



Aboriginal Housing Management Association
Over 25 years of Indigenous housing expertise.

IYHS PHASE TWO FUNDING REQUEST

Date: September 5, 2025
Prepared for: Canadian Mortgage Housing Corporation
Subject: Indigenous Youth Housing Strategy Phase Two Funding

Background:

The Aboriginal Housing Management Association was funded by the Canadian Mortgage Housing Corporation (CMHC) in 2024 to develop the Indigenous Youth Housing Strategy (IYHS). Considering the overwhelming success of the IYHS, AHMA has developed this brief to outline our funding request for phase two of the IYHS.

Summary:

AHMA is requesting that CMHC provide funding for the implementation of the Indigenous Youth Housing Strategy, this would include funding for the Youth Housing Team.

Indigenous youth are the fastest-growing demographic across the province of BC. The ongoing impacts and intergenerational trauma due to colonization continue to impact Young Indigenous Peoples (YIPs), resulting in a disproportionate number of YIPs involved in care, experiencing homelessness, or using substances. Amongst young people captured in Point in Time (PIT) counts in BC, Indigenous youth are more likely to experience homelessness before age 19 than non-Indigenous youth (75% versus 67%) (Davis, Hildebrand, and Oscilowicz, 2021).

The Indigenous Youth Housing Strategy (IYHS) is a For Indigenous Youth, By Indigenous Youth (FIYBIY) initiative developed by AHMA to address the housing needs of YIPs in British Columbia (BC). Funded with support from the Canadian Mortgage Housing Corporation and Vancouver Foundation, this strategy founded a new framework to engage YIPs as leaders with meaningful decision-making power to effectively co-create the IYHS. We documented our journey, engaging five young Indigenous leaders in the non-profit housing sector as our Steering Committee with a call to action for others to follow our methodology. Together, we identified five youth-created housing models to support youth across the housing continuum. These models reflect YIP's safe, supportive, and affordable housing vision. As pilot-ready concepts, they offer solutions that address youth homelessness and housing insecurity across B.C., while honouring cultural safety, kinship models, and self-determination.

Given the overwhelming success of this strategy, we are asking CMHC to provide ongoing support for Phase II of this initiative, which would resource implementation. This would include



funding that could support a Youth Housing Team within AHMA, a training budget, and access to funds that would support capital development.

Funding:

To implement the IYHS in a FIYBIY way, we require two main funding items:

1. The Youth Housing Strategy team with a training budget to accelerate YIPs' careers in housing, and
2. A capital project fund to support the development of youth-specific housing.

AHMA is requesting \$10.5M in the first year, with the majority of this investment allocated to the capital projects fund. AHMA is already working with a member in Prince George to start building innovative, IYHS-informed housing. With the required funding, we expect this project can proceed immediately to support urban Indigenous youth with long-term housing solutions.