



Native Women's Association of the N.W.T.

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Recommendations of the NWANWT re: Housing – June 3rd, 2019
To: Shane Thompson, MLA, Dehcho Region

The Native Women's Association has these recommendations at this point in time:

1. A Housing Coalition comprised of GNWT Housing, GNWT Tenant Officer, CMHC representative, GNWT First Time Home Ownership officer, Income Support representative, Victim Services or Poverty and Homelessness Worker from Native Women's Association, Band Councils, and a Rental Agency representative to meet monthly to *strategize and troubleshoot eviction and homelessness issues in Yellowknife and surrounding areas*;
2. Succession Planning Strategies to move people out of dependency on Income Support and Public Low-cost Housing into Affordable Housing;
3. It may be useful to get Human Rights advocates involved;
4. Succession Planning needs to take the following into consideration – recognize the history of a tenant's home base, for example, how long that tenant has lived on that property, and how moving to an apartment impacts their traditional lifestyle. What do they do with their on-the-land gear? How will not having storage impact their ability to get out on the land?
5. The Native Women's Association recommends referring to the study on the cost of living in Yellowknife and take those points into consideration when trouble shooting eviction and homelessness issues. They recommend a fresh look at what can be done to ameliorate housing issues.
6. A move to more Affordable Housing is strongly recommended.
7. A move to making GNWT First Time Home Ownership more easily accessed is also strongly recommended.
8. Individual client housing plans to be implemented when tenants move into public housing and/or affordable housing to provide a client with guidance as to expect when circumstances change. Example, are they able to purchase their home after renting for a specified period of time.