



National Conference on Aboriginal Housing and Well-Being

April 9-12, 2003
Toronto, Ontario

National Aboriginal Housing Association
Association Nationale d'Habitation Autochone

Co-Sponsored by:



Centre for Urban and Community Studies
University of Toronto



M'is kow'ao Development Society
The M'akola Group of Companies

(CMHC/SCHL Logo)

(MUHAS Logo)

Metis Urban Housing Association of Saskatchewan

NAHA/ANHA: P.O. Box 7366, Ottawa, ON K1L 8E3
Tel: (613) 741-0132 Fax: (613) 741-4245



Aboriginal Housing & Well-Being

Sunday, April 6

- 2:00 – 6:00 PM Registration, Lobby, Quality Hotel, 280 Bloor Street West, Toronto
- 2:00 – 4:00 PM NAHA/ANHA Board Meeting, Varsity Room, Quality Hotel

Monday, April 7

- 8:00 – 11:00 Registration, Auditorium, Ontario Studies In Education (OISE) Bldg., 252 Bloor St. West
- 8:30 – 9:00 Opening Ceremonies, Ontario Studies In Education (OISE), 252 Bloor Street West

Chair: Frances Sanderson, Executive Director
Nishnawbe Homes, Inc., Toronto

- Drum Song, Red Spirit Drum Group
- Prayer, Elder Lillian McGregor
- Greeting from the University of Toronto, J. David Hulchanski, PhD, MCIP
- Greetings from the Government of Canada, Stephen W. Mahoney, M.P.,
Mississauga West; and Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transportation for
Crown Corporation (CMHC)
- Greetings from the President of NAHA/ANHA, Charles W. Hill

- 9:00 – 9:30 Keynote Address:
Judy Sgro, MP
Co-Chair, Prime Minister's Task Force on Urban Issues

- 9:30 – 10:00 Metis Performers
Alyssa, Conlin & Nicholas Delbaere-Sawchuk

- 10:00 – 10:15 Transition to Workshop

- 10:15 – 11:45 Workshop Sessions

Homelessness & Supportable Housing Room

Best practices and recent examples of initiatives undertaken by Aboriginal housing providers to confront homelessness in their communities.

Chair: Christian Garrow, Aboriginal Project Leader
National Secretariat on Homelessness, HRDC, Ottawa

Speakers

Peter Dinsdale, Urban Aboriginal Homeless Strategy Co-ordinator
Ontario Federation of Friendship Centres, Toronto

Michael Shapcott
Research Associate, Centre for Urban and Community Studies
Coordinator, Community / University Research Partnerships Unit

George Devine
Executive Director, National Aboriginal Housing Association/Association
Nationale d'Habitation Autochone

**Housing & Economic Development
Room**

Examines housing supply and ongoing management as a tool for community economic development and capacity building.

Speakers:

Ray Hamilton,, General Manager
Gabriel Housing Corporation, Regina

J.J. Lamigan, President
Gignul Non-Profit Housing Corporation, Ottawa

12:15 – 1:30

Conference Lunch

Hart House
7 Hart Circle, University of Toronto

Host: J.J. Lanigan
President, Gignul Non-Profit Housing Corporation

Guest Speaker: Sylvia Miracle
Executive Director, Ontario Federation of
Indian Friendship Centres

2:00 – 4:15

Workshop Sessions

**Housing Management & Cultural Sensitivity
Room**

Examines the role of housing societies in providing ‘culturally safe’ communities; and the relationship between tenant satisfaction and management & maintenance styles.

Chair: Linda Ross, President , Linda E. Ross Property Management Inc,
& Sul ‘iits slqel ts Consulting Inc, Victoria BC

Speakers

Ray Jones, President
Aboriginal Housing Management Association, Victoria, BC

Murline Browning, Executive Director
Prince George Metis Housing Society, Prince George, BC

Margaret Pfoh, Executive Director
Mission Native & Too Housing Societies, BC

Housing & Youth**Room:**

Looks at the nature of housing from the perspective of youth. As well, examines the relationship between inadequate housing and rising youth crime and destructive behaviour.

Chair: Greg Rogers
General Manager, Na-Me-Res & Tunivut Youth Shelter

Speakers

Harvey Manning, Manager
Tunivut Youth Shelter

Joni Shawana, Youth Worker
Toronto

Ainsley Shames, Youth Outreach Worker
Toronto

Tuesday, April 8

9:30 –11:30

Workshop Sessions**Housing & Health****Room**

An increasing body of research today draws strong links between housing and good health. This workshop will explore the links between the quality of housing and Aboriginal health.

Chair: Claudette Dumont-Smith, R.N., BScN, M.P.A.
Aboriginal Health Specialist & Consultant

Speakers

J. David Hulchanski, PhD, MCIP
Professor, Housing and Community Development
Centre for Urban & Community Studies
University of Toronto

Joe Hester, Executive Director
Anishanawbe Health, Toronto

Protecting the Legacy**Room**

This workshop will explore what happens when the NHA project operating agreements expire, and what is the potential for extending the subsidy arrangements. The workshop will also review the Court Challenge to the transfer of the Urban Aboriginal Housing programs from the federal government to the provinces.

Chair: Darla-Jean Lindstrom
Manager, Grey Mountain Housing Society, Whitehorse

Speakers:

Paul Connelly, Consultant
CHRA Research Study on Expiry of Operating Agreements

Chris M. Reid, Barrister & Solicitor

11:30 – 1:30	Lunch (Free Time)
1:30 – 3:00	<p>Urban Aboriginal Housing Perspectives Auditorium (OISE) 252 Bloor Street West</p> <p>Chair: Charles W. Hill, President, NAHA/ANHA</p> <p>Panel:</p> <p>“Aboriginal Housing Research”</p> <p>Phil Deacon Senior Researcher Poling and Research Division</p> <p>Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation</p> <p>"Pursuing Aboriginal Housing Goals in Winnipeg: Local Perspectives on New and Existing Housing"</p> <p>Ryan Walker, PhD Candidate Department of Geography, Queens University</p> <p>Sharon Chisholm Executive Director Canadian Housing & Renewal Association</p>
3:15 – 5:00	<p>Closing Plenary Auditorium (OISE) 252 Bloor Street West</p> <p>Chair: David Seymour, President, M'akola Group of Companies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports from the Workshops • A National Aboriginal Housing Strategy • Closing Remarks, Charles W. Hill • Closing Prayer, Elder Lillian McGregor
6:00 – 7:00	<p>Reception</p> <p>Faculty Club, University of Toronto 41 Willcocks Street</p> <p>Host: Ray Hamilton, President Metis Urban Housing Association of Saskatchewan & Director, National Aboriginal Housing Association/Association Nationale d'Habitation Autochone</p>
7:00 – 9:00	<p>Conference Dinner</p> <p>Faculty Club, University of Toronto 41 Willcocks Street</p> <p>Host: Jean Joliceour, Treasurer, Corporation Waskahegan, Quebec & Vice-President, National Aboriginal Housing Association/Association Nationale d'Habitation Autochone</p> <p>Dress: Regalia, traditional dress, business attire</p> <p>Entertainment: Inuit Throat Singers Emily Karpik, Tracy Brown</p>

Wednesday, April 9

9:00 – 12:00

**NAHA/ANHA Annual General Meeting
Auditorium, OISE, 252 Bloor Street West**

Chair: Charles W. Hill, President
Board of Directors

- Opening Ceremony
- Approval of the Agenda
- Minutes April 6, 2002
- Treasurer's Report
- Provincial Reports
- Report from CHRA Board Representative: David Seymour
- Business Arising from the Minutes
- New Business
- Election of Directors
- Closing Comments: Charles W. Hill, President
- Closing Ceremony

WHO'S WHO

Opening Plenary

Lillian McGregor Elder

Lillian McGregor is originally from Birch Island, Whitefish River First Nation in Northern Ontario, and is a member of the Crane Clan. Lillian speaks her Ojibwe dialect and her spiritual name is Shkebuk.

Lillian retired from a very successful nursing career in 1989. Over the years, she has been on the board of directors of the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto; Anduhyan Inc.; Native Child and Family Services; and Anishnawbe Homes Inc. She is a member of the Traditional Teachers Advisory Council of the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto; Elder for the Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Strategy of Ontario; Visiting Elder for the Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres; and Elder-in-Residence for the First Nations House at the University of Toronto.

The Native community in Toronto honoured Lillian with an Eagle feather in 1995. She is also the recipient of the Outstanding Educator Award from the University of Toronto and the Outstanding Achievement Award in volunteerism from the Government of Ontario. She has also received an award from the Native Child and Family Services of Toronto, and in June 2002, she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from the University of Toronto.

Frances Sanderson Executive Director Nishnawbe Homes Inc., Toronto

Francis Sanderson is an urban Aboriginal woman and member of the Obibwe Whitefish River First Nation, Birch Island, Ontario. She has been Executive Director, Nishnawbe Homes Inc., a Toronto-based housing provider for the past nine years. She is also a director of the Native Child and Family Services; Vice-President of Native Earth Performing Arts; Vice-President of the Native Home Providers in Ontario (NHPO); Chair of the Toronto Urban Native Ministries; Chair of George Brown College Native Studies Steering Committee; Chair of the Aboriginal Consultative Committee for the Toronto Police Service; Council Member of Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto Diversion Program, and a board member of FASworld Toronto (Fetal Alcohol Syndrome).

Francis has received many honours, including Woman on the Move Award, 1988, Global Television and the Toronto Sun; the City of Toronto's 2000 William P Hubbard Race Relations Award; the City of Toronto's 2001 Canada Day Achievement Award; the 2001 Toronto Police Service Human Resources Award; and the 2001 City of Toronto Volunteer of the Year Citation. Francis is an avid bowler and has received many bowling awards.

J. David Hulchanski, PhD, MCIP Director, Centre for Urban & Community Studies University of Toronto Endowed Chair, Dr. Chow Yel, Ching Chair in Housing

David Hulchanski is the director of the Centre for Urban and Community Studies and a professor of housing and community development at the University of Toronto. His teaching and research focuses on housing policy and related urban social and economic issues, including poverty, the relationship between health and housing, discrimination in housing markets, social housing programs, and homelessness. He earned his master's and Ph.D. degrees in urban planning at the University of Toronto. In 1997, he was appointed to the only endowed chair in housing studies in North America, the Dr. Chow Yee Ching Chair in Housing.

Steve Mahoney
Member of Parliament for Mississauga West; Parliamentary Secretary for Crown Corporation (CMHC) and Transportation

First elected to the House of Commons in 1997, and re-elected on November 27, 2000. In November 1998, Steve Mahoney was appointed Chair of the **Prime Minister's Caucus Task Force on Youth Entrepreneurship**. Following this, the Prime Minister appointed him as the federal Advocate on Youth Entrepreneurship.

Mr. Mahoney served as Chair of the 111 member Ontario Liberal Caucus from 2001-2002, and is a member of the National and Greater Toronto Area Liberal Caucuses. As well, he is a member of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates, and the Standing Committee on Public Accounts. He has over twenty years of political experience in all three levels of government. First elected to public office in 1978 as a councillor in Mississauga and the Region of Peel. He was elected to the Ontario Legislature in 1987 where he served as the Chief Liberal Whip.

Taiowisakarere-Charles W. (Charlie) Hill
President, National Aboriginal Housing Association/Association Nationale d'Habitation Autochone

Mr. Hill has a long-standing association with Aboriginal housing issues, policy development, implementation and program planning. He brings a rich background of experience and first hand knowledge of federal social housing programs and their administration, including financial management and operations. As Director of the National Housing Program for the *Assembly of First Nations*, and as head of the On-Reserve Housing Program at Indian Affairs for eight years, Mr. Hill helped shape First Nations housing policy in Canada.

He also has long acquaintance with urban Aboriginal housing. For the past ten years he has been a member Gignul Non-Profit Housing Corporation in Ottawa, serving initially as a Director, and currently as Vice-President. Mr. Hill is also President of the Native Home Providers in Ontario, a position to which he has been elected for four consecutive terms. Mr. Hill is a member of the Mohawk Nation, and was born and raised on the Six Nations Territory at Grand River (Ohsweken), in Southern Ontario.

Judy Sgro
Member of Parliament for York West; Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Public Works and Government Services

First elected to the House of Commons in a federal by-election on November 15th, 1999 and re-elected on November 27th, 2000 in the Federal general election. In January 2003, Judy was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Public Works and Government Service, currently the Hon. Ralph Goodale. As Parliamentary Secretary, Judy sits on two Standing Committees, Public Accounts and Government Operations & Estimates. Judy is also Vice-Chair of Ontario Caucus and a member of GTA Caucus.

From May 2001 until December 2002, Judy was the Chair of the **Prime Minister's Caucus Task Force on Urban Issues**. The Task Force released its Interim Report in May 2002 and the Final Report in November 2002. Highly regarded for their extensive consultations and exemplary reporting, the Task Force made major recommendations for a national urban strategy for Canada. Judy sat on the Standing Committee on Health until December 2002, serving as Vice-Chair from September to December 2001. She is also a member of various Parliamentary Associations including the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Canada-Europe, Canada-Italy, Canada-Israel and Canada-Hong Kong Friendship Groups.

Prior to federal politics, Judy was elected to North York City Council in 1988. In 1998, Judy was elected to the newly-amalgamated City of Toronto Council where she served as the Mayor's designate and Vice-Chair of the Toronto Police Services Board.

Workshop: Homelessness and Supportable Housing

Christian Garrow

**Aboriginal Project Leader, Program Management Directorate
National Secretariat on Homelessness,
Human Resources Development Canada**

Christian Garrow is a Mohawk from Akwesasne. He studied at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick. His first job in Ottawa was working with a youth group from the Odawa Native Friendship Centre. He has previously worked with the Assembly of First Nations as the national co-ordinator of youth programs, and was a program consultant with Human Resources Development Canada's Youth Initiative Directorate, and with the Department of Canadian Heritage, before joining the National Secretariat on Homelessness.

Christian continues to work within the federal government with the hopes of improving policies and programs affecting Aboriginal people.

Peter Dinsdale

**Urban Aboriginal Homeless Strategy Co-ordinator
Ontario Federation of Friendship Centres**

Peter Dinsdale, a member of Curve Lake First Nations, has been active within the Aboriginal community working on issues related to employment and training, education, youth issues and homelessness.

Peter studied at Laurentian University and has a Bachelor of Arts in Native Studies and Political Science, and a Master of Arts in Humanities.

Michael Shapcott

**Research Associate, Centre for Urban and Community Studies
Coordinator, Community / University Research Partnerships Unit**

Michael Shapcott co-ordinates the Community/University Research Partnerships (CURP) program at the Centre for Urban and Community Studies. The program promotes policy-relevant scholarship and applied research and the exchange of knowledge between community agencies or associations and university-based researchers. CURP represents the University of Toronto's contribution to improved knowledge and applied scholarship on the practical problems and policy issues associated with urban living, with a particular focus on poverty, housing, homelessness, community planning, social well-being, and social justice issues.

Mr. Shapcott is a long-time community-based advocate for housing and solutions to homelessness. He has worked at the local, provincial, national, and international levels on both governmental and non-governmental initiatives. Before starting work at the Centre for Urban and Community Studies, he was Manager of Government Relations and Communications – Ontario Region for the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada. From 1990 to 1993, Mr. Shapcott coordinated the Rupert Pilot Project, an innovative community development project to provide housing and services for 525 rooming house tenants. Previously, he was a community worker with homeless adults at the Toronto Christian Resource Centre.

Mr. Shapcott is co-chair and a founding member of the National Housing and Homelessness Network and a founding member of the Toronto Disaster Relief Committee, the Toronto Coalition Against Homelessness, and the Bread Not Circuses Coalition. In 2000, he was a non-governmental organization representative to the forum on Capacity Building for Disaster Mitigation and Reconstruction in Istanbul, Turkey. In 1991, the provincial government appointed him to serve on the corporate minimum tax working group of the Ontario Fair Tax Commission.

Mr. Shapcott spent ten years as a journalist, working as a reporter, columnist, and editor for several newspapers. He continues to carry out applied, policy-relevant research and produce plain-language reports

and popular education materials on housing and homelessness. He contributes opinion pieces for national and local media. He is a keynote speaker for local, provincial, and national audiences on housing, homelessness, and social justice issues.

He attended the Faculty of General Studies at the University of Calgary and the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto, and has completed the Intensive Program in Poverty Law at Parkdale Community Legal Services, specializing in landlord and tenant law.

George Devine

Executive Director, National Aboriginal Housing Association/Association Nationale d'Habitation Autochone

George Devine worked for *Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation* (1971-1997), where he was involved with the urban, rural & native, and on-reserve Aboriginal housing programs. From 1985 until 1997, he was the Manager, *Portfolio Management Group*, which had oversight responsibility for CMHC's social housing portfolio, including Aboriginal housing. In 1997, he established *Devine & Associates*, an Ontario-based consulting firm specializing in private/not-for-profit/co-operative housing development; housing administration; and Aboriginal housing policy and programs. He served as a NAHA/ANHA Director from 2000 – April 2002, when he accepted the position of Executive Director..

He has been called upon to provide housing policy advice and professional services to both national Aboriginal organizations as well as Aboriginal housing providers. He was the lead consultant with *Gignul Non-Profit Housing Corporation* in Ottawa, in the successful completion of a \$1.2 M Aboriginal seniors lodge; and was the development consultant for an Aboriginal men's shelter and healing lodge.

George was born in Nova Scotia and graduated from Saint Thomas University in Fredericton.

Workshop: Housing and Economic Opportunity

Ray Hamilton

General Manager, Gabriel Housing Corporation, Regina and President, Metis Urban Housing Association of Saskatchewan

In addition to managing Gabriel Housing Corporation for the past fourteen years, Ray Hamilton has also serves as a NAHA/ANHA Director for the past three years.

Mr. Hamilton was the first Aboriginal person elected to the Regina City Council. He was also Program Director, Rural and Native Housing for ten years with the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation. He combines a strong background in urban Aboriginal housing, with his knowledge of community economic development.

J.J. (Jim) Lanigan

President, Gignul Non-Profit Housing Corporation, Ottawa

In addition to serving as President of Gignul Non-Profit Housing for the past eight years, he has been a NAHA/ANHA Director for the past three years. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the Odawa Friendship Centre, Ottawa, and is the sponsor of the Makonsag Aboriginal Head Start Program in Ottawa.

His involvement in community economic development and Aboriginal organizations led to his election as Vice President of the BC Association of Non Status Indian where he served several terms in office. He also held executive positions in the United Native Nations in Vancouver for a number of years. As a member of the Native Council of Canada, Jim was an active participant in the development of the Rural and Native Housing Program and served as the Construction Manager of the first project constructed under this Program, in Fort Nelson, BC. Jim experienced a lengthy career in the public service having worked in Vancouver as a Social Development Officer, in Ottawa as Programs Manger of the Native Citizens Directorate, and in Regina, as Regional Director of Saskatchewan for Heritage Canada.

Currently he is on an Executive Interchange assignment working as a Senior Program and Policy Advisor

to the Métis National Council in Ottawa. Jim Lanigan is Métis and originates from Big River, a village in northern Saskatchewan.

Luncheon Keynote Speaker

Sylvia Miracle
Executive Director
Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres

Workshop: Housing Management & Cultural Sensitivity

Linda E. Ross
President, Linda E. Ross Property Management Inc, Sul 'iits slqel ts Consulting Inc

Linda has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Manitoba, and has certified as a Property Manager and an Agent/Nominee through the University of British Columbia. Through her company, Linda E. Ross Property Management Inc., she manages residential, commercial, and industrial property throughout British Columbia. Through Sul 'iits slqel ts Consulting Inc. (pronounced: "shuleets scults" and meaning Full Moon in Coast Salish) she provides consulting services for Aboriginal housing groups on and off reserve

Linda was the Executive Director of the M'akola Group of Societies for the past eleven years. In this position, she managed almost 600 units of Urban and Rural housing; administered social service programs; and acted as part of a development consultant team for the construction of over 300 townhouses, as well as overseeing renovation work.

She has been a member of the Minister of Housing's advisory committee (BC) for 7 years and has sat on the Board of the BC Non Profit Housing Association. Linda was the President of the Aboriginal Housing Management Association's (AHMA) Board for BC and the Yukon for 6 years, as well as Acting as AHMA's CEO for the past two years working with the Board to develop the first Urban and Rural Aboriginal Housing Self Management model in Canada. AHMA has a practicum student from the School of social work, University of Victoria supervised by Linda, and she also works with the University of Victoria through the Indigenous Governance program documenting the AHMA process.

Margaret Pfoh
Executive Director, Mission Native & Toó Housing Societies, and Vice President for the Aboriginal Housing Management Association.

Margaret Pfoh graduated with honors from Simon Fraser University with her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Criminology. She has worked with Mission Native Housing Society since 1994, initially starting out as the Tenant Relations Co-ordinator. She became Executive Director in 1997 and added a culturally-oriented 23-unit apartment complex. This complex was geared toward the importance of housing our elders with young families, called Society Toó Housing. Margaret 's approach to housing management is based on adherence to the four directions and medicine wheel concepts.

Mission Native Housing Society also manages the Future Four Nations Aboriginal Head Start, which tends to the children's educational and holistic family needs; the Health Development Project, (Fraser Health Authority), which targets chronic disease prevention and positive health promotion—including the first District aboriginal holistic health clinic being run out of Toó Housing Society; and are currently initiating talks with HRDC to fund the implementation of a District wide Community Strategy to address aboriginal homelessness in their community.

Workshop: Housing and Health

Claudette Dumont-Smith R.N., BScN, M.P.A. Aboriginal Health Specialist & Consultant

Claudette Dumont-Smith is a member of the Kitigan Zibi Algonquin First Nations' community located near Maniwaki, Quebec. Claudette has over 25 years of experience working in the Aboriginal health field at the local, regional and national levels where she began work as a Community Health Representative, Community Health Nurse and, following her move to the National Capital region, Executive Director of an Aboriginal Nurses' Association. Since 1990 she has worked for many Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal government and non-governmental agencies as a private consultant on a myriad of issues affecting the health and well being of Aboriginal people.

Claudette graduated in nursing from Algonquin College in Ottawa in 1982, received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the Université du Québec en Outaouais (formerly L'Université du Québec a Hull) in 1991 and, obtained a Master's in Public Administration from Queen's University in 2000. In the summer of 2001, Claudette successfully completed a three and one-half month Research Internship Program in Population Health at the University of Ottawa.

Claudette was recently selected to sit on the newly formed Domestic Violence Death Review Committee by the Solicitor General of Ontario and is currently working on a part-time basis for the Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada and is also working as a private consultant/researcher for other Aboriginal organizations in the National Capital Region.

J. David Hulchanski, PhD, MCIP Director, Centre for Urban & Community Studies University of Toronto Endowed Chair, Dr. Chow Yel, Ching Chair in Housing

See above (Opening Plenary)

Joe Hester Executive Director Anishnawbe Health, Toronto

Workshop: Protecting the Legacy

Darla-Jean Lindstrom Manager Grey Mountain Housing, Whitehorse

Darla-Jean Lindstrom is a Carcross/Tagish First Nation Member, of the Dakhlaweid Clan (Wolf). Darla-Jean has worked in the housing field for 18 yrs. Darla has worked with every federal & territorial housing program that have been offered in the Yukon since the early 80's .

She worked with the Territorial Housing Rental Program, On-Reserve Housing and the Urban Native Housing Program. At a national level, Darla has been a Director of the National Aboriginal Housing Association/Association Nationale d'Habitation Autochone for the past five years. She has also been involved with the Assembly of First Nations and the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples. She has been involved in design, delivery and implementation of housing programs for both on & off Reserve.

Presently Darla-Jean is a manager of Grey Mountain Housing in Whitehorse, Yukon; a small housing society with 75 housing units.

**Christopher M. Reid
Barrister & Solicitor**

Chris Reid is an Aboriginal lawyer based in Toronto. He has been a lawyers for the past sixteen years and works exclusively for First Nations and urban Aboriginal communities in negotiations and litigation.

**Paul Connelly
Connelly Consulting Services**

Paul Connelly is a consultant working on a number of financial-analysis projects for national, provincial and municipal organizations as well as individual non-profits. Currently, he is completing a study for the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association on the national impact of the expiry of housing providers' operating agreements with the federal government.

In 2002, Paul completed nine years of employment with the Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association, most recently as Manager of Program Design. He was ONPHA's chief negotiator with the Province and municipal stakeholders regarding the *Social Housing Reform Act 2000* and its regulations. He helped design the new funding model for social housing and the revised accountability framework between social housing providers and their funders. He also represented ONPHA on such issues as the Portfolio Operating Agreement for provincially funded non-profits, benchmarking and best practices, and the development of a group insurance program for non-profit housing.

Before joining ONPHA, Paul was a member of Lantana Non-Profit Homes Corp. At Lantana he was a development consultant responsible for over 500 units of social housing, and was also chairperson of the Board. Paul has been active in social housing for 24 years as a builder/contractor, Treasurer and President of a housing co-op and a manager of co-operative and non-profit housing.

Plenary: Urban Aboriginal Housing Perspectives

**Jean-Claude Villiard
President, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation**

**Ryan Walker
Doctoral Candidate, Department of Geography
Queens University, Kingston**

Ryan Walker is in his third year of doctoral studies in geography at Queen's University. His research examines how Aboriginal stakeholders in Canadian cities are engaging in low-cost housing production, His research focuses on changes in housing activity from the early 1970s to today in the light of changing housing policies and the renewed importance of local initiatives in the assisted housing sector.

Mr. Walker has received numerous awards for his academic work, but most notably in the policy research field, he received the Canadian Policy Research Award (Graduate prize) in 2001 from the Policy Research Initiative in Ottawa.

Sharon Chisholm

Closing Plenary

David Seymour President, M'akola Group of Societies, BC

David Seymour is a Mohawk from Akwesasne. He has been the President of the M'akola Group of Societies for the past 18 years. M'akola manages more than 700 housing units under various housing programs on Vancouver Island.

He is a founding and currently a director with the Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AMHA). He is completing his second term as the second Vice- President of the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association (CHRA). A graduate of the University of Victoria Law School, class of 1984, David continues to work for Indian and Northern Affairs Canada as a Funding Services Officer, where he has been for 10 years working with First Nations to develop their communities. His experiences include involvement on many boards such as the Victoria Friendship Centre, the BC Association of Indian Friendship Centres, Native Law Students Association, The Committee for the Advancement of Native Employees, the National Aboriginal Housing Association/Association Nationale d'Habitation Autochone, and the Canadian Crossroads International Victoria Local Committee.