



2012 World Indigenous Housing Conference

Vancouver BC Canada June 2012

JUNE 2011

Building connections with international housing leaders

"We recently reached out to senior indigenous housing and government leaders in Australia, New Zealand and the United States to promote the 2012 World Indigenous Housing Conference," says Andrew Leach, Chief Executive Officer at the Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA), which is hosting the conference (www.ahma-bc.org).

AHMA will continue to champion the event, but already, the **2012 WIHC is assured outstanding success**. Andrew Leach has:

- **Met with the federal housing minister in New Zealand** and invited him to speak at the conference
- **Met with senior housing politicians and bureaucrats in Canberra, Australia**, to build a relationship with the federal housing minister's office and support for the WIHC
- Confirmed an international slate of high profile indigenous housing leaders to develop a world class program for the conference, as members of the **new 2012 WIHC International Program Committee** (see story on next page)
- Established a link with the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Undersecretary in the United States, through one of the new committee members
- **Identified world class speakers** to present at the conference, including Canadian TV personality Mike Holmes, host of the award winning show, Holmes on Homes

"We are organizing a **panel of federal housing ministers from New Zealand, Canada, Australia and the US to discuss best practices** in indigenous housing for an audience of more than 1,000 indigenous housing leaders, politicians, policy makers, researchers and corporate leaders," adds Andrew Leach.

"We look forward to attending upcoming Canadian housing conferences, and arranging senior level government meetings in Canada to promote participation and support here at home as well."

WIHC World Café

We are planning to host a World Café at the 2012 World Indigenous Housing Conference, an effective model for encouraging large group dialogue and cross-pollination of ideas. Here's how this approach works:

- 1) **Set the context** – Identify the purpose, parameters and questions to explore during the dialogue session.
- 2) **Create hospitable space** – Encourage creative thinking, speaking, and listening with a setting modeled on a café and round tables for smaller groups to gather.
- 3) **Explore questions that matter** – Pose relevant, compelling questions for people to delve into.
- 4) **Encourage everyone to contribute** – Gather different ideas and perspectives so everyone can learn, explore possibilities, and co-create together.
- 5) **Connect diverse perspectives** – After 20 minutes, people move to a different table to discuss questions with another group, and then move again to continue **the inquiry**, taking key ideas to new tables to widen circles of thought and learning.
- 6) **Listen together for patterns and insights** – Practice listening and paying attention to discover themes, patterns and insights.
- 7) **Share collective discoveries** – Share themes with the larger group to connect patterns that emerge from these conversational rounds at the World Café.

Source: www.theworldcafe.com

Visit our website: www.indigenous2012.com or contact us:

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International indigenous housing experts onboard for conference

AHMA has also created the new 2012 WIHC International Program Committee, with influential indigenous housing leaders from Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States to raise awareness in their countries and confirm a program of:

- **Distinguished, inspirational speakers** from the international housing sector and indigenous leadership to present at the conference
- **Indigenous entertainers from all four countries** to perform at the conference

Committee members met via teleconference for the first time this month, one year before the World Indigenous Housing Conference begins, and bring impressive credentials to the event:

AUSTRALIA

Dr. Tom Calma, Senior Manager, Australian Federal Government

- Aboriginal elder from the Kungarakan tribal group and a member of the Iwaidja tribal group
- Named Most Influential Indigenous Person in Australia by *Bulletin Magazine* in 2007, *GQ Magazine's* 2008 Man of Inspiration for his work in Indigenous Affairs, and one of the 50 Most Influential People in medicine in Australia by *Australian Doctor Magazine* in 2010
- Former Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner at the Australian Human Rights Commission, and senior Australian diplomat in India and Vietnam



Anne Martin, Senior Manager, Aboriginal Hostels Limited

- Proud descendant of the Yuin people, born in La Perouse, Sydney
- Member of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples
- Awarded a Gold Medal in 1999 by the University of New South Wales for her contribution to indigenous education



AHMA now a UN participant!

2012 WIHC host, the Aboriginal Housing Management Association, has been invited to participate in the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues annual sessions!

Housing is part of six key areas the UNPFII focuses on—economic and social development, environment, health, education, culture, and human rights.

About 2,000 indigenous and government leaders from around the world attend the annual UNPFII sessions, which alternate between policy development and policy review on these six crucial areas. As a participant, AHMA will:

- 1) Interact with the most influential international leaders in indigenous housing and related issues
- 2) Help craft policy on indigenous housing in the international arena

Following the June 2012 World Indigenous Housing Conference, the UNPFII will be a powerful forum for bringing recommendations forward on indigenous housing from the delegates attending our conference.

Indigenous advocacy

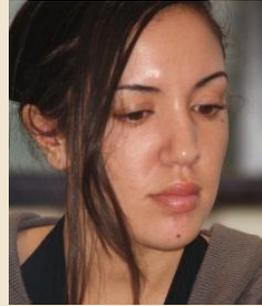
The UNPFII is also the lead advocate for the International Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, which states, in part:

"Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including ... in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security."

NEW ZEALAND

Dr. Shiloh Groot, Research Associate, University of Waikato

- Of Maori descent from the TeArawa tribe
- Member, New Zealand Coalition to End Homelessness Maori Caucus, advising on research strategies to inform the development of national policy and services
- Doctorate in Philosophy, Psychology, University of Waikato



Kaye-Maree Dunn, Māori Performance Auditor

- Of NgāiteWhatuipiti, NgātiMahanga, NgāiTāmanuhiri, NgāPuhi and TeRarawa descent
- Former Māori Housing Development Manager, Community Housing Aotearoa, responsible for the inaugural National Māori Community Housing Conference
- Designed Papakainga (sustainable development)/Wealth Creation programs, and helped Māori overcome barriers to homeownership and housing services



UNITED STATES

Mellor Willie, Executive Director, National American Indian Housing Council

- A member of the Navajo Nation, born and raised in Window Rock, Arizona
- Former Director of Development for the National Congress of American Indians, as well as senior policy and public relations positions with the Navajo Nation, Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, and the New Mexico State Senate
- First American Indian to graduate from George Washington University's Graduate School of Political Management



Cheryl A. Causley, Chairperson, National American Indian Housing Council

- Member of the Bay Mill Indian Tribe
- Executive Director of the Bay Mill Indian Community Housing Authority
- Member of 2011 roundtable on Native American Housing, Community and Economic Development, hosted by the Senior Policy Advisor for Native American Affairs, White House Domestic Policy Council



Showcasing international cultures

WIHC delegates will have the opportunity to attend a showcase of international indigenous cultural talent, at evening Cultural Receptions on June 13 and 14, 2012. World class indigenous entertainers from all four countries will perform to share their culture with global indigenous housing leaders.

WIHC Goals

The 2012 World Indigenous Housing Conference—*Sharing Our Stories; Sharing Our Successes*—is the first international event to bring indigenous housing leaders, politicians, policymakers, researchers and corporate leaders from around the world together to:

- 1) Learn from best practices
- 2) Build a global network
- 3) Feature inspirational international speakers
- 4) Showcase indigenous cultures

Jason Adams, Executive Director, Salish & Kootenai Housing Authority

- Member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation
- Chairperson, United Native American Housing Association, representing the 33 Tribally Designated Housing Entities in Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska
- Bachelor in Business Administration, University of Montana; Executives in State and Local Governments Program, Harvard University



CANADA

Dewey Smith, Senior Housing Policy Advisor, Assembly of First Nations

- Of Cree/Métis ancestry
- Member of the AFN Chiefs Committee on Housing and Infrastructure
- Works internationally on developing Green and Sustainable First Nation Communities



Margaret Pfoh, President, Aboriginal Housing Management Association

- Tsimshian from the Lax Kw'alaams First Nation
- Executive Director of the Mamele'awt Qweesome Housing Society/To'o Housing Society
- Bachelor of Arts (Honors) degree in Psychology



“Māori have excellent models of care, leadership and guardianship that the greater community and other indigenous peoples can learn from,” says Kaye-Maree Dunn. “Promoting strategic collaborations has been a major part of my work, and **I am honoured to have been selected for the WIHC International Program Committee with such a high calibre of tribal and community leaders.** I will learn and share as much as I can with this organization.”

Contact Us

Visit www.indigenous2012.com or contact us at:

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