



2023

# Indigenous Reaching Home

### NEWSLETTER Quarter 3 Volume 5





















## What we've been up to...

#### **ACEH Building Community**

"Throughout the spring season, ACEH held three Building Community events at the Downtown Community Centre. These events were supported by Cultural Mentor Wade Charlie and homecooked meals were provided to our Indigenous Street Family. A total of 400 meals were served during these events, fostering a sense of community, and offering nourishment while providing connection to culture."

Way to go ACEH!



#### IRH in Halifax!

The IRH team was lucky enough to visit Halifax to attend the CAEH 2023 Homelessness Conference, where many lasting connections were made. We met with the Reaching Home Coordinator from John Howard Society of PEI. We received a tour of their new housing complex, the Diamond Bailey house and were able to sit and connect with their Indigenous Reaching Home team.



#### **OCAP** workshop

The IRH team was honored to welcome Leslie from FNIGC, from Thunder Bay, Ontario, to deliver an incredible inperson workshop on the Fundamentals of OCAP® (Ownership, Control, Access, Possession). We had many participants from our partner projects, our ICAB, VNFC staff and some INFC representation. We have had feedback that more workshops like these would be beneficial to our community, so we are looking forward to hosting more in the future!



#### Meet the VNFC Housing Team!

Ange- I am the director of Housing and Support Services at Threshold Housing Society (THS). As a non-Indigenous organization, THS is committed to decolonizing our practice and working to address the over representation of Indigenous youth experiencing homelessness in our community. With 30 years of housing and support services experience it has been a highlight of my career to work alongside the amazing Sylvia and Mavis.



#### **Success Story**

"M" first entered Threshold's Supportive Recovery Program (SRP) in November 2021. This was the beginning of an amazing journey of self-reflection and growth where "M" has continued to flourish. Working closely with the Indigenous Wellness Advocate (IWA) team, "M" has transitioned to stable housing within Threshold as well, they have begun taking post-secondary courses! Most recently "M" has acknowledged the need for additional support in their recovery, and through deep collaboration with The Foundry and Coastal Sage Initiative she continues her journey while having consistent and unwavering support by the IWA team. The end goal is to support "M" into greater independence within THS's private market (SHY) housing program.



Mavis- I am from Coast Salish Territories
Stziminus to WSANEC Lekwenen
Territory and everywhere in between. I
have worked in this sector since 2020 but
have worked with Threshold since June
2023. What I love about this work is my
own self growth and our youth and their
accomplishments.

Sylvia- My English name is Sylvia Parke, my Haida name is Git Kunee and I am from Songalth Sdasta'as Eagle clan from the village of Kuista on Haida Gwaii. I started working in the Social Services field 24 years ago and have been with Threshold since February 2021. One of my favourite parts of the work that I do at Threshold Housing Society is building relationships and connections with the youth and walking beside them on their journey.

