



MIHCEMI Newsletter

February 2025

Welcome to the latest edition of our quarterly newsletter!

We're excited to share with you some exciting updates and news from our MIHCEMI Working Group.



Picture taken at the Strategic Planning Session—Wyndham Garden Hotel, January 22, 2025

Member Spotlight



Mr. S. Chris Stove has been a member of MIHCEMI since November 2018. Chris is the I.R.T.C. Tribal

Housing/Operations and Maintenance (Technical Services) Advisor and is a Red Seal Journeyman Carpenter. These roles as well as past construction and being a certified housing inspector for CMHC and ISC, benefit his contributions to MIHCEMI.

Chris has a wealth of knowledge from his prior construction and inspection experience that allows him to provide advice to the on-reserve housing programs. He promotes and advocates for increased education and services in the areas of housing, safety, building codes, equipment. He acts to increase resources that communities require for enhanced program development and delivery, including train the trainer programs and in-community information.

Chris recently stepped down from the Training Sub-Committee but remains on the Housing Forum Sub-Committee.

Thank you Chris for your time on the Training Sub-Committee!

ANNUAL MIHCEMI HOUSING CONFERENCE

April 2 & 3, 2025 - Victoria Inn Conference Center

1808 Wellington Avenue, Wpg, MB.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Training to Become a Certified Building Official!

- Updates from our partners
- Housing Manager Certification Course - Student lists
- Conference Posters and Registration
- Representatives for the Working Group



Working Group Voting Members Consists of :

Rep: Ostap Kaminsky

Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council (DOTC)

- Birdtail Sioux
- Sandy Bay
- Long Plain
- Swan Lake
- Roseau River
- Waywayseecappo

Rep: Clarence Harper

Island Lake Tribal Council (ILTC)

- Red Sucker Lake
- Wasagamack
- Garden Hill
- St. Theresa Point

Rep: Chris Stove

Interlake Reserve Tribal Council (IRTC)

- Kinonjeoshtegon (Jackhead)
- Dauphin River
- Lake St. Martin
- Lake Manitoba
- Pinaymootang
- Little Saskatchewan
- Peguis
- Lake Manitoba

Rep: Tristen Guttormson-Kent

Southeast Resource Development Council Corp. (SERDC)

- Brokenhead Ojibway
- Black River
- Hollow Water
- Bloodvein
- Little Grand Rapids
- Pauingassi
- Berens River
- Poplar River

11 Independent First Nations

- Buffalo Point—**Rep: Danette Rousseau**
- O-Pipon-Na-Piwin—**Rep: Wilbur Baker/Jonathan Soulier**
- Pimicikamak Cree—**Rep: Vivian Scott/Carl Monias**
- Canupawakpa Dakota—**Rep: Derek Sandy**
- Nisichawayasihk Cree —**Rep: Eleanor Brockington**
- Norway House Cree—**Rep: Wayne Clarke**
- Fisher River—**Rep: Trisha Murdock**
- Sagkeeng—**Rep: Jason Fontaine/Randy Thorsteinson**
- Dakota Tipi—**Rep: Joel Pashe**
- Dakota Plains—**Rep: Matthew Smoke**
- Sioux Valley—**Rep: Nathan Hall**

7 Tribal Councils & 11 Independent First Nations



Rep: Linda Hunt

Keewatin Tribal Council (KTC)

- Fox Lake
- Tataskweyak Cree (Split Lake)
- York Landing
- Bunibonibee (Oxford House)
- Manto Sipi Cree (God's River)
- God's Lake Narrows
- War Lake
- Northlands (Lac Brochet)
- Sayisi Dene (Tadoule Lake)
- Barren Lands (Brochet)
- Shamattawa

Rep: Sasha Young

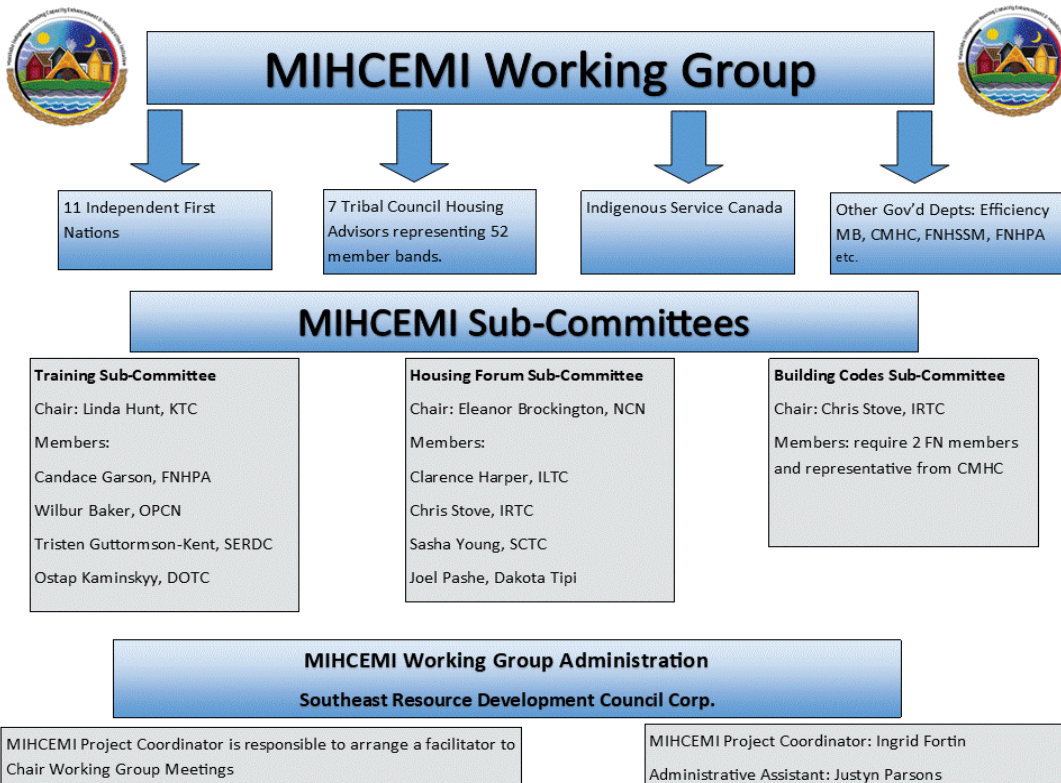
Swampy Cree Tribal Council (SCTC)

- Wuskwi Siphik
- Sapotaweyak
- Chemawawin
- Misippawistik (Grand Rapids)
- Opaskawayak
- Marcel Colomb
- Mathias Colomb (Pukatawagan)
- Mosakahiken Cree (Moose Lake)

Rep: Bruce Flett

West Region Tribal Council (WRTC)

- Pine Creek
- Skownan
- O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi (Crane River)
- Ebb & Flow
- Gamblers
- Keeseekoowenin
- Rolling River
- Tootinaowaziibeeng



February 11, 2025



Housing Manager Certification



1st Intake - Course 500

This is the final Course for the Housing Manager Certification.

This 1st Intake completed all 5 courses over 2 years!

MIHCEMI Wants to say great job and wishing you all good luck on your final exams.

YOU GOT THIS!

**GRADUATION
APRIL-2025**

1. **CJ LacQuette**, Skownan First Nation
2. **Dustin Linski**, Mathias Colomb Cree Nation
3. **Marcia Assiniboine**, Long Plain First Nation
4. **Marjorie Nielsen**, Peguis First Nation
5. **Trisha Murdock**, Fisher River Cree Nation
6. **Tristen Guttormson-Kent**, SERDC
7. **Wallace Roulette**, Ebb & Flow First Nation
8. **Wilbur Baker**, O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation
9. **Clarence Harper**, Island Lake Tribal Council
10. **Danette Rousseau**, Buffalo Point First Nation
11. **Montana Stagg**, Pinaymootang First Nation
12. **Nicole Delorme**, Swan Lake First Nation
13. **Jeremy Parsons**, FNHPA

Pursuing the FNHP designation I have had the honour to have met and learn with real champions, in Housing, for many Manitoba First Nation communities. Building a larger circle of knowledge and life experience, that one can tap into, is invaluable for any professional.

Danette Rousseau, Buffalo Point First Nation



2nd Intake - Course 200

This 2nd Intake is on their way! Keep up the good work!

3 more Courses to go!



1. **Vionne Al-Shimari**, Lake Manitoba First Nation
2. **Alfred Laugher**, Norway House Cree Nation
3. **Tracy Berens**, Berens River First Nation
4. **Xandra-Lee Pruden**, Bloodvein First Nation
5. **Caitlin Green**, Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation
6. **Kenneth Bone**, Keeseekoowenin Ojibway First Nation
7. **Joel Pashe**, Dakota Tipi First Nation
8. **Colleen Peebles**, Black River First Nation
9. **Tanya Eashappie**, Birdtail Sioux Dakota Nation
10. **Marvin Sutherland**, Skownan First Nation
11. **Bev Ready**, Wuskwi Sipiik First Nation
12. **Sasha Young**, Swampy Cree Tribal Council
13. **Gilbert Knott**, St. Theresa Point First Nation
14. **Selena Kern**, Brokenhead Ojibway First Nation
15. **Stephen Squirell**, Peguis First Nation (Sponsored by his band)

GRADUATION APRIL-2026



Pictures were taken at the Wyndham Garden Hotel
In-person week (Class)
February 10 to 14, 2025



Update from FNHPA Regional Coordinators Northern & Southern Manitoba

We are pleased to update on the current activities that FNHPA has had since the last newsletter and most importantly, we are excited to be engaging with the First Nation communities to see how we can assist with housing challenges that they may be facing with the services and programs we offer.

The Basic Home Maintenance Train-the-Trainer Program is onto the next phase after the approval from the MIHCEMI working group at the last quarterly meeting held. This program will be for First Nation communities to send someone to take the 5-day training and then take back and train their members with the approach that best suits the communities needs. Once it is ready to be rolled out, the coordinators will start calling and taking names while working with the MIHCEMI working group to ensure all communities are aware of this opportunity.

The Planning & Controlling Housing Costs workshops were held in November 2024 and January of this year. Both were a success with the communities that attended and at the request of one, this workshop will be held at their community in Spring.

We are also planning on hosting regional workshops and webinars for the Northern and the Southern communities and will reach out to you if we didn't already to see what kind of workshops you would like to see.

We look forward to working with MIHCEMI, the Tribal Housing Advisors and the First Nations housing departments and their Leadership to assist your community build the capacity to navigate any housing challenges and to give the support you may need to strengthen your community's housing program.

Thank you.

Manitoba Regional Relations Coordinators

Candace Garson – Northern

Jeremy Parsons – Southern



Housing Costs Workshop Jan. 15 & 16, 2025—Wyndham Garden Hotel





Efficiency Manitoba



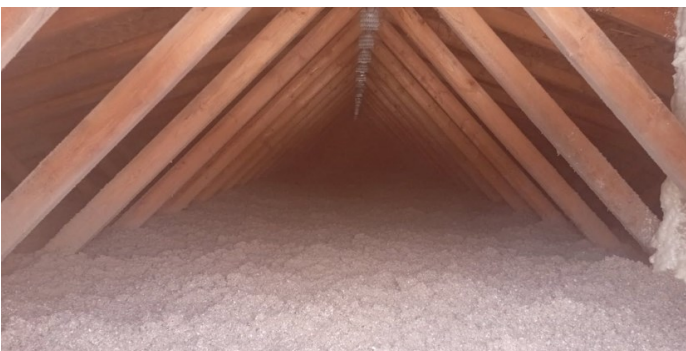
Through the First Nation Energy Efficiency Program (FNEEP), we've been focusing on upgrading the attics of Manitoba First Nations homes to improve comfort, energy efficiency, and reduce heating costs. Our efforts are applied community wide, with an inspection on every house to determine insulation levels in the attic. Any house with insulation rated at R34 or less qualifies for air sealing measures and insulation top-ups to R60. There is no cost to the Nation for this service.

Air sealing measures in the attic are an essential part of this process, as they help to prevent air leaks and drafts that can significantly reduce the effectiveness of the insulation. By sealing gaps, cracks, and other openings, we can ensure that the insulation works at its full potential, maintaining a more consistent temperature within the home and reducing the workload on heating systems. This not only enhances the overall energy efficiency of the house but also contributes to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly living environment.

Efficiency Manitoba's FNEEP also offers a rebate for upgrading to high-performance, triple pane ENERGY STAR® certified windows and doors. Eligible participants can receive a \$300 rebate per rough opening for installing these energy-efficient windows and doors, which help reduce energy consumption and lower utility bills.

Contact IndigenousPrograms@efficiencyMB.ca for more information.

First two pictures – before and after upgrades



Air sealing penetrations into the attic space



Final insulation levels





Training to Become a Certified Building Official

The First Nations National Building Officers Association (FNNBOA) in partnership with Manitoba Indigenous Housing Capacity Enhancement & Mobilization Initiative (MIHCEMI) are establishing a training program for individuals wanting to become certified as building officials. Indigenous Services Canada are providing funds for this project.



Over the next few weeks, you will be receiving an email from FNNBOA to inquire whether you are interested in the training program.

The training program consists of courses under the National Building Code. The goal is for individuals to pass these courses and ultimately write the National Building Code examination.

Meanwhile, it is important that you prepare an up-to-date resume. Your resume should include your education, any webinars or training you have received and by whom (name of organization, person giving the training, and date) and most importantly your work experience.

You will also be asked to complete a prior learning assessment tool (PLAT). The information from your updated resume will help to complete the PLAT.

Once the PLAT has been completed, you will be asked to submit it to FNNBOA. Next a team will review all the submitted applications and assess which level of training you will need.

Training will consist of webinars and in class sessions. Each course will have a testing requirement. It is important to pass each testing requirement in order to continue with the program. The in-class sessions will most likely be held in Winnipeg. The final sessions will be an in-class participation followed by writing the examination.

Keep an eye on your email and if you want to make sure you receive the official announcement, please send your name and email to admin@fnnboa.ca



Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation

On-Reserve Non-Profit Housing Program (Section 95)

CMHC helps First Nations meet their housing needs by providing financial assistance to build affordable rental housing on-reserve. Eligible communities can apply for funding in the form low-cost repayable loans as well as housing subsidies. It is time to start planning for your upcoming projects and make sure your Nation meets the eligibility requirements.



Eligibility Requirements:

- Section 95 past projects are completed within 24 months of approval.
- Section 95 audited financial statements are up to date and received by CMHC.
- CMHC subsidy is not suspended and there are no loan arrears.
- Nation can access a Ministerial Loan Guarantee (MLG) with ISC, or an alternative form of loan security is identified.

Key Dates:

- March 10, 2025** - Deadline to meet eligibility requirements (above), and the First Nation must continue to be eligible throughout the application process.
- MARCH 11 & 12** Section 95 Training Workshop (see the poster on how to register)
- March 31, 2025** - Conditional allocation letters sent to *eligible* Nations
- April 30, 2025** - Applications submitted in the portal

A second round of allocations may occur in June 2025 if there is left over budget after the first round of applications are received. Nations must meet eligibility requirements by **May 9, 2025**, to be considered during the second allocation process (subject to available funding for Manitoba region).



Section 95 Project Delivery Guide

Scan the QR code to view the *Project Delivery Guide* which outlines eligibility criteria details, steps to start planning for your project, information needed for application and advancing, and what happens after construction is complete.



Section 95 Operations Guide

Scan the QR code to view the Operations Guide which outlines reference tools for Housing Managers and staff to manage and administer units under Section 95 agreements.

Thank you from the Manitoba Client Solutions Specialists

Christine Edward (cedward@cmhc.ca, 204-515-1180) Corey Retchuk (cretchuk@cmhc.ca, 204-318-1758)

David Danyluk (ccanyluk@cmhc.ca, 403-515-2918) Diane Drader (ddrader@cmhc.ca, 204-318-1752)



Did You Know

Risks of Changing Lot Locations After Approval – Section 95 Program

What are the Risks?

Building in a new location after your application has been approved can be risky for several reasons:

1. **Delays in Finalizing Documents:** Changes can delay finalizing your loan and operating agreements. This prevents CMHC from processing payments until a new Ministerial Loan Guarantee (MLG) is in place, which could take 4 to 6 weeks.
2. **Advancing Delays:** Advancing delays can affect payments to your contractors and suppliers, causing construction progress delays and potential issues with your contractors.
3. **Inspection Delays:** No inspections will be performed until CMHC receives confirmation of the new lot locations.
4. **Increased Costs:** Changing lot locations can result in an increase to your overall project costs, such as:
 - a. **Interest on advances:** Delays between advances will reduce the amount of available funds from your loan to complete construction, which may result in your nation contributing more equity in the project.
 - b. **Site servicing costs:** location might have an impact on the site servicing costs (i.e. sub-division versus rural)
 - c. **Construction costs:** New locations might be more expensive to build.
5. **Impact on Future Projects:** Projects must reach the Interest Adjustment Date (IAD) by being 90% complete and advanced within two years. Additionally, approved projects must begin within six months of the commitment (approval) date. If these conditions are not met, it may affect your eligibility for future Section 95 projects.

Understanding these risks can help you manage your housing development projects more effectively.

Contact your Client Solutions Specialist with any questions.



ANNUAL MIHCEMI HOUSING CONFERENCE 2025



2024 MIHCEMI Conference
April 2-3, 2025
Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre
1808 Wellington Avenue
Winnipeg, MB

REGISTRATION FORM

Thank you for submitting your registrations from your community or tribal council for the 2025 MIHCEMI conference, April 2-3, 2025.

Each community/tribal council can register up to two (2) delegates, and the forms below can be emailed to EventCamp Services, at support@eventcamp.ca or faxed in to: 204.257.5205.

Costs included for the first 2 delegates from each community/tribal council:

- 1) Mileage
- 2) Meals during travel
- 3) Registration Fee
- 4) Hotel and travel accommodations

If you would like to send more delegates to this event, we are happy to have them join us.

Those individuals can register online at this link:

<https://www.eventcamp.ca/event/mihcemi-2025/access>, at a cost of \$400 per delegate.

Please also note that additional delegates from a tribal council or community will be responsible for booking, and paying for:

- 1) Flights and accommodations
- 2) Hotel stays
- 3) Meals during travel

If you have any questions about the MICHEMI event, please contact Riel ree Dion at 204.230.6330 or email him directly at radion@eventcamp.ca.

REGISTRATION



First Name		Last Name	
First Nation Home Community:			
Please list any dietary restrictions:			
Email address: (please print clearly)			
Phone number:			
To be reimbursed for my mileage and meals		<input type="checkbox"/> E-transfer (auto-deposit only please) <input type="checkbox"/> Cheque, made payable to: (Name, town, postal code)	
Hotel Check-in date:		Hotel Check-out date:	
If driving, what time will you be leaving your community?			
Plate Number:			
Only complete this section if you require a flight:			
Full Legal Name (As it appears on a passport or ID)			
Community/town you are departing from:			
Date of Birth: (DD/MM/YY)			



2025 MANITOBA SECTION 95 FORUM



2025 MANITOBA SECTION 95 FORUM



Location

Hilton Winnipeg Airport Suites
1800 Wellington Ave, WPG MB



Date

March 11 & 12, 2025

Register Now

Contact Allison Klasson

Email: aklasson@swampycree.com

PH: 204-623-3423

FAX: 204-623-2882





2025 MANITOBA SECTION 95 FORUM



Date
March 11 & 12, 2025



Location
**Hilton Winnipeg Airport Suites
1800 Wellington Ave, WPG MB**

Thank you for registering to attend the 2025 Manitoba Section 95 Forum.

Breakfast and Lunch will be provided each day on site. *Please Note:* we are NOT responsible for booking or paying accommodations or travel for guests.

A \$250 stipend will be provided on the last day.

Guest Registration Form

(Please print)

Participant Information:	
Job Title:	First Nation/Organization:
First Name:	Last Name:
Phone Number:	Fax Number:
Email:	Please list any dietary restrictions and/or accessibility requirements:

Complete form and send (via email or fax) to the attention of:

Allison Klasson ~ Email: aklasson@swampycree.com.

If you have any questions, please contact us at:

Tel: (204) 623 3423 | Fax: (204) 623-2882 | Toll Free: 1-800-442-0459



The MIHCEMI Logo was created and designed by Gayle Sinclair

If you'd like to send content for the next issue please send to: ingridf@serdc.mb.ca