

CONTACT US

First Nations Market Housing Fund

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"Our vision is that every
First Nation family has the
opportunity to have a home
on their own land in a strong
community"

– Board of Trustees, FNMHF



Expanding Your Housing Options
Financing For First Nations Communities

Since 2008, the First Nations Market Housing Fund has been helping communities across Canada attract and access private financing for housing loans with the best possible terms and conditions. The Fund was created as registered not-for-profit trust by the Government of Canada.

So far more than 100 First Nations have chosen to work with the Fund.

The Fund also provides capacity development to help First Nation governments to strengthen in the areas of financial management, governance and community commitment.

The Fund has supported First Nations to develop policies, codes, by-laws and laws in a variety of areas including finance, governance, lands management and housing.

The Fund supports the professionalism of the First Nations workforce providing financial assistance for staff to obtain accounting designations and certifications in technical areas such as water and wastewater, gas and oil installation, property management and other areas key to help a community thrive.

The Fund has helped increase financial literacy among First Nation individuals seeking to borrow and take ownership of a home in their community. The Fund also helps renters understand their responsibilities and how to plan to meet them on a monthly basis.

The Fund helps First Nation Communities by:

- Providing a 10% backstop for housing loans guaranteed by the First Nation
- Providing financial leverage to negotiate with lenders that results in lower interest rates, reduced program access fees, risk sharing opportunities and administrative arrangements that are favourable to each First Nation
- Strengthening First Nation communities and enabling self-sufficiency by providing new financial literacy and financial management tools, encouraging good governance and financial transparency and developing capacity with education, information and innovative services.

Working with the FNMHF

The Fund respects communal ownership of reserve lands. Only First Nations can apply to the Fund and its programs are completely voluntary. First Nations can use this tool to not only support new homeownership, but also for home renovations and the creation of rental units.

The Fund recognizes the uniqueness of each First Nation community and works with them on their own timelines to provide choice and flexibility each one needs to address their unique housing challenges.

Capacity Building

The Fund's work is about more than just increasing access to housing loans. The Fund's work helps to enable First Nations to strengthen accountability, transparency and governance. We help with capacity development in three areas:

- Financial Management
- Good Governance
- Community Commitment and Evidence of Demand for Market-Based Housing

"We have set the necessary groundwork and we are moving in the right direction. By continuing to work together, we will meet our collective objective of ensuring people living on reserve have the same opportunity for home ownership as other Canadians."

—John Beaucage, Chair of the Fund