



# MIHCEMI Newsletter

July 2025

## *Congratulations* **1st Intake Class of 2025**

### **Certified Housing Manager**

***This 1st intake was the first of it's kind in Manitoba, they started in September of 2023.***

*Your hard work, dedication and resiliency brought you to the milestone in your life and undoubtedly help you in your housing journey ahead.*

*The MIHCEMI Working Group and MIHCEMI Staff would like to wish everyone of our graduates a continued success in all that they do. We are so proud of you!*

CJ Lacquette, Skownan First Nation (WRTC)

Jeremy Parsons, Hollow Water First Nation (FNHPA)

Marcia Assiniboine, Long Plains First Nation

Trisha Murdock, Fisher River Cree Nation

Tristen Guttormson-Kent, Brokenhead Ojibway Nation (SERDC)

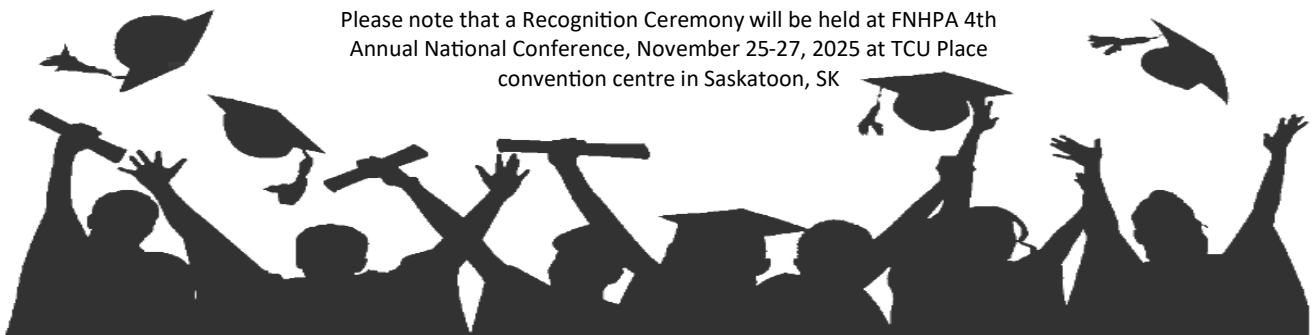
Wallace Roulette, Ebb & Flow First Nation

Clarence Harper, Island Lake Tribal Council

Nicole Delorme, Swan Lake First Nation

Danette Rousseau, Buffalo Point First Nation

Please note that a Recognition Ceremony will be held at FNHPA 4th Annual National Conference, November 25-27, 2025 at TCU Place convention centre in Saskatoon, SK



# Housing Manager Certification

## 2nd Intake

Start Date: August 2024

Graduation: April 2026

This cohort is currently in course 300 and thriving! They will begin Course 400 August 25, 2025



**Tracy Berens**

Berens River First Nation



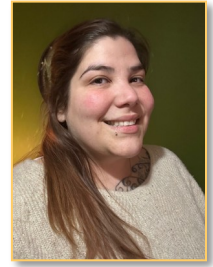
**Colleen Peebles**

Black River First Nation



**Tanya Eashappie**

Birdtail Sioux Dakota Nation



**Xandra-Lee Pruden**

Bloodvein First Nation



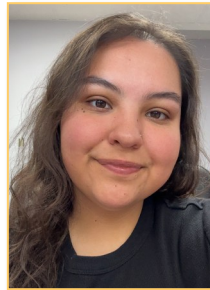
**Selena Kern**

Brokenhead Ojibway Nation



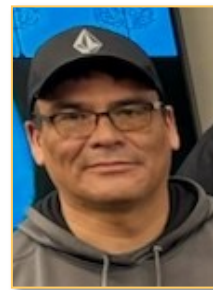
**Joel Pashe**

Dakota Tipi First Nation



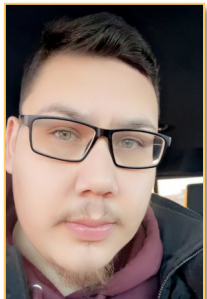
**Vionne Al-Shimari**

Lake Manitoba First Nation



**Kenneth Bone**

Keeseekoowenin First Nation



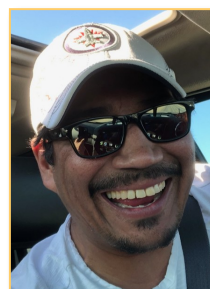
**Alfred Laughler**

Norway House Cree Nation



**Stephen Squirrell**

Peguis First Nation



**Marvin Sutherland**

Skownan First Nation



**Sasha Young**

Swampy Cree Tribal Council



**Bev Ready**

Wuskwi Sipiik First Nation

Half way there!

Keep up the Good Work!

# Housing Manager Certification

## 3rd Intake

**Start Date: August 2025**

**Graduation: April 2027**

**MIHCEMI is excited to announce that there is a 3rd intake!**

**Wishing everyone in this 3rd intake all the best in their studies to become a certified Housing Manager**

1. Stephen Starr, Sandy Bay First Nation
2. Lionel Roulette, Sandy Bay First Nation
3. Samantha Fidler, Opaskwayak Cree Nation
4. Melvin Delorme, Lake St. Martin First Nation
5. Linda Trout, Gods Lake First Nation
6. Andrew Fontaine, Sakgeeng First Nation
7. Milly Cook, Sakgeeng First Nation
8. Nathan Hall, Sioux Valley Dakota Nation
9. Serena Tacan, Sioux Valley Dakota Nation
10. Sylvia McDougall, Wasagamack First Nation
11. Rod Spence, Tataskweyak Cree Nation
12. Chase Boulette, Hollow Water First Nation
13. Rudy Kematch, Sapotewayak Cree Nation
14. Justyn Parsons, Southeast Resource Development Council
15. Rodger Hawco, Pimicikamak Cree Nation
16. Malone Astakeesic, Tootinaowaziibeeng First Nation
17. George Custer, Barren Lands First Nation
18. Derek Sandy, Canupawakpa Dakota Nation
19. Danielle Wambidee, Canupawakpa Dakota Nation
20. Conner Merrick, York Factory First Nation
21. Sherman Flett, Berens River First Nation  
(Sponsored by his band)

**This program has 5 courses and is over a 2 year period:**

100 - First Nations Housing and Infrastructure

200 – First Nations Housing Strategy, Policy and Accountability

300 - Management of Housing Programs

400 - Housing Management Functional Supports

500 - Professionalism, Ethics and Critical Skills

First Nations Housing Professionals Association

For more information go to: [fnhpa.ca](http://fnhpa.ca)



# Building Housing Inspector Course

Warm greetings from the FNNBOA Education Team. We are currently in the stages of providing National Building Code training through FNNBOA's Building Code Training Program. Our initial launch provides 16 hours of online self-directed course content in course BC200 – Technology and Inspections that primarily focuses on a general introduction to building code, construction drawing plan review and the technical tools utilized by inspectors. Our online courses are offered through FNNBOA's – <https://fnlearninghub.ca>



July of the first in-class 40-hour training session in Winnipeg BC201 - NBC House 2020. This course will provide a deep dive into gaining a better understanding of a large portion of the applicable code related to residential buildings.

There's in total a series of 5 code courses that offer the participants an opportunity to understand and apply the code requirements when dealing with housing in First Nation Communities. The code courses have been designed to meet the needs of persons who are preparing to write and attain the (BCQ) Building Code Qualified Housing Credential.



The 1st in-person class took place at the Sandman Hotel, Wpg, MB, July 7 to 11, 2025.



# Building Housing Inspector Course

1.	Greg Abraham, Sagkeeng
2.	Craig Abraham, Sagkeeng
3.	Shane Bruyere, Sagkeeng
4.	James Henry, Wuskwi Siphk
5.	Roderick Spence, Tataskweyak
6.	Joey Carriere, Inineu (Richer MB)
7.	Clarence Harper, ILTC
8.	Kevin McGillivray, OPCN
9.	Christopher Queskekapow, BON
10.	Uriah Spence, BON
11.	Ethan Cook, BON
12.	Richard Desjarlais, BON
13.	Tristen Guttormson/Kent, SERDC
14.	Ryan Beckstead, Peguis
15.	Stephen Squirrell, Peguis
16.	Carlson Murdock, Fisher River
17.	Edward Ross, Kinonjeoshtegon
18.	Brianne Sanderson, Pinaymootang
19.	Tyrell Albert, Norway House
20.	Barry Bulycz, Sapotaweyak
21.	David Carlson, Canupawakpa Dakota
22.	Harvey McKay, Pine Creek
23.	Dwight Moody, NCN
24.	Alex Hart, NCN
25.	Adrian Thomas, Kinonjeoshtegon
26.	George Custer, Barren Lands
27.	Stephen Starr, Sandy Bay
28.	Lionel Roulette, Sandy Bay
29.	Tyson Grisdale, Dauphin River
30.	Cory Gamblin, SCTC
31.	Jason Dixon, Norway House
32.	Marvin Sutherland, Skownan
33.	Timothy Pronto, OPCN
34.	Larry Nepinak Jr, Pine Creek
35.	Warren Wood, St. Theresa Point
36.	Zebulon Taylor, St. Theresa Point

**36 participants are currently taking this course!**

**MIHCEMI is wishing them all the best in this course !**

## FNNBOA-MANITOBA CODE PROGRAM COURSES

BC200 – Technology & Inspections	
June 23, 2025 – July 11, 2025	
Online 16 hours	June 23 <sup>rd</sup> self-directed to be completed by July 7th
Course facilitators	Claude Lawrenson

BC201 – Authority Having Jurisdiction	
July 21, 2025 – Aug 4, 2025	
Online 8 hours	July 21 <sup>st</sup> self-directed to be completed by Aug 4 <sup>th</sup>
Course facilitators	John Kiedrowski & Matt Farrell

BC202 – NBC House 2020	
June 27, 2025 – July 11, 2025	
Online 4 hours	June 27 <sup>th</sup> self-directed to be completed by July 7 <sup>th</sup>
In-person 36 hours	<b>July 7-11</b> (Mock Exam morning last day of class)
Course facilitator	Claude Lawrenson

MC203 – Plumbing	
Sept 8, 2025 – Sept 26, 2025	
Online 4 hours	Sept 8 <sup>th</sup>
In-person 36 hours	<b>Sept 22-26</b> (Mock Exam morning last day of class)
Course facilitator	Claude Lawrenson (TBA)

MC204 – 9.36 (Energy Efficiency)	
Oct 6, 2025 – Oct 24th, 2025	
Online 4 hours	Oct 6 <sup>th</sup>
In-person 36 hours	<b>Oct 20-24</b> (Mock Exam morning last day of class)
Course facilitator	Claude Lawrenson (TBA) Robert Gutierrez

**NOTE:** Code course 203 & 204 revised to match MBOA requirements.

In person course durations 4 ½ days with the Mock Exams on the morning of the last day.

I believe the results of the first in class session that "we" are off to a great start, and also give credit to the wide range of knowledge and experience in the "in class" setting. Kudos to Chris and Cory for adding in their experience and knowledge to supporting in what can be truly added value beyond the traditional text book learning. Their assistance was greatly appreciated.

Overall I can say I was very pleased, and thank everyone for their support to see and make this happen.

Regards and cheers - Claude (Instructor)

## Section 95 2025-2026 Projects

Section 95 allocations for 2025-2026 were sent to eligible Nations in March 2025. Applications were due in the portal by April 30<sup>th</sup> and processing of agreements is now underway. Any unused allocations will be reallocated in mid-May. The deadline for eligibility for reallocation was May 9<sup>th</sup>.

**For those with approved projects, the Agreements must be signed and returned to CMHC within 30 days of receiving them.**

Once the signed agreement is returned to CMHC, Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) will provide the Ministerial Loan Guarantee (MLG) Toolkit to the Nation. The MLG must be in place before advancing of funds can begin on the project. The review and approval process of complete MLG Toolkits can take 5 to 6 weeks. Submit your Toolkit to ISC as soon as possible to prevent delays in starting your project. REMINDER: Tribal Council Housing Advisors are available to support their member Nations on completing the Toolkits.

Once the MLG is approved and signed, work can start on the project and advancing on the loan can begin. The Nation can request an accountable advance at the start of the project.

## Thank You Swampy Cree Tribal Council

The Manitoba team would like to say thank you to Carolyn Smeltzer, Sasha Young and Elder Francis McGillivray from Swampy Cree Tribal Council for helping to coordinate and facilitate the Section 95 Forum training held on March 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

The 2-day in-person event included overviews of the Section 95 application process, presentations from Efficiency Manitoba, First Nation Housing Professionals Association Regional Coordinator, and Swampy Cree Tribal Council. We can't forget the Section 95 Amazing Race activity that kicked off the first day!

### 2025-2026 Section 95 projects next steps:

- **Sign and Return Agreements:** You must sign and return agreement to CMHC within **30 days** of receiving them.
- **MLG Toolkit:** Complete the MLG Toolkit and submit to Indigenous Services Canada (ISC).
- **Advances:** Once the MLG is executed, requests for advances can start. Scan the QR Code below to see what documents are required to be submitted with an advance request.
- **Code Compliance Certificates:** The Nation is responsible to complete code compliance inspections on units to ensure work meets National Building Code standards. A qualified building inspector completes the Code Compliance Certificates at three stages during construction: (1) Pre-backfill, (2) Pre-drywall (or CSA Certification for RTM units), and (3) Final. The Code Compliance Certificate template was updated for 2025, and a copy will be sent with the executed agreements. Provide this new template to the professional completing your building code inspections.

Scan the QR code to view the *Section 95 Project Delivery Guide*.



Back row (left to right): Corey Retchuk (CMHC), Francis McGillivray (SCTC), David Danyluk (CMHC), Diana Drader (CMHC). Front row (left to right): Carolyn Smeltzer (SCTC), Christine Edward (CMHC), Sasha Young (SCTC).



## 2025 Section 95 Audited Financial Statements Call Package

Each year CMHC reviews a Nation's compliance with the Operating Agreement(s) for the Section 95 program. Each Nation is required to provide *Section 95 Audited Financial Statements* to CMHC. The *2025 Call Package* is sent to Nations in May with details on reporting requirements, confirmation of Section 95 subsidies, and financial data and information on Restricted Accounts. The Nation shares this package with their auditors to begin the process.

The Audited Financial Statements must be submitted to CMHC within four months of a Nation's fiscal year end. **Financial statement for 2024-2025 are due by July 31, 2025** for Nations with a March 31<sup>st</sup> fiscal year end. Missing this deadline could impact eligibility for future CMHC funding and may result in the suspension of housing subsidies.

Please contact the Agreements Management team at [Amonreserve-Gesurreserve@cmhc.ca](mailto:Amonreserve-Gesurreserve@cmhc.ca), or your Senior Operations Officer, if you have questions or have not received your *2025 Call Package*.

A year-end Statement of Accounts is available from the Loans Administration Department. To obtain a copy, please email [Loansadm@cmhc.ca](mailto:Loansadm@cmhc.ca) with the account numbers you need the statements for.

## Indigenous Government Repair Offer (IGO) – Upcoming Training

Cost-share funding was provided to Indigenous Governments in 2023 and 2024 through the Affordable Housing Fund program to help address repair needs of affordable housing across the country. This funding was to be stacked with other funding to complete repairs to homes in the communities.

The conditions of the program included: completing the work within 3 years; selected units must meet affordability criteria for at least 20 years; that the funding covers no more than 40% of the total eligible costs (to a max. \$15,000/unit); and, the project meets minimum energy efficiency and accessibility requirements.

Once the funding is used and repair work complete, the Nation is to provide an attestation report outlining the units the funding was used on, total costs of work, and confirmation the units met eligibility criteria.

An **IGO training session will take place at 2pm on Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>** as a refresher on the unit and project eligibility criteria and how to complete the attestation. An invitation to the virtual session will be sent to Nations with IGO funding agreements. Please contact your Specialist if you have questions around the agreements or project requirements.

### CMHC Manitoba Specialists

**Christine Edward**, [cedward@cmhc.ca](mailto:cedward@cmhc.ca), 204-515-1180

**David Danyluk**, [ddanyluk@cmhc.ca](mailto:ddanyluk@cmhc.ca), 403-515-2918

**Corey Retchuk**, [cretchuk@cmhc.ca](mailto:cretchuk@cmhc.ca), 204-318-1758

**Diane Drader**, [ddrader@cmhc.ca](mailto:ddrader@cmhc.ca), 204-318-1752

# Update: Efficiency Manitoba



Councillor Christopher Kent, Councillor Allen (Sam) Hocaluk, Jeff Cyr (Raven Indigenous Outcomes Funds), Chief Gordon Bluesky, Councillor Winston Desjarlais, Councillor Wendell Sinclair Jr.

On May 8, Brokenhead Ojibway Nation hosted a community event to celebrate the launch of a major energy efficiency initiative in partnership with Raven Indigenous Outcomes Funds and Efficiency Manitoba. The gathering marked the beginning of a transformative project that will see the installation of 100 ground source heat pumps in homes in the Nation. Community members, leaders, and partners came together to recognize the significance of this investment, which aims to improve housing, reduce energy costs, and create sustainable employment opportunities. The event also highlighted the creation of BON Energy, a new social enterprise created by the Nation to oversee the training efforts and implementation.

Chief Gordon Bluesky emphasized the importance of Indigenous-led solutions, stating that the initiative represents a powerful step toward economic reconciliation and long-term sustainability. The project includes training for 12 local residents in heat pump installation and maintenance, ensuring that the benefits of the program remain within the community.

Heat pumps offer numerous advantages: they are highly energy-efficient, using electricity to transfer rather than generate heat. They also provide both heating and cooling, improving year-round comfort while lowering utility bills. This initiative not only supports environmental goals but also enhances energy sovereignty and climate resilience for the Nation.



Brokenhead Ojibway Nation members alongside trainers from Laufer Enterprises.

# Update: FNHPA Manitoba Reps

Tansi,

It's been a quite an exciting nine months since starting my journey as the Regional Relations Coordinator with the First Nations Housing Professionals Association (FNHPA) working directly with 27 Northern communities here in Manitoba. I've have participated in workshops and conferences held by MIHCEMI, KTC, SCTC and CMHC with the privilege in meeting several housing managers and Leadership of some of the communities in attendance. I look forward to the opportunity in meeting all representatives of all our First Nation communities that I am fortunate to work with soon. I plan to host information sessions with key stakeholders to better assist our housing departments in capacity development for the Northern Region.

If you have specific areas or topics that you require to meet your specific needs to be strengthened in your community's housing program, please contact me and we can talk about how FNHPA services and resources that we offer, can assist you, either individually or together in a session.

Ekosi,

Candace Garson  
Regional Relations Coordinator—Northern Manitoba

Aaniin,

The 1<sup>st</sup> Manitoba Intensive Program (MIP) had 9 students who have completed their courses and wrote their national exams this spring. The intensive program was a success and there are currently two more Manitoba cohorts that are working towards achieving their designations.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> cohort in MIP began at the beginning of May and has 13 students who started Course 300. Course 300 focuses on the *Management of Housing Programs*.

The newest cohort of MIP had 20 students who signed up and will begin course 100 this summer. Course 100 focuses on First Nations Housing and Infrastructure. Through the 3 cohorts there have been 42 students from the different First Nations across Manitoba.

Miigwech,

Jeremy Parsons  
Regional Relations Coordinator—Southern Manitoba



# Update: MIHCEMI Leadership Housing Forum

The Leadership Forum took place at Victoria Inn Hotel & Conference Center, 1800 Wellington Avenue, Wpg , MB February 26 & 27, 2025

MIHCEMI invited leadership to attend a 2-day Housing Forum and paid for 3 representatives per community (Chief, Housing Portfolio Councillor and Housing Contact). 152 were in attendance for the forum.

The purpose of this Housing Forum is to provide background information to leadership on MIHCEMI, its mission, role and what has transpired from this initiative to date. Status updates were provided by the Working Group and its sub-committee groups relating to issues on housing, training, and building codes/assessments. There were also updates from our partners – ISC, CMHC, Efficiency Manitoba, FNSSM, FNHPA & FNNBOA. This event allowed for open discussions on this initiative and how it impacts housing in our First Nations.



MIHCEMI – Leadership Housing Forum  
February 26 & 27, 2025  
Victoria Inn Hotel and Conference Centre  
Winnipeg, MB  
Agenda

**DAY 1**

Wednesday February 26, 2025

- 8:00 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am Moderator (Jim Bear)
- 9:15 am Opening Prayer (Elder Bill Ballantyne)
- 9:20 am Opening Remarks (Irene Linklater & Chris Olson)
- 9:45 am Introduction of Presenters and Review Agenda (Jim Bear)
- 10:00 am Background/Review of Resolution (Michele Morrisseau)
- 10:30 am Health Break
- 10:45 am MIHCEMI Strategic Housing Vision Report & Status Update (MST Asset Management – Darin McLennan & Insight Specialty Consulting – Dr. Mandy Hansen)
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Sub-Committee Working Groups
  - Building Codes (Chris Stove)
  - Housing Forums (Eleanor Brockington)
  - Training (Linda Hunt)
- 2:00 pm Q & A
- 3:00 pm Close of Day 1



MIHCEMI – Leadership Housing Forum  
February 26 & 27, 2025  
Victoria Inn Hotel and Conference Centre  
Winnipeg, MB  
Agenda

**DAY 2**

Thursday February 27, 2025

- 8:00 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am Opening Prayer (Elder Bill Ballantyne)
- 9:05 am ISC – Updates (Charlene Erasmo & Michele Morrisseau)
- 9:30 am MLG Process (Shawna Sajatovic)
- 9:45 am CMHC Updates (Christine Edward)
- 10:15 am Health Break
- 10:30 am Efficiency Manitoba Update (Iain Geeves)
- 11:00 am FNHPA Updates (Candace Garson & Jeremy Parsons)
- 11:30 am FNNBOA Updates (John Kiedrowski & Robin Cayer) Joining by MS Teams
- 12:00 pm Closing Remarks (Jim Bear)
- 12:15 pm Closing Prayer (Elder Bill Ballantyne)
- 12:20 pm Lunch
- 12:30 pm Close of Day 2





# MIHCEMI Working Group

11 Independent First Nations

7 Tribal Council Housing Advisors representing 52 member bands.

Indigenous Service Canada

Other Gov'd Depts: Efficiency MB, CMHC, FNHSSM, FNHPA etc.

## MIHCEMI Sub-Committees

**Training Sub-Committee**  
 Chair: Wayne Clarke, NHCN  
 Members:  
 Linda Hunt, KTC  
 Candace Garson, FNHPA  
 Wilbur Baker, OPCN  
 Tristen Guttormson-Kent, SERDC  
 Ostap Kaminsky, DOTC

**Housing Forum Sub-Committee**  
 Chair: Sasha Young, SCTC  
 Members:  
 Eleanor Brockington, NCN  
 Clarence Harper, ILTC  
 Chris Stove, IRTC  
 Sasha Young, SCTC  
 Joel Pashe, Dakota Tipi

**Building Codes Sub-Committee**  
 Chair: Chris Stove, IRTC  
 Ostap Kaminsky, DOTC  
 Bruce Flett, WRTC  
 Iain Geeves, Efficiency Manitoba  
 Kerenza Plohman, FNHSSM.

## MIHCEMI Working Group Administration Southeast Resource Development Council Corp.

MIHCEMI Project Coordinator is responsible to arrange a facilitator to Chair Working Group Meetings

MIHCEMI Project Coordinator: Ingrid Fortin  
Administrative Assistant: Justyn Parsons

Pictures taken at the last Quarterly meeting May 21 & 22, 2025

June 6, 2025



# MIHCEMI Housing Conference 2025



## Theme: "Changing Homes for a Changing Climate"

The Annual MIHCEMI Housing Conference took place at the Victoria Inn Hotel & Conference Center, Wpg, MB, April 2 & 3, 2025.

MIHCEMI's 3rd Annual Housing Conference was another successful event! MIHCEMI would like to acknowledge the Housing Forum Sub-Committee members: Eleanor Brockington, Chris Stove, Clarence Harper, Sasha Young and Joel Pashe. Also, Michele Morriveau-ISC Advisor, Justyn Parsons-MIHCEMI Administrative Assistant and Event Planner Riel Ree Dion-EventCamp.ca for all their hard work on this event.

The event boasted an impressive 2 Sponsors: Efficiency Manitoba & CES. There were 243 registered delegates, and 36 exhibitors.

The Program had 3 sets of 3 breakout sessions over the course of the 2 days, and 1 keynote speaker each day.

### Special Thanks for the door prize donations:

- EventCamp.ca
- Shawano Consulting Services Ltd.
- SERDC
- Building modular solutions
- Springhill lumber
- Meetah Building Supplies
- Predator Pest Eliminators
- Olympic Building Supplies
- McMunn and Yates
- FNHPA



# MIHCEMI Housing Conference 2025



# MIHCEMI Housing Conference 2025



# MIHCEMI Housing Conference 2025



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*MIHCEMI is sending thoughts, support and prayers to all our Manitoba First Nations that were affected by the wildfires. Stay safe and take care.*



**Exciting News: MIHCEMI will be launching it's very own website in the coming months! Stay tuned!**

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