

Indigenous Housing

Community and Public Services Committee
February 17, 2021

Indigenous Housing Need

- 23% of Indigenous Edmontonians are in Core Housing Need; First Nations women are further over-represented at 31.5%
- Nearly 63% of individuals experiencing homelessness identify as Indigenous, including those who sleep outside



Indigenous Housing Units in Edmonton

- There are 931 housing units designated for Indigenous people living in Edmonton and 63% are Indigenous owned and operated
- There are 132 units of proposed Indigenous-led affordable housing
- Proposed projects in need of significant development work not included



Funding for Indigenous Housing

- In 2018, Government of Alberta launched the Indigenous Housing Capital Program
 - ◆ 58 projects applications since its launch
 - ◆ 3 Edmonton proposals (decisions coming 2021)
- CMHC's National Housing Strategy (\$55 billion over 10 years), Reaching Home - Homelessness Partnering Strategy
- Rapid Housing Initiative (\$1 billion across Canada, two program streams)



What Other Cities are doing?

- Broad commitment to Reconciliation in strategy documents
- Strategies varied:
 - ◆ Prioritizing Indigenous housing projects (informally and formally)
 - ◆ Dedicated funding source
 - ◆ Indigenous housing targets
 - ◆ Indigenous housing position or housing liaison role
 - ◆ Developing Indigenous Housing Strategy or chapter in Housing Strategy

City Support for Indigenous-led Projects

- No specific strategy for Indigenous-led affordable housing
- Affordable housing project funding is provided through the Affordable Housing Investment Program
- Administration provides advice and support to developers for funding applications to other orders of government
- In late 2019, Affordable Housing & Homelessness created an Indigenous Housing Liaison role

Opportunities

- Align work of Affordable Housing and Homelessness with Indigenous Framework
- Develop attainable targets for Indigenous-led affordable housing development
- Create a funding program for Indigenous-led affordable housing developments with input from Indigenous providers
- Continue to build and strengthen working relationships to further demonstrate commitment to Reconciliation and well-being of Indigenous people living in Edmonton

**Thank you.
Questions?**