



Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative

Press Release: March 30, 2015 – For Immediate Release

On March 30, 2015 the Ontario Government announced that it will be allocating \$587 Million to help end homelessness. The funding allocation is a continuation of the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI). The \$587 Million will be allocated over a two year period and is designed to maintain the existing CHPI funding allocations.

The funding will enable communities to continue to offer a range of services to meet their local needs, including:

- i. Setting up emergency shelters for people in crisis;
- ii. Offering homelessness prevention programs like providing emergency financial assistance to prevent eviction;
- iii. Providing a mix of long-term and transitional housing;
- iv. Other support services like street outreach, food banks and transportation.

It is important to note that funding is restricted to operation costs only, with expenditures such as roof repairs, structural changes and other capital in nature items not being eligible under the program.

The Kenora District Services Board has been advised that it can expect an allocation of \$753,100 per year for 2015 and 2016; however the allocations are contingent on provincial budget approvals.

Under the 2014 CHPI program and in order to support the KDSB's Ten Year Housing and Homelessness Plan, the KDSB provided a total of \$577,113 to the Kenora, Red Lake and Sioux Lookout Emergency Shelters and the Kenora Street Patrol Program.

Through the CHPI program, in 2014 the KDSB also provided support and emergency financial assistance to 95 households in the District that were at risk of becoming homeless or losing their homes. Examples of such supports included the provision of emergency financial assistance for rent or mortgage payments, support with heating and other utility costs and in some cases assistance with emergency home repairs.

Barry Baltessen, Chair

Henry Wall, CAO