



NICHI Connects

Indigenous Housing Action Day

Ottawa, Ontario
September 22, 2025





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Executive Summary

On September 22, 2025, the National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc. (NICHl) hosted its inaugural **NICHl Connects: Indigenous Housing Action Day** in Ottawa, on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinabe people. Ahead of NICHl's AGM, the event brought together Indigenous housing providers for a full day of advocacy on Parliament Hill. The goal was to raise awareness of Indigenous housing priorities, advance dialogue with federal decision-makers, and highlight the need for "For Indigenous, By Indigenous" solutions, including the allocation of \$300 million committed to NICHl. NICHl members met MPs and Ministers across parties, sharing community experiences, priorities, and success stories while stressing the urgency of unmet housing needs.

A key theme was the escalating Indigenous housing crisis: over 170,000 Indigenous people are in urgent core housing need, worsened by rising construction costs and inflation. NICHl emphasized that "For Indigenous, By Government" solutions have fallen short, and that its collaborative Indigenous-led approach is essential for meaningful, sustainable change. Concerns were raised about delays in the additional \$300 million funding, with MPs noting administrative bottlenecks and the risk of missing critical construction seasons. Despite this, discussions were marked by genuine interest and willingness to engage, with MPs expressing admiration for NICHl's voluntary governance, rapid delivery, and bottom-up approach, and offering to champion NICHl internally.

NICHl highlighted its track record: \$281 million deployed and 74 projects delivered in a short timeframe, demonstrating capacity for rapid, impactful action. Beyond advocacy, the day fostered connection and collaboration, amplified collective voices, and reinforced NICHl's role as a national leader in Indigenous-led housing solutions, marking a milestone in advancing the Indigenous housing movement.

Introduction

Advocacy Day

On September 22, 2025, NICHl hosted its first NICHl Connects: Indigenous Housing Action Day in Ottawa, Ontario. The event brought together Indigenous housing providers and members from across the country to share their experiences directly with parliamentarians and ministers. Throughout the day, members shared first-hand stories of the housing challenges their communities face, including pressing capital needs or capacity needs. These narratives highlighted not only the scale of the Indigenous housing crisis but also the innovative solutions communities are pursuing to overcome barriers. Decision-makers were able to hear directly how delayed funding, gaps in infrastructure, and limited capacity can stall essential projects, affecting families and individuals who rely on safe, affordable, and culturally appropriate housing.

Alongside these stories, NICHl emphasized the urgent need for an additional \$300 million in funding, which would support another round of shovel-ready projects and related support services, directly addressing critical urgent and unmet needs. Members spoke to the risks of lost construction seasons, explaining how delays can increase costs due to inflation, hinder community planning, and prolong housing instability for Indigenous Peoples already living in challenging conditions. Members' accounts also illustrated the power of NICHl's Indigenous-led, efficient model, showing how communities have successfully moved from funding commitment to occupancy in record time. By highlighting these successes, participants reinforced the principle of "For Indigenous, By Indigenous" solutions, demonstrating that Indigenous communities are best positioned to identify, design, and implement housing strategies that reflect their unique priorities, values, and cultural needs.

In total, NICHl and its members met with over 20 MPs and Ministers from across party lines, sharing personal experiences, successes, and urgent priorities. These conversations were a critical step in aligning priorities, and ensuring that Indigenous housing remains at the forefront of Canada's national agenda in the lead-up to **Budget 2025**. The day not only amplified members' voices but also reinforced NICHl's growing role as a national collective driving Indigenous-led housing solutions and shaping a more equitable, responsive housing system for Indigenous communities across the country, coast to coast to coast.

Engagement with Members of Parliament and Ministers

Advocacy Day

Below is a summary of the meetings NICHI members participated in during NICHI Connects: Indigenous Housing Action Day. These engagements allowed members to share first-hand experiences, highlight urgent housing needs, and discuss Indigenous-led solutions directly with MPs and Ministers, strengthening relationships and advancing national housing priorities.

Member of Parliament, Phillip Earle

Liberal, *Labrador*



Labrador MP Philip Earle was familiar with NICHI and engaged in a constructive roundtable about housing needs both on- and off-reserve in Labrador. He reacted positively to NICHI's approach and expressed interest in deeper engagement when NICHI members are in his riding. Recommended follow-up is to keep him informed of local member activity and project opportunities.

Member of Parliament, Vince Gasparro

Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State (Combating Crime)

Liberal, *Eglinton—Lawrence*

Vince held an extended, detailed conversation and showed strong interest in market-based solutions to expand Indigenous housing. He specifically asked about converting social housing and enterprise structures into housing dollars, signaling openness to innovative financing pilots. Follow-up should outline potential market-based approaches and pilot opportunities. Explore how NICHI could demonstrate scalable finance conversions.



Member of Parliament, Eric Mellilo

Conservative, *Kenora—Kiiwetinoong*



Eric was attentive but asked no substantive questions during the meeting and requested a concise organizational overview for context. His request indicates he wants a quick reference that can be shared internally. Follow-up should be sending a clear one-page summary of NICHI's mission, governance, programs, and contacts. This will enable easier internal briefings and future engagement.

Engagement with Members of Parliament and Ministers

Advocacy Day

Member of Parliament, Jonathan Wilkinson

Liberal, *North Vancouver—Capilano*



Jonathan showed a solid understanding of NICHI's structure but requested supporting materials to clarify the rationale and next steps. He asked for a funding overview (sources, allocation priorities, timelines), a stakeholder/project outreach list (HICC, ISC, PMO, other ministries), and a regional summary of shovel-ready projects. He also suggested NICHI be introduced to Marie Pascale Desrosiers (Chief of Staff, HICC), so follow-up should include those materials and an ask to facilitate that introduction. A clear funding pathway and project pipeline are critical for his office

Member of Parliament, Billy Morin

Conservative, *Edmonton - Northwest*

MP Billy Morin was impressed by NICHI's voluntary governance and rapid delivery, noting UDIP referenced as a funding source (~\$200M). He emphasized the importance of integrated wrap-around services and expressed interest in collaboration with Build Canada Homes where appropriate. He was struck by NICHI's speed and the community impact of quick delivery.



Member of Parliament, Karina Gould

Liberal, *Burlington*



MP Karina Gould knew NICHI's Phase 1 results and raised concerns about Métis-specific needs, addiction supports, and access for off-reserve Indigenous people. She emphasized that many Indigenous people living off-reserve lack wrap-around services, and eligibility rules can be a barrier. Follow-up should demonstrate how NICHI serves Métis and off-reserve populations and outline addiction-support programming. Provide targeted materials explaining inclusive eligibility and service delivery models.

Member of Parliament, Aslam Rana

Liberal, *Hamilton Centre*

MP Aslam Rana was enthusiastic and focused on concrete outputs, asking about the number and types of units NICHI delivers (subsidized, co-op, seniors, supported housing). He noted NICHI's role in filling urban Indigenous housing gaps and referenced NICHI's submission to Build Canada Homes. Follow-up should provide unit counts by type, project statuses, and updates on BCH submissions.



Engagement with Members of Parliament and Ministers

Advocacy Day

Member of Parliament, William Stevenson

Conservative, Yellowhead



MP William Stevenson heard community-by-community presentations but had limited time to respond and suggested future briefings reserve 10–15 minutes for Q&A. His feedback was procedural: allocate space for discussion to encourage better engagement. Follow-up should adjust meeting formats to include dedicated Q&A time and circulate concise briefing materials in advance. This will allow his office to raise specific issues more effectively.

Member of Parliament, Jeff Kibble

Conservative, Cowichan—Malahat—Langford

MP Jeff Kibble, representing a riding with a significant Indigenous population, was highly engaged and focused on identifying bottlenecks—particularly the roughly \$300M perceived as stuck in process. He was interested in success stories that show announcements translating into keys in hand within ~18 months. Follow-up should share case studies and an analysis of process bottlenecks with recommended fixes.



Member of Parliament, Brad Redekopp

Conservative, Saskatoon West



MP Brad Redekopp expressed skepticism about Build Canada Homes, viewing it as potentially duplicative of CMHC functions and urging caution about creating parallel federal structures. He praised the DASH model (BC Housing + CMHC) as an effective pathway to accelerate projects and asked NICHI to identify bottlenecks for the stalled \$300M. Follow-up should include a clear comparison of NICHI, BCH, and CMHC/DASH models demonstrating non-duplication and options for accelerated approvals.

Member of Parliament, Shannon Miedema

Liberal, Halifax

MP Shannon Miedema was sympathetic and supportive, committed to raising NICHI with departmental contacts and championing the initiative internally. She emphasized housing as a rights-based priority and appeared willing to facilitate connections. Follow-up should send briefing materials and request assistance connecting to relevant departmental officials.



Engagement with Members of Parliament and Ministers

Advocacy Day

Member of Parliament, Hon. Elizabeth Brière

Liberal, *Sherbrooke*



Elizabeth Brière expressed urgent concern about delayed funding (the expected \$300M) and the real risk of missing upcoming building seasons, stressing delays' concrete costs to communities. She highlighted NICHI's innovative integrated models (e.g., housing + daycare + farm + wrap-around services for students) and flagged eligibility complexities for non-status Indigenous people. Follow-up should include a timeline-based risk memo showing cost and social impacts of delays and propose eligibility solutions.

Member of Parliament, Parm Bains

Liberal, *Richmond East - Stevenson*

MP Parm Bains received NICHI warmly and focused on outcomes and local applicability, asking about the number and types of units delivered, timelines to "keys in hand," and coordination with provincial and municipal partners; he also expressed concern about the stalled \$300M and how eligibility exclusions affect offreserve and nonstatus Indigenous people in urban centres. Followup should include a onepage summary with unit counts by type, project timelines and quick case studies showing delivery within ~18 months, a short memo on the \$300M bottlenecks and impacts, and an offer to convene NICHI with municipal/provincial contacts to explore joint delivery in his riding.



Member of Parliament, Wade Grant

Liberal, *Vancouver Quadra*



Wade Grant was interested in NICHI's governance and accountability, how performance is tracked, and potential financing innovations such as marketbased conversions of social housing or enterprise assets; he also sought clarity on NICHI's relationship with CMHC, Build Canada Homes and other federal programs to avoid duplication. Follow-up should provide NICHI's governance overview and performance metrics, outline feasible market-based pilot options and examples, and include a concise comparative note showing how NICHI complements (rather than duplicates) CMHC/BCH/DASH models with suggested roles for each.

Engagement with Members of Parliament and Ministers

Advocacy Day

Member of Parliament, Minister Rebecca Chartrand

Minister of Northern and Arctic Affairs and Minister responsible for the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency

Liberal, Churchill—Keewatinook Aski



Minister Chartrand emphasized culturally appropriate wraparound models and the need to ensure Métis, nonstatus and offreserve populations are explicitly included and supported, stressing integration of housing with health, addictions supports, childcare and employment programming. Followup should be to request a followup meeting to discuss how we can work closer with Northern Affairs. As a note, Chartrand’s office followed up asking for more details about NICHI the day following, looking for as much intelligence.

Member of Parliament, Bruce Fanjoy

Liberal, Carleton

Bruce Fanjoy focused on a high-level understanding of NICHI’s work and expressed strong support for the organization’s initiatives. He emphasized the importance of maintaining ongoing communication with Ottawa members and indicated an interest in staying updated on national developments. Follow-up should focus on arranging site-specific briefings with project leads in his region, providing an opportunity for more detailed discussions on local projects, challenges, and successes. These briefings would allow him to gain a deeper understanding of NICHI’s impact on the ground and explore ways to support Indigenous-led housing initiatives more directly.



Member of Parliament, Leah Gazan

NDP, Winnipeg Centre



In the meeting with MP Leah Gazan, members emphasized NICHI’s non-bureaucratic, culturally sensitive, and flexible approach, contrasting it with slower CMHC processes, and noted the continuity NICHI provides from funding to occupancy. MP Gazan expressed sympathy for addressing homelessness, concern over austerity and shifting federal priorities, and a commitment to advocacy, including filing an MP Order Paper regarding the previously signaled \$300M for NICHI. Participants also encouraged advocacy and prioritization of factory-built homes for Indigenous communities.

Engagement with Members of Parliament and Ministers

Advocacy Day

Member of Parliament, Buckley Belanger

Secretary of State (Rural Development)

Liberal, Desnethé—Missinippi—Churchill River



NICHI met with Secretary of State and MP Buckley Belanger and briefed him on projects in his riding and in rural areas as it related to his portfolio. Belanger asked questions about NICHI's speed, effectiveness, and where projects were delivered in rural and northern communities. NICHI has provided a list of all projects and is working to set up follow up meeting after the release of Budget 2025.

Member of Parliament, Jessica Fancy

Liberal, South Shore—St. Margarets

As a member of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities (HUMA), which oversees federal housing policy, MP Fancy brought a valuable perspective to the conversation and was particularly interested in hearing about NICHI's rapid deployment of funding and collaborative delivery model. She expressed a strong interest in projects located in Nova Scotia. NICHI has directed Fancy to the full project list and pre-budget submission.



Member of Parliament, Tony Baldinelli

Conservative, Niagara Falls—Niagara-on-the-Lake



MP Tony Baldinelli was particularly impressed with the speed of delivery that NICHI was able to provide, specifically to get keys in hands. He was specifically interested in projects around Southern Ontario and asked for NICHI's whole project list. This has been provided to him.

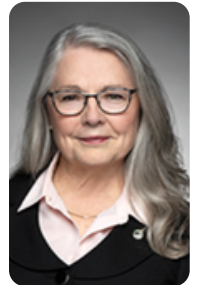
Engagement with Members of Parliament and Ministers

Advocacy Day

Member of Parliament, Cathy Wagantall

Conservative, *Yorkton—Melville*

NICHI met with MP Cathay Wagantall to discuss the urgent need for Indigenous-led housing solutions and to introduce NICHI’s “For Indigenous, By Indigenous” approach to addressing the housing crisis affecting Indigenous peoples across Canada. During the meeting, NICHI shared its mission and highlighted the importance of sustained federal investment in Indigenous housing providers. MP Wagantall expressed particular interest in learning more about projects in Saskatchewan.



Member of Parliament, Scott Aitchison

Conservative, *Parry Sound—Muskoka*



NICHI’s CEO met with MP Scott Aitchison to advocate for urgent federal action on urban, rural, and northern Indigenous housing. NICHI continues to engage with MP Aitchison to advance dialogue on these priorities and strengthen awareness of Indigenous-led housing initiatives.

Member of Parliament, Tamara Kronis

Conservative, *Nanaimo—Ladysmith*

Tamara Kronis demonstrated particular interest in the development process models that had garnered positive attention from the CPC caucus, expressing a desire to understand the specific features and innovations that made NICHI’s approach appealing to her colleagues. She was especially curious about how these development processes could be replicated or scaled and requested a detailed briefing on best practices and successful strategies. Additionally, Kronis sought a clear explanation of the budget-to-funding workflow, wanting to understand the precise steps and timelines involved from budget approval through to actual funding disbursement. She also requested access to the contribution agreement to review the terms and structure of funding arrangements.



Key Themes

Advocacy Day

Across meetings with MPs, NICHI members shared community perspectives, highlighted key achievements, and underscored the urgent need for Indigenous-led housing solutions. From these discussions, several critical themes emerged that reflect both the challenges and the opportunities for advancing housing equity for Indigenous communities:

A key theme throughout discussions was the severe and escalating Indigenous housing crisis. We cannot continue to wait; urgent, swift action is required to address Indigenous housing needs, which are worsened by rising construction costs and inflation. NICHI emphasized that “For Indigenous, By Government” approaches are counterproductive, and that its “For Indigenous, By Indigenous” collaborative model is a proven, effective approach essential for meaningful, sustainable change. A central concern was the perceived delay in the additional \$300 million in funding, with MPs noting administrative bottlenecks and the risk of missing critical construction seasons. The discussions highlighted the need for timely, flexible funding to support Indigenous-led initiatives and ensure rapid, impactful delivery. The engagement demonstrated genuine interest and willingness to deepen collaboration. MPs expressed admiration for NICHI’s voluntary governance, speed of delivery, and bottom-up approach, which empowers local Indigenous housing providers. Several offered to champion NICHI internally and connect the organization with relevant officials.

Discussions also emphasized:

- Collaboration between governments, communities, and organizations, showcasing NICHI’s culturally sensitive, streamlined approach as a model for effective partnerships.
- Commitment to meaningful consultation and engagement, ensuring Indigenous communities are directly involved in decision-making.
- Advancing Indigenous health equity and addressing systemic barriers, highlighting the critical link between housing, well-being, and community stability.
- Support for cultural revitalization and language preservation, ensuring housing initiatives reinforce and reflect Indigenous cultural values.

Together, these themes reinforced NICHI’s role as a national leader in Indigenous-led housing solutions and the urgent need for coordinated, well-resourced action to address housing inequities and strengthen communities.

Follow-up Actions

Advocacy Day

Following the event, outreach to all MPs has been initiated, with further follow-up planned after the release of Budget 2025 on November 4th. Many of the initial questions focused on local projects and member organizations within MPs' ridings, highlighting the importance of connecting policy discussions to on-the-ground realities.

To reinforce these discussions, thank-you notes were sent to all participating MPs, accompanied by one-page NICH summaries and individual organization leave-behinds with contact information. These materials highlighted key messages, showcased NICH's and members' achievements, and ensured continuity in conversations. Specific follow-up actions for each MP are outlined in the appendix.

Opportunities to Strengthen Future Advocacy Days

Advocacy Day

The inaugural NICH Advocacy Day laid a strong foundation for engagement while identifying several opportunities to enhance future events:

- **Event Logistics:** Some challenges with scheduling, access, and coordination affected meeting flow.
- **Advance Planning:** Sharing MP packages, schedules, and profiles earlier would allow members more time to prepare and align messaging.
- **Meeting Alignment:** Pairing members with MPs from their regions and providing advance project briefings would make discussions more targeted and impactful.
- **Follow-Up:** Timely coordination of thank-you notes, MP inquiries, and project summaries would help sustain momentum.
- **Outreach:** Broader inclusion of Indigenous organizations and virtual options could expand participation.
- **Preparation:** Short pre-event briefings or "Advocacy 101" sessions would help members feel more confident.
- **Review:** Post-event surveys and summary materials would capture lessons learned and inform planning for future events.

Conclusion

Advocacy Day

The NICH Connects: Indigenous Housing Action Day in Ottawa brought together Indigenous housing providers and federal representatives, providing a valuable platform to highlight key priorities for Indigenous housing. The day offered members the opportunity to share firsthand community experiences, showcase the tangible impact of current projects, and emphasize the importance of Indigenous-led, culturally appropriate solutions that reflect local needs and priorities. Through these discussions, members were able to convey the urgency of addressing housing gaps and the critical role of collaborative, community-driven approaches in achieving meaningful outcomes. The event also fostered meaningful commitments from MPs and Ministers to continue engagement on these priorities. It helped identify follow-up actions while highlighting areas for improvement, such as providing more advance notice, better alignment of members with MPs' ridings, more detailed briefing materials, and streamlined post-event processes. These insights will be instrumental in enhancing the effectiveness of future advocacy efforts and ensuring that members' time and expertise are utilized as effectively as possible.

Beyond the meetings themselves, the advocacy day reinforced the value of collaboration between Indigenous organizations, communities, and governments. It underscored the importance of sustained advocacy in addressing systemic gaps, supporting culturally safe and equitable housing solutions, and ensuring that Indigenous voices remain central to policy and funding decisions. We are looking forward to continuing to work on the suggestions gathered from members for next year's event and are actively exploring ways to improve the experience, from logistics and communications to networking and training opportunities. We are also excited to see members at our upcoming Capacity Event, taking place November 24–26 in Vancouver, to continue building the capacity of Indigenous housing providers. By incorporating lessons learned and strengthening opportunities for engagement, future advocacy days will be even more impactful in building relationships, amplifying Indigenous voices, and advancing national priorities for Indigenous housing and well-being.

**In solidarity,
NICH Team**

Appendix

NICHI Member Delegates – Indigenous Housing Action Day 2025

Angunasuktiit Hunters	Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre	The Pas Friendship Centre Inc.	Native Inter-Tribal Housing Co-operative Inc
Congress of Aboriginal Peoples	Kekino Native Housing Society	National Association of Friendship Centres	Kotawan Housing Society
Agnutmaqan	S.U.N. Housing Inc	Oyate Tipi Cumini Yape inc.	Dawson Creek Native Housing Society
Gabriel Housing Corporation	Aboriginal Housing Society of Prince George	Manitoba Inuit Association	Flat Bay Band Inc.
Metis Calgary Family Services	Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services	Pinehouse Housing Corp	S.U.N. Housing Inc
Native People of Thunder Bay Development Corporation	Northwest Territories/Nunavut Council of Friendship Centres	Sacajawea Non-Profit Housing Inc	Kekekoziibii Development Corporation
Kekino Native Housing Society	Wabanaki Enterprises	Niginan Housing Ventures	North Fraser Metis Association
Skigin Elnog Housing Corp.	Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women	Société immobilière du Regroupement des centres d'amitié autochtones du Québec (SIRCAAQ)	Saskatoon Housing Initiatives Partnership
Poundmaker's Lodge Treatment Centres	Nunavut Housing Corporation	The Citaapi Mahtii Housing Society	Tawaak Housing Association
Nawican Friendship Centre	Labrador Friendship Centre	Wenjkwom Housing Commission	treaty 8 urban child & family services
Treaty 8 Urban Child & Family Services	MLCN Urban Services Inc	K'asho Gotine Housing Society	National Indigenous Women's Housing Network
Ontario Coalition of Indigenous Peoples	Dreamcatcher Ltd	Indigenous Congress of Alberta Association	Labrador Friendship Centre
Lu'ma Native Housing Society	One Bowl Housing Corporation	Newfoundland Indigenous People Alliance	Buffalo Narrows Friendship Centre

Appendix

NICHI Member Delegates – Indigenous Housing Action Day 2025

Wood Buffalo Wellness Society	Aboriginal Housing Management Association	Northwest Indigenous Council	Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council Housing Authority Inc. (DOTCHAI)	Namerind Housing Corporation
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On the Horizon: Fall 2025

We're excited to announce our upcoming NICHI event that you won't want to miss!



2ND ANNUAL INDIGENOUS HOUSING CAPACITY BUILDING EVENT



NOVEMBER 24-26, 2025



VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA



These gatherings offer valuable opportunities for connection, collaboration, and capacity building across our national network of Indigenous housing members and advocates. Further details and formal invitations will be shared in the coming weeks. In the meantime, please mark your calendars and stay tuned!

Register here: [Link](#)

For updates, visit: www.nichi.ca

Appendix

Follow up Notes

MP Billy Morin

Thank you for taking the time to meet with NICHl on September 22nd to discuss our work in Indigenous housing. We truly appreciated your positive feedback on our voluntary governance model and the rapid delivery of projects, noting the impact of funding sources like UDIP. Your emphasis on the importance of integrated wrap-around services and your interest in collaboration with Build Canada Homes were particularly insightful. We also appreciate you coming and speaking to the membership on September 23rd.

We are encouraged by your recognition of our speed and community impact. We are proud to have Hill Plain Construction Services LP as a NICHl member active in Edmonton Northwest. We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you in your riding to discuss their work and other local initiatives that align with NICHl's mission.

MP William Stevenson

Thank you for meeting with NICHl on September 22nd to discuss our efforts in Indigenous housing. We appreciated your feedback regarding meeting formats and will ensure future briefings include dedicated time for Q&A to foster better engagement. We value your perspective and look forward to adjusting our approach to facilitate more in-depth discussions. We look forward to continuing the discussion with you after the release of the 2025 Budget.

MP Eric Melillo

Thank you for meeting with NICHl on September 22nd. We appreciated your attentiveness and your request for our briefing note. You will find it attached.

We noted the important projects underway with partners such as Seven Generations Education Institute, Kekekoziibii Development Corp., Reverend Tommy Beardy Memorial Family Treatment Center, and Nahnahda-Wee-ee-Waywin in Kenora—Kiiwetinoong. We would be pleased to visit your riding to learn more about these initiatives and explore how NICHl can further support local housing needs.

We look forward to reconnecting after the release of Budget 2025.

Secretary of State Buckley Belanger

Thank you for meeting with NICHl on September 22nd to discuss our work in advancing Indigenous-

led housing solutions. We appreciated the opportunity to introduce NICHl as the national voice for Indigenous housing providers and to share our approach to addressing urgent housing needs for off-reserve Indigenous populations. We look forward to continuing this important conversation and have attached NICHl's list of projects and our pre-budget submission for your consideration. We look forward to connecting with you and your staff in the riding, and in Ottawa again soon.

MP Brad Redekopp

Thank you for meeting with NICHl on September 22nd to discuss Indigenous housing. We appreciated your candid perspective, particularly your skepticism regarding Build Canada Homes and your praise for the DASH model as an effective pathway to accelerate projects. Your interest in identifying bottlenecks for the stalled \$300 million funding was noted, and we look to carrying on this conversation with you.

Your riding of Saskatoon West is home to important projects with partners like SaskNative Rentals, Prince Albert Indian Metis Friendship Centre Corp. (PAIMFC), and Central Urban Metis Federation, and we are proud to have Camponi Housing Corporation as a NICHl member. We would also welcome the chance to meet with you in your riding to learn more about these local efforts.

MP Jeff Kibble

Thank you for your highly engaged discussion with NICHl on September 22nd regarding Indigenous housing. We particularly appreciated your focus on identifying bottlenecks, especially concerning the roughly \$300 million perceived as stuck in process, and your interest in rapid project translation from announcement to "keys in hand" within ~18 months.

We are proud to have the M'akola Housing Society as a NICHl member in Cowichan-Malahat-Langford. We would also be pleased to meet with you in your riding to discuss local housing initiatives.

MP Tamara Kronis

Thank you for our productive meeting on September 22nd to discuss NICHl's work in Indigenous housing. We appreciated your keen interest in the development process models that have resonated with the CPC caucus and your desire to understand the specific innovations and their replicability. As per our conversation, you can find NICHl's contribution agreement attached.

Nanaimo-Ladysmith includes projects with Island Urban Indigenous Wellness and Tillicum Lelum Friendship Centre, and we are proud to have Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre as a NICHl member. We would also welcome the opportunity to meet with you in your riding to learn more about these local efforts.

MP Leah Gazan

Thank you for meeting with NICHl on September 22nd to discuss the critical issue of Indigenous housing. We valued the opportunity to share NICHl's "For Indigenous, By Indigenous" approach and

our commitment to addressing the urgent housing needs of Indigenous peoples in urban, rural, and northern areas. Winnipeg Centre is home to projects with 2Spirit Manitoba, Winnipeg Indigenous Friendship Centre, Manitoba Inuit Association, and Ndinawemaaganag Endawaad Inc. We are also proud to have Oyate Tipi Cumini Yape Inc., End Homelessness Winnipeg, Manitoba Inuit Association, and Raven Ozhigaa Development Association as NICHl members.

We would be pleased to visit your riding to learn more about these initiatives and explore how NICHl can further support local housing needs.

MP Shannon Miedema

Thank you for your sympathetic and supportive engagement with NICHl on September 22nd regarding Indigenous housing. We greatly appreciate your commitment to raising NICHl with departmental contacts and championing our initiatives internally, emphasizing housing as a rights-based priority. Halifax includes projects with Tawaak Housing Association, and we are proud to count Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre and Tawaak Housing Association as NICHl members. We would also welcome the chance to meet with you in your riding to discuss these local efforts.

MP Philip Earle

Thank you for the constructive roundtable discussion on September 22nd regarding housing needs in Labrador, both on- and off-reserve. We appreciated your familiarity with NICHl and your positive reaction to our approach. Your interest in deeper engagement when NICHl members are in your riding is very encouraging. Labrador is home to projects with the Happy Valley Goose Bay Housing & Homelessness Coalition, and we are proud to have Happy Valley-Goose Bay Housing and Homelessness Coalition and Labrador Friendship Centre as NICHl members. We would also welcome the opportunity to meet with you in your riding to learn more about these initiatives.

MP Karina Gould

Thank you for meeting with NICHl on September 22nd. We appreciated your knowledge of NICHl's Phase 1 results and your insightful concerns regarding Métis-specific needs, addiction supports, and access for off-reserve Indigenous people, particularly the barriers posed by eligibility rules. Please see NICHl's full project list to showcase the breadth of projects including support for Métis groups. We look forward to connecting with you after Budget 2025.

MP Cathay Wagantall

Thank you for meeting with NICHl on September 22nd to discuss the urgent need for Indigenous-led housing solutions. We appreciated the opportunity to introduce NICHl's mission and our "For Indigenous, By Indigenous" approach to addressing the housing crisis affecting Indigenous peoples across Canada. We look forward to continuing this important conversation and have attached our pre-budget submission for your consideration, along with NICHl's list of funded projects. Please let us know if you would like to tour one of the projects in Saskatchewan and we would be happy to co-ordinate.

MP Aslam Rana

Thank you for your enthusiastic engagement with NICHl on September 22nd regarding Indigenous housing. We appreciated your focus on concrete outputs, specifically your questions about the number and types of units NICHl delivers (subsidized, co-op, seniors, supported housing), and your recognition of our role in filling urban Indigenous housing gaps. Hamilton Centre is home to NICHl members including Hamilton Regional Indian Centre and Sacajawea Non-Profit Housing. We would also be pleased to meet with you in your riding to discuss their work.

MP Jonathan Wilkinson

Thank you for meeting with NICHl on September 22nd. We appreciated your solid understanding of NICHl's structure and your request for supporting materials to clarify our rationale and next steps. We have attached NICHl's briefing note and pre-budget submission for your consideration.

We are proud to have the Aboriginal Housing Management Association as a NICHl member in North Vancouver-Capilano. We would also welcome the opportunity to meet with you in your riding to learn more about local housing initiatives.

MP Parm Bains

Thank you for our warm and productive meetings on September 22nd to discuss NICHl's work in Indigenous housing. We appreciated your focus on outcomes, local applicability, and your questions regarding unit types, "keys in hand" timelines, and coordination with provincial/municipal partners. Your concern about the stalled \$300 million and eligibility exclusions for off reserve and non-status Indigenous peoples in urban centres resonated deeply.

Surrey Centre is home to the Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association, a valued NICHl member. We would also welcome the opportunity to meet with you in your riding to learn more about the work of our local member. We look forward to reconnecting with you after Budget 2025.

MP Wade Grant

Thank you for our engaging meeting on September 22nd to discuss NICHl's governance and innovative financing approaches for Indigenous housing. We appreciated your interest in our voluntary governance, performance tracking, and potential market-based conversions of social housing or enterprise assets. Your questions regarding NICHl's relationship with CMHC, Build Canada Homes, and other federal programs to avoid duplication were very pertinent. We look forward to connecting with you in the future as NICHl looks to continue to deliver for Indigenous communities. We look forward to reconnecting after Budget 2025.

Honourable Élisabeth Brière

Thank you for meeting with NICHl on September 22nd. We deeply appreciated your urgent concern about the delayed \$300 million funding and the real risk of missing upcoming building seasons, underscoring the concrete costs of these delays to communities. Your highlight of NICHl's innovative

integrated models and your flag on eligibility complexities for non-status Indigenous people were particularly insightful. We look forward to working with you in the future, if you ever need any more information, please feel free to reach out.

MP Vince Gasparro

Thank you for our extended and detailed conversation on September 22nd regarding Indigenous housing. We greatly appreciated your strong interest in market-based solutions to expand Indigenous housing, and your specific questions about converting social housing and enterprise structures into housing dollars, signaling openness to innovative financing pilots.

Our members look forward to following up with you on how you may be able to help us in Ottawa and elsewhere to ensure housing is built for Indigenous communities.

MP Tony Baldinelli

Thank you for meeting with NICHl on September 22nd to discuss our work in providing Indigenous-led housing solutions across Canada. We appreciated the opportunity to introduce NICHl's "For Indigenous, By Indigenous" approach and our efforts to address the critical housing needs of Indigenous populations. We look forward to continuing this important conversation and providing you with further information on projects in Ontario and how NICHl can contribute to addressing housing challenges in your riding.

MP Jessica Fancy

Thank you for meeting with NICHl on September 22nd to discuss our work in advancing Indigenous-led housing solutions. We appreciated your openness to learning more about NICHl's "For Indigenous, By Indigenous" approach and your interest in addressing the urgent housing needs of Indigenous communities. Should there be any local initiatives or opportunities in South Shore—St. Margarets, we would be pleased to follow up and arrange a meeting in your riding to explore how NICHl can support Indigenous housing providers and collaborate on community-driven solutions. As requested, please see NICHl's full project list, as well as the pre-budget submission. We look forward to following up with you after Budget 2025.

Minister Rebecca Chartrand

Thank you for our productive meeting on September 22nd to discuss NICHl's work in Indigenous housing. We greatly appreciated your emphasis on culturally appropriate wrap-around models and the critical need to explicitly include and support Métis, non-status, and off-reserve populations, stressing the integration of housing with health, addictions support, childcare, and employment programming.

Your portfolio includes areas where important projects are underway with partners like Manitoba Keewatinowí Okimakanak, Flin Flon Aboriginal Friendship Centre, and First Nation Healing Centre Inc.

We are also proud to have Barren Lands First Nation, Flin Flon Aboriginal Friendship Centre, Inc., The Pas Friendship Centre, and Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak as NICHI members.

We would also welcome the opportunity to meet with you in relevant communities to learn more about these initiatives.

MP Bruce Fanjoy

Thank you for meeting with NICHI on September 22nd. We appreciated your high-level understanding and expressions of support for our mission to address Indigenous housing needs. We also noted your interest in staying in touch with Ottawa members. As a follow-up, we will look to arrange site-specific briefings with project leads in your region to provide more detailed insights into our work.