



For Immediate Release
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Change in Service Provider for Kenora's Emergency Shelter

Ne-Chee Friendship Centre, in partnership with Kenora District Services Board would like to advise the community of Kenora of changes coming at the Kenora Emergency Shelter/Service Hub.

Ne-Chee Friendship Centre, through consultation with its Board of Directors and its advisors, has provided notice at the beginning of this year that Ne-Chee Friendship Centre will no longer act as the service provider for the Kenora Emergency Shelter beyond June 30, 2020.

The Ne-Chee Friendship Centre has provided staffing, management and supportive programming services since they took over operating the Shelter on July 1, 2016. "Our decision was made with some reluctance as we are mindful of the need within Kenora for the Emergency Shelter and the services it provides. It is clear that specialized skills and additional resources are required to safely and effectively address the needs of those who access the Emergency Shelter," Ne-Chee will assist with the transition and will continue to provide service through our regular programs, says Patti Fairfield, Executive Director of the Ne-Chee Friendship Centre.

"I want to thank the staff and Board of Directors of the Ne-Chee Friendship Centre for their hard work and effort in making the shelter come to fruition and their resiliency in dealing with the social challenges that we see in the community," says Henry Wall, Chief Administrative Officer of the Kenora District Services Board. He continues, The Kenora District Services Board has been working with community organizations and partners to ensure the shelter will continue to operate and that our vulnerable population will be supported through this transition. It is imperative that we deliver on the original vision of the Service Hub at Knox United Church."

Following consultations with the City of Kenora, Grand Council Treaty 3 and the All Nations Health Partners, the Kenora District Services Board will be providing an update regarding the new service operators of the Emergency Shelter as soon as all agreements are finalized. The Ne-Chee Friendship Centre has committed to operating as the service provider for the Emergency Shelter until June 30, 2020. The changes of Emergency Shelter service provider will take place on July 1, 2020.

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Media Contact:
Roberta Lappage, Communications Officer
Kenora District Services Board
(807) 220-5309
rlappage@kdsb.on.ca