

OUR LAND IS OUR FUTURE

UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA INDIAN CHIEFS

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June 15, 2021

Community Capacity and Innovation Grant Program
Employment and Social Development Canada
Government of Canada

Re: Support for Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness

Dear Reaching Home Communities and Capacity Innovation Grant Program,

The Union of BC Indian Chiefs is writing in support of the Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness's application to the Reaching Home Communities and Capacity Innovation funding stream for their proposed project: "Weaving Indigenous Culture and Knowledge into Supportive Housing". We strongly support this proposed project due to its innovative approach to increasing capacity in the homeless-serving sector for Indigenous peoples, who make up 36% of the homeless population in Victoria. We understand that the role and responsibility of the ACEH has rapidly increased in recent years and supporting this organization to continue testing and developing their work in community is critical to ending homelessness among the Indigenous population in Victoria.

UBCIC is mandated via Resolution 2020-34 to call on the federal government to directly fund and support First Nations-led housing initiatives and therefore supports this project as filling a crucial gap in the current understanding, awareness and capacity of the homeless serving sector in the City of Victoria and nations across Vancouver Island.

We look forward to continued support of the ACEH and their partners in this work over the coming years.

Yours truly,

On behalf of the UNION OF BC INDIAN CHIEFS



Grand Chief Stewart Phillip
President



Chief Don Tom
Vice-President



Kukpi7 Judy Wilson
Secretary-Treasurer