



PRESS RELEASE

shishalh Nation was awarded \$6.8 million dollars for 34 affordable housing units from the BC Indigenous Housing Fund over the weekend. On Saturday, Debbie Hendsbee, CEO of Tsain-Ko Development Corporation, Linda Simon, CAO of shishalh Nation and Chief Warren Paull, were on hand for the announcement, which was made at Katzie First Nation in Pitt Meadows.



B.C. Housing Minister Selina Robinson with shishálh Nation Chief Warren Paull and Robert Phillips, political executive, First Nations Summit, at Katzie First Nation, where the funding announcement was made Nov. 24.

“We’re extremely happy with this funding announcement. The province stepped in to fill a void and we’re hoping that’s a signal to the feds that they need to do more in the way of addressing the immediate needs of First Nation’s housing,” said Chief Paull.

“This is one of the final steps toward the development of our multi-purpose building project that’s been in the works for the last year,” said Jason Jenkins, Tsain-Ko Economic Development Officer. “We’re very excited to be working with the BC Indigenous Housing Fund on this project that will provide 34 homes for the Nation, as well as many other opportunities such as employment and social programs.”

BC Municipal Affairs and Housing Minister Selina Robinson announced that 26 indigenous communities will receive a total of 250 million, to fund 1143 social housing units. BC is the first province to invest in provincial housing for indigenous communities. BC Housing will work with the Nations to finalize the projects over the next few months.

The province of BC has committed seven billion dollars over the next ten years, as a gesture of reconciliation. More than \$250 million will be allocated over the next three years for poverty reduction, child care, mental health and addictions, affordable housing, language revitalization, skills training and emergency management.

In January, Tsain-Ko will be meeting with leaders from the BC Indigenous Housing Fund to continue the development of the project, with community engagement to follow.