



## The Dene Deliver - A Dene-led Northern Rapid Housing Initiative FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**August 5, 2021, Denendeh, NWT** – The Dene Nation and Eagle Building Solutions (EBS) embark on rapid housing solutions guided by Dene Leadership. Eagle Building Solutions, based in Grande Prairie, AB, has recently delivered a One-Bedroom Show Home, which is available for viewing in Hay River at K'atlo'dechee First Nation on a lot graciously provided by the community.

The Dene Nation Housing Strategy team has spent the last two years collaborating with Dene Leaders, Indigenous businesses, government agencies and financial services to share common concerns about northern housing. This spring's housing crisis across the north and the impact of the natural disasters on communities amplify critical housing issues. Dene leaders want training in manufacturing and construction to bring timely services and opportunities to all Denendeh. The Dene need immediate housing solutions tailored to northern housing needs that support families, skill-building, capacity-sharing, and the growth of our nation.

"If there is one thing that I have learned from my 42 years of home building experience, it's that almost anyone can build a house, but not everyone can build and deliver a home. By that, I mean a home that combines affordability with pride, quality, and long-term sustainability, every time. We proudly partner with the Dene Nation to help make this commitment a reality." – *Leon Maksymchuk, CEO, Eagle Building Solutions, Grande Prairie, AB*

A brand-new house will be presented to an Elder from either the Jean Marie River First Nation or Łíídlıı Kúę First Nation at the 51<sup>st</sup> Dene National Assembly in Łíídlıı Kúę First Nation September 14-16, 2021, through a draw of names submitted by the two community Leadership and Elders councils. Eagle Building Solutions with partner Skyward Living Properties is donating the Two-Bedroom, fully furnished EBS Show Home to an Elder displaced by the spring flooding. In addition, Eagle Building Solutions has also generously offered a contribution of \$10,000 in groceries and assistance to help those in continued need from the spring flooding emergency to Jean Marie River and Łíídlıı Kúę First Nation.

As Dene, our Dene Laws say to share what you have and respect our elders. Governments have moved slowly to respond to the needs of our people. So, our people have stepped forward to help themselves. The strength of Dene unity has built the relationships to help deliver a northern rapid housing strategy that is by and for our people. We are committed to providing not just housing solutions but homes.

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