

Current backlog in the supply of housing:

— In 1990, DIAND estimated the backlog at approximately 11,710 units for the regular on-reserve population (excluding Bill C-31)⁴

— approximately 10,000 units because of demand created as a result of the amendments to the *Indian Act, 1985*⁵

AFN & DIAND ESTIMATES OF ON-RESERVE HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

| | AFN | | CUMULATIVE | DIAND | | ANNUAL TARGETS |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------|--|
| | Units | Unit Cost | Total | Units | Unit Cost | Total |
| New | 11,710 | \$93,500 | \$1,094,885,000 | 4,410 ¹ | \$80,000 | \$352,800,000 |
| New (C-31) | 10,000 | \$93,500 | \$935,000,000 | 985 ² | \$80,000 | \$ 78,800,000 |
| Replacement | 6,700 | \$93,500 | \$626,450,000 | | | |
| Major Renovations | 15,700 | \$25,000 | \$392,500,000 | 2,000 ³ | \$30,000 | \$ 60,000,000 |
| Minor Renovations | 13,900 | \$8,000 | \$111,200,000 | | | |
| Infrastructure ⁴ | 14,900 | \$10,000 | \$149,000,000 | | | \$25-35 million extra |
| Total | 72,910 | | \$3,309,035,000 | 7,395 | | \$516,600,000 - 526,600,000 |

¹ to keep pace with new household formation, to reduce backlog and to replace units lost

² to build new units required to the end of 1997/98

³ Pre-1980 stock

⁴ AFN calculation pertains to plumbing and electrical additions, DIAND's calculation pertains to water, sanitation, roads, electrical services

Effect of Budgetary Reductions

The present funding level (approximately \$93 million annually) under the Housing Program has not risen since 1983. Additional funds have been provided to address the requirements of those people returning to reserves because of Bill C-31.

Recent reductions to CMHC's budget will have a significant impact. CMHC estimated that, because of reductions, 230 fewer units will be provided in 1992. (*Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence*, Issue No. 19:39)

Numbers do not tell the whole story. The Committee visited the Cree community of Chisasibi (on the La Grande River). This community was moved in 1980 because of flooding resulting from the James Bay hydro development. The community has not been able to obtain an adequate sewage disposal system. Currently, the septic fields do not absorb the sewage and, as a result, the sewage tanks in the houses back up every year. All around the village there are open trenches floating with sewage. The sewage seeps into the ground and enters the ditches through the water table. The water table is rising, despite studies completed prior to relocation assuring that this would not happen. The sewage goes into the river, the tide water comes in and brings the sewage back into the water supply system. As a result the town