



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS
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To BC Chiefs and Leaders

RE: Call for Expressions of Interest to serve on a BC Chiefs Council on Housing & Infrastructure (BC-CCHI)

Many of you are aware that the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) has been working with the federal government to enact their commitment to housing reform for First Nations in Canada. After various discussions with many government leaders and housing experts from First Nations, federal and provincial governments, BC is prepared to move forward on exploring options for a First Nations' controlled housing & infrastructure authority (Housing Authority) in BC. BC's work is expected to inform other areas of Canada as they prepare themselves for similar initiatives.

Through this call letter, BC AFN is coordinating the process on behalf of the BC First Nations Leadership Council to identify three Chiefs representatives to the BC-CCHI. Current members include Chief Dan George (member of the National Chiefs Council on Housing and Infrastructure and chair of BC-CCHI), Jim Munroe and Sylvia Olsen (technical members to the National Council), Garry Merkel (Executive Director) and 3 other technical representatives to be determined.

The BC AFN hosted a forum on March 13 & 14, 2017 in Victoria where approximately 180 participants provided valuable and detailed input on the design and implementation of the proposed Housing Authority. The BC-CCHI will build on this work by

- a. Finalizing the BC-CCHI Terms of Reference (draft is prepared),
- b. Finalizing the BC-CCHI workplan (a draft will be available at the first meeting),
- c. Overseeing the outreach, design, selection of the best option and implementation of the Housing Authority, and
- d. Collecting additional input towards other areas of the National Aboriginal Housing Strategy that is still being finalized.

Our experience at creating this type of regional delivery infrastructure puts BC First Nations in a favorable position to be the pilot for this work. It is time given that BC First Nations have assumed authority in almost every other sector except housing and infrastructure. We are very excited about this initiative as a positive next step in our collective journey to self-determination. This will be a demanding task but if you feel the same about this initiative, are a chief, are committed for at least two years, have experience in housing, infrastructure and

institutional development and are willing to commit the time, we invite you to submit an Expression of Interest (see attached form).

The final selection will be completed shortly after the closing date (September 29, 2017). If you have any further questions please direct them to Garry Merkel, 250-427-0460, gmerkel@telus.net.

Yours sincerely,



Chief Dan George, BC Representative on the Chiefs Committee on Housing and Infrastructure



**Expression of Interest
For the BC Chiefs Council on Housing & Infrastructure**

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Relevant Housing or Infrastructure Development Experience:

Other Information (may also include attachments):

Please email your completed EOI to Garry Merkel at gmerkel@telus.net before 4:00 pm on September 29, 2017.

