

Assembly of First Nations

50 O'Connor Street, Suite 200
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 6L2
Telephone: (613) 241-6789 Fax: (613) 241-5808
www.afn.ca



Assemblée des Premières Nations

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Ottawa, Ontario K1P 6L2
Téléphone: (613) 241-6789 Télécopieur: (613) 241-5808
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ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
September 3-4-5, 2025, Winnipeg, MB

Resolution no. 10/2025

TITLE: Ensure Adequate and Equitable Levels of Social Housing Funding

SUBJECT: Housing and Infrastructure

MOVED BY: Chief Lance Haymond, Kebaowek First Nation, QC

SECONDED BY: Chief Brent Niganobe, Mississauga First Nation, ON

DECISION Carried; 1 Opposition; 7 Abstention

WHEREAS:

A. The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UN Declaration) states:

- i. Article 1: Indigenous peoples have the right to the full enjoyment, as a collective or as individuals, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognized in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international human rights law.
- ii. Article 7(1): Indigenous individuals have the rights to life, physical and mental integrity, liberty and security of person.
- iii. Article 21(1): Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including, inter alia, in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security.
- iv. Article 22(1): Special attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities in the implementation of this Declaration.
- v. Article 23: Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development, particularly in housing, health, and economic and social programs.

B. The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) is currently working on a major revision of the national funding allocation formula for its social housing program, also known as the Section 95 program.

C. Based, among other things, on observations from the Report of the Auditor General of Canada to the Parliament of Canada entitled *Housing in First Nations Communities* (the Report), from 2024, and using,

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 5th day of September, 2025 in Winnipeg, Manitoba

Cindy Woodhouse

CINDY WOODHOUSE NEPINAK, NATIONAL CHIEF

10 – 2025

Page 1 of 2

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once again, up-to-date but unreliable census data, the changes CMHC is considering to the allocation formula will result in significant increases in funding in some regions, while others will lose just as much.

- D. Recommendation 2.39 of the Report states, "Indigenous Services Canada and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation should work with the First Nations communities with the poorest housing conditions to ensure that they receive the support they need to improve housing conditions."
- E. The Government of Canada continues to underfund the First Nations housing sector.
- F. For far too long, First Nations have been living with infrastructure that falls far below the standard other Canadians expect, resulting in a First Nations housing crisis.
- G. In April 2024, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) released the *Closing the Infrastructure Gap (CTIG) by 2030* report, estimating it will take \$135.1 billion to address the housing gap in all First Nations in Canada.
- H. Due to elevated price inflation in recent years, First Nations across the country are struggling to maintain their pace of social housing construction.
- I. In such a context, increased funding is necessary, and an increase in the level of funding for one region should not be to the detriment of other regions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the First Nations-in-Assembly:

- 1. Call on the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), since it is considering the year 2026-2027 for the implementation of a new funding formula for First Nations social housing, not to make any unilateral decision that will result in a reduction in the level of funding in one or more regions.
- 2. Call on CMHC to ensure any changes to First Nations housing programming, including the Section 95 program, and funding formulas for such programming, are co-developed with the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to ensure adequate, equitable long-term funding that leaves no region behind.
- 3. Requests the Chiefs Committee on Housing and Infrastructure and the AFN Housing and Infrastructure Secretariat to monitor this matter in detail and report back to the First Nations-in-Assembly before the Special Chiefs Assembly in December 2025.

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Page 2 of 2