



BRIEFING NOTE

FIRST NATIONS NATIONAL BUILDING OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

- FNNBOA is a national nonprofit organization. It represents those individuals who provide residential, commercial and institutional construction and renovation technical services (i.e., plans review, inspections, recommending repairs, technical advocacy and advisory role) for buildings located in First Nation/Aboriginal communities. There are approximately 250 to 300 employed in this sector.
- The primary objectives of the FNNBOA are as follows:
 1. Represent individuals working as building officers in First Nation/Aboriginal communities
 2. Establish national occupational standards to ensure minimum core competencies
 3. Establish national certification and accreditation processes
 4. Ensure programs and policies for capacity development
 5. Advocate housing policies in addition to better building and renovation practices that will ultimately improve housing conditions in First Nation communities
- FNNBOA identified several key initiatives that will facilitate capacity development for First Nation/Aboriginal Building officers by acquiring the knowledge, skills, training and resources to allow First Nations to work towards self-sufficiency in housing and take on more responsibility for the functioning of their community. This includes developing and implementing comprehensive housing policies covering all technical aspects of construction and renovations such as the adoption and application of building codes including the new objective based codes.
- Partnerships have been established with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN) and National Research Council's (NRC) Canada Code Centre. FNNBOA will also participate on the National Housing Committee that focuses on national building code and the new objective based code.
- Recently, The Office of the Auditor General of Canada report to the House of Commons (April 2003) focused on housing on reserves and the uncertain application of housing codes and regulations. The FNNBOA is well positioned to address the issues of compliance. In fact, the OAG commented that CMHC and INAC should continue to work together to build upon CMHC's Native Inspection Services Initiative
- FNNBOA current projects include:
 - Development of website
 - Establishment of national certification for building officers
 - Establishment of accreditation of courses for building officers
 - Analysis of existing training/education courses
 - Membership drive and corporate sponsorship

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