



## **Pabineau First Nation Housing Policy**

### **Introduction**

A community prospers with members living in the community, contributing to the prosperity of the community and having adequate housing to meet the needs of members. This policy outlines the process for applying for a house, factors in determining priority for housing, placement on the request for housing list, distribution of the request for housing list and the annual approval allocation for Housing.

The number of houses built and allocated each year is dependent on Government funding but Chief and Council will explore alternative funding options each year to increase the houses built.

This policy is drafted by Chief and Council with input from community members, approved by Chief and Council and available to all community members on our Pabineau First Nation web site.

### **Housing Committee**

A Housing Committee will be established with membership decided by Chief and Council. The committee will consist of five (5) members representative of families on the Band membership.

The Housing Committee, on a voluntary basis, will meet as required to recommend housing allocation to Chief and Council as houses become available.

## **Priority Criteria**

There are numerous factors to consider in establishing priority for housing such as:

- Placement on the waiting list
- Size of family
- Economic circumstances
- Allocation by family
- Personal investment
- Current housing situation
- Marital status

### **Placement on the waiting list**

Community members requesting housing should send a formal letter addressed to Chief and Council. The request must include the number of family members, particulars of family members including age, sex and whether family members are Band members. The applicant should also state their current housing arrangement. An applicant must renew their application each year.

The amount of time a person has been on the waiting list for a house will be an important, but not the sole, criteria in assessing eligibility for a house. It will not be the sole criteria but it will be given sufficient weight over other criteria.

### **Size of family**

A family with one or more children will be given additional weight over a family with no kids or a single person.

### **Economic Circumstances**

Some people are in a better position to contribute to the betterment of the community than others. Factors such as having a job, skill and training are important in determining one's potential contribution to the community. This must be balanced with compassion and circumstances the applicants find themselves in.

### **Allocation by family**

There are a number of family names with family ties in the community . To ensure fairness, an equitable annual allocation by family will be adhered to. There will be extenuating circumstances that must be taken into consideration that will preclude abiding by this family allocation policy.

#### Personal Investment

An equity contribution by a member will allow the Band to build more houses and instill a true sense of ownership in the house. Those applicants willing to put an equity investment in a house will be given added weight when assessing their application.

#### Current housing situation

People in dire strait for housing should be given weight over others who currently have housing. Such people will be given added weight in evaluating their application.

#### Marital Status

A married couple with children will be given a weight preference over those that are single.