

Jurisdictional Scan/Research Overview

Administration conducted research into Indigenous-led shelter and programming initiatives in other jurisdictions. Below, a summary of various aspects of Indigenous-led shelter and programming initiatives is presented. The initiatives identified for review are listed later in this document, with brief descriptions. Note: this research did not focus on Indigenous-led affordable housing options as that was addressed as part of the work for the Indigenous Affordable Housing Strategy.

Summary of Key Features of Indigenous-led Shelter and Programming Initiatives Identified in the Jurisdiction Scan

- **Supports & Services:**
 - Person-centered approach (open, respectful, non-judgemental service)
 - Provision of both spiritual and non-spiritual cultural services (e.g. smudges, sweats, feasts, naming ceremonies, traditional teachings, community meals)
 - Prioritize individual autonomy in participating in cultural services
 - Holistic wrap-around services (e.g. include personal development, educational skills development, parenting services)
 - Multiple service delivery models to address distinct needs (residential school related trauma, mental health and addiction, racism and discrimination etc.)
 - 24/7 services (and staffing)
- **Space:** Large gathering spaces in shelter/housing
- **Staff:** Preferably all Indigenous staff with lived experience and/or non-Indigenous staff with cultural training (ongoing, rather than one-time training model)
- **Role of Elders:** Involvement of elders and teachers who can provide and advise on meaningful culturally relevant supports and teaching
- **Role of individuals with lived experience:** Lived experience guided from early stages (preferably through a standing advisory committee)

- **Recognition of diversity:** Locally and culturally grounded (inclusive of the diversity of urban Indigenous communities as “culturally appropriate” varies across communities)
- **Governance model:**
 - Guided by Indigenous governance models (strong community leadership and ownership, defining their own values and how these should be reflected in program design and delivery)
 - Equitable distribution of power between Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners, if collaborative governance model
- **Evaluation and monitoring:** “Indigenous ways of knowing” informed evaluation and monitoring approach
- **Funding:** multi-year and flexible (to accommodate cultural needs) funding with simpler renewal process; funding to reduce staff workload, reduce turnover and burn out, and allow for follow-up with individuals transitioning out of shelters, transition housing etc.

Indigenous-led shelter (and related) initiatives and strategic frameworks in other jurisdictions

Jurisdiction	Main partners	Type of service	Short Description	Indigenous / Indigenous-led aspects
Shelter, Supportive Housing and Related Models				
London, Ontario	City of London (funder) and Atlohsa Family Healing Services	Winter Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Retrofitted trailer on two different golf courses which are located 45 mins from downtown core, 30-beds, private room with a bed, electricity and heat - 24/7 staffing; full wrap-around support - Starting in 2022 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Location providing “connection back to land” and allows land-based activities - Includes traditional structures, like teepees and wigwams

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Whitehorse, Yukon	<p>Council of Yukon First Nations and Government of Yukon (land donor)</p>	<p>Women and children's shelter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A 15,000 square foot structure, which will be divided into 15 units with a total of 32 beds - Started in 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All staff (from frontline to Executive Director) are Indigenous - Culturally relevant spaces, supports and programs
Kitimat, British Columbia	<p>Many (Haisla Nation BC Housing, Ministry of Children and Family Development, RCMP, Kitimat Community Service) and Tamitik Status of Women(TSW)</p>	<p>Dunmore Place Women's Shelter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Temporary women's housing, where clients are provided support with housing search, landlord-tenant relations. - 8-10 beds, 110 women and 83 children per year, approx. 30 days of stay 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indigenous staff with lived experience - Indigenous operator - Indigenous wrap-around service providers
Winnipeg, Manitoba	<p>City of Winnipeg, Aboriginal Health and Wellness, The Mount Carmel Clinic and the Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre</p>	<p>Delivering housing first using a localized approach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Winnipeg grounded Housing First [as part of At Home Chez Soi (AHCS) project] in a localized Indigenous approach while adhering to the core elements of Housing First. (see here) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Co-led by Indigenous partners - Primarily Indigenous staff - Elders and teachers advised on meaningful culturally relevant supports and teaching - Culturally observed practices, rituals and ceremonies were routinely incorporated, often guided

Attachment 1

				by a medicine wheel philosophy.
Minnesota, U.S.	Red Lake Nation Local government (provided emergency relief)	Temporary shelters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Built on land owned by Red Lake Nation which was earlier purchased for housing development - Started in 2018. Plans to build a complex with 110 units of affordable housing, starting 2019 summer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Led and supported by multiple Tribal Nations - Services and supports provided by Native-led non-profits not affiliated with a particular Tribal Nation (sometimes a source of tension in governance).
Seattle, U.S.	Seattle’s Housing Agency, local county and the State of Washington funded Chief Seattle Club (Seattle - based non-profit) and Coalition to end Urban Native Homelessness developed and designed the project.	Supportive housing and shelter project for homeless	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$40 million project includes 80 studio apartments which will be for the homeless, with 10 reserved for veterans and another 10 for extremely low-income households - Includes a Native American cafe and primary health clinic (run by Seattle Indian Health Board) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Led by Chief Seattle club - Access to vocational rehabilitation, housing case management and traditional and cultural practices at the Chief Seattle Club

Attachment 1

<p>Perth, Australia (50 Lives / Wongee Mia Project transitioned to the Zero Project)</p>	<p>Private and Christian foundation funded; Designed and operated by Ruah Community Service and various aboriginal service providers.</p>	<p>Aboriginal Housing First Model</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designed to house and support Aboriginal chronic rough sleepers in Perth - Developed from small seed funding in consultation with both Indigenous staff within Ruah and with specialist Aboriginal organizations - <i>Case management model takes a “family-centred approach”, whereby the total caseload is the whole family experiencing intergenerational homelessness and poverty</i> - Initially began in 2016 and expanded since then. (see here) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Noongar Mia Mia (an Aboriginal Housing Provider) has established Tenant Housing Standards developed by a council of 100 Elders through the Ngulluk Koolunga Ngulluk Koort (Our Children, Our Heart) Project and each tenant signs off on them before moving into their property. This helps to ensure that tenants are aware of their Elders’ expectations of them and how they are to manage and behave in their home.
Strategic Approaches/Frameworks				
<p>New Zealand</p>	<p>Government of New Zealand and the Māori people</p>	<p>“Kaupapa Māori” Framework</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partners with Māori to prevent homelessness - Supports Māori housing providers to expand supply and use of land for transitional and long-term housing - Build capacity of Māori providers to offer supports and services - Launched in 2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grounded in Maori values and teachings

Attachment 1

			- Framework for Action	
London, Ontario	Atlohsa Family Healing Services and City of London (funder)	Giwetashkad Indigenous Homelessness Strategic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 key pillars: 1) Implement an Indigenous Housing First Model Goal; 2) Build Internal Capacity; 3) Cultivate community leadership; 4) Advocate for Systems Change - Each pillar is accompanied by 3-4 actionable strategies. - 2020-2023 	- Community-led Indigenous homelessness strategic plan