UBCM RESOLUTION

Creating an Indigenous-Led, Cross-Sector Housing Alliance

WHEREAS the lack of safe, adequate, and affordable housing remains a foundational barrier to progress on persistent health, public safety, and social challenges across British Columbia and siloed approaches across the health, justice, social, and housing sectors have limited the effectiveness of interventions addressing complex, interrelated social issues, and Indigenous peoples are 13 times more likely than non-Indigenous people to experience homelessness;

AND WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia (the 'Province') and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities ('UBCM') renewed a Memorandum of Understanding (2021) committing the Province to communicate with UBCM and local governments on key Indigenous issues as an extension of its unanimous adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2019), which lists 89 actions, 24 of which either impact housing or should be considered in the context of housing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM call on the Province to establish an 'Indigenous-Led, Cross-Sectoral Housing Alliance' composed of senior representatives from the health, justice, social services, and housing sectors, with strong and equitable urban, rural and northern Indigenous representation;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the mandate of this alliance include the development of a provincial framework recognizing safe and adequate housing as essential infrastructure, and to coordinate sector-wide adoption and public endorsement of this position by professional, service, advocacy, academic, and industry associations and their member agencies.

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Submitted to: UBCM Indigenous Relations Committee
Submitted by: Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA)