

A woman with long dark hair is sitting on the grass, looking down at a dog. She is holding her hand up to the dog's paw. The scene is set against a bright sunset, with the sun low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. The woman is wearing a dark jacket. The dog is a long-haired breed, possibly a Shetland Sheepdog, and is looking up at the woman. The overall mood is peaceful and intimate.

**HOME IS**

**WHERE**

**HEALING**

**IS**

**REIMAGINING RECOVERY**

**WITH CARE AND COMMUNITY IN**

**NORTHEAST BC**

# AN UNNECESSARY AND PREVENTABLE HOMELESSNESS IN VANCOUVER

**T**he reality of recovery for Indigenous people who relocate from Northern BC to Vancouver in pursuit of services is often marred with hidden obstacles along the way. The challenges are often multiplied when the journey to recovery takes someone far from home - making healing harder to achieve.

While getting the recovery support is a necessary step, it may come with a range of issues for Indigenous people which can make recovery feel even more out of reach. Here are some of the challenges they come across:

**Leaving Behind What Feels Like Home:** Away from family, friends, and the comfort of familiar surroundings, the emotional and practical support that made life stable is suddenly inaccessible.

**Navigating a Foreign System:** The healthcare system in Vancouver can feel confusing, impersonal, and disconnected, making it hard to find the right care, especially when it's not tailored to cultural needs.

**Waiting for Help:** Long waitlists for treatment can make it feel like help is always just out of reach, causing many to lose momentum in their recovery journey.

**Feeling Alone in a New Place:** The isolation is real - without a community to lean on, many struggle to find a sense of belonging, which is essential to their healing.

**The Strain of Survival:** Struggling to find affordable housing and stable work in Vancouver adds even more stress, making it difficult to focus on recovery when basic needs are uncertain.

These obstacles can easily lead to setbacks, causing many to drop out of the treatment system, lose progress, and face an increased risk of relapse or death. What starts as a search for healing can end up feeling like a journey into homelessness without a clear path forward.

# HEALING AT HOME WITH ADDICTION RECOVERY COMMUNITY HOUSING

The solution lies in creating a recovery system that's integrated into the communities where Indigenous people feel most connected - their home communities. It also allows them to receive the care they need without losing their sense of identity or being disconnected from their roots.

Streethome is partnering with North Wind Wellness Centre (NWWC) to develop a flagship **Addiction Recovery Community Housing (ARCH)** model in Pouce Coupe, BC. The ARCH model will be the first in Canada providing a full continuum of care housing pathway under one roof while combining Traditional Healing and Western Medicine.

This shift would mean more continuity, more support, and a real chance for recovery without the added burdens of isolation, uncertainty, and instability.



By providing continuous support through the recovery process, ARCH significantly reduces the risk of relapse. Individuals who complete the program have a better chance at maintaining long-term sobriety.



ARCH ensures that people are matched to the appropriate level of care at every stage of their recovery, from urgent admissions and treatment to short-term housing, and long-term supports preventing them from falling through the conventional gaps.



With a holistic, trauma-informed approach, ARCH offers more than just housing, it's a supportive community where individuals can rebuild their lives, gain essential life skills, vocational training and restore their health, well-being, and dignity.





Proposed design for the ARCH facility in Pouce Coupe, BC

# WHY THE ARCH MODEL IS CRITICAL FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN RECOVERY

ARCH offers a holistic, community-based solution to ensure that people in recovery have access to the support and resources they need to rebuild their lives with dignity and independence.

It is a comprehensive approach to addiction recovery that integrates four critical elements of support, ensuring that individuals can transition seamlessly through various stages of treatment without falling out of care.



## Early Recovery Housing (ERH)

provides a supportive 'landing zone' for individuals who are waitlisted for Addiction Treatment Housing. This safe, structured environment offers peer coaching, withdrawal management support, and preparation for entry into treatment programs.



## Addiction Treatment Housing (ATH)

offers a 90-day, holistic program that integrates both Western Medical practices and Traditional Healing methods. The program includes addiction rehabilitation, physical activity, vocational training, and spiritual support in a trauma-and gender-informed environment.



## Recovery Supportive Housing (RSH)

provides a stable, supportive environment for two years or longer for individuals who have completed treatment but still need ongoing support. This program focuses on education, vocational training, employment readiness, and building 'recovery capital'—the skills and resources necessary for long-term recovery.



## Recovery Community Centre (RCC)

'The Junction' of ARCH, is a safe, peer-led space where individuals in recovery can find support through mutual aid groups, mentorship, and social activities. This centre will be supported and operated by people who are committed to long-term recovery and are interested in giving back to the recovery community.

# BUDGET AND FUNDING COMMITMENTS FOR ARCH

CAPITAL EXPENSE BUDGET	AMOUNT (CA\$)
Land Costs	102,800
Appraisals/Studies	35,000
Acquisition & Servicing	582,800
Municipal Fees	229,000
Utility Fees	195,000
Design Consultants	1,785,000
Consultants	1,159,750
Misc. Soft Costs	1,845,991
Borrowing Costs	862,000
Construction Costs	27,493,399
Building Start-Up/Commissioning	492,628
Contingencies	3,350,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38,133,368</b>

CAPITAL COMMITMENTS	AMOUNT (CA\$)
NWWC Land Equity	102,800
Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation	3,000,000
First Nations Health Authority	11,500,000
Northern Health Authority	3,750,000
BC Housing	18,980,568
Streethome	800,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38,133,368</b>

OPERATIONS BUDGET	AMOUNT (CA\$)
Building Expenses	263,636
Administrative Expenses	14,545
Maintenance Expenses	200,909
Financing and Reserves	52,365
Program Expenditure	3,994,295
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,525,750</b>

OPERATIONS COMMITMENTS	AMOUNT (CA\$)
BC Housing	1,356,037
First Nations Health Authority	1,145,702
Northern Health Authority	1,118,338
North Wind Wellness Centre	905,673
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,525,750</b>



**Streetohome committed to fundraise \$800,000 for the ARCH facility  
in Pouce Coupe, BC.**

**Development Update:** Phase 1 (Addiction Treatment Housing) started in September 2024 with an anticipated completion in late 2025. Phase 2 (Early Recovery Housing, Recovery Supportive Housing, and Recovery Community Centre) is scheduled to commence in May 2025 with an anticipated completion in winter 2026.

**STREETOHOME**

is fundraising for North Wind Wellness Centre

Please contact **LYNDON SURJIK**  
if you're interested in learning more.



Bringing hope to individuals  
struggling with addiction

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To find out more about **ARCH**, scan this QR Code  
with your mobile device.