

**Pembroke Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Annual Meeting of Members, May 13, 2023, Oral Report  
Terry Hodgson, Community Life Chair**

Madame President,

Housing Conditions Among First Nations People, Metis and Inuit in Canada from 2021 Census

Adequate and suitable housing that provides residents with a safe environment to live and work is essential for mental and physical health. And a higher quality of life. Poor housing conditions, such as overcrowding, mold or structural defects can cause infections and respiratory diseases, chronic illnesses and poorer mental health.

Many Indigenous people in Canada are in inadequate housing, particularly in remote or northern communities. Over one in six Indigenous people live in housing deemed unsuitable for the number of people living there, according to the National Occupancy Standard.

Even though 2016 Census of Population noted that the housing conditions of Indigenous people had improved overall, they still have inadequate housing with defective plumbing or electrical wiring, or structural repairs to walls and floors.

Nationally, First Nations people were most likely to live in crowded housing in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and least likely in Atlantic Canada.

Respectfully Submitted.