



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Evaluative Research on Women's Housing Policies and Practices across Canada

Deadline for Submission: September 2nd, 2021 at 12 noon, PST

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Introduction

Who We Are

In October 2016, the women's community made request to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) to support a national conversation amongst women with lived expertise and women's organizations about women's housing, a request that was immediately supported and ultimately funded by CMHC, Status of Women Canada (SWC) and Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC).

The national conversation, branded *A Pan-Canadian Voice for Women's Housing*, took place in 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020. Currently, a national advisory circle is planning for the 2021 event. The Pan-Canadian Voice for Women's Housing (PCVWH) is an annual symposium that brings together women from across Canada to have discussions focused on policy solutions with an intersectional and inclusive lens to make women-focused housing a priority. The symposium is distinguished with its significant diversity as it brings women from every province and territory and representing First Nations, Métis and Inuit women and women's organizations, immigrant and refugee women and women's organizations, the black and women of colour communities, the women's disability community, the lived-expertise community, the academic community, shelters, transition houses, women's centres, and advocacy organization, and is inclusive of gender-diverse women.

PCVWH is organized and coordinated through Atira Women's Resource Society (Atira). Atira is a not-for-profit organization committed to the work of ending violence against women through providing direct service, as well as working to increase awareness of and education around the scope and impact on our communities of violence against women and children. Atira operates from three core principles; we are feminist identified, operate within an anti-oppression framework and utilize harm reduction practices in all our work. We are trauma informed and gender responsive.

Research Scope and Methodology

The purpose of this request is to obtain proposals from qualified proponents to conduct an evaluative research on gender-diverse women's housing policies and practices across Canada. The research will assess and present evidence on municipal, regional, provincial and territorial government levels in relation to gender-diverse women's housing. It is expected that the research will include engaging with gender-diverse women and women serving organizations to identify barriers impacting women's access to housing (including geographical disparities regarding funding programs), as well as their knowledge on what constitutes safe, affordable and appropriate housing.

PCVWH is planning to use this evidence-based research as a tool for advocating and encouraging municipal, provincial, territorial and federal governments to develop policies that prioritize gender equality and adopt a gender-lens program design.

More specifically the research will:

- Assess gender-diverse women's housing policies in different provinces, territories and regions across Canada
- Assess gender-diverse women's access to housing in different provinces, territories and regions across Canada.
- Identify and analyse regional disparities as well as gender disparities and gender inequalities.
- Provide actionable recommendations to government agencies across Canada.

Research Methodology

Expected evaluative tools for this research are:

1. An extensive desk-review of available reports, policies, evaluations, and other documents.
2. Semi- structured Key Informant Interviews and structured questionnaires that will allow the evaluator to tap into the knowledge and learning of those most closely linked to the research topic.
3. Case studies: A total of five case studies are expected to be part of this research. These five case studies should represent studies from different regions across Canada including the Maritimes, Central Canada, the Prairies, the west and the north of Canada, and also highlight different models of women's housing.

Terms & Instructions

Inquiries and Amendments

All inquiries must be received by email by no later than August 11th, 2021 at 12 noon PST. Any amendments that will be posted will be shared by Atira by August 19th, 2021 at 4 p.m. PST (if any).

Submission Deadline

It is the responsibility of the proponent to ensure their proposal is received by Atira by the proper time. Late responses will be rejected at the sole discretion of Atira Women's Resource Society.

We encourage proposals from members of groups with historical and/or current barriers to equity, including, but not limited to,

- First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples;
- members of groups that commonly experience discrimination due to race, ancestry, skin colour, religion and/or spiritual beliefs, or place of origin;
- persons with visible and/or invisible (physical and/or mental) disabilities;
- persons who identify as women; and
- persons of marginalized sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.

Proposals should be submitted to hajar_masoud@atira.bc.ca by no later than September 2nd, 2021 at 12 noon PST.

Evaluations

If an award is made as a result of this RFP, it will be awarded to the proponent whose proposal is most advantageous to Atira and the PCVWH with all factors considered. These factors are equally weighted and include up to the technical and financial proposal.

The technical proposal should not be more than eight (8) pages. Brevity is appreciated.

The financial proposal should clearly identify a plan including number of days, consultant daily fees, and any other fees associated with the research.