

Governance and Policy - Transparency

Strategies from on-reserve communities



**Communities spoke about trust and transparency.
People like to know how decisions are made.**

Some communities shared that they keep track of everyone who has requested a house on reserve. Then they look at the list and see which houses might match which families.

It can be hard to separate politics from housing. When the rules apply equally to everyone, and the decisions are open and transparent, it's fair.

A housing policy can make things easier. Building a housing policy with community input gives housing staff and leadership a good path for decision-making. Staff can make everyday decisions and be supported.

CMHC and ISC work with communities, but the government has their own priorities, goals and limitations. First Nations say it helps when the government is clear and transparent, so everyone knows what can be done and what needs work.

Some communities have housing boards, separate from chief and council. A housing board can focus specifically on housing issues. It helps to keep things separate.

If a community works with outside partners, make sure you get full reports. The Nation should know what is happening because it affects their community.

How do you create transparency and trust? How might we create more transparency and trust?

