



Aboriginal Housing Management Association
Celebrating 25 Years

NEWS RELEASE

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Ktunaxa Nation Traditional Territory
Cranbrook, BC

Community leaders stand together to spark understanding, support, and action in the prioritization of Indigenous Housing

Traditional Territory of Ktunaxa Nation– Community leaders stood today demonstrating support for safe, affordable Indigenous housing. The Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA) invited elected officials, municipalities, Indigenous communities, affordable housing providers, and community stakeholders to join in the gathering.

“There is no reconciliation without inclusion and belonging. Indigenous housing offers intention, it honours Indigenous communities, cultures, and values, and these differ between communities,” said Margaret Pfoh, AHMA CEO. “Today we stand collectively to demonstrate the role Indigenous housing plays in strengthening our communities, supporting individuals and families, and creating a sense of belonging and wellbeing.”

AHMA’s long term vision is for every Indigenous community to access and reclaim their inherent rights to housing. This includes supporting members who live away from their home communities. This event created a special opportunity to community leaders to collectively demonstrate the importance of Indigenous community led housing and to connect over common goals.

“Housing is something that everyone has a right to no matter where they live and who they are,” said Mayor Lee Pratt, City of Cranbrook. “It’s important for us to get together like this and have these conversations. Housing is big issue here in Cranbrook and we need to work together to address it respectfully and with integrity.”

Aqanttanam Housing Society hosted the event in partnership with AHMA.

“Gathering together shows the families and Elders who live in our housing that they are supported,” said Cecilia Teneese, Executive Director, Aqanttanam Housing Society. “We are in a housing crisis and a staffing crisis; it takes many hands to come together and this is a good start. There are no one-size fits all solution to the housing and honouring the need for Indigenous housing demonstrates that.”

Quick Facts

- In early 2022, AHMA released British Columbia’s first [Provincial Urban Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy](#). The historic strategy is an integral step forward in claiming and



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protecting the social, economic, and Indigenous housing rights of all urban, rural, and northern Indigenous Peoples in British Columbia.

- The Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA) was established in 1996 with a mission to “lead and advance housing rights for ALL Indigenous Peoples in British Columbia”.
- AHMA is comprised of 55 Indigenous housing and service providers located all across BC. These members manage more the 95% of all Indigenous housing units in urban, rural, and northern areas of the province (off reserve).

Media Contacts:

Margaret Pfoh
Chief Executive Officer, AHMA
604-768-5400
mpfoh@ahma-bc.org

Laurie Brownrigg
Communications Manager, AHMA
604-921-2462
lbrownrigg@ahma-bc.org