



Ministry of
Mental Health
and Addictions

W08: INDIGENOUS- LED COMPLEX CARE HOUSING

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Outline

- Welcome
- The beginning
 - MMHA Mandate
 - AHMA context – Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy
- The middle
 - MMHA – Strategic Framework
 - AHMA Engagement and Submission
- Indigenous-led Complex Care Housing
 - Why is it important?
 - AHMA Development

Context & government mandates

- Homelessness increasing across province in number and complexity
- Toxic drug supply, affordability, housing crisis
- Interconnected government mandates around homelessness, including:
 - Provincial homelessness strategy (AG/Housing)
 - Complex care housing (MMHA)
 - Addressing needs of people experiencing homelessness (multiple)

Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA)

VISION

A globally recognized leader in Indigenous housing solutions across the housing spectrum

MISSION

Lead and advance the housing rights for all Indigenous people living in British Columbia

- First Indigenous housing authority in Canada
- Our 54 members are Indigenous Housing & Service Providers responsible for 97% of the urban Indigenous housing in BC
- AHMA members represent over 10,000 Indigenous families
- Direct partners with the province of BC
- AHMA members make up 1/3 of all Indigenous housing providers in Canada
- Advancing FIBI solutions
- Advocacy



British Columbia Urban, Rural & Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy (URN)

- Inclusion was our guiding principle: every voice must be heard
- Advisory Council to oversee and monitor Strategy progress: FNHIC, FNHA, CMHC, BCH, BC Housing Policy Branch, BCNPHA, Metis Nation of BC and BCAAFC
- 30+ Indigenous Housing and Service providers participated in data collection including tenants/clients



British Columbia Urban, Rural & Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy (URN)

Four Key Objectives

1. Address the housing needs of all Indigenous households living in urban, rural, and northern communities
2. Strive to end Indigenous homelessness
3. Ensure Indigenous people have access to a variety of housing solutions, including home ownership
4. Support improved health and well-being of Indigenous people through safe, stable and culturally appropriate housing programs and services



British Columbia Urban, Rural & Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy (URN)

9 Principles guided Strategy development & implementation:

1. Right to Housing

2. Inclusivity

3. Reconciliation

4. Self-determination

5. Equity

6. Flexibility

7. Sustainability

8. Collaboration

9. Well-Being



British Columbia Urban, Rural & Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy (URN)



- Support AHMA's call on the federal government to **fund and implement 13 Strategic Actions** outlined in the Strategy as a fundamental part of the National Housing Strategy
- Urge BC's Provincial and Municipal governments to **work, co-fund and collaborate** with the Federal Government to implement the Strategy



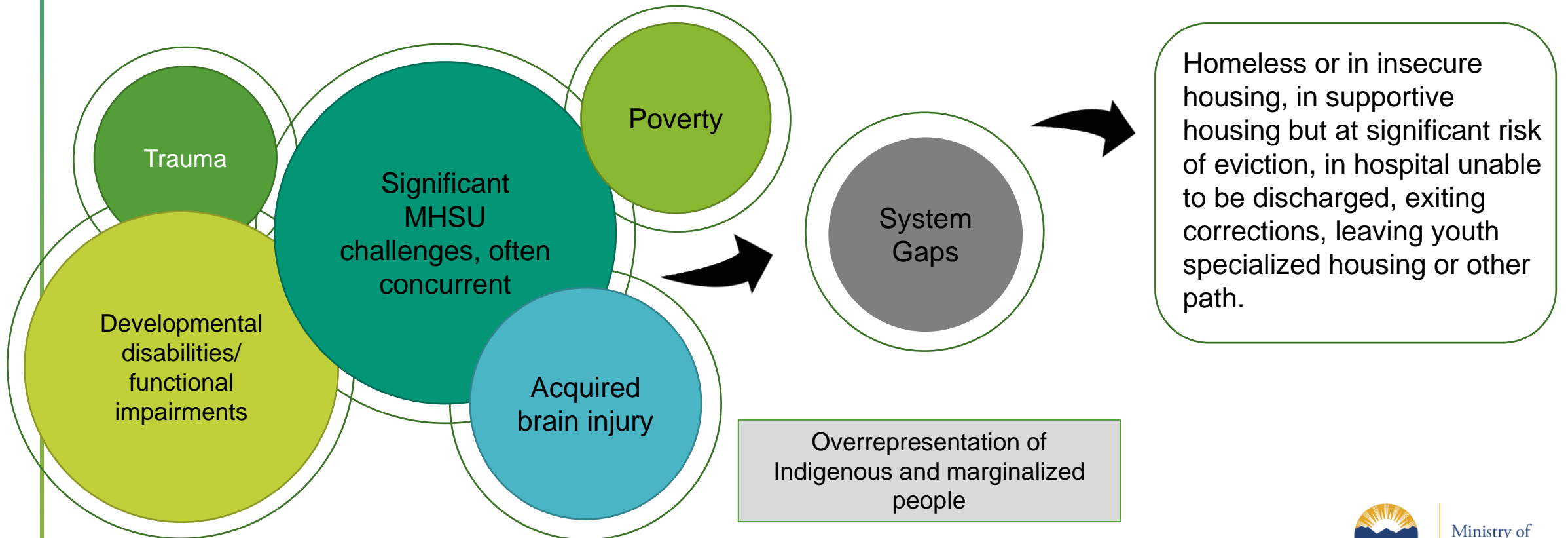
Complex Care Housing – Developing a Strategic Framework

- Product of evidence review, service inventory, and engagement.
- Synthesis of what we heard through engagement, alongside established evidence, best practice
- Prioritizes key populations, including Indigenous led projects
- Not “one size fits all” - flexible model that can respond to individual need
- Driven by five foundational principles

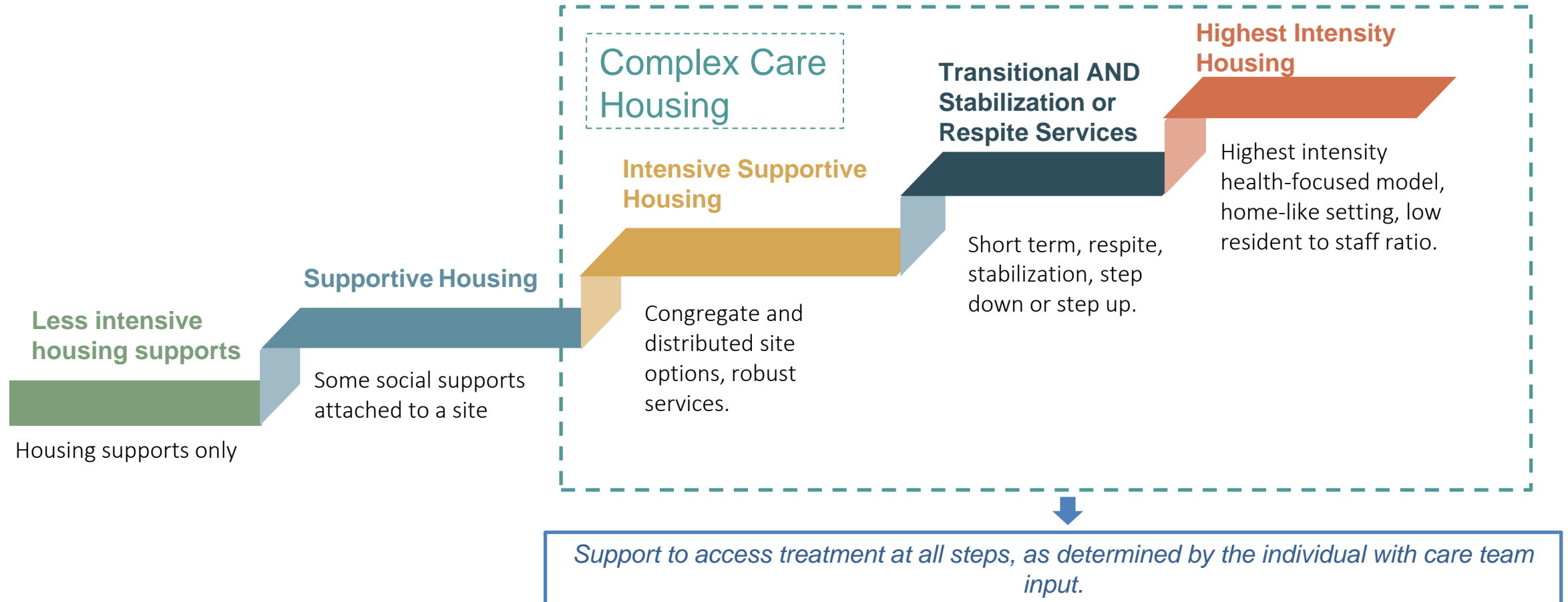


Population

Adults with **complex mental health and substance use challenges, and other health issues**, who are not adequately supported in the existing model of supportive housing.



Complex care housing model



Why is it Important to have Indigenous- led CCH?

Indigenous community members are widely overrepresented across the complex need and homelessness population in BC.

Traditional western, bio-medical models have not been effective in meeting the needs of individuals impacted by complex needs.

To improve outcomes and ensure cultural safety, Indigenous service providers need to exercise control in the design and delivery of these critical supports and services.



Gaps in Systems Response and Service Delivery

- Critical systems are discharging Indigenous people without supports
- Indigenous people with complex care needs are found across the housing spectrum
- Some clients resist interventions and available housing options, preferring to live on the streets or unsupported
- Regional disparities, especially in northern and rural communities, impact access
- Siloed service delivery challenges coordination of care for tenants with complex needs
- Widespread, systemic racism and stigma across the health system



Our Stories - Recommendations

1. Indigenous housing service providers and **sites must be prioritized** as part of initial site investments
2. Initial non-Indigenous sites to prioritize **trauma-informed approaches**, as well as ⁺ site-specific resources to ensure cultural safety ●
3. Prioritize **holistic, wraparound models** of service delivery
4. Identify strategies, training, and permanent **resourcing** to improve staff recruitment and retention across service providers and systems of response
5. Require **culturally safe approaches** through mandated training and development
6. Ensure that **specialized mental health, addictions, and medical services and training** for Indigenous housing providers are available and accessible across the housing continuum to support Indigenous people with complex care needs



What is AHMA's Role in CCH?

Support AHMA Led Sites, including capital acquisition and maintenance

Support Indigenous sites in implementation and the undertaking

Undertake research, analysis, and engagement to inform wise practice models

Training and capacity development – cultural safety and housing to support Indigenous people in BC

Enhance the ability of all URN Indigenous housing providers to ensure critical connections and relationships

Coordinate a provincial Indigenous Complex Care Collaborative Table

Develop and coordinate a collaborative Indigenous Evaluation Framework

Facilitate relationships with Health Authorities and relevant system stakeholders

THANK YOU

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