MIHCEMI Housing Conference

1808 Wellington Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 0C4, Canada

April 9

Registration and Mixer

April 9

05:00PM - 08:00PM

Centennial 5

April 10

Registration and Breakfast & Exhibitor Set Up

April 10

07:30AM - 09:00AM

Near Embassy Room

Opening Remarks and Blessing

April 10

09:00AM - 09:15AM

Centennial Ballroom

Elder Bill Ballantyne (Prayer)

Elders Barb Nepinak (Water Ceremony)

Coco Stevenson (Drum)

Chief EJ Fontaine, Sagkeeng First Nation

Kandice Leonard, Regional Director-General Indigenous Services Canada, Manitoba Region

Efficiency Manitoba - Sponsor Greeting (Amy Tuck)

09:15AM - 10:30AM

Centennial Ballroom

Marion Crowe



Marion is a proud member of the Piapot First Nation in Saskatchewan and was the founding Executive Director, now Chief Executive Officer of the First Nations Health Managers Association (FNHMA).

Assisting community members in the development of professional development opportunities and certification has always been a passion for Marion, as she was a founding Board of Director for the Saskatchewan Chapter of AFOA Canada.

Marion has been awarded achievement milestones, including: a Health Canada Deputy Minister's Award of Excellence; a Centennial Leadership Award from the Province of Saskatchewan; and the AFOA Canada – Xerox Canada National Award of Excellence in Aboriginal Leadership in 2015. Marion was also the first person in Canada to receive her CAFM, CAPA, CIL and CFNHM designations, from AFOA Canada and FNHMA.

On June 21, 2017, Marion was appointed as the first Indigenous person to The Ottawa Hospital, Board of Governors and currently sits as the Vice Chair of the Quality Committee, and Chair of the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Circle. Marion is also a member of the Leadership and Governance Technical Committee with the International Health Standards Organization. In May 2018 Marion attended the Harvard Business School and completed the 'Leading People and Investing to Build Sustainable Communities' certificate.

Marion was also the first Indigenous person appointed to the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute Board of Governors, and served as the Vice-Chair, from 2021 to 2023.

10:30AM - 11:00AM

Centennial Ballroom

A1: Healthy Construction Decisions Equals Healthy Homes

April 10

11:00AM - 12:00PM Centennial 5

Families spend substantial time indoors; it is important that homes are healthy and safe environments. Yet many homes contribute to illnesses, injury, disability or death via poor air quality, mould, stairs do not have handrails, or fire because of a failed heat source are examples of poor building code and standards adaptation, the application and enforcement. First Nations Councils are the Authority of Jurisdiction (AHJ) and as the governance bodies for their communities, they are responsible for the construction of new homes and renovations. The workshop will focus on Council's role to ensure homes are built to code and safe for its members.

John Kiedrowski



John Kiedrowski, project manager for First Nations National Building Officers Association. Among on projects, John is focused on Council governance and the authority having jurisdiction.

A2: Pest Control April 10

11:00AM - 12:00PM Centennial 4

Join Terry as he discusses pest control treatments and preventative measures methods. He will also be speaking on products used for different types of treatments that his company carries out, and what each homeowner has to do to prepare for the treatments. Finally, Terry also discusses health concerns around various types of pests.

Terry Bruce

A3: Onsite Wastewater Management System- Registration and Approval Processes

April 10

11:00AM - 12:00PM Centennial 3

A presentation on the registration and approval processes related to the installation of Onsite Wastewater Management Systems for residential homes. Discuss guiding information used to assess Onsite Wastewater Management systems.

Blake Scott

Blake has been with FNIHB for almost 7 years but has almost 35 years in the Environmental Public Health Field.

He has enjoyed working with First Nation Communities and going to parts of the Province that he has not had the opportunity to visit. Blake works toward promoting that EPHO's are there to help communities on Environmental Public Health issues.

12:00PM - 01:00PM

Centennial Ballroom

The Lunchtime Competition will consist of 5 trivia questions, hosted by Chris Stove!

Chris Stove, Trivia Competition

April 10

01:00PM - 02:00PM Centennial 5

Indigenous Health Services overview, how to access WRHA Indigenous Health Services, with a focus on Complex Discharge Planning with Indigenous Clients we serve. Moving forward with a collaborative approach with our First Nation Community Stakeholders. Setting the stage to working across governments, First Nation communities to sustain transparent communication strategies.

Lynette McDonald, Beverly Swan and Katherine Graham



Lynette McDonald, Chief Operating Officer, Indigenous Health, WRHA. Lynette is status to Peguis First Nation. Lynette has over 30 years of health, and was previously the Executive Director with Peguis Community Supports and Services, and Selkirk Huddle.

Beverly Swan, member of Lake Manitoba First Nation and fluent in Ojibway.

Over 30 years in the Health Sector, Regional Discharge Planning Coordinator, Indigenous Health Patient Services, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority since 2006.

Involvement in Health Programs include, Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Clerk, First Nations Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB); NIHB Pilot Program Development and Manager; Health Director, and Community Liaison Worker, First Nations disABILITY Association of Manitoba Inc.

Katherine Graham, Executive Director for Acute and Community Care

01:00PM - 02:00PM Centennial 4

An introduction to understanding and planning for the true cost of housing programs and services. This session is designed to assist First Nations as they introduce or enhance debt management practices for housing. The presentation provides an overview of how to confirm recurring operating costs, examine the relationship between the occupant and the First Nation and shares advice on how to manage these responsibilities.

Roxanne Harper



Roxanne is Mi'kmaq from Natoaganeg in New Brunswick. She is a partner in Turtle Island Associates Inc, an Aboriginal business committed to supporting the efforts of First Nation communities by providing housing advisory and training services. Roxanne has worked on Aboriginal housing issues for over 38 years and has extensive experience moderating workshops and facilitating community consultations. Roxanne has co-developed several adult educational curricula (e.g. *Enhanced Arrears Management, Understanding the True Cost of Housing*) and facilitates these 2-day sessions to First Nation clients across the country. Roxanne holds a certificate in Adult Education from St. Francis Xavier University, N.S.

B3: Designing Healthy Wall and Roof Systems for Northern Indigenous Housing

April 10

There are many unique challenges when designing wall and roof systems for northern Indigenous housing including extreme climates, short construction seasons and over-crowded conditions.

Importing solutions from the south without understanding these challenges has lead to many issues related to mould growth, rot and premature decay of walls and roof systems. Fully understanding these challenges and then applying the principles of building science can produce real solutions and help us create heathy, durable and efficient housing.

Trevor Trainor (M.A Sc.)



Trevor Trainor is the President and a Building Science Specialist at Bawating Building Science. He specializes in the performance of wall and roof systems in extreme, cold climates and applying the principles of building science to Indigenous housing issues.

His experience in lab and field research, hygrothermal modeling and investigating building failures in the north, gives him a unique perspective in the development of high-performance building enclosure designs.

Health Break and Networking with Exhibitors

April 10

02:00PM - 02:30PM

Centennial Ballroom Families spend substantial time indoors; it is important that homes are healthy and safe environments. Yet many homes contribute to illnesses, injury, disability or death via poor air quality, mould, stairs do not have handrails, or fire because of a failed heat source are examples of poor building code and standards adaptation, the application and enforcement.

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C2: Pewapun Construction Company in Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation: locally sourced innovative solutions to First Nation Housing Issues

April 10

This session will showcase solutions from the Housing Supply Challenge Northern Access Round which focussed on implementing ideas addressing supply chain barriers. How can the learnings from the research and implementation of these solutions be applied to other northern and rural communities? What are some key learnings related to the creating of a national industrial strategy?

Chief Angela Levasseur



Chief Angela Levasseur, B.A., B. Ed., PBDE, Juris Doctor

Chief Angela Levasseur is a proud Ithiniw Iskwe, mother of five, and Kohkum (grandmother). Chief Angela is the first female chief of the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation. She is also the first NCN citizen to earn a law degree.

Chief Angela is a highly motivated and relentless advocate on behalf of her people. Chief Angela has worked in the area of Indigenous education for most of her life seeking to educate and inspire First Nations youth.

Chief Angela believes that in order for Indigenous people to become economically self-sufficient and to heal from the wounds of our past, we must reclaim self-government and exercise self-determination.

Finally, Chief Angela believes that Housing is the number one issue affecting First Nations and she is eager to share what her nation is doing on this front!

C3: Combating Meth Contamination: Insights and Innovations from Meth Busters Inc.

April 10

Join Clarence J. Natomagan, founder of Meth Busters Inc., for a deep dive into the challenges and solutions surrounding methamphetamine contamination. This session will explore the environmental and human activity-based origins of meth contamination, its impact on communities, and the cutting-edge remediation techniques developed by Meth Busters Inc. Attendees will gain valuable insights into regulatory considerations, the science behind meth particulate behavior, and practical strategies for prevention and remediation, all aimed at fostering safer, healthier living environments.

Clarence J. Matomagan

Clarence J. Natomagan is the founder of Meth Busters Inc., a family-owned Indigenous company pioneering methamphetamine remediation. With a passion for community well-being and safety, Clarence leads his team in addressing one of the most pressing environmental health challenges today, leveraging innovative solutions to restore affected properties and empower communities.

Free time and networking

April 10

03:30PM - 05:00PM

Centennial Ballroom

Banquet April 10

05:00PM - 08:00PM

Centennial Ballroom

April 11

Opening of the Event O9:00AM - 09:15AM Centennial Ballroom Greetings from the Province of Manitoba Minister Bernadette Smith, Minister of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness Roxanne Harper, Emcee

09:15AM - 10:15AM

Centennial Ballroom

FNHPA will walk through your membership benefits and demonstrated how to effectively access the many tools, resources and reports available to you as a member. Demonstrate where to find the most up to date information, hear about recently completed projects and new projects for fiscal 24/25.

Candace Bennett



Candace is a resident status member of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation, located about 1.5 hours west of Ottawa, where she has lived for the past 40 plus years.

Candace is a specialist in the field of First Nation housing management and policy development. She has extensive experience in the analysis of on-reserve policy development and implementation and has 24 years of experience working within the First Nation Housing Industry.

Her long-time career has exposed her to the many facets of delivering First Nations Housing and the many gaps present for Housing Managers. Her breadth of exposure spans across First Nation grass roots, provincial, national, political, and private industry.

After serving in her community housing department for 10 years, she expanded her career with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation in program delivery and aboriginal capacity development out of Sudbury's point of service location and accepted a transfer to National office where she further expanded her knowledge and experience with delivering homeownership programs, capacity development and partnership relations.

As a natural progression she moved on to the Assembly of First Nations as their Senior Housing Advisor to gain experience on the political nature on a national scale. She then returned to her community to become the General Manager of AOPFN Limited Partnership, managing First Nation owed businesses including solar energy, then entered the world of private industry as the Vice President of Indigenous Business with Innovation 7, a consulting firm. In January of 2021 Candace took on the role of Executive Director of the First Nations Housing Professionals Association.

Candace earned her designation as a First Nation Housing Professional (FNHP) with FNHPA in December 2020, she achieved her Certified Indigenous Leader (CIL) designation in January 2023 and her Certified Aboriginal Professional Administrator (CAPA) designation in February 2024 both through the Aboriginal Financial Officers Association. She is committed to expanding her education and learning in the area of First Nation administration and assisting in making a positive imprint in First Nation communities across Canada.

April 11

10:15AM - 10:45AM

Centennial Ballroom

D1: CMHC, Raven Indigenous Impact Foundation and Aki Energy – Geo-thermal and Home Repairs/Retrofit Project

April 11

10:45AM - 11:45AM Centennial 5

CMHC will be highlighting the Raven Indigenous Impact Foundation and Aki Energy project that saw the instillation of 124 geo-thermal residential energy units and the completion of repairs/retrofits in partnering communities of Fisher River First Nation and Peguis First Nation.

The session will outline the model used as part of the partnership, provide preliminary results on the energy cost reductions, and highlight the local employment and training built into the program.

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10:45AM - 11:45AM Centennial 3

The perfect wall is an environmental separator—it keeps the outside out, and the inside in. To do so, wall assemblies are required to control rain, air, vapour, and heat. We will examine the control layers of "the perfect wall" as described by renowned building science expert, Dr. Joseph Lstiburek. Also in discussion will be the importance of air tightness in the building envelope, and why this makes HRV operation and maintenance crucial to maintaining healthy indoor air quality.

lain Geeves

lain is a Red Seal carpenter by trade and former production-build Residential Site Supervisor. With a handful of years spent as an adult educator before coming to Efficiency Manitoba, Iain is passionate about communicating building science ideas and high-performance, energy efficient construction.

Lunch April 11

12:00PM - 01:15PM

Centennial Ballroom

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Blake Scott

Blake has been with First Nation Inuit Health Branch- ISC since 2017 and is presently one of the Senior EPHO's in the Manitoba region. He has embraced the opportunity to be working with First Nation communities in Manitoba. Blake has been working in the Environmental Public Health Field for almost 35 years.

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Health Break and Networking with Exhibitors

April 11

02:15PM - 02:45PM

Centennial Ballroom

Closing Remarks and Reflections - Roxanne Harper

April 11

02:45PM - 03:45PM

Centennial Ballroom

Thank you to our wonderful Emcee, Roxanne Harper, as she guided us through our 2-day conference. Roxanne will share her closing remarks and reflections on Healthy Homes, Healthy Communities.

Roxanne Harper, Emcee

