

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc. (NICHl) Welcomes new CEO, Thanks Interim CEO

February 5, 2024 – [National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc. \(NICHl\)](https://nichi.ca/), a leading advocate for Indigenous housing, is pleased to Welcome John J. Gordon as its Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and extends its deepest gratitude to Jeff Loucks, Interim CEO, for his remarkable contributions and unwavering dedication to the organization.

Over the past thirty years, John Gordon has held roles at an executive level both in government and in the Indigenous non-profit sector, all with a focus on Indigenous issues, advancing the aspirations of Indigenous people across Canada. On the practical side, John has exhaustive experience managing significant financial and human resources and navigating the complex government and Indigenous community landscapes. This experience provides John with a deep understanding of Indigenous issues in Canada, from the both the Indigenous community perspective and the Government of Canada perspective. On the theoretical side, while completing his Master of Arts degree in Canadian Studies (Carleton University), John focused his studies and research on the urbanization of Indigenous Peoples in Canada, how Indigenous communities organized themselves, and how the Government of Canada's responded to urbanization. John is a proud father of three children and currently lives in Ottawa with his wife and children. John is a registered member of the Tuscarora First Nation, Six Nations of the Grand River.

"We are thrilled to have John join our team," said Jocelyn W. Formsma, Board Chair at NICHl. "His extensive industry experience and strategic approach will undoubtedly propel NICHl to new heights. We look forward to working closely with him to further our mission of advancing housing as a human right for all Indigenous Peoples living in urban, rural and northern communities from coast-to-coast-to-coast."

During his tenure, Jeff Loucks played a pivotal role in shaping NICHl into the successful organization it is today. Through his strategic vision, strong decision-making skills, and commitment to a For Indigenous By Indigenous approach, he has fostered a culture of innovation and teamwork. Under his guidance, NICHl has achieved numerous milestones in a brief period. He has been instrumental in securing funding from government, building the organizational capacity of NICHl and developing the funding allocation process which has resulted in an overwhelming response. The funding will be provided to Indigenous housing and housing service providers across Canada, enabling them to address the urgent and unmet housing needs in their communities.

"It is with great appreciation that we bid farewell to Jeff, he came to us out of retirement to play a 3-4 month interim CEO role which turned out to be over a year long" said Jocelyn W. Formsma, Board Chair at NICHl. "His exceptional leadership and tireless efforts have been instrumental in positioning our organization for future success. We are immensely grateful for his unwavering commitment and wish him all the best in his future endeavors."

NICHl expresses its sincere gratitude to outgoing interim CEO Jeff Loucks for his exceptional leadership and welcomes John J. Gordon with open arms. The organization is confident that, under the guidance of John J. Gordon, it will continue to thrive and achieve new milestones.

About NICHl:

The National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc. (NICHl) exists to uphold and advance housing as a human right for all Indigenous Peoples living in urban, rural and northern communities from coast-to-coast-to-coast. Visit nichi.ca for more information.

For media inquiries, please contact:

Jaimee Gaunce, Director of Policy and Stakeholder Relations
jgaunce@nichihousing.com