

CODES ACCELERATION PROGRAM WITHIN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

5 MICROMODULES

EMPOWERING INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES THROUGH STRONGER BUILDING CODES



Funded by the Government of Canada
Financé par le gouvernement du Canada



ABOUT THE ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

ECO Canada developed an Energy Management and Leadership Training program aimed at promoting the adoption of and compliance with high-performance energy building codes within Indigenous Communities.

This program consists of five modules specifically designed to assist Indigenous communities in adopting, enforcing, and complying with energy building codes. Each module has a duration of approximately seven hours and can be delivered independently or as part of a comprehensive one-week course.

The modules and their summaries can be found below:

5 MICROMODULES

1. NATIONAL BUILDING (NBC) & ENERGY CODES (NECB):

Participants will explore key provisions of the National Building Code (NBC) and the National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings (NECB), gaining a clear understanding of how these codes apply to both construction and renovation projects.

2. PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF CODES IN INDIGENOUS CONTEXTS:

Designed to address the unique challenges of rural and remote communities, this module provides participants with the knowledge and skills to apply building codes effectively with housing projects and within Indigenous contexts.

3. EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT:

Participants will develop the communication and engagement skills essential for managing housing projects, fostering collaboration among stakeholders, and advancing the successful implementation of National Building and Energy Codes.

4. STRATEGIES FOR ENFORCEMENT & COMPLIANCE:

Focused on practical approaches, this module provides tools and strategies to monitor, enforce, and support compliance with building codes in Indigenous communities.

5. LEADERSHIP IN SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

Participants will be empowered to integrate sustainability into housing programs, mentor emerging leaders, and advocate for Indigenous-led policies in energy management and building code adoption.

MICROMODULE 1

UNDERSTANDING NATIONAL BUILDING CODES (NBC) & NATIONAL ENERGY CODES OF CANADA FOR BUILDINGS (NECB):

This micromodule introduces Canada's National Building Code (NBC) and National Energy Code for Buildings (NECB). It explains how these codes help make buildings safer, more energy-efficient, and better suited to the needs of Indigenous communities.

KEY TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Climate-specific design
- Accessibility
- The importance of sustainability

The NECB's tiered system supports progress toward net-zero energy buildings by 2030. The module emphasizes how building codes can support cultural values, reduce utility costs, improve indoor air quality, and build resilience in remote and rural communities.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understand the purpose, scope, and structure of the NBC and NECB, especially their relevance to Indigenous housing development.
- Identify and interpret critical code provisions related to accessibility, climate resilience, and energy efficiency in building projects.
- Recognize the role of these codes in supporting sustainable, culturally appropriate, and community-led housing initiatives.



MICROMODULE 2

PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF CODES IN INDIGENOUS CONTEXTS

This micromodule outlines how Indigenous communities apply Canada's building and energy codes to create safe, sustainable, and culturally appropriate housing. It highlights real-life examples, such as the Nuxalk and Fort Severn projects, showing how communities balance technical standards with local needs.

KEY THEMES INCLUDE:

- Energy efficiency
- Cultural design
- Retrofitting
- Overcoming challenges in remote areas using innovative solutions like modular housing and renewable energy



LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Identify effective strategies for applying NBC and NECB in Indigenous housing through real-world case studies.
- Evaluate cultural, logistical, and environmental challenges in code implementation and propose tailored solutions.
- Understand how to integrate traditional values with energy-efficient design to create sustainable, community-driven housing.



MICROMODULE 3

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

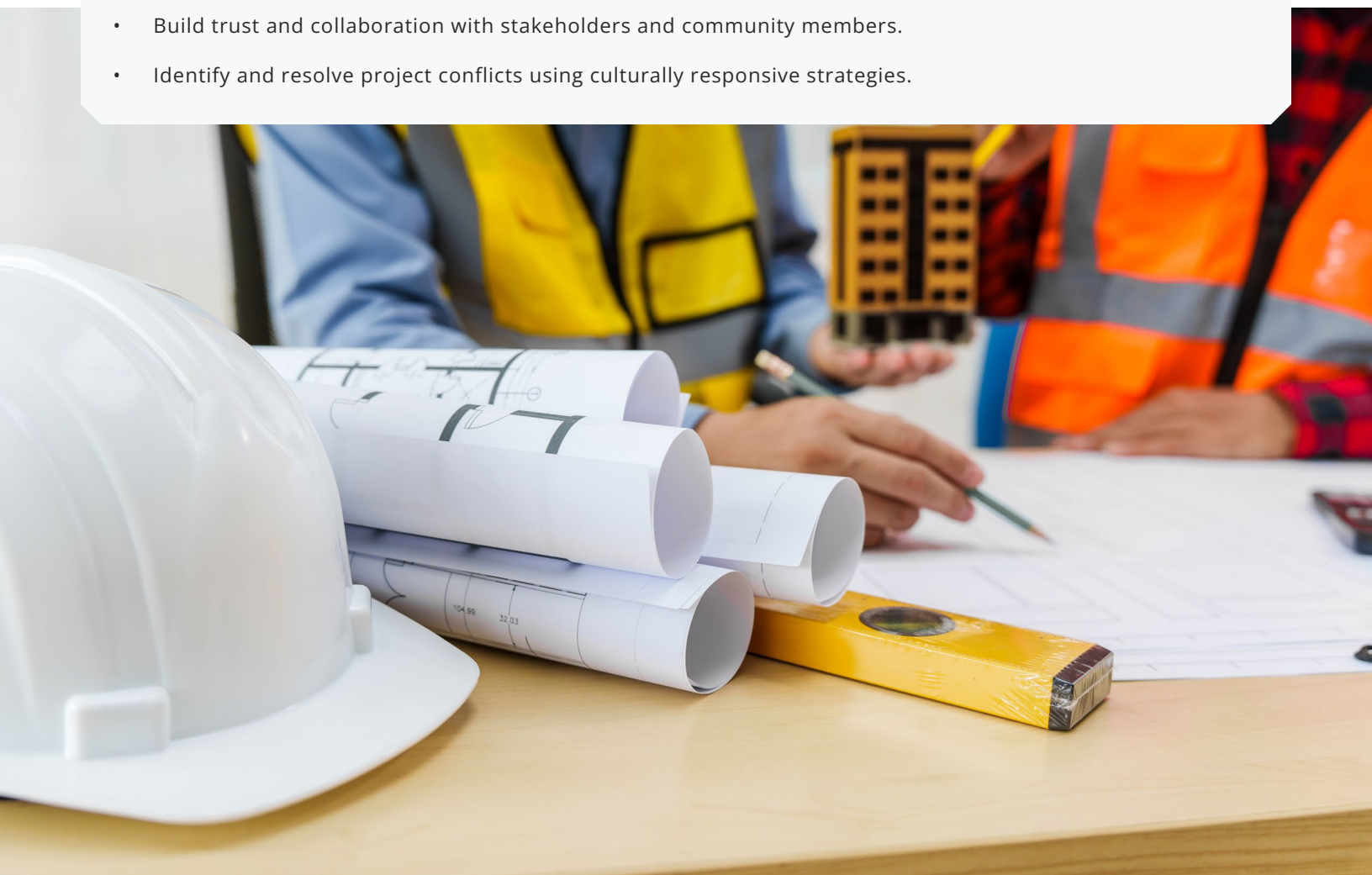
This micromodule teaches how to build strong communication and engagement strategies for Indigenous housing projects. It emphasizes building trust with stakeholders, simplifying technical language, resolving conflicts effectively, and writing clear project documents.

Through real-world examples and interactive exercises, participants learn to connect community values with technical requirements, explain building codes like the NBC and NECB to non-experts, and manage relationships across diverse teams.

The goal is to support culturally respectful, well-informed, and collaborative project delivery.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Communicate building code requirements clearly to non-technical audiences.
- Build trust and collaboration with stakeholders and community members.
- Identify and resolve project conflicts using culturally responsive strategies.



MICROMODULE 4

ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE STRATEGIES

This micromodule equips Indigenous housing professionals with strategies to enforce and support building code compliance. It emphasizes culturally relevant approaches, community-led monitoring, and collaboration to ensure safe, sustainable housing.

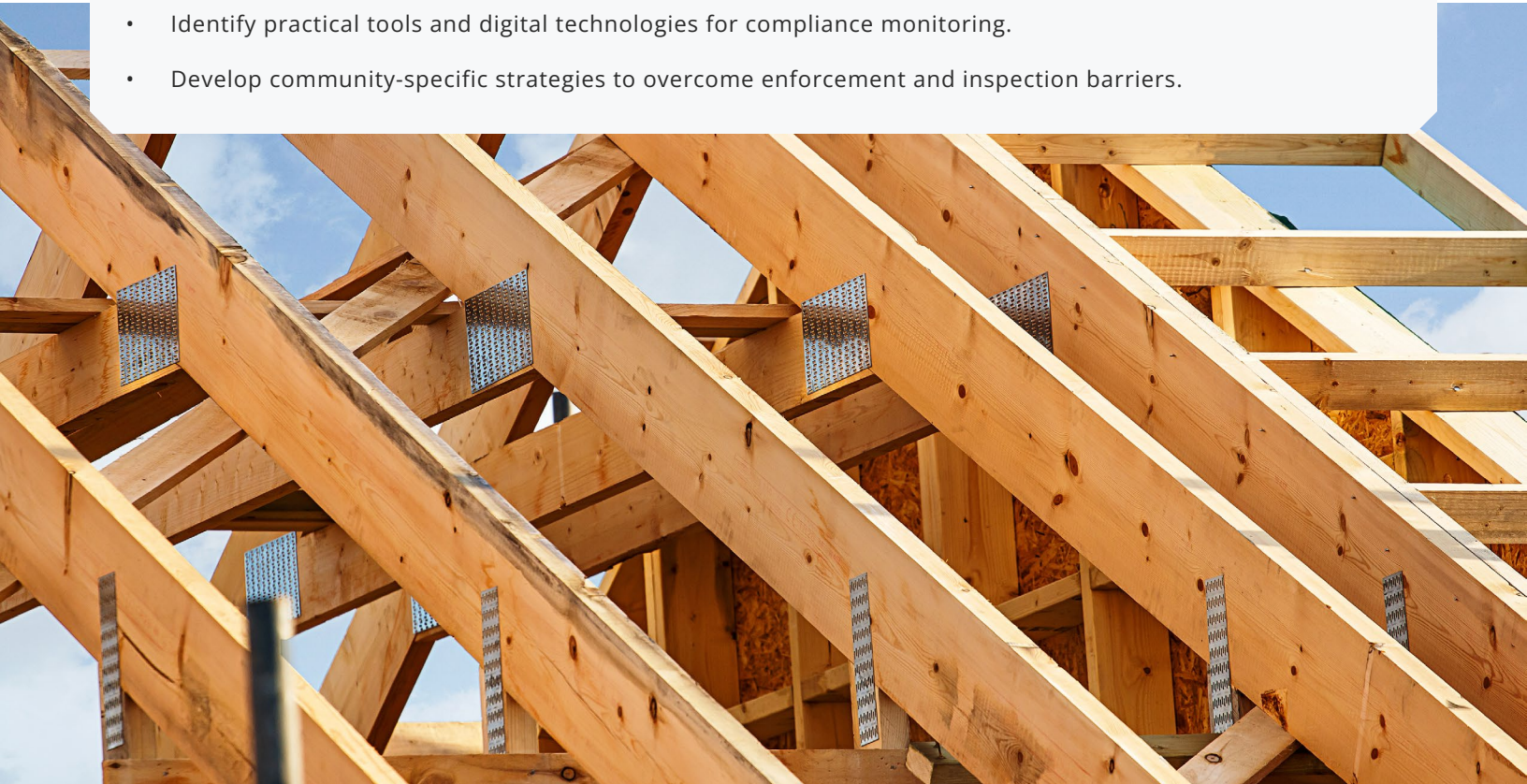
Through interactive activities, case studies, and practical tools such as compliance checklists and digital inspection technologies, participants explore:

- How to align enforcement with Indigenous governance
- Address barriers like limited inspectors and funding
- Leverage local capacity

The course promotes respectful enforcement rooted in self-determination, aiming to improve housing quality, accountability, and long-term resilience in Indigenous communities.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understand how to align building enforcement with Indigenous governance and cultural values.
- Identify practical tools and digital technologies for compliance monitoring.
- Develop community-specific strategies to overcome enforcement and inspection barriers.



MICROMODULE 5

BUILDING LEADERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

This micromodule supports Indigenous housing professionals in developing leadership strategies that promote sustainable, culturally relevant, and energy-efficient communities. It explores principles of Indigenous leadership, sustainable housing practices, mentorship, and advocacy for policy reform.

Through interactive activities and real-world examples, participants learn to align housing goals with community priorities, build local capacity, and influence decision-making processes.

The training highlights the importance of integrating traditional knowledge with modern governance and energy standards to strengthen self-determination and long-term housing sustainability.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Apply leadership skills to drive energy-efficient housing initiatives.
- Mentor future leaders and create community-led training programs.
- Advocate for policy improvements that support Indigenous housing needs.





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LEARN MORE:

[THE CODES ACCELERATION PROGRAM FOR INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES](#)

ECO Canada's commitment to reconciliation starts with acknowledging our honour and privilege to live and work within the Treaty 7 territory. Eco Canada acknowledges the traditional territories and oral practices of the Niitsitapi. Home of the Blackfoot Confederacy which includes the Siksika, the Piikani and the Kainai First Nations.

We also acknowledge the Tsuut'ina and ȩyāñé Nakoda (Stoney Nakoda) which include Chiniki, Bearspaw and Wesley First Nations. In addition, the City of Calgary is home to the Métis Nation of Alberta (Districts 5 & 6).

CONTACT US

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