



## **Communique**

### **Aboriginal Housing Victoria Board Meeting**

### **Thursday 10 November 2022**

The Board of Directors of Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV) held their fifteenth Board meeting for the calendar year on Thursday 10 November 2022, via videoconference.

#### **AGM and Appointments to the Board**

The AHV Board held its Annual General Meeting for 2022 on 3 November 2022.

This was the forty-second AGM held by AHV, and the former Aboriginal Housing Board Victoria. On behalf of the Board and the AHV Community, The AHV Chairperson Tim Chatfield, paid his respects to the founding Elders of the organisation and all the community members who have worked tirelessly to make the organisation what it is today.

The Board welcomed two new Directors to the Board, Damein Bell and Janice Morris. The Board Chair also acknowledged the departure of two longstanding and dedicated Board Directors, Ian Hamm and Mark Lipson. The Chair confirmed that both Mark and Ian can be justifiably proud of their significant contributions to our journey of becoming a housing association, achieving transfer of title, and leading Victoria's Aboriginal housing and homelessness policy, on behalf of the Aboriginal community.

#### **Annual Report**

The 2020-22 was presented at the AGM. The Annual Report will be sent to AHV's stakeholder email list (600+ contacts), which includes Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, government and the community housing sector. It will also be shared on social media to reach a broader audience.

AHV renters will receive a shorter, more accessible overview of the Annual Report, which does not include Financials. Renters will be advised that the full report is available online.

#### **Victorian floods**

The Board noted AHV's actions, to support our renters affected by the Victorian floods.

AHV has been working closely with the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Aboriginal-specific Emergency Response team to make sure Aboriginal community members, and our renters receive the support and assistance they needed, in a culturally safe and respectful way.

AHV is reaching out to our renters in flood affected communities.

**Our AHV Housing Call Centre Number is 1800 248 842.** Please call this number to talk to us about any problems you might be having as an AHV renter, because of the floods. We will do our best to help.

AHV staff started inspecting properties during the week commencing Monday 7 November. These inspections are giving us a far greater sense of the challenges ahead for renters, and for AHV.

Many of our renters have advised us that they have lost all their belongings in the flood. Furniture, whitegoods, clothes and all kinds of belongings have been destroyed or damaged. AHV staff are doing their best to help renters access the support they need. We will be exploring options such as additional funding from government or other sources, to help renters refurnish their homes with necessary items such as fridges, beds, washing machines, kitchen and lounge room furniture.