



KDSB Board of Directors Meeting

Press Release: February 19, 2015 – For Immediate Release

On February 10, 2015, the Kenora District Services Board received Ministerial Consent from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the sale of 12 single public housing units in Hudson, Ontario.

As part of its Strategic Plan and Ten Year Housing and Homelessness Plan, the KDSB has identified that the current housing needs have considerably changed over the last couple of decades within the Kenora District communities. Each community in the district is unique in its economic capacity and challenges; some communities have growing populations and thriving economies while other have seen significant changes to their main employers and are experiencing population declines. These changes have had a significant impact on the level of need for affordable and social housing in these communities.

Chief Administrative Officer, Henry Wall stated, “As an organization that is responsible for overseeing social housing in the Kenora District, we must always evaluate how effective our resources are in addressing the current needs of the people residing in our communities. Over the last couple of decades the social housing needs in Hudson have changed and as a result we have housing units in Hudson that are under-utilized while we have ever growing waitlists for housing in other parts of our District.”

In order for social housing programs to be successful, individuals and families, in those programs, must also have access to other services that are essential in meeting their needs, without being disadvantaged as a result of where they reside in the Kenora District.

Board Chair, Barry Baltessen stated, “The KDSB is going to develop a detailed strategy to ensure that none of the existing tenants living in the housing units in Hudson are adversely impacted. Staff will explore relocation plans for the tenants that have been waiting and wanting to move while ensuring that the tenants wishing to stay in their units can do so without the fear of having to move.”

This is an exciting opportunity for the KDSB and the district. The sale of these 12 housing units will allow the KDSB to create and develop additional housing in communities where the needs are so prevalent.

The KDSB has been working with the Province to receive Ministerial Consent since 2012.

Barry Baltessen, Chair

Henry Wall, CAO