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**PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

**Memorial University's 'AT HOME IN THE NORTH: New partners for northern housing security and homes' receives over \$1.3 million in CMHC-SSHRC Partnership funding**

At Home in the North (AHIN), hosted by Memorial University, has been selected as one of five research nodes under the Collaborative Housing Research Network, awarded over \$1.3 million in CMHC-SSHRC Partnership funding for five years of research and knowledge mobilization activities (2020-2025). Additional project contributions have been provided through a unique partnership between Memorial University, Ryerson University, Lakehead University and McGill University. AHIN is directed by Dr. Julia Christensen, Canada Research Chair (II) in Northern Governance and Public Policy at Memorial University. The core AHIN leadership team includes Dr. Shelagh McCartney (Ryerson University), Dr. Rebecca Schiff (Lakehead University) and Dr. Mylène Riva (Canada Research Chair II in Housing, Community and Health at McGill University), with Michele Wood (Nunatsiavut Government), Anne Headrick (Garden River First Nation), Ouri Scott (Urban Arts/Tli Cho First Nation), Arthur Tobac and James Caesar (K'asho Got'ine Housing Society). Participants in the partnership include over 25 university- and community-based researchers and 40 community partners from across the provincial and territorial Norths.

***This Partnership project was created to inform the development and implementation of context-based, culturally safe programs, services and models for housing and homelessness, developed by and centered in northern communities.*** Our pan-northern, multi-scalar and interdisciplinary approach is critical to ***effectively bridge the gaps between research outcomes and impact on northern housing by facilitating the translation and implementation of research into policy and practice.***

The AHIN partnership is built on the understanding that northern housing is more than a matter of shelter, but is a matter of building, rebuilding and sustaining a sense of home. At Home in the North is oriented around four research directions: 1) Supportive Housing Programs and Services; 2) Governance, Policy and Self-Determination; 3) Housing, Community Design and the Built Environment; and, 4) Health Synthesis Stream.

Together, these research directions ultimately aim to respond to the following core research questions: 1) What is a northern housing continuum, and 2) What is a northern housing strategy? ***The outcomes of this research will inform the development of the National Housing Strategy in Northern and Indigenous Housing, directly mobilizing research into policy action.***

*“It is truly a privilege to work with such an amazing group of scholars and community members who are dedicated to improving northern housing security. By providing opportunities to share experiences and knowledge with one another, and working together to address the most pressing housing concerns for northern community partners, we will put forward innovative and sustainable responses to critical gaps in the knowledge informing northern housing policy today.”*

**Dr. Julia Christensen, Program Director, At Home in the North**

*“Through my work in health research, I am pleased to represent Labrador Inuit from the Nunatsiavut region as a part of this partnership. Regionally responsive, culturally appropriate housing for the North is complex and requires a culturally informed lens to guide discussions around topics such as affordable warmth, energy use, design for northern builds, and the cultural context for dwelling use and how this impacts design. We are working together, with our academic partners, to inform national discussions and undertake research that will help to support northern and Indigenous housing policy and program development strategies and objectives that are community-led and culturally appropriate for each region represented.”*

**Michele Wood, Research Evaluator, Nunatsiavut Government**

For more information regarding the At Home in the North partnership please visit our website:  
[www.athomeinthenorth.org](http://www.athomeinthenorth.org)

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