

# Indigenous Advisory Board for Homelessness

## CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

### Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy

**June 2019**

The **closing date** for receiving applications is Wednesday, June 5, 2019  
at the following electronic address:  
Blaine Foley, BNRC Community Entity  
[HomelessnessMB@bnrc.ca](mailto:HomelessnessMB@bnrc.ca)

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**Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation**  
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**For enquiries please call Blaine Foley at (204) 729-2490 Ext 106 or e-mail at  
[HomelessnessMB@bnrc.ca](mailto:HomelessnessMB@bnrc.ca)**

Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation is seeking interested community  
representatives to fill current and future vacancies in the Indigenous Advisory Board.

## **Reaching Home**

Reaching Home is a community-based program aimed at preventing and reducing homelessness by providing direct support and funding to Designated Communities (urban centers), Indigenous communities, territorial communities and rural and remote communities across Canada.

The Reaching Home directives provide guidance, details and expectations related to the program requirements to assist communities in preventing and reducing homelessness. This includes a description of eligible activities and expenses. A number of examples have been provided within the directives to illustrate eligible activities; however these are not necessarily exhaustive. Any distinctly prohibited activities are identified as such.

Reaching Home recognizes that Indigenous peoples have the right to be actively involved in developing and determining health, housing and other economic and social programs affecting them, and, as far as possible, to administer such programs through their own institutions. Accordingly, these directives include provisions to facilitate delivery of culturally competent homelessness programming, in keeping with the Indigenous homelessness definition in the document.

**Those interested in applying should be aware that participation on either the Indigenous Advisory Board is voluntary, and there is no monetary compensation.**

## **The Indigenous Advisory Board**

The Indigenous Advisory Board is the local organizing committee responsible for setting direction for addressing homelessness in the community or region. The Indigenous Advisory Board is expected to coordinate efforts to address homelessness in a community, and is therefore expected to have an in-depth knowledge of the key sectors and systems that affect their homelessness priorities. The Indigenous Advisory Board is thus expected and encouraged to have an engagement strategy that would detail how it intends to achieve broad and inclusive representation, and coordinate partnerships with community organizations and individuals.

## **Roles and responsibilities**

The Indigenous Advisory Board is responsible for the following key areas:

- Helping to guide the development of the community plan and provide official approval.
  - To this effect, the Indigenous Advisory Board is responsible for engaging with key community organizations and individuals, including Indigenous, in the community beyond the homeless serving sector and gather all available information related to the

community's local homelessness priorities, and develop a coordinated approach to addressing homelessness in their community.

- Assess and recommend projects for funding to the Community Entity.
  - The Indigenous Advisory Board is expected to undergo this process with a comprehensive understanding of the local homelessness priorities in their community.
  - Members must recuse themselves in situations where they have ties to proposed projects.
- Being representative of the community.
  - The Indigenous Advisory Board is responsible for recruiting members, and is expected to ensure that its composition has broad and inclusive representation.
- Supporting Community Entities in the planning and implementation of coordinated access.
- Approving the Community Progress Report.

### **Composition**

The composition of the Indigenous Advisory Board is expected to be reflective of the homeless population groups within the local community (for example, youth, Indigenous peoples and survivors of domestic violence) including those with lived experience of homelessness.

- Participation on the Indigenous Advisory Board is especially encouraged from:
  - Individuals with lived experience of homelessness
  - Indigenous people and organizations, Friendship Centres; Indigenous housing organizations
  - Youth and youth serving organizations, including Child Welfare agencies
  - Organizations serving women/families fleeing violence
  - Organizations serving seniors
  - Newcomer serving organizations
  - The private sector
  - Police and correctional services
  - Landlord associations and/or the housing sector
  - Health organizations, including hospitals and other public institutions, and organizations focused on mental health and addictions
  - Veteran Affairs Canada or Veterans-serving organizations
- Indigenous Advisory Boards ex-officio representation to include Service Canada, the Community Entity, the Province of Manitoba, who will advise on program eligibility requirements, and guide the Indigenous Advisory Board where significant changes to the program are introduced.

## **Governance**

The Community advisory board is responsible for developing terms of reference and other policies and procedures central to the functions of the Community advisory board, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Formalized procedures for addressing, real and/or perceived Conflicts of Interests, including the membership of any elected municipal officials;
- Formalized procedures for assessing, and recommending project proposals for federal funding under the Reaching Home;
- Identification of exclusive and shared responsibilities among Community advisory boards and Community Entities;
- A formalized engagement strategy on how the Community advisory board intends to have broad representation, and coordinate partnerships with key community organizations and individuals; and,
- Membership terms and conditions, including recruitment processes, length of tenure, attendance requirements, and/or any delegated tasks.

## **Selection of Members**

Applicants will also need to be aware of the following principles and should take these into consideration when submitting his/her application as they will be used by the selection committee:

- The members of the Advisory Boards should be passionate about homelessness issues in Manitoba and should have the best interest of rural Manitoba communities at heart. Members must work collaboratively and respectfully within Advisory Boards as a whole. Candidates must be able to demonstrate positive working relationships within the homelessness and housing communities of rural Manitoba.
- The make-up of an Advisory Board should reflect as many sectors of the community as possible.
- Selection to an Advisory Board is based on an individual's qualifications and experiences and they will be notified by the BNRC if they are successful a successful applicant.
- Interested applicants must email applications to Blaine Foley [HomelessnessMB@bnrc.ca](mailto:HomelessnessMB@bnrc.ca) **on or before Wednesday, June 5, 2019**