

HOUSING FOR AGING SINGLE BAND MEMBERS

For a long time the council has been planning to build housing units for single band members that are not so young anymore and find themselves living with family members well into their 40's. Because of the way housing operates those individual band members that are single have often found themselves at the low end of the priority for housing. This over the years has resulted in an increase in single band members without housing.

Not to discredit the bands housing policy, but it needs to be said that priority is always families with children. As a result of the growing concern of council regarding these band members the council made a decision last year that this year 2005 would be the year that we build a housing unit to address some of the need for single band members getting on in age. The band will from time to time build units specifically to address this need in the community.

The current unit is a combination of six 2-1/2-room apartments with kitchen dining and living room combined into one large front room and the bathroom and bedroom are at the back of the apartment. Included in these units will be a fridge and stove, which is standard for such units. The final figures are not in yet but the cost will be below 300,000 dollars and that is below the budget forecast of 325,000 dollars.