



IYHS STEERING COMMITTEE APPLICATION

Introduction

The Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA) is developing the Indigenous Youth Housing Strategy (IYHS) using a youth-centred research approach called the *Communal Approach to Policy (CAP)*. With the CAP method, we prioritize mentoring young Indigenous peoples (YIPs) in the Indigenous youth housing policy sector so they may act as the Steering Committee for the IYHS.

To take a youth-centred approach, AHMA has developed the Indigenous Youth Policy Cohort Discord¹ server managed and moderated by AHMA Youth Policy Analyst. AHMA has collected online housing resources in the form of videos, letter templates, and housing policy courses to support YIP's self-learning. AHMA YPA is available to answer questions from cohort members directly through the Discord server, by direct message, or by email to support their learning.

To provide mentorship, AHMA offers workshops with honorariums to cohort members focused on community housing, systemic challenges, and government structures so that YIPs can learn about housing sector realities while being empowered with the skills to drive policy change. Steering Committee members are expected to attend as many workshops as possible and work with AHMA YPA to continue learning and informing the IYHS.

As a Steering Committee member, it is your responsibility to develop housing solutions that consider the unique regional, cultural, and community context you are from. AHMA's role is to spotlight your solutions and work as a team to build out your idea so that we can identify the practical steps we must take to realize this goal.

By implementing this approach with all Steering Committee members, we will create a portfolio of Indigenous youth-centred housing solutions developed For Indigenous, By Indigenous youth that can be piloted in the future. To support Steering Committee members in engaging with their community about youth housing, AHMA will offer facilitation training at project kick-off so YIPs may collect feedback from groups or interview individuals. AHMA will cover honorarium costs for the participants and the Steering Committee members participating in these activities.

We intend to demonstrate that when provided with paid opportunities to engage in research, YIPs will rise to the occasion because they are honoured for their time and expertise. Below is a more detailed breakdown of the roles and responsibilities of an IYHS Steering Committee member and the benefits included.

¹ Discord is the 35th most visited website in the world.



Steering Committee Role

As a Steering Committee member, you are committing to a leadership role in creating the IYHS. You will work with the AHMA YPA to brainstorm your housing solutions and create an actionable plan. During this project, you must write, research, and engage your community about your housing solutions to inform the IYHS. AHMA will support you with consistent check-ins, specialized mentoring sessions, coordination of interviews with community stakeholders, and more!

Steering Committee members are not required to engage in the IYHS Discord server. Still, the learning tools in the server will greatly benefit your housing solutions and help you understand the housing policy realities that may limit your solution. The CAP model is designed for YIPs to learn and empower each other, and the more engagement we create in the server, the more we all learn. Please see below for a more detailed breakdown of the key roles and responsibilities.

The Steering Committee Members' responsibility is with three items:

1. Steering Committee
2. Attend workshops and provide analysis
3. Community engagement lead

Steering Committee Member

Steering Committee (SC) members provide monthly feedback and direction to the IYHS. The SC will receive a draft of the IYHS before each meeting and commit to pre-reading the material. The SC is seen as a group of expert researchers who will be consulted for their expertise with Indigenous youth housing and incentivized with honorariums to attend workshops to build their professional opinions about the Indigenous housing sector.

Attend Workshops and Provide Analysis

AHMA will offer workshops to YIPs about the housing sector and government systems. These workshops will include a debriefing session with the AHMA Youth Policy Analyst, who will mentor the participants with advocacy skills. SC members must attend as many workshops as possible to learn from Indigenous housing experts and ministry staff.

Youth Engagement Lead

Thirdly, SC members will engage their community and stakeholders to collect feedback about their housing solutions and to inform the IYHS. SC members will interview their community members and could conduct a community event for up to 10 youths. AHMA will provide facilitation training and mentorship for the youth to conduct these events and interviews professionally. AHMA YPA will be working with the SC members to debrief about these interviews and talk about what they learned.

Age Requirement

You must be 18 – 30 years of age to be an IYHS SC member. Candidates under 18 are still welcome to apply but must be accompanied by a guardian for the travel opportunities. This



project will not cover the guardian's expenses.

Time Commitment

- 1- 1-hour weekly check-in meeting AHMA YPA for 20 weeks. (December 1 – May 31)
- 2- After each workshop, commit to 1-hour meeting with AHMA YPA to debrief and inform the IYHS.
- 3- Travel to Vancouver to attend the BC Non-profit Housing Association's Housing Central conference for project kick-off November 17 – 21st.
- 4- Travel to Vancouver for project conclusion. (Dates TBD).

Payment

SC members will be paid \$50 for each mentoring and debriefing meeting.

- Mentoring meetings: \$50 x 20 weeks = \$1000
- Debriefing meetings: \$50 x 7 workshops = \$350

If SC members commit to community engagement meetings for youth groups, they will be paid \$150 for hosting the event with AHMA's support to pay the participant's honorariums.

- Community event: \$150 per event.

Payments will be sent out bi-weekly in sequence with AHMA's payroll system.

Ideal Candidates:

This section describes the individual traits we are looking for to fill the SC member roles. If any of this sounds like you, then please apply!

1. Passionate about Indigenous youth housing solutions.
2. Interested in housing research.
3. Works well independently.
4. Commits to self-learning.
5. Wants to share ideas with like-minded people.
6. Wants to grow their professional network.
7. Comfortable with travelling.

We are looking to have seven SC members and hoping to have at least one member from each of the Health Authority regions:

1. Fraser
2. Interior
3. Island
4. Northern
5. Vancouver Coastal



Everything listed here is not required, but it will help your application. We want to meet you where you are with your learning journey and support you in engaging at the policy level.

How to Apply

Email bwaukey@ahma-bc.org with a letter of interest to introduce yourself and why you want to be part of developing the IYHS. You are welcome to provide a resume, but this is not required.

Please include some details about the following in your letter:

- Why you want to be an SC member.
- Your experience in housing and/or research.
- The strengths you bring to the project.
- Some of your ideas about housing solutions for YIPs.