

For Immediate Release  
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### **KDSB acquires Moose Hall**

The Kenora District Services Board (KDSB) officially took possession of 51 Colonization Avenue South, also known as Moose Hall (Dryden's Loyal Order of Moose Lodge 1771) property. The purchase of the former property will support KDSB's need for a new Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Land Ambulance Base.

In May 2018, the City of Dryden listed Moose Hall for a tax sale. The City received no successful bids and thereby allowed for negotiations directly with potential buyers. Due to the evolution of EMS, there is an evident need for a new base designed to create efficiencies and appropriate space for paramedicine staff and ambulances. A new ambulance station is welcome news for KDSB Northwest EMS and will directly benefit residents. Emergency Medical Services Director and Chief, Andrew Tickner explains, "Based on an ambulance call analysis for the past three years, the new EMS base location has the potential of improving call response times to more patients in the Dryden area."

The KDSB's current EMS base is under a lease agreement with Dryden Regional Health Centre (DRHC). The KDSB would like to thank DRHC for their partnership and continued support. DRHC has agreed to extend their lease agreement until the end of 2020 to allow for the construction of a new EMS base.

"The KDSB viewed acquiring Moose Hall as an excellent opportunity to support the community of Dryden by addressing safety concerns and insufficient use of vacant community lands," says Henry Wall, Chief Administrative Officer of the KDSB. He continues, "By revitalizing Moose Hall with a new EMS base, this property will now be of purpose again with great value to the City and residents. This is one of the many ways that KDSB supports the well-being and health of our communities."

The demolition of Moose Hall will take place in 2019.

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