

## Ontario Joint Gathering

<b>Session Title</b> <b>Infrastructure, Water and Community Planning Breakout Session</b> <b>Facilitated by Valerie Flynn, FNIHB, and David Didlucik, ARDG, ISC ON</b>	
<b>Date &amp; Time: May 3, 2018 1:30 pm-3:00 pm</b>	
<b>What Was Heard (Key Points)</b>	<b>Action Items</b>
<p><b>SELF-DETERMINATION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Nations have asserted for many years what they have wanted – for government to get out of the way.</li> <li>• First Nations need to develop their own forms of governance that include the true cost of operating based on self-determined priorities.</li> <li>• Government is developing reports and recommendations without taking into account previous engagements. For example, the Royal Commission on Aboriginal peoples clearly states the position of First Nations communities.</li> <li>• Require operational resources for self-governance.</li> <li>• Government of Canada needs to get out of the business of determining citizenship.</li> <li>• Government of Canada support for self-governance is important, however, a new relationship requires sustained funding that keeps pace with inflation over time and supports the need for human resources capacity.</li> </ul> <p><b>JURISDICTION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal and Provincial governments need to work together to advance relationships with First Nations.</li> <li>• The Government works in silos, but First Nation communities do not.</li> <li>• Internal policy is slowing progress on necessary infrastructure projects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional officials will follow up regarding internal policies that may be slowing progress on infrastructure projects.</li> </ul>

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### REGIONAL ALLOCATION:

- How do we become more proactive in meeting First Nation needs? Suggestion for a financial analysis of legacy investments.
- Why is Ontario Region being short-changed compared to other regions?
- How does policy change?
- How are funding allocations being determined and by whom?
- There is a need for a New Build Fund that would help newly established communities secure infrastructure funding.
- Need to revise departmental project review and approval process.
- There are a variety of needs across Ontario First Nations and we have a process in place so that First Nations can submit their priorities, such as the First Nation Infrastructure Investment Plan.
- We understand the needs of First Nation communities outweigh available resources.
- Building the rationale to adjust regional funding allocation requires evidence-based policy – First Nations can provide that critical information.
- In order to affect policy change, First Nations have various engagement opportunities.

### CAPITAL FOR EDUCATION AND HEALTH FACILITIES:

- Priority ranking for new school facilities is challenging.
- Time is running out and continues to impact well-being in First Nation Communities
- The Long-term care file needs to be advanced.

### HOUSING:

- Keeping families together is a priority that is challenged by lack of affordable housing on reserve.
- Budget 2018 has introduced new investments for housing.

• A tripartite group is working to address capital for long-term care. Regional staff will follow-up with First Nation communities directly and provide more information about when a Long-Term Care Capital Plan will be finalized.

• The department is currently working with First Nations to determine how programs should be developed.

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