

Regional Tripartite Housing Committee (RTHC)

Minutes and Follow-up of the actions

Virtual meeting – February 21 and 22, 2023

Guest Members:

AFNQL: Chief Lance Haymond (not present), Guy Latouche

CMHC: Pierre Bélanger, Ina Wielinga, Jean-François Samuel

ISC: Bruce Labrador (RO*), Johanne Verville (RO), André Dansereau (RO), Nathalie Spénard (RO), Éric Bouchard (FNIHB**). Present Wednesday, February 22).

Facilitator: Johanne Verville; **Note-taking:** Nathalie Spénard

* RO = Regional Operations

** FNIHB = First Nations and Inuit Health Branch

Part 1 - Tuesday, February 21 - 1 to 4 pm

1. Word of welcome and introduction

Johanne Verville welcomed everyone and advised that Guy Latouche is acting for the AFNQL in the absence of Chief Lance Haymond and that Éric Bouchard will be present on Wednesday, February 22.

The meeting will be held virtually.

2. Agenda review and approval

Members were advised that the meeting would have to be adjourned at 3:45 p.m. on Tuesday, February 21, but with no items removed. The agenda was accepted as proposed, with no addition to the varia.

3. Follow-up on the actions of the June 2, 2022 meeting

Johanne Verville presented the follow-up on the actions identified in the minutes of the last meeting. The minutes of the June 2, 2022 meeting were adopted without modification.



In order to facilitate reporting, the summary of actions will now be presented in an annex in the form of a follow-up dashboard.

4. National and Regional Environments

Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador (AFNQL)

Presentation to the Directors General (DGs)

The AFNQL presented an update on the work of the RTHC and the housing/sheltering file at the DGs meeting on February 9th. Sharing of the main lines of the Regional Housing and Infrastructure Strategy and Action Plan (where we are, where we want to go, and the persistent issues that define much of the context in which the housing file evolves at the regional level). Participants listened very well and many questions and comments were made.

Financial Literacy

The First Nations Education Council (FNEC) is interested in the issue of financial literacy and plans to add this component to the educational curriculum offered in the schools of its network. At first glance, this is complementary to what is stated in the Action Plan via the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Economic Development Commission (FNQLEDC). We target the clientele of the leaders and the population (households). The FNEC's intervention is upstream in the demographic continuum. A discussion will take place in March (AFNQL, FNEC, FNQLEDC and ABSCAN).



At the February 15-16 meeting of the Housing Community of Practice (CoPH), a presentation by the FNQLEDC on the Financial Literacy Training Centre highlighted the fact that the Members' component is well advanced in its preparation and that a trainer has been identified. His involvement in the discussions on the school component will certainly be relevant.

2023 Great Gathering of Indigenous Peoples and municipalities of Quebec in Gatineau

This event, organized by the FNQLEDC, is part of the follow-up to the Grand Economic Circle of Indigenous Peoples and Quebec held in November 2021. Guy Latouche is part of the Advisory Committee that supports the organizer. Housing is one of the themes that will be the subject of a discussion circle, and it will be approached from the angle of awareness of First Nations (FNs) issues. This will take the form of a discussion among panelists. Whether it is FNs, municipalities or other levels of government, all have a stake in seeing more action taken to address the housing crisis affecting FNs.



Within the framework of the thoughts on the various partnerships, we need to broaden our horizons, and the municipalities are important and probably too little solicited. There are great gains to be made in involving municipalities in off-reserve projects (P. Bélanger).

Emerging problem? There have been reports of Indigenous members living in off-reserve housing being evicted from their units, allowing the landlord to benefit from subsidies related to immigrant (B. Labrador). This issue could also have an impact on the availability of housing, with the landlord potentially favouring rentals that would allow access to subsidy (I. Wielinga).

Unifor's commitment to First Nations housing

During the Grand Economic Circle, the Unifor union committed to contribute concretely to the implementation of solutions to the housing crisis in Indigenous communities in Quebec. Currently at the exploratory stage, options and discussions are underway: 1) Contribution to capacity building for workers in the skilled trades (on-site accompaniment, mentoring). The FNAESC will be called upon if we go further with this option. 2) Pilot project that would add a financial contribution to help make more housing of the individual component, in communities that have difficulty deploying this formula.



Before determining the preferred option, be sure to validate that Unifor does not have a visibility issue. If the capacity building option is favored, its contribution could be incorporated through something existing, thus risking diluted visibility (B. Labrador). At this point, the measure of visibility sought by Unifor in relation to its commitment has not been confirmed. However, given its subscription-based mode of operation, it is surely advantageous to seize opportunities to have visibility (G. Latouche).

Can Unifor's commitment expire soon? (B. Labrador) Despite the time elapsed since the last representations, Unifor's interest is there... as long as the current stakeholders in the file remain. In this context, we should not delay too long and take advantage of the current momentum (G. Latouche).

If Unifor wants to demonstrate a strong commitment, it should focus on one priority (rather than multiple small commitments) to have a more significant impact and visibility (P. Bélanger).

Action! Interest shown by the RTHC's leaders to know the follow-up of this file and the favoured option.

Community Housing Transformation Centre (CHTC)

The CHTC is a non-profit organization that is working to create a new ecosystem that will simplify and accelerate the development of social and community housing in the province. The AFNQL is part of a focus group that is exploring ways to better meet housing needs. The CHTC would like to meet with our decision-making instances to present their initiative. We will start with a conference with the RTHC Operational Committee.

Action! RTHC leaders agreed with the proposed approach and an action was added to the Action Tracking Dashboard in the annex.

The CHTC has just launched an Indigenous Housing Internship Program. There is another opportunity to collaborate to extend the program to AFNQL communities. We will have a specific discussion on this subject in the short term, with the involvement of the First Nations Adult Education School Council (FNAESC).

Water and Wastewater Act

Last February 15, a First Nations mobilization session was held in the region on this subject. The AFNQL deploras, by way of a press release, that Minister Hajdu implied that the law was co-developed with the FNs, which is not the case. However, the Chiefs' position is clear: "When it comes to a law that affects our members,

our communities, we must be at the forefront of the development process". It should be noted that the bill was not available before the mobilization session

Closing the Infrastructure Gap by 2030 and Memorandum to Cabinet

The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) has shared its report on this issue. The report considers all asset classes: housing, infrastructure, education, drinking water, wastewater, all-weather road access, climate adaptation, net zero carbon, connectivity, accessibility and direct community demands. The financial need to close the gap by 2030 is \$349B, of which \$135B is housing ($\pm 40\%$). The total need in Quebec is \$18.6B (\$7.6B housing). The amount for housing in Quebec (\$7.6B) is consistent with our figure (\$4.0B): it is based on our data (AFNQL), the costs have been indexed, it is now 2023 to 2030, not 2018 to 2023, and the new report considers market changes and a multitude of other factors, including operations and maintenance.

ISC Headquarters will submit a Memorandum to Cabinet (MC) on the investments surrounding the work to close the infrastructure gap. The AFN, in collaboration with the regions, is working to influence the content of the MC.

Long Term Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy

AFNQL is working with CMHC to prepare a regional engagement session in March. The 2022 Federal Budget includes \$330M over 5 years, starting in 2022-2023, to jointly develop an Urban, Rural and Northern (URN) Indigenous Housing Strategy. The AFNQL has learned that, following representations over the last few months, additional funds will be added. The initial amount (\$300M) will finally target urgent projects during the first 2 years. Additional funds will be added for the deployment of the Strategy in years 3 to 5. The AFN and AFNQL advocate for a distinctions-based strategy (First Nations only).

While this funding is intended for off-reserve initiatives, an important aspect is to sensitize our regional leaders and organizations to attend and express their views on First Nations housing issues outside the communities. There is nothing to prevent a Band Council organization from being the proponent of an off-reserve housing project, especially since there will be funding attached to this strategy.

Homelessness

Homelessness is often referred to as urban homelessness. The problem also exists within communities, but often in a different form (hidden homelessness, overcrowding). AFN Chiefs Resolution #79/2019 addresses the need to develop a national action plan on homelessness, on and off reserve. Steps are being taken, such as engagement sessions in the regions, including Quebec, a literature review, an environmental scan and systems mapping. Next steps include an estimate of the costs of homelessness and the development of a homelessness data collection tool.

Infrastructure Canada's "Reaching Home" program will, for the first time, include dedicated funding for community-based homelessness initiatives. An envelope of \$12.3M, which means approximately \$1.2M for the Quebec region and a similar amount for the following year (2024-2025). The Chiefs have mandated the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission (FNQLHSSC) to initiate discussions leading to a funding agreement with Canada to administer and distribute the Towards Home funds to selected local projects in FN communities in Quebec-Labrador.



*The phenomenon of daytime homelessness often goes unnoticed, and there may be an area to explore in this (B. Labrador).
The RTHC should keep an eye on the development of the Infrastructure Canada program (P. Bélanger).*

ABSCAN's business model

On January 31 and February 1, ABSCAN brought together Aboriginal Financial Institutions (AFIs) from several regions interested in housing financing as well as a group of key partners for an in-depth review of its business plan with a view to expanding its approach to other regions. Given the housing needs of FNs, there is a demand that must be met. By acting in a coordinated manner, AFIs could raise cheaper capital, which would help ABSCAN and other institutions to offer better terms to FN members who want to access individual home ownership in their community.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)

Rapid Housing Initiative 3.0 (RHI)

The Indigenous community in Quebec has had great success with the first two phases of this initiative. The budget for this third phase is \$1.5 billion and the portal will be open until March 15. Some considerations that favor the Indigenous clientele:

- Streamlined application process.
- Improved scoring for the Indigenous community to recognize housing needs.
- Improved scoring if an Indigenous community or organization did not receive RHI in previous phases.

Indigenous Shelter and Transitional Housing Initiative

This \$724M joint (CMHC-ISC) initiative is designed to expand relevant support services for Indigenous women, children and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people who are victims of gender-based violence. The goal is at least 38 new shelters and 50 transition houses across Canada. The program will remain open until March 2024. To date, two applications have been approved in Quebec. More projects are in the works for communities in Quebec.

New Construction - National Housing Co-Investment Funding (NHCF)

High demand in recent years combined with rising construction costs have resulted in significant contributions. As of last December, the contribution-only component is closed. The loan and contribution component is still available. Contributions can be up to \$25k per unit.



To be evaluated if some files not accepted at RHI 3.0 could be evaluated with the applicant for Co-investment Construction. (J.-F. Samuel).

Renovation – National Housing Co-Investment Funding (NHCF)

A one-time initiative in late 2022 provided \$21,378,423 to communities in Quebec to help renovate approximately 1,549 units. The amount awarded was \$15k per unit or 40% of the cost of the work with a 3 year period to complete the work. CMHC was also able to match community down payments for a total of \$1.1M and 129 units under Stream 2 (Renovation) of the Indigenous Services Canada Housing Initiative. To date, there has been little use of the regular renovation NHCF.



Communicating success is important! If the RTHC's Communication Strategy is re-launched, the strength of the network, the spirit of collaboration, the trust and the open communication demonstrated in this initiative is a great success story! (B. Labrador and P. Bélanger)

Quebec's achievement of almost one-third of the national envelope is attributable to an effective and detailed demonstration of need. This was achieved through CMHC-ISC collaboration, but also through the quality of the specialists' communications with the clients. (P. Bélanger)

Seed funding - National Housing Co-Investment Funding (NHCF)

Funds are currently limited due to high demand. We are working with various partners to try to meet these needs.

Housing Accelerator Fund – National Housing Strategy (NHS)

The Fund was re-launched in September 2022 with \$550M in funding over 6 years. This fund supports new ideas that will drive change and revolutionize the affordable housing sector. This fund is also for housing providers who want to develop, test and adapt innovative rent-to-own models and projects.



Projects that address barriers to community development could potentially be eligible, such as funding for the construction of access (e.g., bridge) to isolated and inaccessible lots. (I. Wielinga)

Legacy Programs :

- Renovation** : The deadline for receiving 2022-2023 applications was September 1. Despite the earlier date, the process went well. In 2023-2024, we will be in our 2nd year of the allocation cycle. A significant amount of renovation files committed in previous years have accumulated. More sustained monitoring began in 2022 and will continue this year to regularize these files.



There appears to be an emerging need for funding for homeowner adaptation on reserve (G. Latouche). Some avenues at CMHC could be considered, but eligibility checks for these programs need to be assessed (I. Wielinga, J.-F. Samuel).

If the adaptation needs involve children, it might be relevant to check for funding opportunities through FNIHB's Jordan's Principle (J.-F. Samuel).

- b) **Article 95** : For FY 2022-2023, the process has gone well. All funds have been committed. We will begin the allocation process for the 23-24 budget in May when the financial model is known. With interest rates rising, we can expect the number of units to be down.
- c) **Capacity** : The budget to support capacity will be centralized starting next fiscal year and will be managed by a dedicated training and capacity development team. The On-the-job Initiative (OTJI) will no longer be offered as of 23-24. The OJTI was implemented during the Social Infrastructure Fund initiative when the overall budget for capacity was increased to \$10M over two years. It was not intended that this component be continued in the long term.
- d) **Housing Internship for Indigenous Youth (HIY)**: The CMHC portal will be open from February 22 to April 22. The national budget for now is 4.7M, but could be increased. Quebec receives 8% of the budget.

Urban, rural, and northern Indigenous housing (URN)

Meetings are being organized across the country to begin the engagement process. A meeting is planned with the AFNQL in the near future. At the same time, CMHC has contacted its client-partners directly to allow them to respond to surveys on the initiative.



On the question of whether there will be regional distinctions in the First Nations, Inuit and Métis URN Strategy, this is not known (P. Bélanger, G. Latouche).

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)

Filling infrastructure gaps

The exercise has allowed communities to express a multitude of capital needs of all kinds, many of which do not fit within the department's programs and authorities. The total amount required to meet the expressed needs is significant and Treasury Board has expressed concerns. Concern has been raised by the regions that this exercise has created expectations within FNs. However, this compilation of needs exercise has generated relevant documentation that would benefit from being kept current as information is drawn from it by the various sectors of the department.

Infrastructure Reform

The infrastructure gap-filling exercise is a component of the Infrastructure Reform, which aims at the establishment of a single authority, which would focus on funding envelopes that would allow FNs to implement their initiatives according to their priorities and needs.

Although the proposed concept may be interesting, it is important to remain realistic about the timetable for its implementation, as this complex project raises various issues. These issues, both legal and operational, will require the department to rethink its funding tools and mechanisms.

A federal interdepartmental committee for DGs will be set up, which suggests that the single authority for infrastructure would be a Government of Canada authority and not a FN institution or an organization under the aegis of ISC.

Regional Education Agreements

Following the signing of the Regional Education Agreement between the FNEC and ISC, regional agreements have been concluded between the FNEC and its member communities. The funding envelope is in the order of \$300M. It should be noted that a non-member community of the FNEC, Uashat Mak Malio-Utenam, is in the process of negotiating a regional agreement. Since the enhanced funding envelope offers a good margin of manoeuvre to the communities, this suggests that other potential projects such as the construction of residences for education professionals could be added.

Development of First Nations Water and Wastewater Laws and Regulations

The overall process and approach to the development of this legislation, which includes a tight 30-day timeline for stakeholder consultation, is highly critical. On February 24, 2023, the final draft of this legislation will be posted online and the consultation process with the general public and the various partners will begin. It should be noted that there are still some specific issues in this file that need to be addressed with the Quebec government.

Emergency management reform

This reform aims to put in place multi-party agreements in emergency management, involving the FNs, ISC and the Government of Quebec. Meetings are to come with the *ministère de la Sécurité publique du Québec* on this reform project.

Emergency Measures Coordinators

Previously, the functions surrounding the coordination of emergency measures in the communities were assumed among other assigned tasks. A regional decision now allows for the funding of a specific emergency measures coordinator position per community. This initiative opens the door to a number of options, such as the possibility of expanding the role to include fire protection.

Fire Protection

The department's circuit rider in fire protection training have been enhanced with funding for three additional circuit riders. The training and awareness activities that these resources will provide will have a positive impact on the communities that will benefit from them in many ways.

Financial holdback associated with late reporting

A measure suspended for over two years, the department reactivated the financial hold process for late reports on January 15, 2023. Currently, no holds have been placed in Quebec since the reactivation.

Child and Family Services

The funds allocated to the Infrastructure Component in 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 have allowed for the completion of 16 projects in Quebec (out of 21 projects received), for a total of \$19M. These projects have different vocations, e.g., youth centres, youth centers, housing for professionals associated with the child-family file, spaces for administrative offices or family homes. With respect to the \$2 billion announced in 2022 specifically for housing, development in this area is anticipated in 2023-2024, potentially for renovation funding for housing for children.

Since the establishment of Jordan's Principle sector, with approximately 65 resources in the health sector (FNIHB), almost half of the requests are not specific to the health sector (approximately 35% are in the Education stream and 10% are in the Other Infrastructure stream). A reflection on the harmonization of resources is currently underway.

Project Update: Community of the Algonquins of Barriere Lake

a) Electrification: Upcoming leadership elections may have an impact on the direction, but at present, connection to Hydro-Quebec would be the preferred option. There are some conditions attached to it, to which Hydro-Quebec is open: 1) a moratorium on residential billing for the first 5 years; 2) implementation of a single billing; 3) a consultative process in place for development along the electrified corridor (route 117); 4) increase in electrical capacity during the construction period, which could be 4 to 5 years, and therefore requires an increase in the capacity of the generator fleet for the school and residential.

b) Emergency Housing: In order to respond to an urgent need for housing for homeless families, the community has requested financial support for the acquisition of temporary housing (mobile home style). As this type of demand by FNs seems to be increasing, and as it is a type of housing that has been shown to be unsustainable, ISC has developed a guideline for funding. The spirit of this document encourages communities to better plan for their needs and consider sustainable housing solutions, such as permanent housing with prefabricated modules.

Transfer of Services

A presentation on the transfer of services was made at the DG meeting. Although the participants recognized that progress has been made on the file, it remains that the transfer of services to the FNs will not be done at the pace initially envisaged. The level of funding for the various services was raised as an issue. The department must also ensure that the current programs meet the needs and realities.

Audit of the Infrastructure Housing Program

This is an ongoing issue, but there is no concern in the region, the department is doing well. The eventual report will be shared.

Housing: Transition from a project-driven to a plan-driven approach

Currently, regional housing funding for the years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 is unconfirmed, despite several representations made in recent months by the region. This presents a challenge to begin the process of transitioning to a long-term housing planning approach.

On-Reserve and Community Housing Initiative

With the exception of the Social Construction category, all other streams of the Housing Initiative are now open on a rolling basis (no fixed call for proposals) to receive proposals. The open streams are: Housing Expansion; Down Payment; Renovation; Lot Servicing, Capacity Enhancement and Innovation. A communication will be sent out shortly.

Human Resources News

An engineer, Guillaume Hébert, has joined the technical services team. With a background in educational institutions, his mandate will be mainly directed towards the follow-up of this type of projects.

The positions of Regional Director General and Associate Regional Director General are not filled indefinitely and no further development is expected. The interim appointments required create a certain level of regional instability.

5. Feedback on the AFNQL 2022-2023 Regional Housing Meeting

Summary of topics discussed:

Guy Latouche presented the members with a recap of the topics discussed during the face-to-face portion of the meeting, held on September 27 and 28, 2022, on the edge of Quebec City.

The first meeting was held virtually in May 2022 and focused on information sharing by the RTHC on Indigenous housing announcements, programs and initiatives.

The summary of the topics discussed during the face-to-face meeting can be summarized as follows:

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| <p>Opening speeches and update 20 years after the 1st AFNQL report: what progress has been made? Closing the infrastructure gap by 2030! Housing Challenges: Increasing the \$ of the budget ISC, Budget 2022: multi-year \$ commitment CMHC, new funding options vs. regular</p> <p>Certification and Development APHPN membership available to Attestation of College Studies graduates (2 courses!)</p> <p>Financing and financial management axis (FNQLEDC & ABSCAN) A question of money? We must prepare the ground! Financial Literacy Centre</p> | <p>Energy Efficiency <u>Econologis</u> Free improvement work for FNs</p> <p>Graduation of 4th and 5th cohorts of ACS Eight graduates. Cohort 6 in progress. Cohort 7 in preparation</p> <p>Collaborative Movement ISC - CMHC: Capacity building Programs, funding are administered in a complementary manner Submit applications! Support...</p> |
| <p>Maintenance of the building stock Safe environment. It starts with the inspection Importance of planning: upstream. Housing plan Issue with rent collection! Solutions, best practices, knowledge circle</p> <p>Regional capacity building initiative CoPH, WorkPlace, PoCH Brainstorming: \$ constr, labour scarcity, procurement, achievements... Mobile training unit: Regional Adult Education Centre Pessamit, construction trades in communities, business plan in production</p> | |

Guy Latouche returned to the message of AFNQL Chief Ghislain Picard in the opening address in connection with a major question about the progress made in housing 20 years after the first AFNQL report. This question deserves to be explored further and it is suggested that the Operational Committee address it in order to suggest to the RTHC a broad approach that will allow us to answer it with a critical eye (some factors are out of our control), considering the progress made in the different spheres of housing.

Action! RTHC leaders agreed with the proposed approach and an action was added to the Action Tracking Dashboard in the annex.

Participant Feedback on the Event:

A survey administered after the event provided some feedback, although the level of response was low, with only 19 participants (out of approximately 100 in attendance) providing feedback.

Overall, the feedback was positive and the overall satisfaction rating was 4.6 out of 5. Some elements of this assessment will be taken into consideration in the organization of the next meeting.

In order to increase the level of response to the appreciation survey, it was suggested by the members that this exercise be done during the meeting (at the very least mandatory) and not administered after the meeting, thus diluting the level of response.

Reflection on the general format of the meeting:

Traditionally, the meeting was held face-to-face, once a year. In 2022-2023, a virtual, strictly informative half-day component was included. The added value of the face-to-face meeting is not in doubt and must remain.

It is suggested that the RTHC-Operational Committee (RTHC-OC) evaluate, depending on the potential topics to be addressed, whether the formula involving a virtual half-day should be maintained in 2023-2024. The meeting could therefore be announced as a first virtual meeting around May 2023, followed by a second face-to-face meeting in the fall of 2023.

Action! RTHC leaders agreed with the proposed approach and an action was added to the Action Tracking Dashboard in the annex.

Meeting Part 1 adjourned at 3:35 pm

Part 2 - Wednesday, February 22 - 1:00 to 4:15

Introduction

Opening of the second part of the meeting by Johanne Verville, with a review of the highlights of Part 1 and presentation of the topics on the agenda for Part 2. Eric Bouchard joined the meeting, but advised that he would have to leave at 3:00 pm.

6. Collaboration movement = CMHC and ISC programs

The presentation highlights the gains achieved through CMHC-ISC collaboration in programs and initiatives where it is possible to do so.

In 2022-2023, CMHC-ISC collaborations in construction, renovation and capacity enhancement have resulted in, among other things, a better response to the needs of First Nations and the optimization of funding sources.

As part of its monthly meetings, the CMHC-ISC team is currently evaluating new opportunities for 2023-2024. The team is seeking input from the RTHC leadership on potential issues related to this collaboration as well as their direction and suggestions.

There was unanimous support for continuing this successful collaboration, and extending it to other partners (provincial and federal) would certainly be a win-win for a more harmonized response to FN needs.

Action! CMHC-ISC will initiate reflections on the possibilities of integrating other partners for linkages and collaboration in Indigenous housing programs and initiatives. A follow-up will be done at a future RTHC meeting.

7. RTHC Action Plan update

As the 2021-2023 Action Plan draws to a close, the majority of actions are either in the final stages of implementation or well underway.

Area 1: Skills and Capacities: Of five actions identified in this focus area, four have a 90% completion rate and will be completed when the Plan is last updated at the end of the quarter. Regarding the activity concerning the collaboration between the RTHC and the National Research Council (NRC) (progress rate = 25%), it would be continued in the next action plan. Currently, many discussions have been held, analysis has been done, issues and potential avenues have been identified for technical issues.

Area 2: Finance and Funding: Mainly in the implementation phase via the FNQLEDC and the Financial Literacy and Housing Education Centre initiative, ongoing until 2024-2025. The constitution of a common regional database of on-reserve housing stocks remains an activity identified in this axis that has been initiated and whose implementation is to be pursued in the next action plan (progress report = 10%).

Axis 3: Governance: Possible directions for governance depend on the results of the other two axes. It is an axis that progresses according to the progress of the other two axes and will evolve, probably in the next action plan.

Next steps: 1) Final update of the current plan and dissemination of results. 2) The RTHC-OC will initiate a global reflection on the content, scope and form of the next plan, based on the comments received.

Action! RTHC leaders agreed with the proposed approach and an action was added to the Action Tracking Dashboard in the annex.

8. Home insurance file: A game plan for different issues

One of the RTHC's actions identified in the minutes was related to the home insurance issue and consisted of planning a discussion with one or more key stakeholders in the sector to address this issue.

Following a reflection on the subject, the RTHC-OC first proposed to identify the specific issues as well as the actions to be taken in order to eventually identify possible solutions to this important issue. The proposed approach to achieve this is through a survey of community housing stakeholders. For the preparation of the questions, the collaboration of some key informants involved would be solicited. The proposed approach is submitted for recommendation to the RTHC, which will provide thoughts and comments that will allow the RTHC-OC to evaluate different options.

Action! The RTHC-OC will explore various avenues provided by RTHC leaders to follow up on this issue. One action is added to the Action Tracking Dashboard in the annex.

9. Indigenous Housing Connection: Survey

The Bulletin was released on November 29, 2022. Two new sections were added, namely the Partners' Corner and Success Stories. Since the production of this communication product as suggested requires a greater investment of time and the involvement of other resources for its implementation, it is wise to proceed with a survey.

Although it would have been preferable to administer the survey almost immediately after the newsletter was distributed, it is still relevant to proceed. CMHC has the tools to administer the survey and the proposed questions have been circulated to the RTHC-OC for comment. The product still needs to be finalized and administered at a time deemed appropriate in the coming weeks. The results of the survey can be discussed at a future RTHC meeting.

Action!

RTHC leaders agreed with the proposed approach and an action was added to the Action Tracking Dashboard in the annex.

10. Next meeting: date and format

The next meeting will be coordinated by the AFNQL and will be held virtually on May 17, 2023.

11. Conclusion and topics for upcoming RTHC meetings

The members thanked for the organization of a relevant and well animated meeting.

Potential topics for future meetings:

- 1) Follow-up on the 2021-2023 Action Plan and follow-up
- 2) RTHC communication strategy.
- 3) Actions to be taken following Chief Picard's statement: "20 years after the AFNQL's first report: what progress has been made?"
- 4) Unifor's commitment
- 5) Insurance file.
- 6) Results of the Indigenous Housing Connection survey.
- 7) Follow-up on the collaboration in the CMHC-ISC programs and the reflection on the possibilities of including other partners.
- 8) Presentation by FNAESC of the results of the school yard project.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Regional Tripartite Housing Committee

Action Tracking Dashboard

| # | Actions |
|---|---|
| 1 | Schedule a discussion with key industry stakeholder(s) to address the issue of home insurance, which remains a persistent issue. Action from the RTHC meeting: 2021 |
| 2 | Follow-up on Unifor's commitment to First Nations housing: Option. Action from the RTHC meeting: February 2023 |
| 3 | AFNQL Regional Housing Meeting 2023-2024: Reflection on the format and concept Action from the RTHC meeting: February 2023 |
| 4 | Follow-up on Chief Picard's statement: "20 years after the AFNQL's first report: what progress has been made?" Action from the RTHC meeting: February 2023 |
| 5 | Plan a presentation from the Community Housing Transformation Center (CHTC) to the RTHC-OC. Action from the RTHC meeting: February 2023 |
| 6 | ISC-CMHC will initiate discussions around the possibilities of integrating other partners for linkages and collaboration in Indigenous housing programs and initiatives. A follow-up will be done at a future RTHC meeting. Action from the RTHC meeting: February 2023 |
| 7 | Reflection on the next draft of the RTHC's 2023-2025 Action Plan. Action from the RTHC meeting: February 2023 |
| 8 | Administered a survey following the November 2022 publication of the Housing Connection and analyzed the results. Action from the RTHC meeting: February 2023 |

| Standby Action | Follow-up |
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| <i>Presentation by CMHC on the role of its team in working with financial institutions, such as BMO, TD or Desjardins in relation to Indigenous housing.</i> | <i>A CMHC national team has been asked to provide an update on the file. Given the current status quo on the nature of the financing offer from banking institutions in Indigenous housing and the lack of concrete content to be transmitted at this time, CMHC will keep a watchful eye on the file and will advise the RTHC of developments in this file, if any.</i> |
| <i>Reflection on the RTHC's communication strategy.</i> | <i>The Operational Committee will analyze what has been produced and make a recommendation on the content and form of the strategy.</i> |

| Actions completed - last reported | Follow-up done |
|---|---|
| Invite Candace Bennett, Executive Director, to come and make a presentation on the First Nations Housing Professionals Association to the RTHC. | Presentation made at the Regional Housing Meeting on September 27 and 28, 2022. |
| After the September regional meeting on housing, the RTHC Operational Committee is invited to start reflecting on the format of the regional housing meeting and to make one or more recommendations to the RTHC. | Topic on the agenda for the February RTHC meeting. |
| Ina Wielinga volunteered to coordinate the publication of Housing Connection. She will send an email to the members with a timeline to ensure publication by the end of November 2022. | Newsletter issued in end of November 2022. A survey to validate its impact will be administered. |