems from the engagement that is underway in the context of housing and infrastructure reform. The Action Plan is made up of 3 components:

1. More skills and capacities at all levels, with innovation;
2. More funds and more financing options, with innovation;
3. More First Nations autonomy, with innovation.

Improve the resilience capacity of communities!

Without a doubt, the pandemic has had an impact on all spheres of society. Still just as threatening, COVID-19 was omnipresent for a second consecutive year. Unlike the previous year, however, encouraging signs have appeared, sometimes in waves, in 2021-2022. Deconfinement, accompanied by a return to a "new normal", has begun. Moreover, at the end of the year, the AFNQL was planning its annual meeting on housing 2022; a first since 2019! The RTHC continued to adjust to this new reality in 2021-2022, as was the case in all organizations.

The vulnerability of First Nations was highlighted during the pandemic. The prevailing context in the area of housing is one of the factors at the origin of this vulnerability. In the renewal of its action plan, the RTHC ensured that its actions contribute to improving the resilience capacity of First Nations communities in Quebec. We must minimize the impacts of events such as COVID-19.



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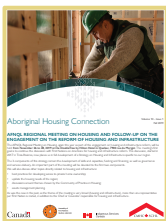
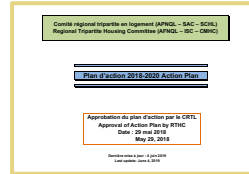


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Key Achievements in 2021-2022

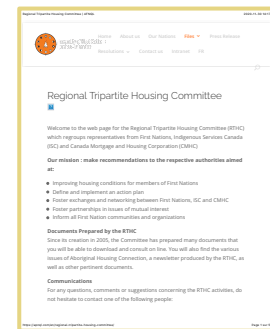
REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Implementation of the Action Plan for 2021-2023.



Reflection on the future of the *Aboriginal Housing Connection Newsletter*.

Important information posted by the Committee on the AFNQL's website and dissemination to First Nations communities and organizations.



Collaboration in the reflection surrounding the regionalization of ISC's 2021-2024 On-Reserve and Community Housing Initiative.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

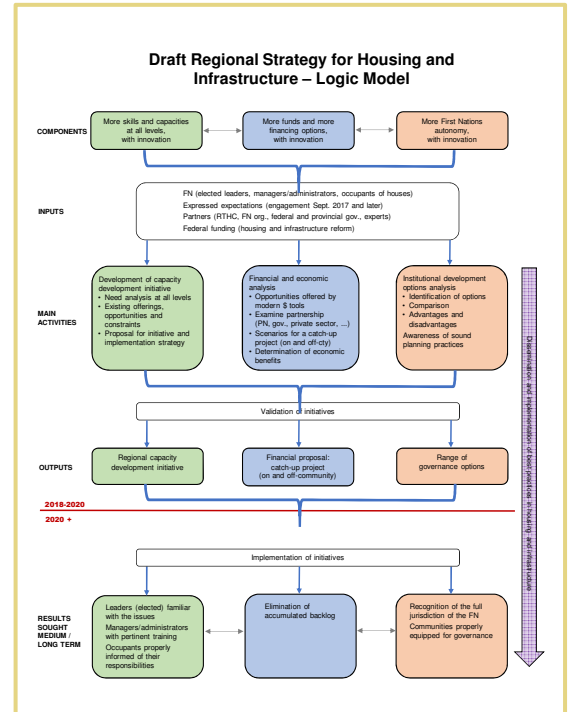
Increase in the pace of the Operational Committee conferences from the start of the pandemic with a view to harmonizing and concerting the actions of partners.



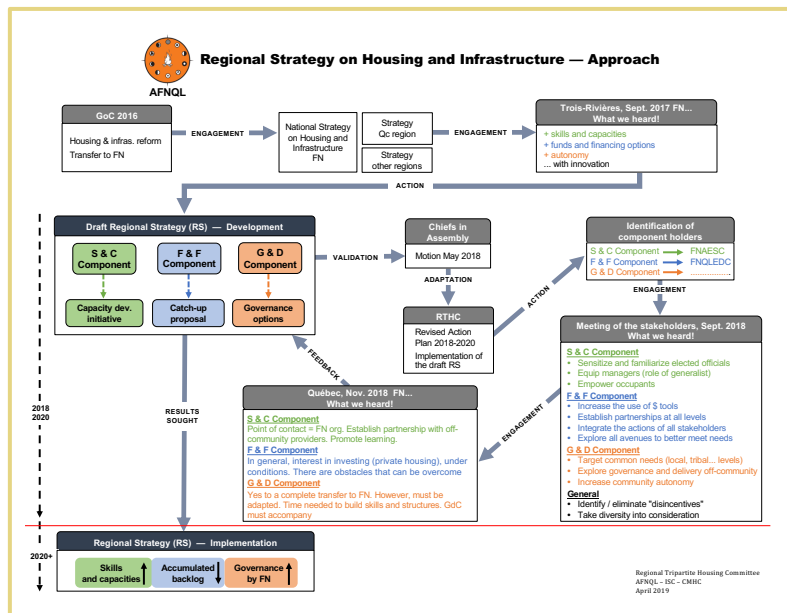


Collaborative strategy to further develop and implement the Regional Housing and Infrastructure Strategy.

- Partnership with the First Nations Adult Education School Council (FNAESC) in the development and implementation of the *Skills and Capacity* component of the Regional Strategy.
- Partnership with the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Economic Development Commission (FNQLEDC) in the development of the *Funding and Financing* component of the Regional Strategy, which is now entering a second phase.



SUPPORT ACTIVITIES



Reflection on the next stages of regional engagement.



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COLLABORATION WITH ORGANIZATIONS

Partnership with the First Nations Adult Education School Council (FNAESC) to implement a training program for housing managers, the community of practice on housing (CoPH), etc.



Partnership with tribal councils in the materialization of the pilot project for a housing technical resource group (HTRG).



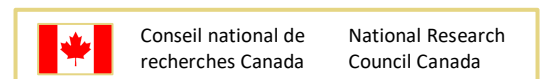
Partnership to support regional housing tables.



Partnership to collaborate with ABSCAN in the implementation of its strategic model.



Collaboration with the National Council Research Council Canada (NRC) to identify solutions to certain technical issues facing First Nations.



Exploratory discussions with the First Nations Market Housing Fund.



Continuation of the discussion with the Unifor union in anticipation of a possible contribution in a significant project for the First Nations in Quebec in the field of housing and infrastructure. In November 2021, as part of the Grand Economic Circle of Indigenous People and Quebec, Unifor made a firm commitment to *"contribute concretely to the implementation of solutions to the thorny issue of the housing crisis raging in Aboriginal communities in Quebec."*



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Key Orientations for the Year 2022-2023

The year 2022-2023 is the second of the period covered by the RTHC's new biennial Action Plan. In addition to regular activities, the following issues will be at the center of the RTHC's concerns.

CONTINUED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PHASE

Three major activities will unfold during the year:

- Continuation of the implementation of the capacity development initiative;
- Continued financial and economic analysis (the second phase of development includes the establishment of a center of expertise in financial literacy and housing);
- Institutional development options analysis based on progress on the other 2 components of the Strategy.

More skills and capacities at all levels with innovation

More funds and more financing options with innovation

More First Nations autonomy with innovation

The Committee will continue to define mandates, coordinate and follow up on them. He will report to its authorities and keep First Nations informed throughout the process.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMS RELATED TO THE 2021 AND 2022 FEDERAL BUDGET

Investing in Housing for Indigenous Communities

Access to safe and affordable housing is critical to improving health and social outcomes and to ensuring a better future for Indigenous communities and children. That is why the federal government has committed more than \$2.7 billion to support housing in Indigenous communities since 2015.

■ Building on these investments, Budget 2022 proposes to provide a further \$4 billion over seven years, starting in 2022-23, to Indigenous Services Canada and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada to accelerate work in closing Indigenous housing gaps as follows:

- \$2.4 billion over five years to support First Nations housing on reserves;
- \$565 million over five years to support housing in First Nations Self-Governing and Modern Treaty Holders communities;
- \$845 million over seven years to support housing in Inuit communities; and
- \$190 million over seven years for housing in Métis communities.

We also know that Indigenous peoples, regardless of where they live, face unique barriers to affordable housing.

■ Budget 2022 proposes to invest \$300 million over five years, starting in 2022-23, through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to co-develop and launch an Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy.

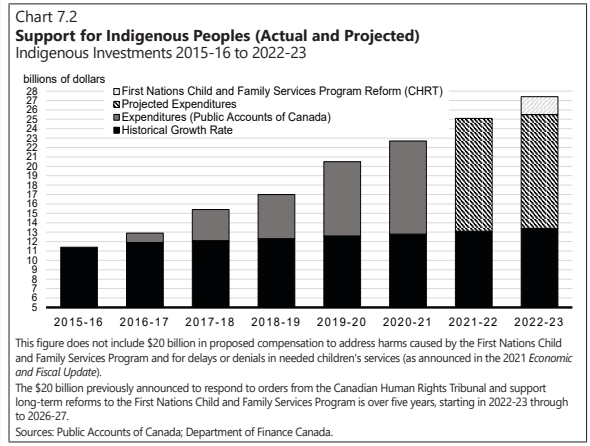
Along with these new investments, the federal government will allocate \$2 billion of the \$20 billion provided for long-term reform of the First Nations Child and Family Services program to target the housing needs of First Nations children once a final settlement agreement is reached.

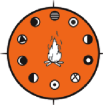
These measures will result in a combined \$6.3 billion over seven years towards improving and expanding Indigenous housing in Canada.

Additional investments in housing were announced during the tabling of the 2022 Federal Budget. Details are awaited. Collaboration in the implementation of programs resulting from the housing funds of the 2021 and 2022 budgets will continue. We will make sure that

the information is well communicated to First Nations and organizations. The ground must also be constantly prepared for a

possible reallocation of national funds. Such reallocations have taken place in the past, and the region has been able to benefit from it because of, among other things, a well-established action plan.





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CONTINUATION OF INITIATIVES ALREADY EMBARKED UPON

Continued partnership with the organizations that are involved in the implementation of projects related to capacity building in First Nations housing.

- Training program for housing managers (attestation of collegial studies) and implementation of a community of practice in housing (CoPH).
- Pilot project for a housing technical resource group (HTRG).
- Regional housing tables.
- ABSCAN's initiatives.
- Lot development trust fund administered by ABSCAN.
- Commitment of the Unifor union in anticipation of a possible contribution in a significant project for the First Nations.

The Committee will decide on its communications strategy for implementation later this year.

ANNUAL REGIONAL MEETING

Insofar as the pandemic context allows, the regional meeting on housing organized by the AFNQL will be held again in 2022-2023. Two stages are envisaged: virtual mode in May and in person in September.

STRATEGIC WATCH

The RTHC remains on the lookout for any development related to issues that might be of interest for the region, and will make any necessary recommendations (i.e.: the deployment of the 2022 Federal Budget and its alignment with regional priorities, the evolution of the pandemic and its possible effects on housing issues specific to First Nations, housing reform, implementation of the Action Plan arising from the Deep Dive exercise on First Nations housing, the reallocation of national funds, increasing construction costs).

THIS REPORT WAS ADOPTED BY THE COORDINATING MEMBERS OF THE RTHC ON JUNE 2, 2022.

Documents produced by the RTHC are available on-line at the following address:

<https://apnql.com/en/regional-tripartite-housing-committee/>

<p>For the AFNQL <u>Coordinating Member</u> Lance Haymond, Chief</p> <p><u>Counseling Member</u> Guy Latouche</p>	<p>For ISC <u>Coordinating Member</u> Bruce Labrador, Dir. infras.</p> <p><u>Counseling Members</u> Pascal Dubé André Dansereau Nathalie Spénard Éric Bouchard (FNIHB)</p>	<p>For CMHC <u>Coordinating Member</u> Pierre Bélanger, Dir. FN Housing</p> <p><u>Counseling Members</u> Jean-François Samuel François Sauvageau</p>
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