



## **Joint News Release – Housing NWT Signs Collaborative Agreement with Gwich'in Tribal Council**

**INUVIK (April 23, 2024)** – Gwich'in Tribal Council Grand Chief Ken Kyikavichik and Minister Responsible for Housing Northwest Territories (Housing NWT) Lucy Kuptana are pleased to announce the signing of a Collaborative Agreement on housing that took place on April 23, 2024, in Inuvik.

The Collaborative Agreement on Housing recognizes and builds on previous joint endeavours between Housing NWT and the Gwich'in Tribal Council, providing a formal framework for intergovernmental cooperation and collaboration on housing-related matters in the Gwich'in communities of Aklavik, Inuvik, Teet'it Zheh (Fort McPherson) and Tsiigehtchic.

The primary forum for discussions between the Gwich'in Tribal Council and Housing NWT will be a Housing Working Group. This group will work to prioritize community housing planning, coordinated program delivery, and housing delivery undertaken by the respective parties.

The agreement sets a framework to achieve improvement of housing-related programs and services and will explore joint housing service delivery to maximize the collective efforts to address housing needs in the Mackenzie Delta region for Gwich'in Participants.

The Gwich'in Tribal Council is committed to working with Housing NWT and the federal government to deliver quality housing and community infrastructure for the benefit of Gwich'in participants.

Housing NWT and the Gwich'in Tribal Council agree to work together at all levels in a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect, knowing that working together will help to maximize the benefits for the residents of the Gwich'in communities and the broader NWT public.

### **Quote(s)**

“Housing NWT is focused on cultivating collaborative relationships with Indigenous Governments. This agreement will create a roadmap for the Gwich'in Tribal Council and Housing NWT to work together on housing programs and services, allowing us to support residents in the best, most effective way we can.”

**- Lucy Kuptana, Minister Responsible for Housing NWT**



“Housing and infrastructure remain critical issues within the Gwich’in Settlement Area, and this collaboration is a positive step in designing housing programs and services that take into account some of our unique needs and challenges in the future. As we approach a potential Gwich’in Government, opportunities to work collaboratively with the GNWT on issues such as housing will set our Nation up for future success.”

- **Ken Kyikavichik**, *Gwich’in Tribal Council Grand Chief*

### Quick facts

- The Collaborative Agreement sets out a formal framework for partnership on housing planning and initiatives.
- Over the past two years, Housing NWT has signed intergovernmental agreements on housing with the Tłı̨chǫ Government, Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated and Délı̨ne Got’ine Government.

### Related links

- [Housing NWT](#)
- [Collaborative Agreement](#)

### For media requests, please contact:

Jeanne Yurris  
Manager, Communications  
Housing NWT  
Government of the Northwest Territories  
[NWTHC\\_comms@gov.nt.ca](mailto:NWTHC_comms@gov.nt.ca)

Tony Devlin  
Communications Advisor  
Gwich’in Tribal Council  
[tony.devlin@gwichintribal.ca](mailto:tony.devlin@gwichintribal.ca)