



Gender-Based Violence and Red Dress Day



Red Dress Day, which occurs on May 5th, symbolizes the social and political change needed to address the epidemic of violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people. Recognizing that the epidemic of violence and housing instability are intertwined, AHMA is in the final stages of completing an **Indigenous Gender-Based Violence Housing Strategy** (GBV Housing Strategy).

Housing is inextricably linked to safety, and Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people are overrepresented among victims of violence in Canada.

The homicide rate for Indigenous women and girls was over **6x higher** in 2022 than for their non-Indigenous counterparts.



Nearly **one in five (46%)** Indigenous women have experienced sexual assault.

86% of Indigenous 2SLGBTQQIA+ people have experienced intimate partner violence in their lifetime.

Indigenous women make up **16%** of all female **homicide victims** and **11%** of **missing women**, yet Indigenous people make up only **4.3%** of the population of Canada.

While such violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people has been long documented and increasingly publicized in Canada, in many cases, it has not informed the planning of housing interventions. In response to the ongoing violence since the 2019 Reclaiming Power and Place: The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, **AHMA's GBV Housing Strategy will provide a framework for governments and communities to re-envision diverse housing solutions.**

