



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

First provincial Saskatchewan Housing and Homelessness Conference Presented by Métis Nation – Saskatchewan

January 9, 2023 – Homelessness has reached a critical level in centres across Saskatchewan. Affordable, accessible and secure housing is a solution. In an effort to reach that end, Métis Nation–Saskatchewan (MN–S) invites stakeholders and those with lived experience to the first annual, intersectoral, provincial '*Building Community - Saskatchewan Housing and Homelessness Conference*'.

Title sponsor Métis Nation–Saskatchewan, together with its presenting sponsors: Saskatchewan Housing Corporation, Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association, River Bank Development Corp, Namerind Housing Corp, Saskatchewan Landlords Association, and the Network of Non-Profit Housing Providers expect to host in excess of 350 people on March 14th and 15th in Saskatoon.

In every community in Saskatchewan, there are people living on the streets and the increasing cost of living is forcing more families out of their homes and into a realm of uncertainty. A 2022 Point-in-Time survey shows homelessness is up by 15% in Saskatoon, 36% in Prince Albert, and 41% in Regina. The reasons are many and can vary from addictions issues and domestic abuse to mental health and wellness. To better address these issues and coordinate a response, MN-S is inviting stakeholders from across the province to discuss solutions.

MN–S Housing and Infrastructure Minister Loretta King says, "It's so important to remember that people living on the streets are our relatives, our family members and our friends. When we listen to their stories and experiences, we are reminded that we are similar in so many ways. We all have people we love and that love us. It's our job as community to learn how we can help one another."

Minister King highlights just one of the focal points of the '*Building Community – Housing and Homelessness Conference*'. Scholarships will also be provided to those with lived-experience, encouraging them to attend the two-day event, share what they can, and give government, service-providers, and housing professionals the insight they need to find immediate solutions with long-lasting effects.



While MN–S is the conference host, the two days will not be Métis-specific. However, those in attendance are asked to consider distinctions-based solutions to the homelessness and housing instability crisis.

The '*Building Community – Housing and Homelessness Conference*' is in Saskatoon on March 14 and 15, 2023, at the Sheraton Cavalier. Details and registration information can be found here <https://buildingcommunity2023.eventbrite.ca>.

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About Métis Nation–Saskatchewan:

Métis Nation–Saskatchewan (MN–S) is built on a foundation of Métis identity, culture, values and language. Empowered by the Métis citizens of Saskatchewan, MN–S works to advance Métis rights and strengthen capacity. MN–S represents the political, socioeconomic, cultural and educational interests of more than 80,000 Métis in the province through an elected representative system at local, regional and provincial levels. Social Media Links: [@MNSask](#), [@metisnationsask](#)

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