Nishnawbe Aski Nation



NAN HOUSING STRATEGY

Community Led Designs for Specialized Housing in the North Co-Creation Workshop #3

This final in-person workshop on September 27-28, 2023 brought together all the learnings from the two Co-Creation Workshops (hosted in February and May 2023) and subsequent virtual sessions (summer 2023) and presented the schematic designs to co-creation participants. The goal was to finalize the four housing designs by exploring how the four different types of housing may best meet the needs of NAN members whose needs are not met by existing housing designs - single adults, those in need of emergency housing or those in need of housing with supports. What we heard at Co-Creation Workshop #1 determined the four types of housing that needed to be designed through CLDSHN to support those in greatest housing need: 1 and 2 bedroom homes, a large family home, a group home, and a living and gathering development. At Co-Creation Workshop #2 an architecture team joined each design team of NAN community members and frontline professionals and worked together to understand what types and sizes of spaces should be included in each housing design, so that floor plans could be developed that meet the specific needs of future occupants.



What happened at the workshop?

In the morning of Day 1, co-creation team members were invited to participate in an open house to explore the four housing designs and engage with the architect teams. Architects from each co-creation team displayed their current progress- including floor plans, visual images of the proposed layouts, and information on materials- their process and next steps. The open house provided a way for co-creation team members to learn about each of the designs, ask questions, and share ideas.

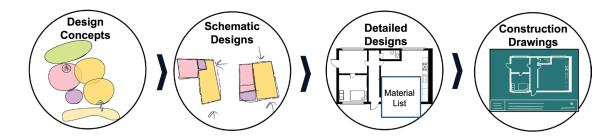
Architects brought with them various supplemental materials to engage with teams on different aspects of the houses. 3D printed models provided another way of seeing and talking about what the housing design looks like, interior and exterior finishing sample materials allowed participants to touch and feel different materials and understand perceptions and features of each, and constructed wall assembly segments provided a visual and tactile way to learn and share about technical aspects of design.

In the afternoon, co-creation team members worked with each other, architects, NAN and TDL team members to review their team's current design and explore final considerations for the schematic design phase including spatial arrangements, use of space, look and feel, and materiality. Several types of activities took place during the afternoon sessions: open discussions guided by questions from architects to probe deeper into various design elements; a spatial arrangement activity using a floor plan and printed room pieces to share ideas and learn about preferred house layouts; exploring how the house might interact with an existing community by placing scaled houses



of the design on a printed aerial map; learning about the role of windows and preferred placements; as well as other activities.

Day 2 began with a morning workshop to provide a final opportunity to review the current design, reflect on learnings from the previous day and outline next steps in the design process. In the afternoon cocreation team members, architects, NAN and TDL joined together in table discussions to share reflections on the co-creation process and the need for change in the housing system.



What comes next?

After reviewing what was heard at Co-Creation Workshop #3, architects began drafting final schematic designs for their team's building type. As the designs move through the stages of detailed design and construction drawings, co-creation team participants will be kept informed about the project's progress. At the final stage of the project, anticipated to be in 2025, when the designs are finalized and ready for implementation NAN will share the final outcomes with co-creation team members. We thank all co-creation team members for their time, knowledge, and generous sharing that has made this project of designing houses by and for NAN members possible.

Contact Us

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Information can also be found on the NAN Housing Strategy webpage: https://www.nan.ca/resources/ nan-housing-strategy/