

ONPHA'S URBAN AND RURAL INDIGENOUS HOUSING PLAN FOR ONTARIO

quick overview

ONPHA's Urban and Rural Indigenous Housing Plan for Ontario identifies gaps, opportunities and benefits to building subsidized off-reserve Indigenous housing. Using socioeconomic, legal and historical arguments, the plan presents six recommendations. ONPHA looks forward to engaging with the Indigenous community housing sector in Ontario and governments of all levels to determine how to resource and implement the plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1 Set out a 10-year housing program to build 22,000 subsidized Indigenous-owned and operated units to address core housing need (total construction cost: \$7.3 billion)
- 2 Provide a support plan to encourage Indigenous people to move along the housing continuum
- 3 Develop support programs and ensure cultural continuum
- 4 Engage the Indigenous community housing sector to leverage opportunities to increase Indigenous control, management, vision and direction in the sector leading towards the implementation of the Plan
- 5 Develop a comprehensive database of the Indigenous community housing sector
- 6 Leverage opportunities to engage the private sector through the use of tax and other incentives

TOTAL ECONOMIC BENEFITS of building 22,000 units over 10-years

JOB:

95,000 year-jobs created in the construction sector and other industries

REDUCED PRESSURE ON PROVINCIAL SYSTEM:

\$10.4 billion in savings from reduced pressure on justice, healthcare, social services, shelter and foster care systems

PROVINCIAL

ECONOMIC GROWTH:

\$3.8 billion added to provincial economy through construction multipliers

PERSONAL INCOME:

Indigenous people will earn an additional **\$3.9 billion** from improved employment and education outcomes

AVERAGE ANNUAL COST SAVINGS to provincial systems



Social Services, Health & Shelter Systems: **\$1 billion**



Justice Systems: **\$10.5 million**



Foster Care System: **\$24 million**

WHY A PLAN FOR URBAN AND RURAL INDIGENOUS HOUSING?

Demographic shifts and legislative changes are increasing recognized Indigenous populations. As they grow, so does the need for Indigenous-specific housing. A distinct off-reserve Urban and Rural Indigenous Housing Plan for Ontario can help meet the needs of growing, increasingly urban Indigenous populations (85%) and help decrease Indigenous overrepresentation in health, justice and social services systems.

DEMOGRAPHICS	INDIGENOUS POPULATION	NON-INDIGENOUS POPULATION
Population growth (2006-2016) ¹	54%	10%
Poverty rate ²	24%	14%
Core housing need ³	18%	12%
Urban homelessness ⁴	1 in 15	1 in 128

Building 22,000 Indigenous housing units over 10 years will have several economic benefits for Ontario. Building units will pump \$3.8 billion into the economy through construction multipliers, create 95,000 year-jobs, and achieve savings and gains of \$14.3 billion in other provincial systems. These benefits exceed the initial construction cost of \$7.3 billion.

ONPHA's Urban and Rural Indigenous Housing Plan for Ontario is a critical step on the path to reconciliation. It must be undertaken in partnership with Indigenous peoples across the province.

Although the plan identifies the need, benefits and savings of building affordable urban and rural Indigenous housing in Ontario, its success ultimately requires strong partnerships and continued engagement with Indigenous, federal, provincial and municipal partners to determine how best to resource and implement the plan. ONPHA looks forward to bringing all partners together to ensure the plan's success.

¹ Provincial data for on and off-reserve Indigenous populations (2016). Source: Statistics Canada (Aboriginal peoples in Canada: Key results from the 2016 Census)

² Provincial data for on and off-reserve Indigenous populations based on low-income measure after tax (LIM-AT) (2016). Source: Statistics Canada (Aboriginal Population Profile, 2016 Census)

³ National data for off-reserve Indigenous populations (2016). Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and Statistics Canada (The Housing Conditions of Off-Reserve Aboriginal Households)

⁴ National estimates for urban homelessness rates (2013). Source: Homeless Hub (Homelessness, Urban Aboriginal People, and the Need for a National Enumeration)

>> Read the full plan at www.onpha.on.ca/ihp

ABOUT THE ONTARIO NON-PROFIT HOUSING ASSOCIATION (ONPHA)

ONPHA educates, strengthens and advocates for Ontario's affordable housing sector. We represent over 700 non-profit housing providers across 220 communities, housing more than 400,000 people.



ONTARIO NON-PROFIT
HOUSING ASSOCIATION

(416) 927-9144 | Toll-free: 1-800-297-6660
www.onpha.on.ca | Contact: policy@onpha.org