

nichi

National Indigenous
Collaborative Housing Inc.

Logement Coopératif
National Autochtone Inc.

2026 MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT SESSION

For Indigenous, By Indigenous

April 23, 2026

9:00AM – 4:00PM (UTC)

First Light Centre for Performance and Creativity
St. John's, Newfoundland



WIFI: FIRST LIGHT GUEST

Password: fl7265902



FACILITATOR INTRODUCTION

Supporting a collaborative and engaging session



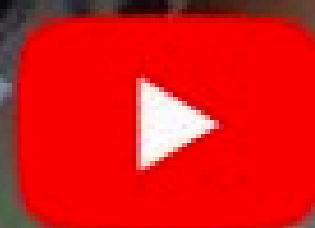
Alicia Landry

Young Soaring Eagle Consulting Ltd.



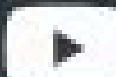
A Living Acknowledgement

First Light NL



We honor and pay respect to the past, present, and future caretakers of these territories.



Watch on  YouTube

ELDER OPENING & CULTURAL DRUMMING

Opening the session in a good way



**Elder
Emma Reelis**



**Visual Artist & Performer
Jennie Williams**

SESSION OVERVIEW

- | | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|--|
| 01 | Opening | 08 | Health Break |
| 02 | Welcome and NICHI Updates | 09 | NICHI Awards & Elder and Youth Councils |
| 03 | Health Break | 10 | Interactive Polling |
| 04 | NICHI URN Strategy | 11 | Engagement Session Summary – Shaping the Path Forward |
| 05 | Lunch | 12 | Interactive Polling |
| 06 | Member Presentation – Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services | 13 | Closing |
| 07 | New & Emerging Matters | | |

WELCOME & UPDATE PLENARY

John Gordon

Chief Executive Officer,
National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc.
(NICH)

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National Indigenous
Collaborative Housing Inc.

Logement Coopératif
National Autochtone Inc.





PROJECT SPOTLIGHT



HVGB
HOUSING AND
HOMELESSNESS
COALITION INC.

- **Happy Valley Goose Bay Housing & Homelessness Coalition Inc.**
- 32 affordable housing units | 60+ beds
- Supportive living environment for seniors to age in place.



NICHI – THE JOURNEY SO FAR

- NICHI was created by Indigenous housing providers to advocate for Indigenous-led housing solutions in Urban, Rural, and Northern communities.
- From the beginning, the vision was For Indigenous, By Indigenous, shaped by community.
- Securing and delivering funding was one part of that work, and it helped us build the foundation for what comes next.
- That early work laid the foundation for what NICHI is becoming today.

MORE THAN A FLOW-THROUGH FUNDER

- Getting funding to communities is critical.
- But funding alone does not change housing systems.
- Members have told us that real change requires deeper, sector-level solutions.

THINKING BIGGER ABOUT INDIGENOUS HOUSING

- NICHl is evolving from funding projects to supporting an entire sector.
- This means moving beyond delivering dollars to shaping long-term solutions.
- The goal is not just more housing today, but stronger foundations for tomorrow.

A NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HOUSING INSTITUTION

- NICHl is working toward becoming a national centre of Indigenous housing expertise.
- This includes policy leadership, advocacy, and sector development.
- For Indigenous, By Indigenous means more than deciding how funding flows.

POLICY, ADVOCACY, AND NEW APPROACHES

- Advocating not only for more funding, but for better approaches.
- Contributing Indigenous-led policy perspectives at the national level.

EXPLORING LONG-TERM TOOLS

- Beginning conversations about tools like:
 - A National Indigenous land trust.
 - Endowment fund.
 - Affinity programs
- Progressing the NICHl Seven Generations Housing Foundation.
- These ideas support independence, stability, and long-term impact.

WHAT EVERYTHING COMES BACK TO

- Every idea, policy, and investment comes back to one outcome.
- Keys in people's hands.
- Long-term, affordable, culturally relevant housing that supports successful lives.



STRONGER TOGETHER, STRONGER VOICE

- The stronger NICHÍ becomes as an institution, the stronger its advocacy.
- Independence and capacity create leverage with governments and partners.
- This is how Indigenous housing stops being treated as an afterthought.

A JOURNEY THAT CONTINUES

- NICHI continues to prioritize securing URN funding.
- Build Canada Homes, Canada Rental Protection Fund.
- Growing the circle.
- At the same time, NICHI is building the future of the sector.
- This work lives beyond any one project, funding cycle, or leader

BRINGING MEMBERS INTO THE VISION

- This is a shared journey.
- Members are not just recipients of funding, but leaders shaping what comes next.
- This session is part of strategizing, listening, and guiding the road ahead together.
- We have places to go, and we go there as a collective.



Diane Redsky, 2026

NICHI Member

Kekekoziibii Development Corporation

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NICHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Call for Nominations

- Now open | Up to 6 positions
- Priority regions: Yukon, NWT, Nunavut, Ontario, and Atlantic Regions (NB, PEI, NL)
- 3-year terms | Governance and leadership
- Indigenous housing sector experience

Key Dates

- **Nomination Deadline:** July 31st, 2026 3:00PM EST
- **NICHI's 2026 Annual General Meeting and Awards Gala, Ottawa, ON:** September 29, 2026



**Share this call within your networks
and help spread the word!**

MORNING – HEALTH BREAK



HEALTH BREAK

Enjoy a 15-minute break

We'll return at 10:30 AM to continue
the NICHI URN Strategy Discussion

NICHIs Urban, Rural & Northern (URN) Indigenous Housing Strategy

Overview of
Survey Results



URN STRATEGY – SURVEY RESULTS

- As part of early engagement, NICHl gathered input from members to inform NICHl's Indigenous Urban, Rural & Northern (URN) Housing Strategy that is **For Indigenous, By Indigenous**.
- We are now sharing insights from **46** responses, reflecting alignment around community-driven priorities, flexible approaches, and building on proven successes.
- These results are being shared back with members to validate they are representative and to collectively validate priorities for the development of the strategy.

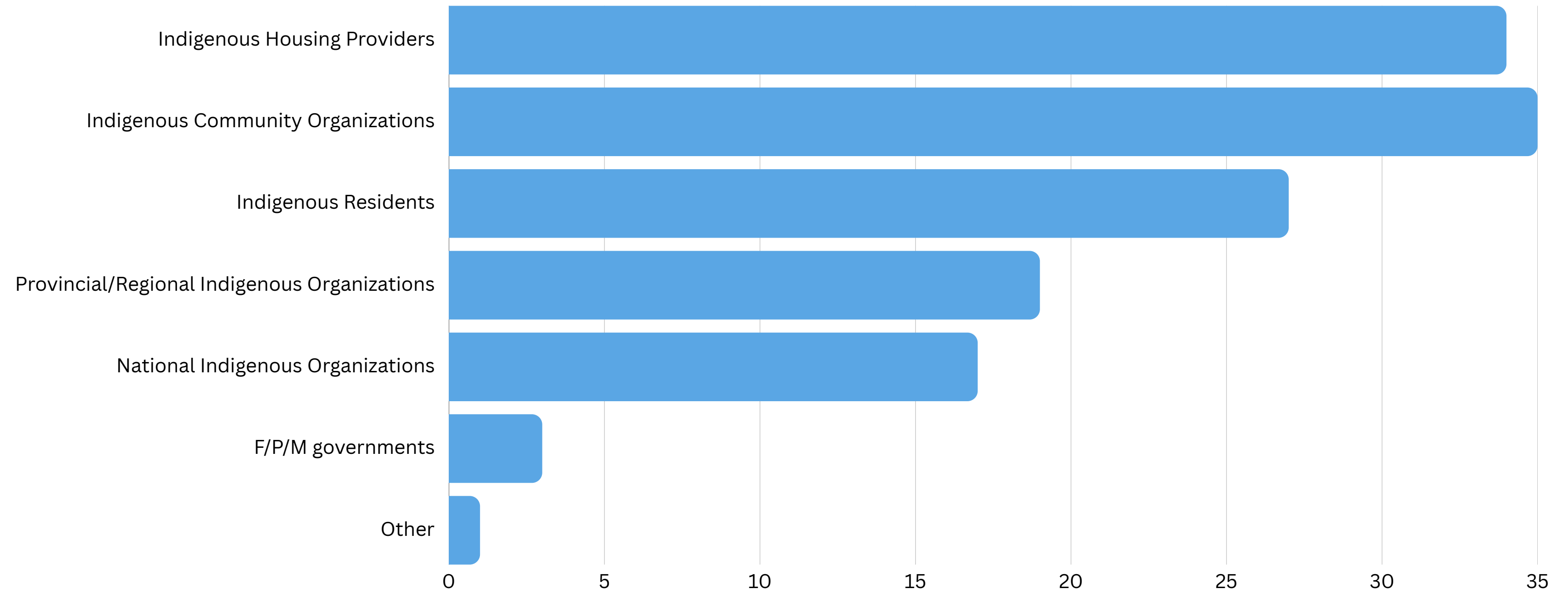
Section 1: Understanding Community Priorities



This section explores who should identify housing priorities and how flexibility can reflect diverse Indigenous urban, rural, and northern (URN) communities

Who is best positioned to identify URN Indigenous housing priorities?

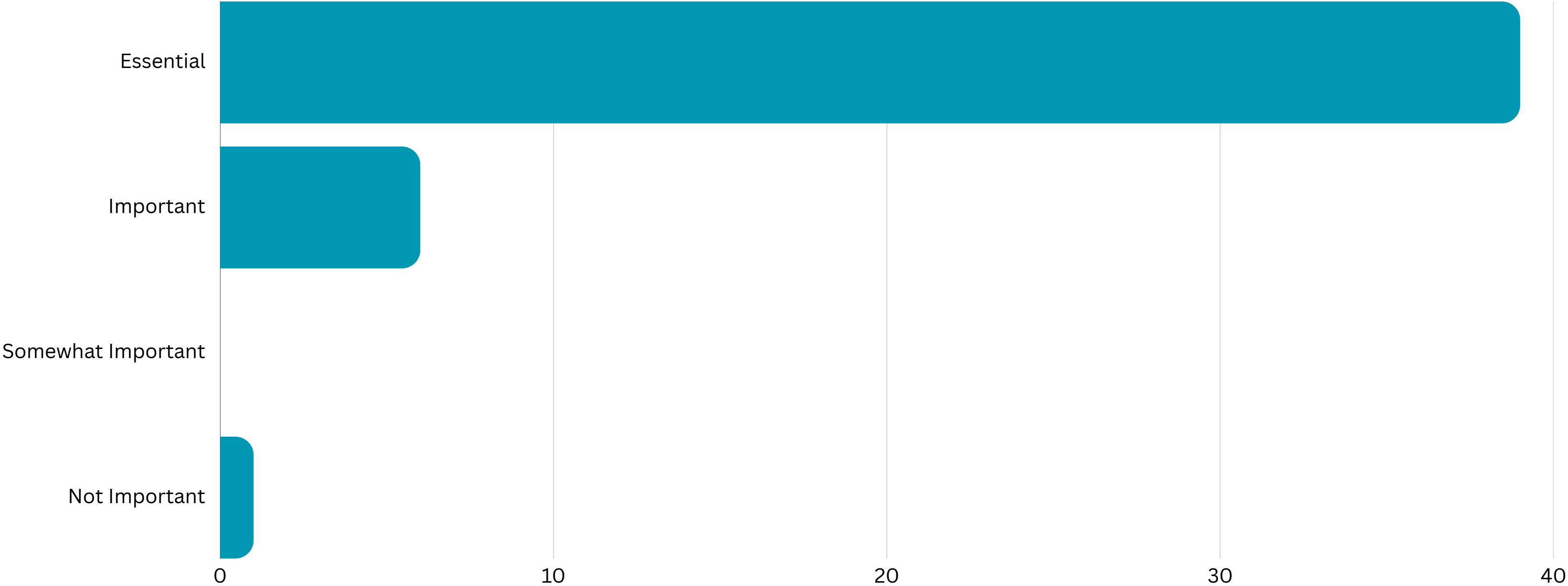
Survey Results | Section 1



Respondents most often said Indigenous providers and organizations, communities, and residents should set housing priorities, with moderate support for national Indigenous organizations and limited roles for governments or others.

How important is it for communities to define “community” in their own context?

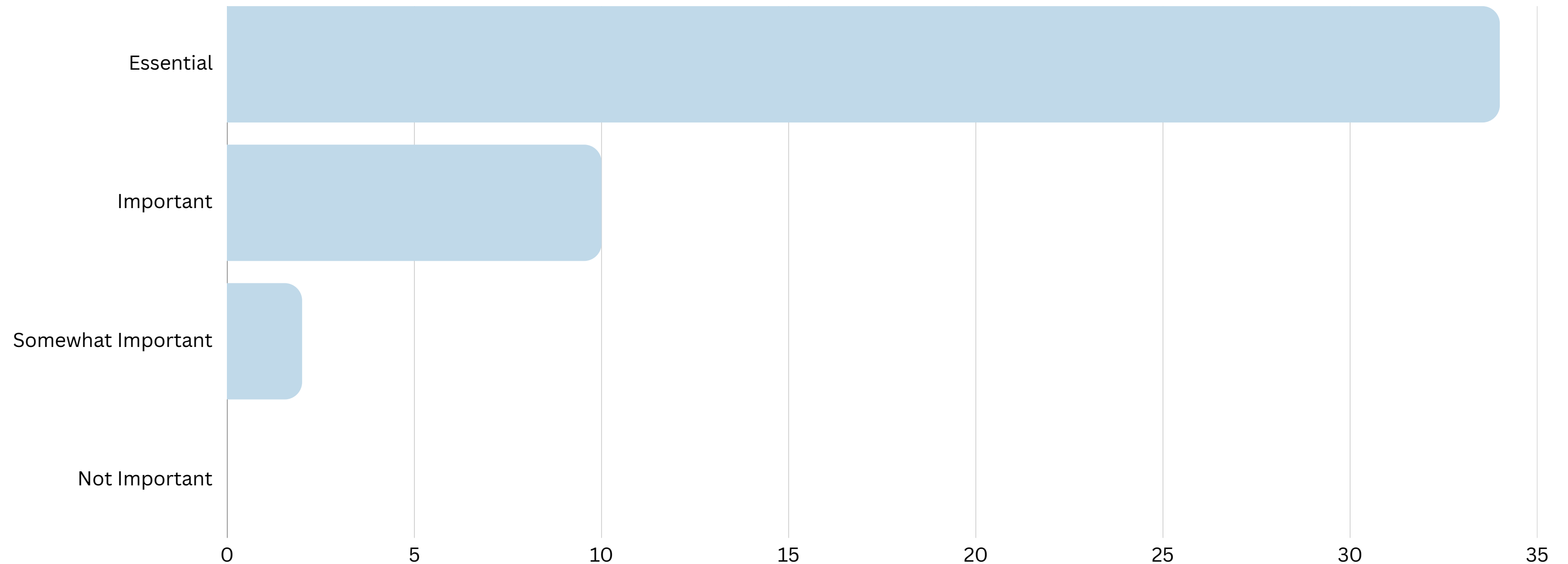
Survey Results | Section 1



Respondents consistently emphasized the importance of local communities defining “community” for themselves, with the majority rating this as essential or important.

How important is regional and local flexibility in a national URN strategy?

Survey Results | Section 1



Flexibility to reflect regional and local differences was rated as essential or important by most respondents, with very few indicating a lower level of importance.

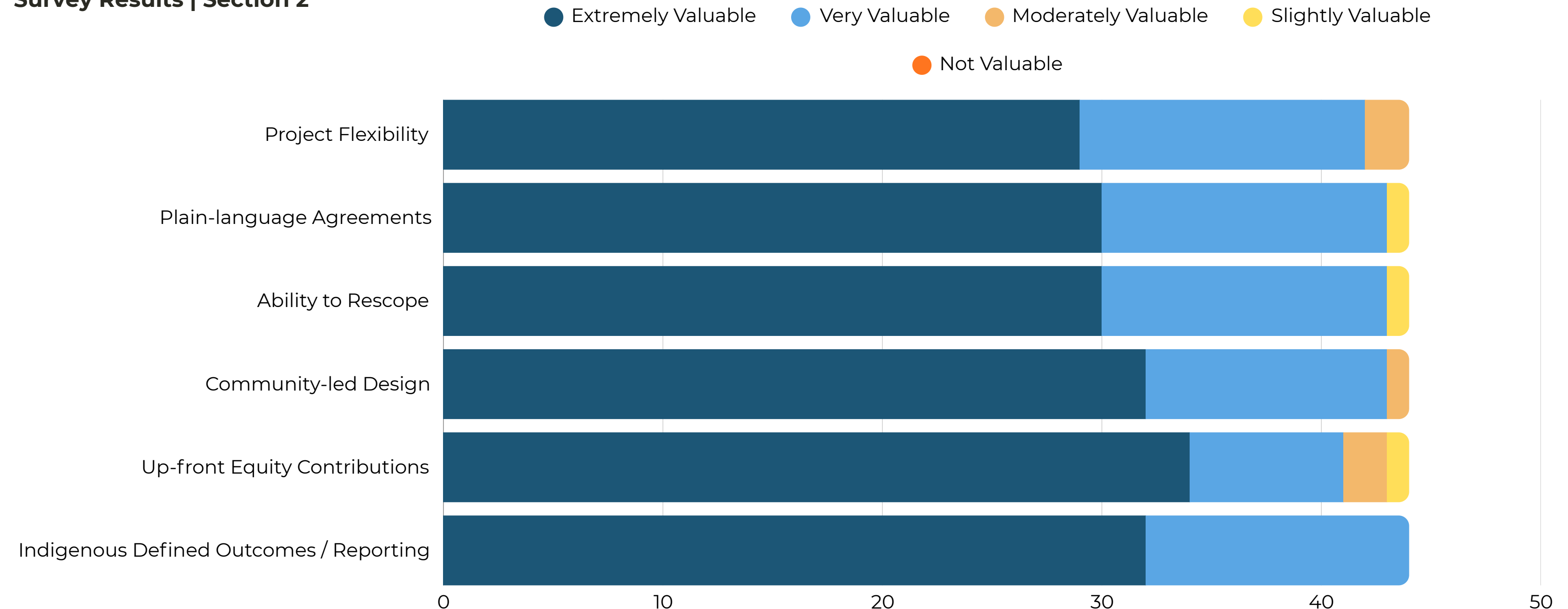
Section 2: Strategy Design & Delivery Model

This section focuses on how a national URN housing strategy should be designed and delivered to support Indigenous-led, community-driven solutions.



How valuable are the following features in a National Indigenous URN housing strategy?

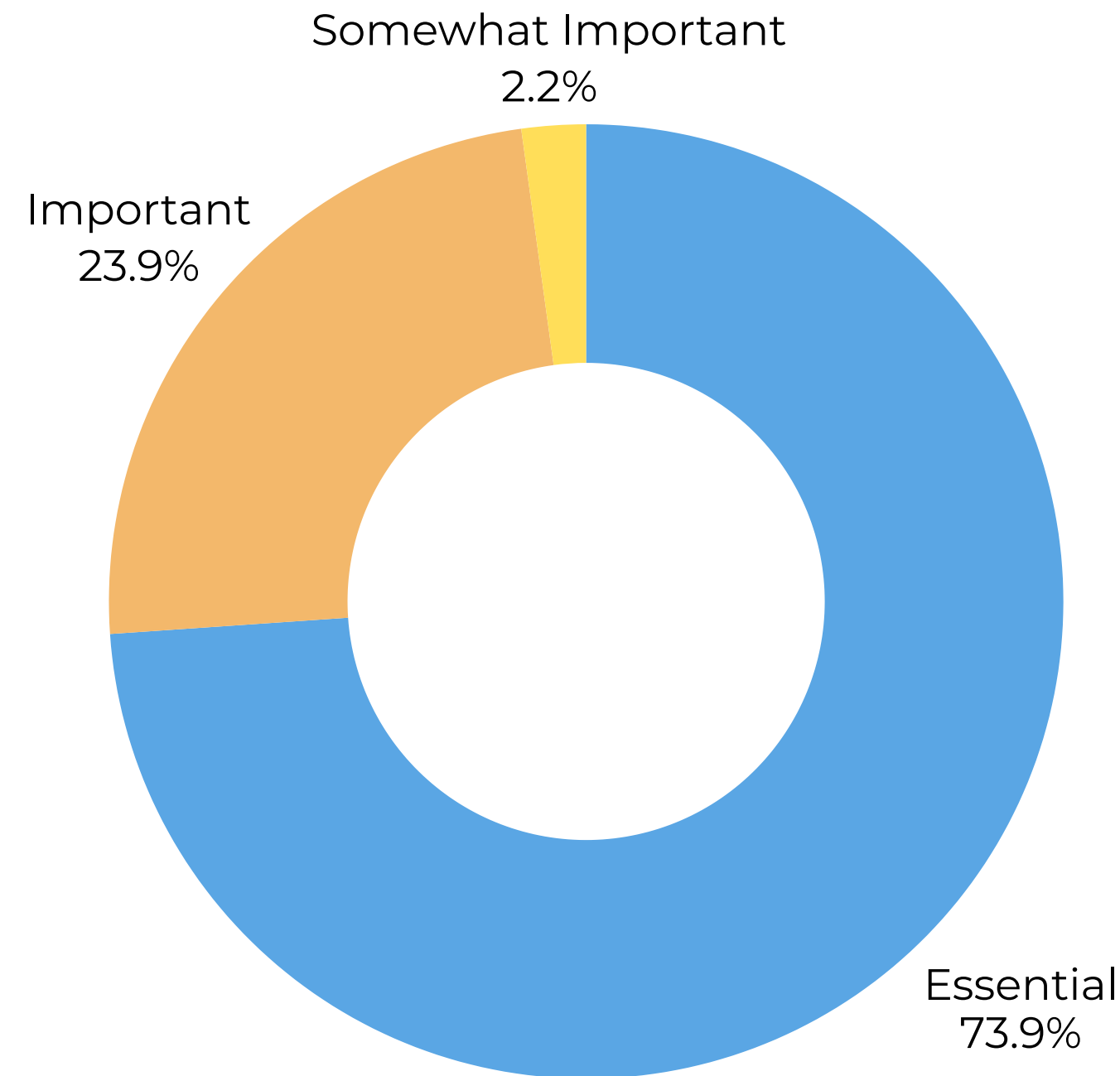
Survey Results | Section 2



Across all listed features, respondents most often rated them as extremely or very valuable, indicating broad agreement on their importance within a national Indigenous URN housing strategy.

How important is it that Indigenous housing providers be able to design, finance, and deliver housing solutions without prescribed national program models?

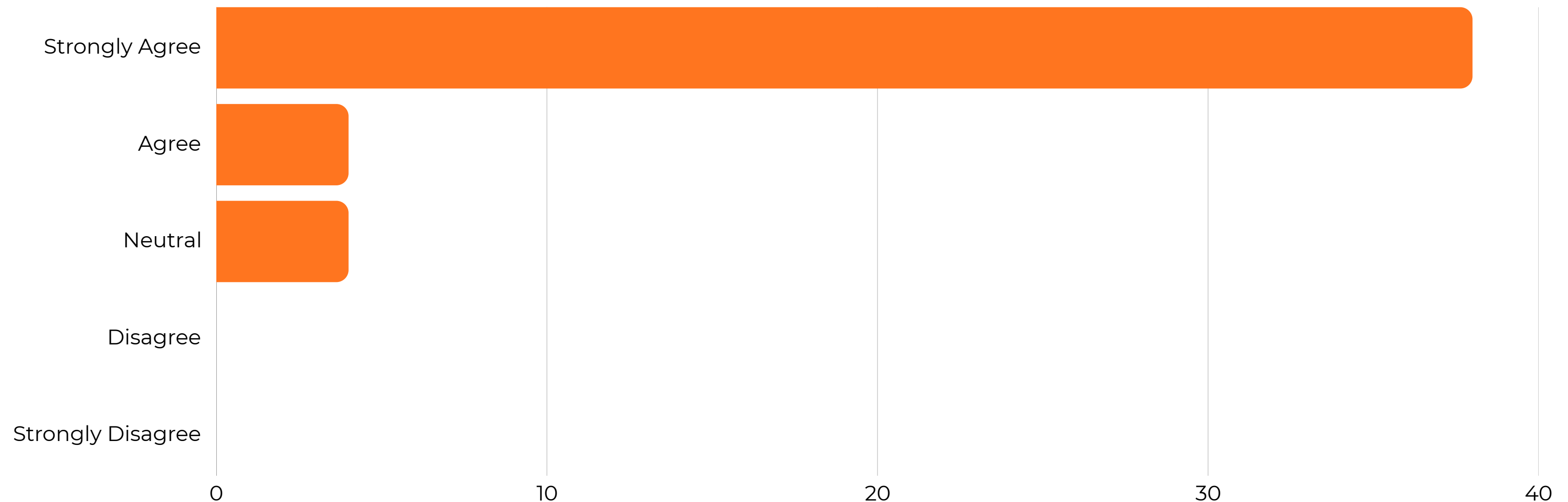
Survey Results | Section 2



Respondents overwhelmingly identified provider-led design, financing, and delivery without prescribed national models as essential or important.

NICHI's recent successes, including thousands of units created through community-led design, demonstrate that community-driven approaches work. How strongly do you agree that future national strategies should build upon proven models?

Survey Results | Section 2



Most respondents strongly agreed that future national strategies should build on proven community-driven models, with no disagreement indicated.

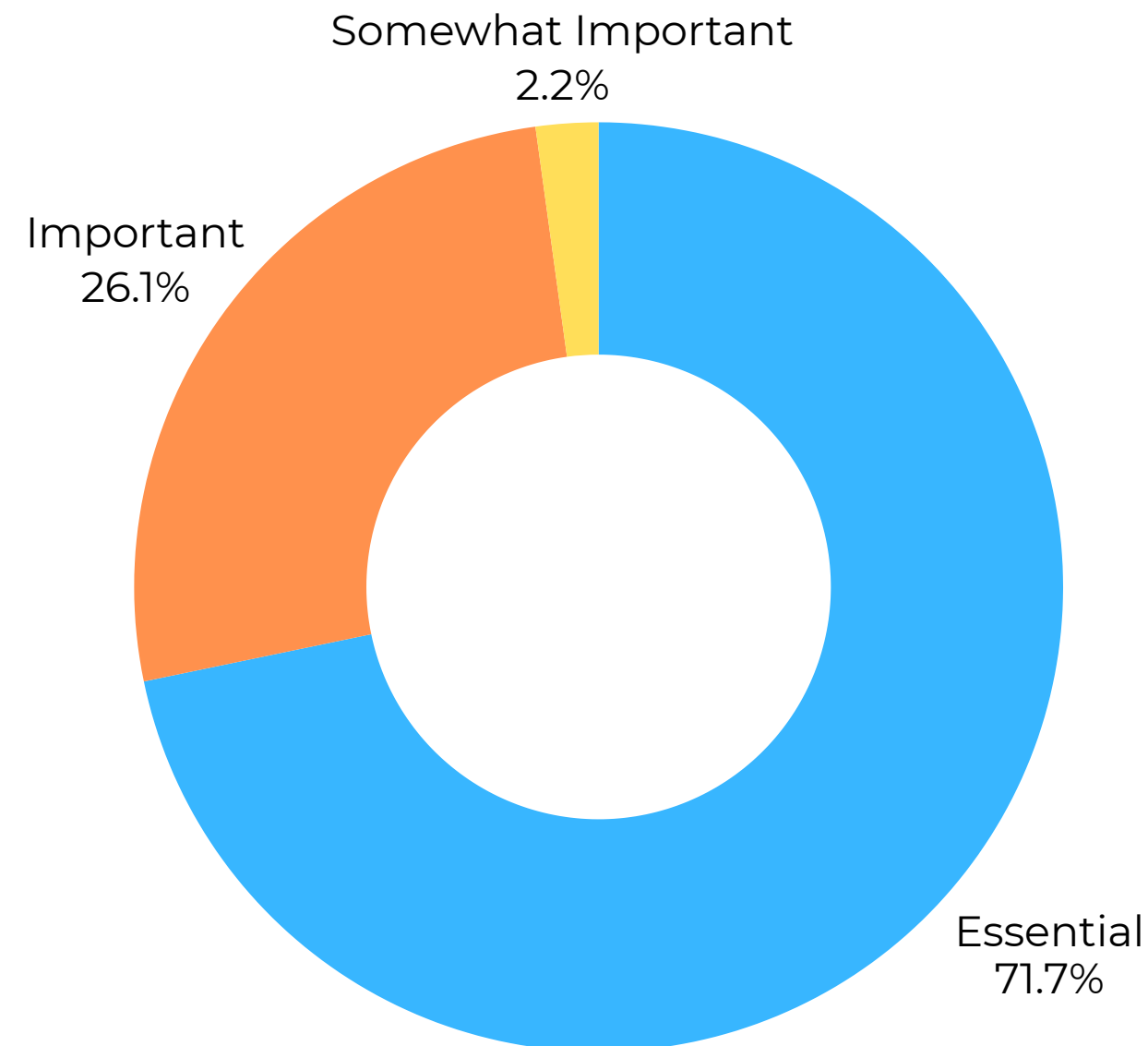
Section 3: Long-Term Sustainability & Funding Approaches

This section examines the importance of long-term affordability, operating stability, and financial sustainability in Indigenous housing.



Given that federal housing policy no longer prioritizes long-term operating subsidies or agreements, how important is it for the national strategy to help communities pivot toward financially sustainable project models (e.g., through equity contributions, reduced borrowing, and local revenue opportunities)?

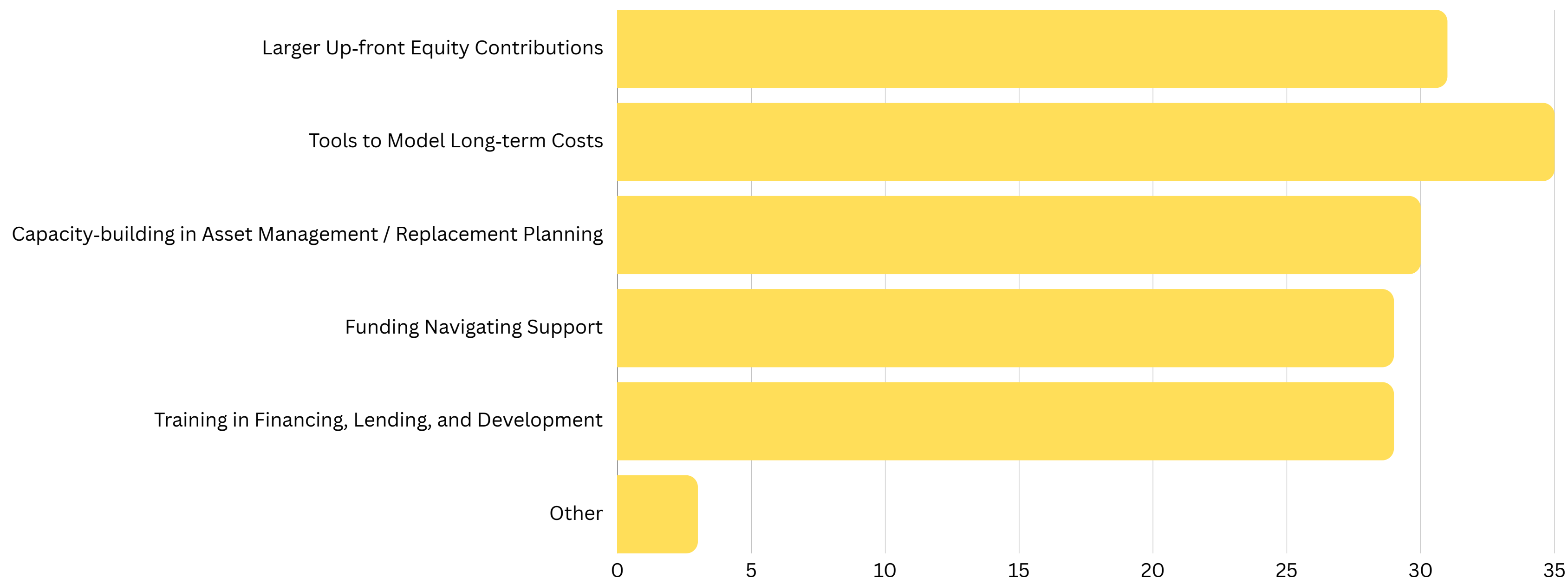
Survey Results | Section 3



Respondents overwhelmingly identified support for financially sustainable housing models as essential or important.

Which forms of support would most help Indigenous housing providers sustain housing over the long term (20+ years)?

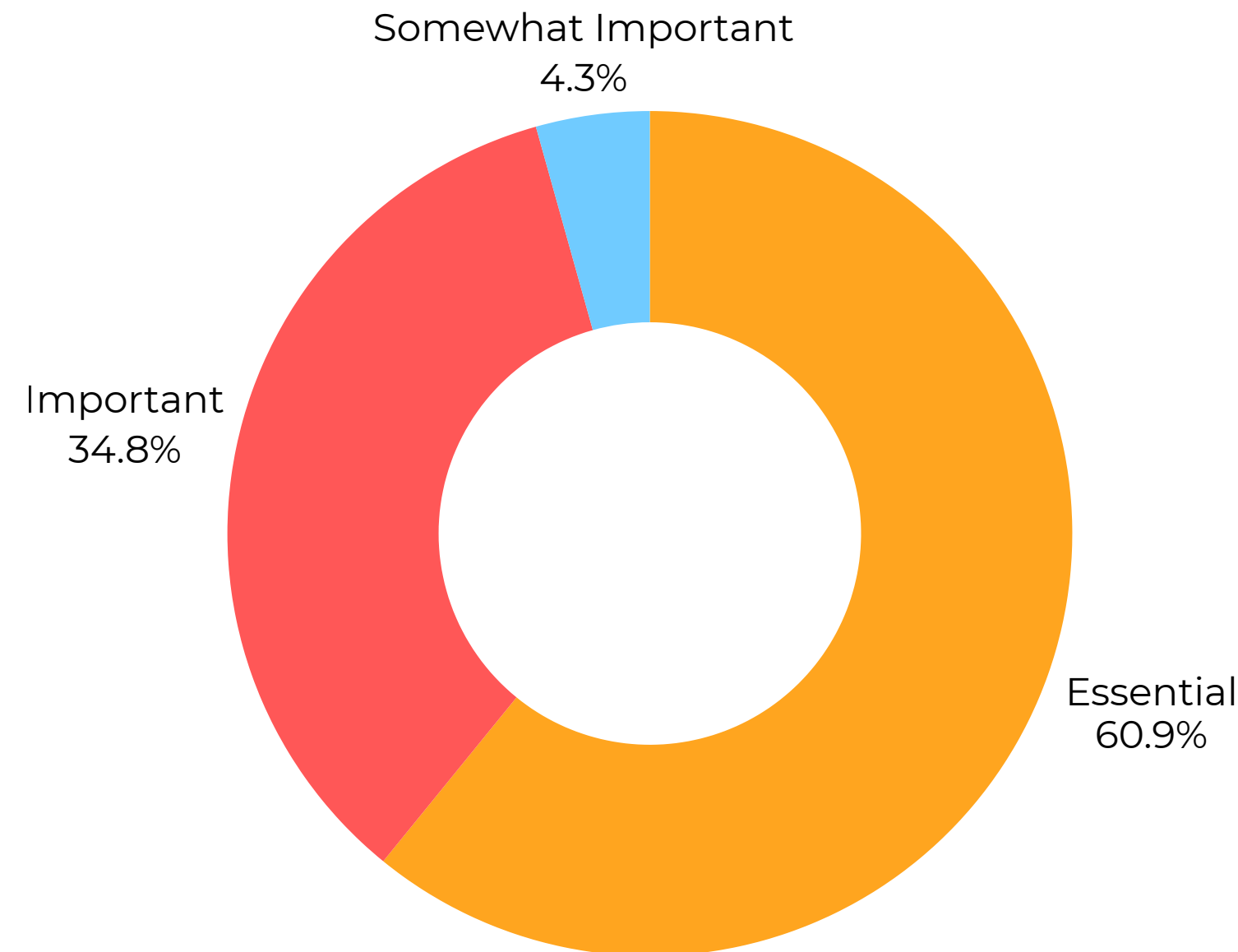
Survey Results | Section 3



Responses highlighted the importance of both financial tools and organizational capacity supports for sustaining Indigenous housing over the long term.

How important is it that a national URN strategy prioritize housing programs that use rent-geared-to-income (RGI) approaches, setting rents as a share of each household's income, rather than market-based affordability definitions such as median incomes or market rents?

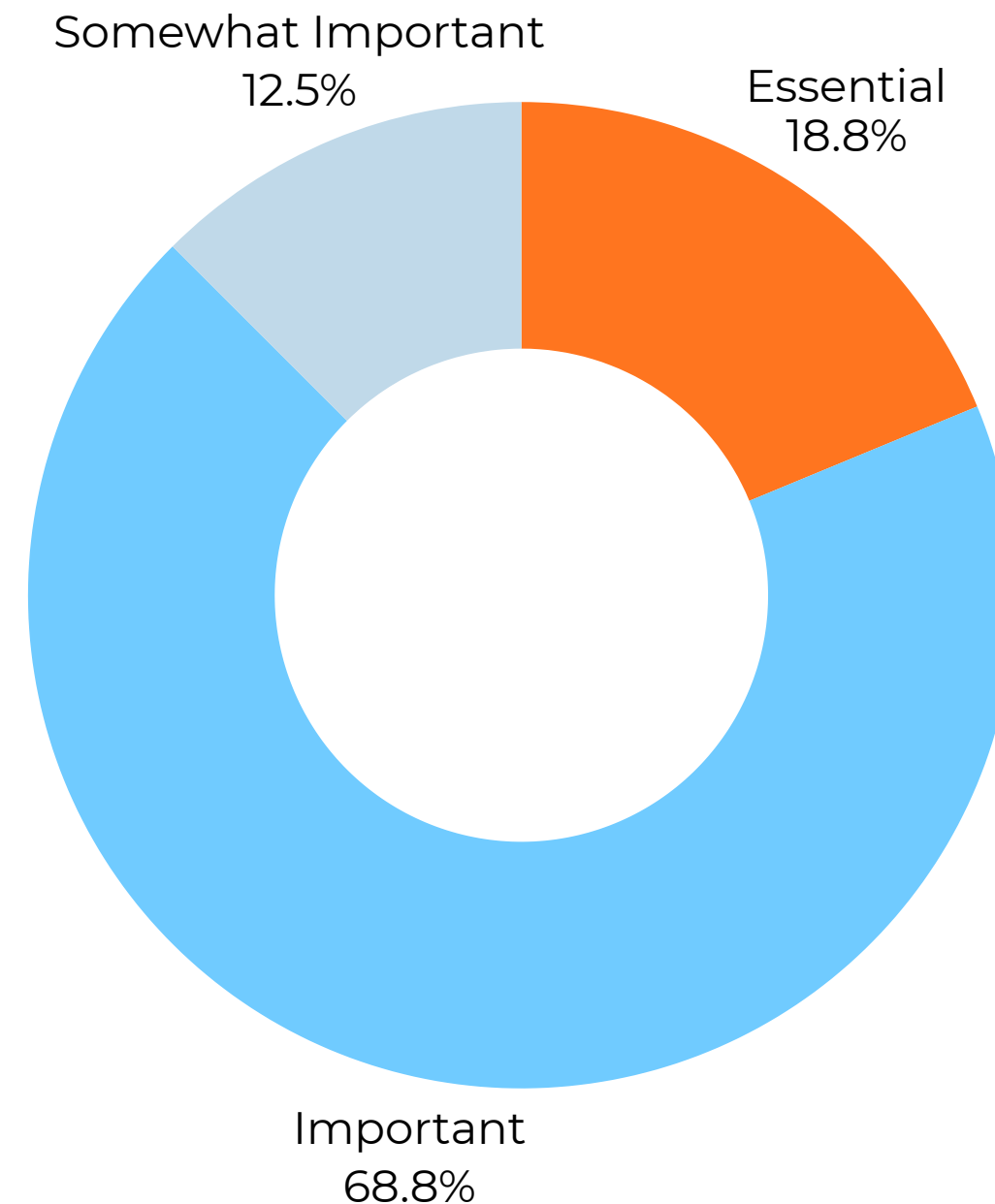
Survey Results | Section 3



Respondents overwhelmingly identified rent-geared-to-income approaches as essential or important to a national Indigenous URN housing strategy.

How appropriate is it for the national URN strategy to avoid rigid national unit targets (e.g., student or seniors housing) and instead allow communities to set their own housing priorities and allocation mix?

Survey Results | Section 3



Respondents largely supported allowing communities to determine their own housing priorities and allocation mix.

Section 4: Measuring what Matters

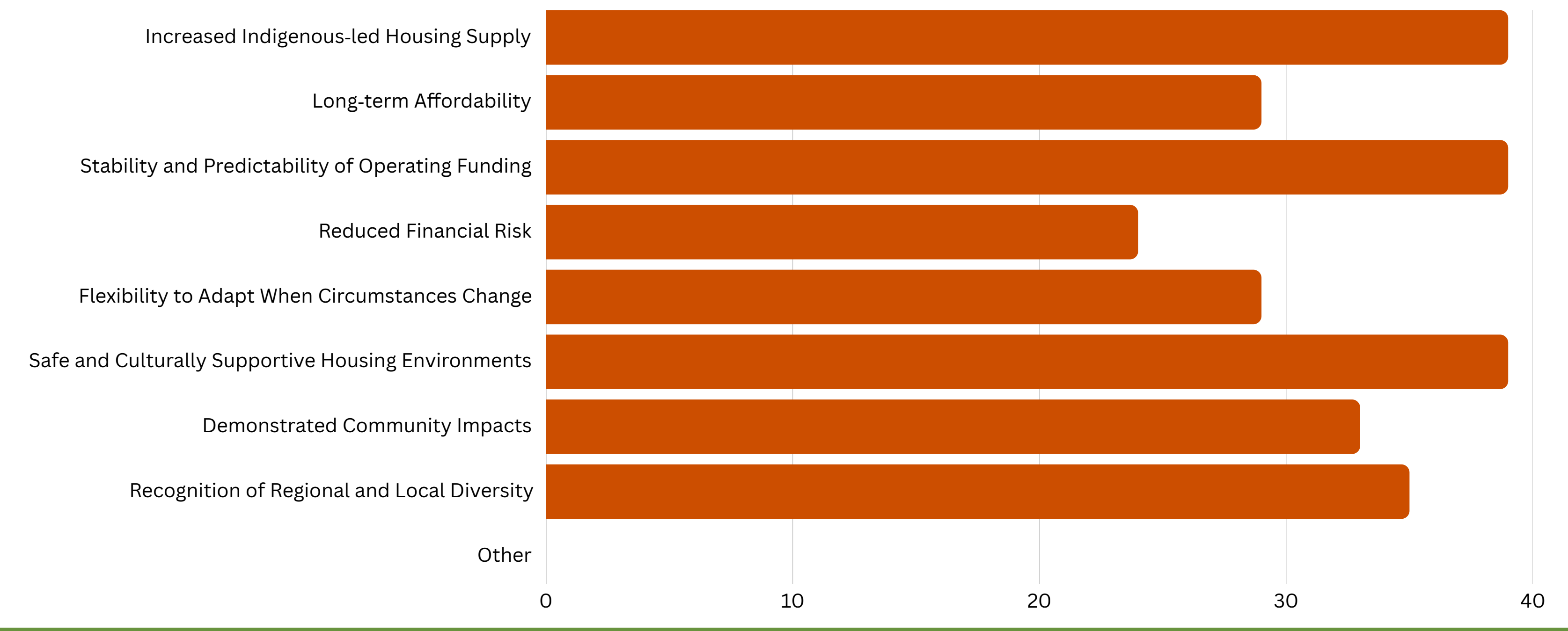


This section identifies which outcomes and measures of success should matter most in a national Indigenous URN housing strategy.



Which features should a national Indigenous URN housing strategy prioritize most?

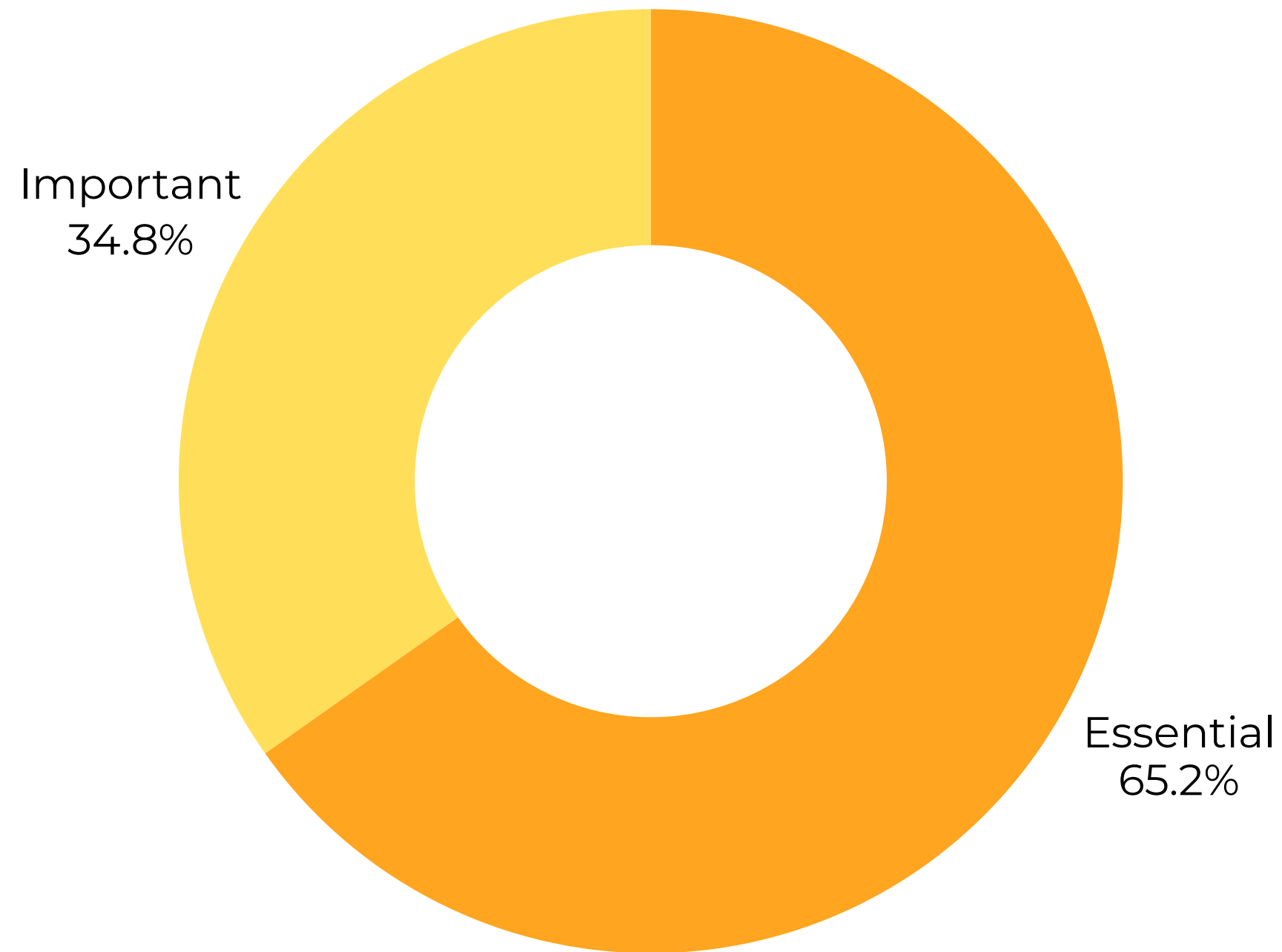
Survey Results | Section 4



Responses highlighted multiple priorities, with strong emphasis on stable funding, affordability in perpetuity, risk management, culturally supportive housing, and flexibility.

How helpful would it be for the strategy to include success stories showing how flexibility and community leadership created strong outcomes?

Survey Results | Section 4



Respondents unanimously identified the inclusion of success stories as essential or important to the strategy.

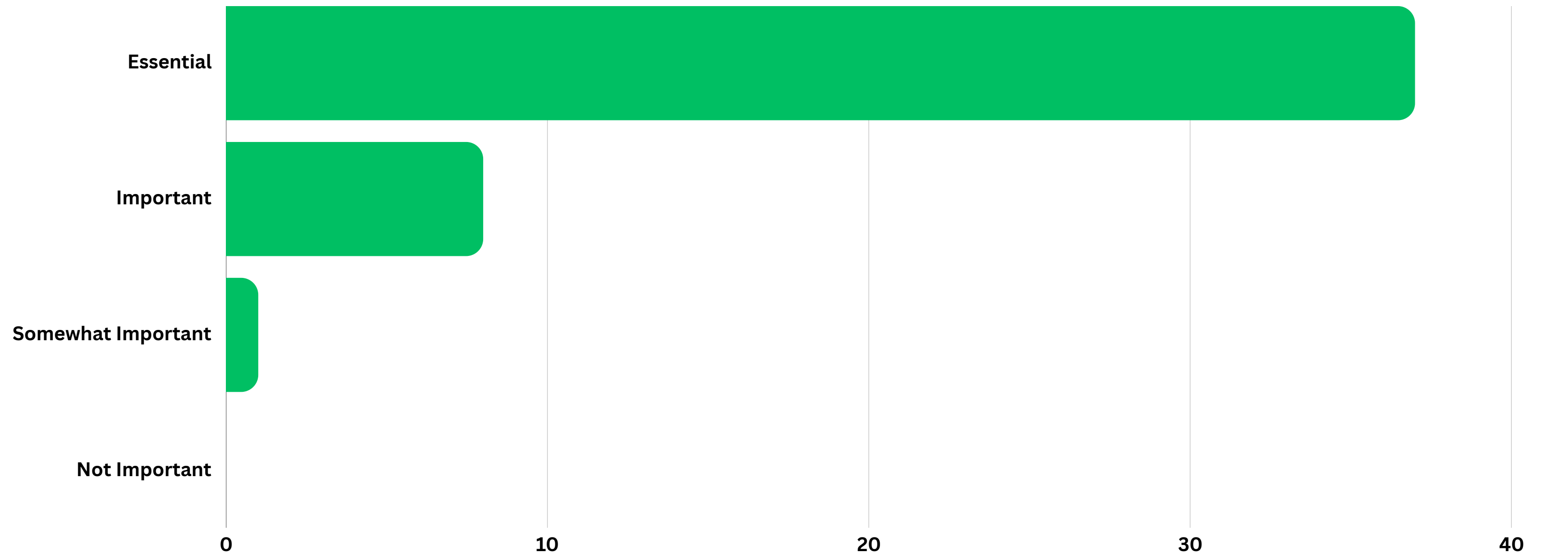
Section 5: Engagement and Partnerships



This section considers how Indigenous leadership, governance, and collaboration should be structured at a national level.

How important is it that the national Indigenous URN housing strategy be Indigenous-sector-led, with engagement from national Indigenous organizations while keeping community housing providers central?

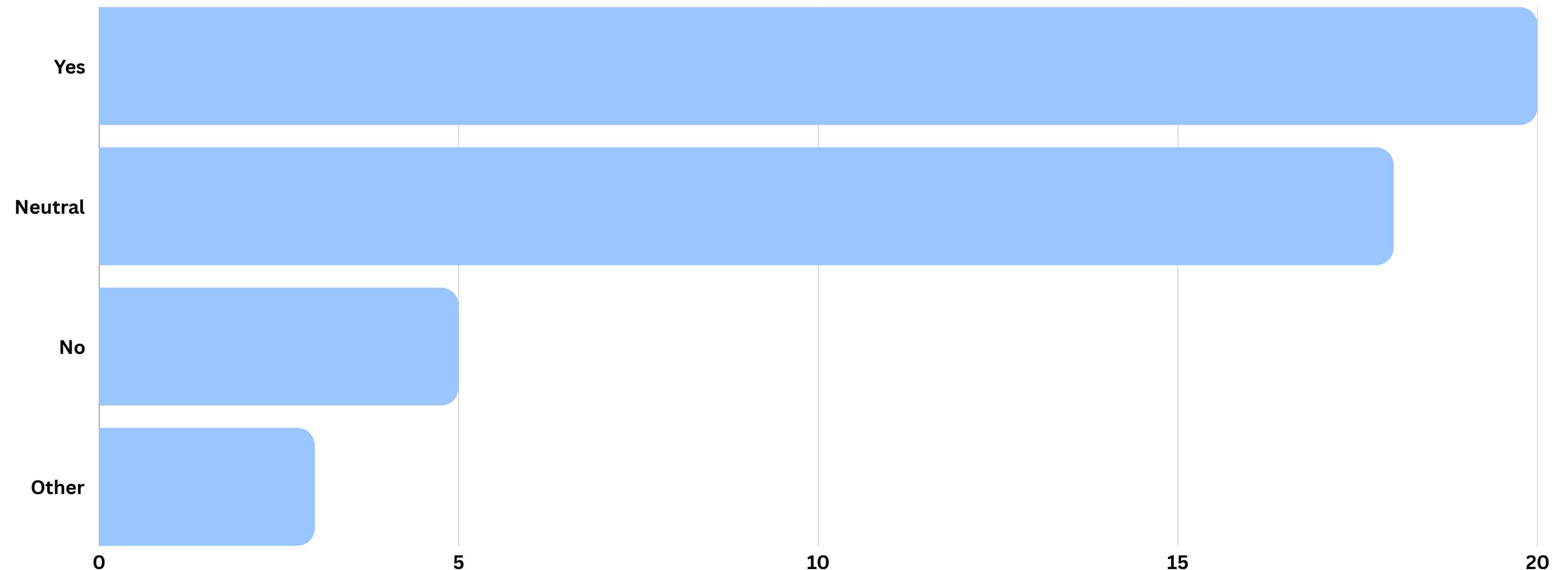
Survey Results | Section 5



Strong support for an Indigenous-sector-led strategy led by Indigenous housing providers, with engagement from national Indigenous organizations.

Should Indigenous housing organizations that are not part of NICHI be included in strategy development?

Survey Results | Section 5



Responses reflected a range of perspectives on inclusion beyond NICHI membership, with equal numbers selecting yes and neutral, and fewer selecting no or other.

Section 6: Open Reflections



This section provides space to share priorities, gaps, and principles that may not be captured elsewhere in the survey.

Are there Indigenous communities that are underserved or facing emerging housing vulnerability that should be addressed through a national URN strategy?

Survey Results | Section 6

SEVEN GENERATIONS, PRIMARY PREVENTION



Survey responses emphasized the importance of a Seven Generations, primary prevention approach that supports children and Lifegivers early, incorporates supportive housing as a means of stabilizing families, and reduces the risk of housing instability, family disruption, and homelessness as Indigenous populations continue to grow.

NORTHERN AND RURAL CONSIDERATIONS



Northern and rural communities were identified as facing heightened housing risk due to supply and infrastructure constraints, and rising social challenges, underscoring the value of funding approaches that balance investments across URN regions.

Are there Indigenous communities that are underserved or facing emerging housing vulnerability that should be addressed through a national URN strategy?

Survey Results | Section 6

SOCIOECONOMIC PRESSURES



Housing vulnerability was described as increasing across URN regions as broader socioeconomic pressures intensify, with housing costs rising faster than minimum wages and income supports, contributing to growing instability and homelessness.

POPULATION-SPECIFIC NEEDS



Housing needs were identified across diverse populations, including women, families, multigenerational households, youth, elders, 2SLGBTQIA+ people, residential school survivors, and persons who use substances.

Are there gaps or priorities not already addressed in this survey that you believe are important for the Indigenous communities members serve?

Survey Results | Section 6

Serviced Land and Housing Readiness

- Survey responses indicated the need to look more closely at how serviced land and core infrastructure are addressed alongside housing funding, recognizing that housing delivery depends on site readiness.

Organizational Capacity and Housing Retention

- Capacity building for new Indigenous or recently formed non profit organizations geared to housing development.

For Indigenous, By Indigenous

- The importance of prioritizing Indigenous-led and Indigenous-run housing delivery was highlighted, with an emphasis on ensuring supports intended for Indigenous communities are accessed and delivered by Indigenous organizations and is not redirected through non-Indigenous intermediaries.

Geographic Access and Regional Realities

- Geographic distance and isolation, especially in northern, rural, and remote regions, were identified as affecting access to shelters, transitional housing, and housing supports.

Coordination and Shared Tables

- Value was placed on stronger coordination through provincial or regional tables, and peer groups as a way to support shared learning, collaboration, and alignment.

Is there anything else you believe would strengthen the development of this strategy?

Survey Results | Section 6

Systemic and Policy Barriers

Responses pointed to long-standing systemic and policy barriers, including funding approaches that are not consistently aligned with level of need, housing condition, or urgency, and the absence of a coordinated national framework with clear targets and accountability.

Ongoing Participation and Transparency

Interest was expressed in continued opportunities to participate in strategy development and in receiving updates and final materials, reinforcing the importance of transparency and ongoing communication with members.

Clear Action Plans and Implementation

A strong emphasis was placed on moving from discussion to action, with calls for clear, realistic action plans, timelines, and deliverables that translate strategy into tangible housing outcomes.

Accountability and Progress Tracking

The value of accountability mechanisms was reinforced, including regular self-reporting and audits to track progress against both specific actions and overall strategy goals.

Is there anything else you believe would strengthen the development of this strategy?

Survey Results | Section 6

Regional Equity and Funding Allocation

Responses pointed to the importance of equitable funding approaches, including regional or provincial allocations that reflect Indigenous population distribution and ensure URN communities are all adequately supported.

Coordination and Alignment

The importance of alignment and shared direction across NICHl organizations was reinforced, emphasizing collaboration, shared purpose, and collective buy-in to support successful strategy implementation.

Long-Term Government Commitment

Responses emphasized the importance of sustained, long-term commitment from Canada to support housing outcomes beyond short funding cycles.

Evidence, Data, and Equity Lenses

The need for resources to support market analysis, housing needs assessments, and the application of gender-based analysis and other equity lenses was highlighted to ensure the strategy responds to diverse needs.

Final Analysis and Key Takeaways



FINAL ANALYSIS

- Survey responses demonstrate strong alignment across members on the core principles of the URN Indigenous Housing Strategy.
- A consistent theme throughout all sections was the need for Indigenous-led, community-driven decision-making.
- Members strongly emphasized regional and local flexibility, recognizing that housing needs differ across urban, rural, and northern communities.
- Long-term sustainability and affordability were emphasized as critical to successful housing outcomes

Overall, the survey reflects a clear, shared vision for a flexible, For Indigenous, By Indigenous national strategy.

MOVING THE URN STRATEGY FORWARD

- Building from shared principles and areas of alignment.
- Identifying areas where further conversation, learning, and collaboration are needed.
- Creating space for ideas that can inform what comes next



FOUR CORNERS: SHARE YOUR INSIGHTS

- Form groups with roughly the same number of participants in each.
- Rotate through the four corners—each has a unique URN strategy question.
- Spend ~10 minutes at each corner sharing ideas, reflecting, and contributing your insights.
- When the signal sounds, move to the next corner.

Let's collaborate, and shape the strategy together!

YOUR INPUT AT THE TABLE

- With your group, each table will work through two discussion questions over the next 45 minutes.
- A NICHI staff member will be your note-taker, so you can focus fully on the discussion.
- Please leave your answers on the table for collection.

Share your insights and help inform the NICHI Indigenous URN strategy!

LUNCH BREAK

Enjoy your lunch break

12:00–12:50 PM

See you back at 12:50 PM



Member Presentation

Justin Lewis

Chief Executive Officer,
Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services (OAHS)



Ontario
Aboriginal
Housing Services



WHAT WE HEARD REPORT – 2025



Danielle Cognigni

Director

Business Operations



Bob Maguire

Director

Policy & Stakeholder Relations

2025 NICHI MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT SESSION

- On April 28, 2025, the National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc. (NICHI) hosted a membership engagement session in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, on Treaty 6 Territory and the homeland of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan.
- The session brought together Indigenous housing providers from across the country for open dialogue, reflection, and knowledge-sharing on shared housing challenges, priorities, and opportunities.

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES AND DIALOGUE



- In addition to the plenary, members participated in a mix of interactive engagement activities, including live polling, Four Corners discussions, and Table Talks.
- These activities created space for members to share their experiences, identify sector-wide challenges and concerns, reflect on NICHl's evolving role as a national Indigenous-led housing organization, and highlight key areas for future focus and action.



VIRTUAL POLLING HIGHLIGHTS

- Members shared insights through live polling to help strengthen NICHI's communication and engagement approach.
- Members prefer concise, regular updates through email, webinars, bulletins, and social media.
- Clear onboarding and regular, accessible updates remain a priority.
- There was strong interest in sharing member achievements, highlights, and local work happening in communities. Member-driven storytelling and shared learning will continue to be expanded.

NICHI MEMBERSHIP PORTAL

- Members shared feedback on how the NICHI Membership Portal can better support their work.
- While use has varied, members highlighted strong potential for the portal as a shared hub.
- In response, NICHI continues to strengthen and grow the portal by regularly adding new content and resources.
- If you need help accessing or navigating the portal, please reach out to the NICHI team. We are here to support you!



KEY THEMES FROM THE WHAT WE HEARD REPORT

FUNDING INSECURITY AND FINANCIAL LIMITATIONS



Short-term, limited, and inflexible funding limits long-term planning and sustainability.

“Funding that is flexible rather than adhering to rigid program parameters. Meeting needs by region/community rather than criteria or stream dependant” – NICHI Member

HOUSING STOCK DETERIORATION AND MAINTENANCE BARRIERS



Aging housing stock and limited resources make timely maintenance and repairs difficult, especially in the North.

“The climate in the North is very harsh. We rely on ships for building materials, so we're planning months in advance” – NICHI Member

KEY THEMES FROM THE WHAT WE HEARD REPORT

LAND ACCESS AND HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES



Limited access to suitable land and development constraints delay new housing projects.

“We’re constantly navigating portfolio realignment, funding agreement restrictions, permitting, building codes, and new green laws” – NICHI Member

CAPACITY GAPS AND WORKFORCE INSTABILITY



Staffing shortages, burnout, and turnover affect service delivery and long-term planning.

“High turnover of staff makes it difficult to meet requirements” – NICHI Member

KEY THEMES FROM THE WHAT WE HEARD REPORT

TENANT AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT NEEDS



Indigenous housing providers are increasingly supporting complex tenant and community needs beyond housing.

“Providing training to fill in the gaps for clients—meeting them where they’re at” –
NICHl Member

POLICY REFORM AND INDIGENOUS-LED ADVOCACY



Members emphasized the need for ‘For Indigenous, By Indigenous’ policy reforms.

“We’re dealing with racist communities—NIMBYism, racial slurs, and a lack of support for new builds or housing services” – NICHl Member

KEY THEMES FROM THE WHAT WE HEARD REPORT

ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN AND REPORTING DEMANDS



Reporting requirements and administrative processes place significant demands on limited capacity.

“We have difficulty meeting a lot of the reporting requirements set out in funding agreements” – NICHI Member

HOLISTIC, CULTURALLY GROUNDED HOUSING APPROACHES



Members highlighted the importance of housing approaches rooted in Indigenous culture and community.

“Colonial systems in terms of reporting, applications, data collection, and program design, delivery, and accreditation” – NICHI Member

KEY THEMES FROM THE WHAT WE HEARD REPORT

OUTREACH FOR MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

- Members identified the need for engagement mechanisms beyond transactional or funding-based relationships.
- Practical outreach tools such as member-led roles, spotlights, and regular touchpoints were prioritized.

ELDER & YOUTH COUNCILS

- Members highlighted the importance of establishing formal roles for Elders and youth within NICHÍ.
- Councils should aim to be regionally representative, ensuring diverse voices are heard and everyone is welcome.

WHAT WE HEARD & HOW WE ARE RESPONDING



Members Portal

Expanded member database, resources, and usability improvements.



Member Spotlights

Rolling out upcoming regular spotlights showcasing member work and successes.



Attracting New Members

Onboarding tools and member-led recruitment pathways in development.



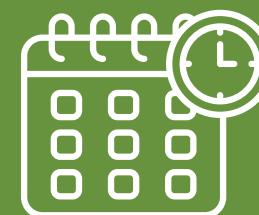
Communications

Continuing brief, regular updates via email, webinars, and social media.



Elder & Youth Councils

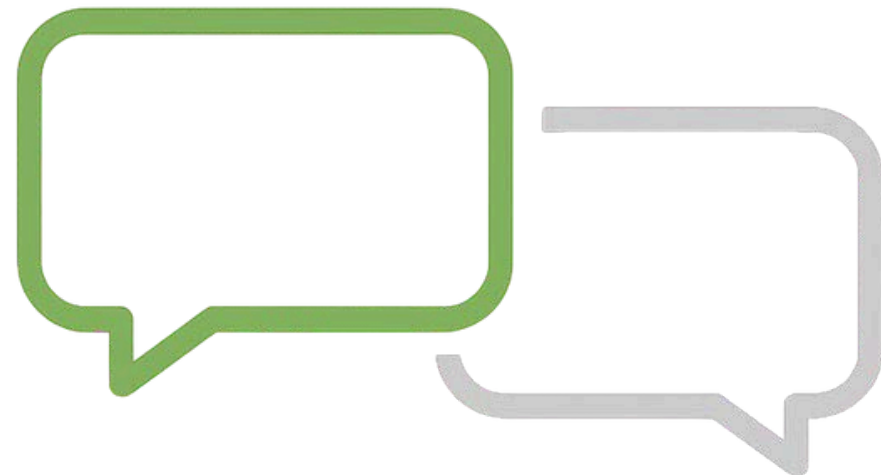
Advancing structures to meaningfully integrate Elders and youth.



NICHI Events

Using member feedback to strengthen networking, learning, and collaboration.

MEMBER OPEN FLOOR



This time is reserved for members to share reflections, observations, or questions arising from today's discussion, and to highlight emerging priorities to carry forward.

Facilitator will use a roving microphone to support member participation

AFTERNOON – HEALTH BREAK



HEALTH BREAK

Enjoy a 15-minute break

We'll return at 2:15 PM to continue discussions.

NICHI Housing Recognition Awards



Framework and Terms of Reference



NICHI HOUSING RECOGNITION AWARDS

Building on Our First Awards



- NICHI hosted its first Housing Recognition Awards last year during our first Annual Awards Gala.
- Further opportunities exist to deepen community involvement, especially the inclusion of Elders and youth.
- Awards as a starting point, not an end point.



NICHI HOUSING RECOGNITION AWARDS

Framework and Terms of Reference

- NICHI established a formal Housing Recognition Awards Framework and Terms of Reference.
- Honouring Indigenous housing providers and allies serving their communities and advancing Indigenous housing priorities coast to coast to coast.
- Five distinct award categories, each with separate eligibility and criteria.

SEVEN GENERATIONS HOUSING LEGACY AWARD

Purpose: To honour a lifetime of commitment to Indigenous housing.

- Minimum 20 years of service in Indigenous housing (any region or setting).
- Significant and sustained impact on Indigenous housing policy, delivery, innovation, or advocacy.
- Recognized as a mentor, Elder, or leader within the sector.
- Demonstrated cultural humility and accountability to Indigenous communities.

Eligibility: Chosen by the NICHI Board in consultation with ASRC members. Not open to public nominations.

May not be awarded annually.

EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY-LED HOUSING

Purpose: To honour an Indigenous housing provider demonstrating outstanding leadership in delivering culturally informed, inclusive, and responsive housing solutions.

- Housing delivery that reflects community values and Indigenous ways of knowing.
- Evidence of community engagement in design and implementation.
- Success in delivering units, wraparound supports, or tenant-led governance.
- Demonstrated clear and measurable impact.

Eligibility: NICHI Member organizations.

INNOVATION IN INDIGENOUS HOUSING

Purpose: To recognize new and transformative ideas or practices in Indigenous housing.

- Innovation in design, materials, financing, service model, or governance.
- Demonstrated ability to address challenges in new ways.
- Culturally relevant and scalable practices.
- Clear community benefits and transferability.

Eligibility: Open to organizations or individuals within the NICHI circle.

EMERGING LEADER IN INDIGENOUS HOUSING

Purpose: To highlight the next generation of Indigenous housing leaders.

- Must be 40 years old or younger.
- Active involvement in community housing initiatives.
- Demonstrates leadership potential, innovation, and cultural fluency.
- Known to inspire and uplift others.

Eligibility: Individuals working in NICHl member organizations or Indigenous housing sectors.

ALLY IN ACTION – PARTNERSHIP AWARD

Purpose: To honour a non-Indigenous organization or partner that has demonstrated authentic collaboration with Indigenous housing providers.

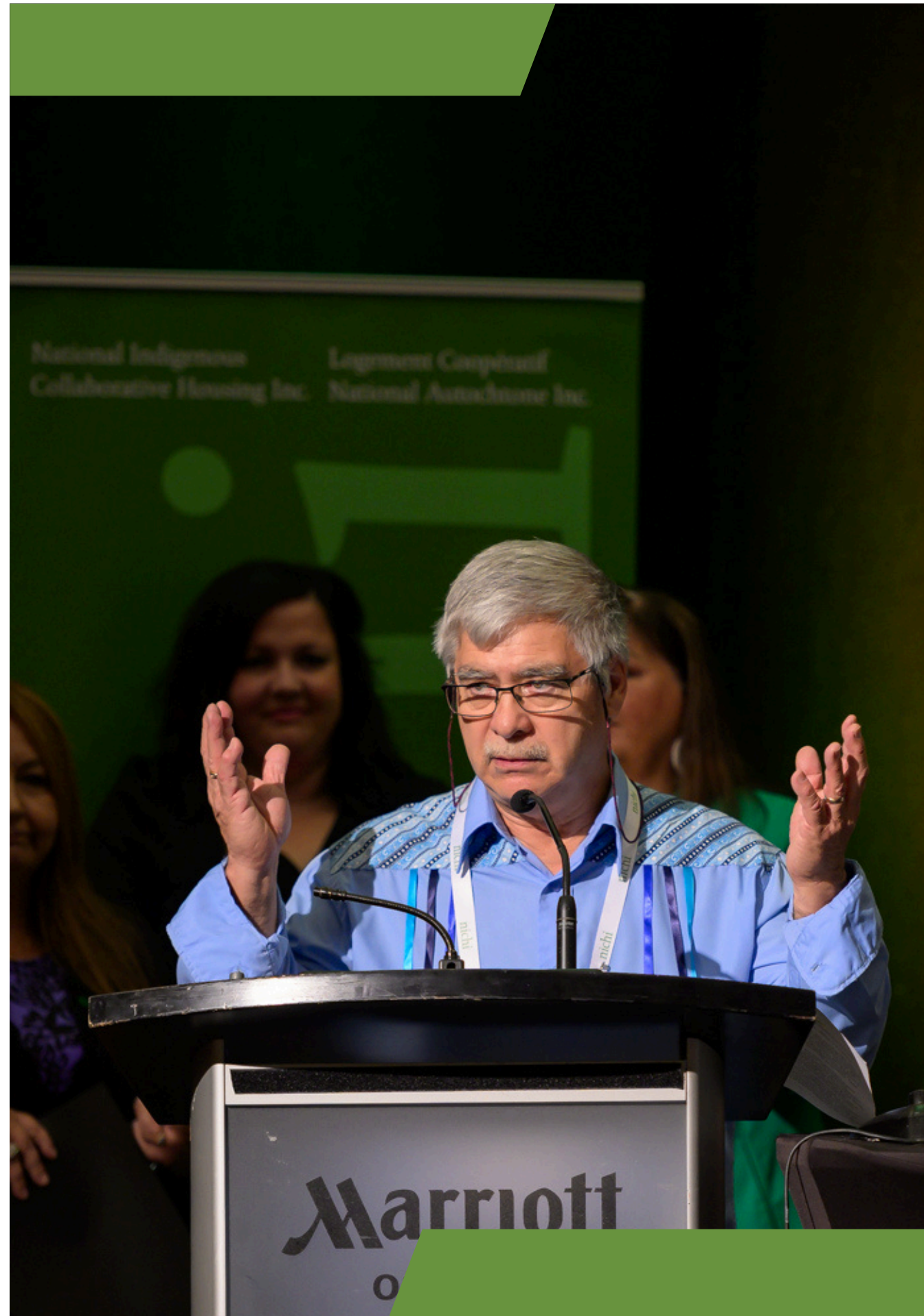
- Partnership centers Indigenous voices.
- Provided capacity support without control or co-optation.
- Demonstrated respect for cultural governance.
- Resulted in meaningful outcomes for Indigenous tenants or communities.

Eligibility: Nominated by a NICHI member organization.

NICHI HOUSING RECOGNITION AWARDS

Award Selection Review Council

- The Awards Selection Review Council (ASRC) is an independent, non-partisan body that oversees the selection of NICHI awards using Board-approved criteria.
- Makes recommendations; Board approves final award recipients.
- The Awards Selection Review Council consists of Eight (8) Members.



NICHI HOUSING RECOGNITION AWARDS

AWARDS SELECTION REVIEW COUNCIL COMPOSITION

- 3 Elders
- 2 Youth representatives (ages 15-29)
- 2 NICHI Board Members (Executive Committee)
- 1 Project Selection Advisory Council (PSAC) member
- 1 NICHI staff member (non-voting, coordination purposes)



CONSIDERATIONS

- Housing sector experience, including emerging and early-career involvement.
- First Nations, Inuit, and Métis representation.
- Urban, Rural and Northern, and Regional balance.
- Gender and 2SLGBTQIA+ diversity.
- Minimum of (2) bilingual members.

NICHI HOUSING RECOGNITION AWARDS

ROLE AND DECISION-MAKING

- Reviews nominations using award-specific scoring rubrics.
- Prioritizes fairness, consistency, and cultural grounding.
- Intergenerational learning through Elder and youth mentorship.
- Consensus-based wherever possible
- Board retains final decision-making authority

WHAT PARTICIPATION INVOLVES

- Two-year term with one possible renewal; third term not permitted.
- 2–3 virtual meetings per year.
- Optional travel to Awards Gala.
- Urban, Rural and Northern and Regional Balance.
- Approx. 21 hours per awards cycle.
- Volunteer role; expenses reimbursed where applicable (travel to Awards Gala).

AWARDS SELECTION REVIEW COUNCIL

Call for Nominations

- Now open | 3 Elders, and 2 Youth Representatives.
- Consider Elders and youth who are active in your communities and interested in becoming more engaged.

Key Dates

- **ASRC Nomination Deadline:** May 29, 2026
4:00PM EST
- **NICHI's 2026 Annual General Meeting and Awards Gala, Ottawa, ON:** September 29, 2026



**Share this call within your networks
and help spread the word!**

Elder and Youth Councils



Shaping Elder and Youth Councils Together



ELDER & YOUTH COUNCILS

- Members expressed strong interest in formal Elder and youth councils within NICHI.
- Seen as a way to support cultural continuity and future leadership.
- No fixed model has been defined.
- Members will be asked to provide feedback on specifics:
 - Purpose and roles
 - How councils connect to NICHI's work

EXPLORING FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR NICHİ

Share your perspectives through Mentimeter.

Scan the QR code or go to [menti.com](https://www.menti.com)
and enter the code **7449 1350**

<https://www.menti.com/aldqkschegsj>



WHAT COMES NEXT

John Gordon

Chief Executive Officer,
**National Indigenous Collaborative Housing
Inc. (NICHI)**

nichi

National Indigenous
Collaborative Housing Inc.

Logement Coopératif
National Autochtone Inc.



BOARD NOMINATIONS

Georgina Brass

Board Secretary,
National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc. (NICHI)
Director of Housing,
Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council Housing Authority Inc. (DOTCHAI)



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National Indigenous
Collaborative Housing Inc.

Logement Coopératif
National Autochtone

nichi

ENGAGEMENT SESSION SUMMARY



Alicia Landry

Young Soaring Eagle Consulting Ltd.

2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS - SAVE THE DATE

UPCOMING EVENT DATES

- **September 28, 2026:**
 - NICHI Connects 2nd Annual Indigenous Housing Action Day, Ottawa, ON
- **November 22–25, 2026:**
 - NICHI's 3rd Annual Indigenous Housing Capacity Building Event, Winnipeg, MB
- **September 29, 2026:**
 - NICHI's 2026 Annual General Meeting and Awards Gala, Ottawa, ON



WHAT'S COMING UP

Board of Directors Nominations

- Due July 31, 3:00 pm EST

Awards Selection Review Council (ASRC) Nominations

- 3 Elders | 2 Youth
- Due May 29, 4:00 pm EST

National Housing Council – Review Panel on the Lack of Accessible Housing in Canada

- Feedback to inform NICHl's submission due May 22, 4:00 pm EST
- Individual written submissions due June 5

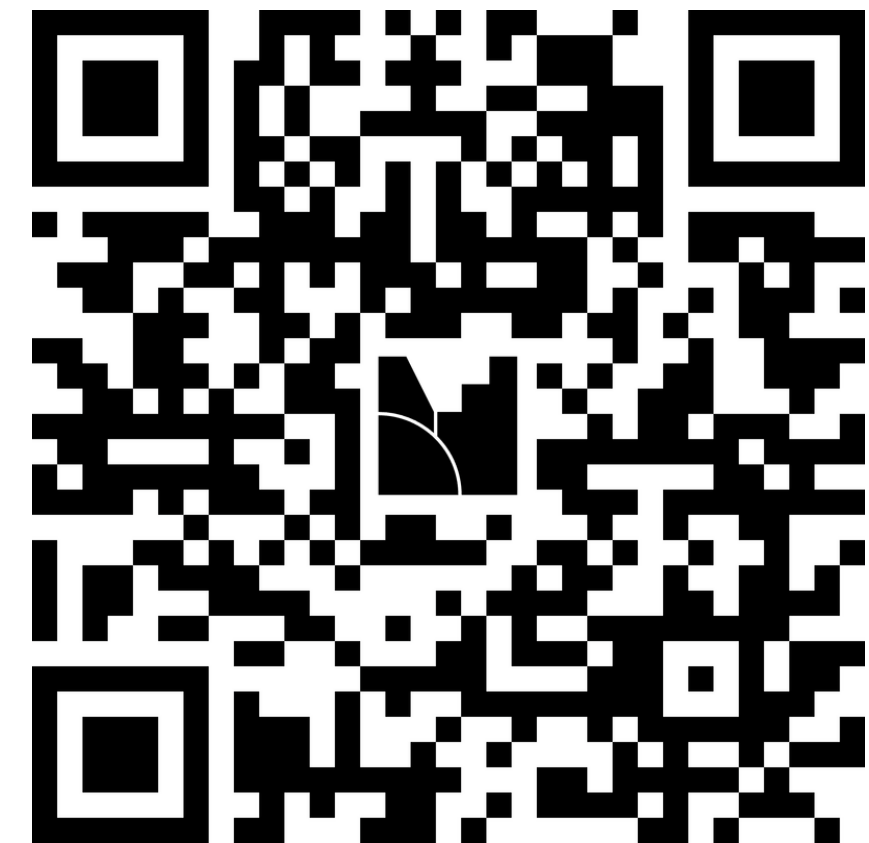
Member survey coming soon to inform the 3rd Annual Indigenous Housing Capacity Event

EVENT SATISFACTION

Share your feedback through Mentimeter.

Scan the QR code or go to [menti.com](https://www.menti.com)
and enter the code **5659 9845**

<https://www.menti.com/altkcdtyxs25>



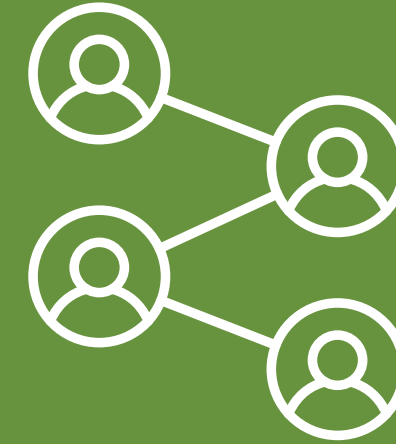
ELDER CLOSING

Sending us off in a good way

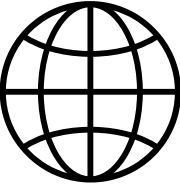


**Elder
Emma Reelis**

WHERE TO FIND US!



Thank-you for joining us!

 : <https://nichi.ca/>

 : NICHIfhousing

 : nichi_housing

 : nichi-housing-logement

Not a member yet? Scan below to join **NICHI!**

