Asset Management: Rental Income and Repair Payments Income to build housing portfolio

Some First Nations communities are looking at charging rent to live onreserve. Rental income and repair payments can help with finances.



Many communities already charge rent to farmers, to businesses and groups that rent space on-reserve. Social assistance rent is used for housing. Charging rent, even a small amount, can help a community pay for housing.

The First Nations Housing Professionals Association lists charging rent and repair income as a good practice. It helps to pay for mortgage loans, renovations, insurance, and regular repair. Everyone in the community contributes and the whole community benefits. Communities say that rent should be a community decision. If the whole community agrees and buys in, it can work.

What can a rental program do for a community?

Rental agreements for tenants are part of good housing policy and governance. Think through what will happen if a rental agreement is not followed.

Helping people understand how to look after a house can make a huge difference. There are fewer emergencies and calls to housing staff. Tenant training and support is good for housing.

