



# NAN HOUSING STRATEGY

*At the Health Transformation Summit*

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## Developing the NAN Housing Strategy

The Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Housing Strategy will fulfill the right of access to adequate housing and end the collective housing emergency in NAN territory. NAN and Together Design Lab have partnered with NAN First Nations for a 3 year project to:

1. Work at the community and regional level to develop housing solutions and action plans that recognize the unique needs, geographies and cultures of NAN First Nations.
2. Create community-led approaches to data collection and problem identification.
3. Support NAN First Nations' right to self-determination to their housing systems.
4. Encourage flexibility and creation of design solutions rooted in local lived experience.

## Health Transformation Workshop

At the Health Transformation Summit on January 23, 2019, NAN Housing Strategy team members led a workshop on the connections between housing and health. Housing as a social indicator of health requires holistic solutions and working with partners across housing, health and wellness professions. Summit attendees brainstormed ideas and discussed the connections between housing and health. Focusing on one issue, groups began to imagine what it would look like to address housing and health issues and indicators of improvement over the short, medium and long term.

### What We Learned

The workshop began by exploring issues related to housing and health. The most common topics identified were overcrowding, mould and respiratory issues, and mental health.



*Health Transformation attendees participated in a collaborative workshop exploring housing and health*

## Upcoming Events



**The NAN Environment, Climate Change & Housing Symposium**

March 26 & 27, 2019

Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay, Ontario

[www.nan.on.ca](http://www.nan.on.ca)

*“Overcrowding affects all areas of well-being, physical, social, financial, spiritual”*

Other common issues that emerged in conversation included the need for longer term planning and predictable funding, increased training and capacity development, higher quality and climate appropriate building materials and need for more in community care such as dialysis, senior’s housing and long-term care.

**From the Health Transformation Workshop**

Workshop participants began to develop solutions by proposing ways to measure improvements in housing and health. Proposed measurements included:

- Increased number of care homes (in community)
- Number of people able to receive end-of-life care at home or in community vs. at a hospital
- Decreasing housing wait list numbers year over year
- Number of community members trained in construction and related trades

Intersections of Housing and Health	
Physical Well-Being	Social Well-Being
Respiratory health Accessibility Sleeping	Overcrowding Safety Privacy Family Conflict Senior’s housing Homelessness
Mental Well-Being	Physical Conditions
Depression Stress Hoarding Children’s development Addiction	Air quality Mould Heating Drinkable water Type of building material Fire Safety

The workshop was a first step in part of a holistic approach to addressing housing need. Building connections, sharing and learning from across professions will help to create a robust NAN Housing Strategy.

**Next Steps**

Get involved in Phase 1: Housing System Profiles of the NAN Housing Strategy:

- Share housing documents such as housing needs assessments to help create community housing profiles
- Attend the NAN Housing, Environment & Climate Change Symposium on March 26 & 27, 2019
- Offer to be a participating community for Phase 2 metrics development

**Contact Us**

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