

Background document for changing to a digital housing inspection process.

(July 2023)

Why is WALI making the change?

In 2022 the BCAC/WALI Labour Committee and Boards approved the development of a digital housing inspection process to help achieve the following:

- Improve the consistency and quality of housing reports,
- Increase confidence in the inspection process by regulators,
- Reduce paper and time filling out reports,
- Improve tracking of inspections and reporting to regulatory agencies,
- Make better use of WALI staff time, and
- Facilitate more equitable allocation of the cost to operate WALI.

Are housing requirements changing?

No changes to the housing requirements are being introduced with this change. The new platform will make completing and submitting forms easier and it will allow regulators better access to inspection photographs.

Why is WALI charging a fee for this?

WALI services are paid for by employers accessing TFWs. The fee schedule allocates costs across farms based on their size (number of workers) and WALI services used.

As all employers must have housing inspections completed before applying for workers, assessing the WALI fee at this stage ensures that all employers participating in the program contribute to the operating costs. Please refer to the [2024 WALI Fees](#) document for detailed breakdown of fees. Refer to the [What WALI Does](#) document for more details on the services provided by WALI

Do I still have to pay for a housing inspection?

Any fees or costs charged by the housing inspectors are agreed to directly between the inspector and the employer. WALI is not part of these discussions. Payment for inspector fees and costs must be made directly to the inspector.

Future changes

Both the provincial and federal governments are currently reviewing the housing requirements for foreign workers. WALI is participating in these discussions with other farm organizations. We will share any changes as soon as we are able to.
