

# Community Vision for Housing

Community support and community voice



**Housing is a community issue.  
It takes a lot to run a housing program.  
Knowing the true costs of housing is important.**

## Is housing a treaty right?

The federal government does not consider housing as a treaty right.

Housing is supported as a social program -- but the Nation must pay many of the costs.

Housing programs are expensive.

- Infrastructure (power, water, heating, sewer, roads, etc.)
- Mortgage loans
- Insurance, inspections
- New builds & renovations
- Emergency builds (fire, flood)
- Maintenance

Each of these need trained staff, contractors, and money.

## Communication for Housing

*Community ideas for understanding housing:*

Help community members understand what it takes to run the housing program. Be honest and show people the true costs of housing.

Some people think housing is a right, that it's in the treaty. Helping people understand what is in treaty might help.

There are factors outside the community - why do people want to move back home? Rent and mortgages are normal when people live off-reserve. It helps to show that the community is the same as the nearest town -- someone has to pay the costs.

Have meetings specific to housing only. Be clear on the announcements and the agenda.

Some Nations have a Community Service Fee or user fee. When residents pay that fee, it contributes to needed services in the community.

## Develop a community vision for housing

A community-led vision for housing brings together different interests and priorities. Trust and community buy-in comes from building a shared vision.

**Housing programs build houses.  
A community vision builds homes.**

