

For Immediate Release
February 15, 2021

KDSB releases updated 10-year housing and homelessness plan

The Kenora District Services Board (KDSB) has released its updated 10-year housing and homelessness plan, titled 'A Place for Everyone'. The plan provides a midpoint reassessment and renewed commitment to ending homelessness and addressing the affordable housing crisis throughout the Kenora District.

The 10-year plan will strengthen a system of integrated services and supports along the full housing continuum: emergency shelters, transitional housing, supported living, affordable housing, and private market housing. At each step in the continuum, work will be done to tailor to community members' unique needs: families, students, workers, seniors, youth aging out of care, and individuals exiting incarceration, as well as those dealing with addiction, fleeing family violence, or escaping human trafficking.

Since the original housing and homelessness plan was developed and released in 2014, Annual Progress Reports have been produced reporting on initiatives, successes, and challenges in implementing the plan. Substantial progress has been made since its inception, including:

- Many efficiency and accessibility upgrades to existing housing stock
- Divesting underutilized housing stock to reinvest in high demand areas
- New Affordable Housing Developments throughout the District of Kenora
- New emergency homeless shelter in Kenora
- New Memorandum of Understanding with Kenora Chiefs' Advisory
- New Memorandum of Understanding with Nishnawbe Aski Nation
- New Memorandum of Understanding with Windigo First Nations Council
- New Emergency Homeless Shelter in Red Lake
- Supportive Housing in Sioux Lookout, Red Lake and Kenora
- Transitional Housing in Red Lake
- Create new partnerships in the Health and Justice services sector

"The strength and well-being of our region relies on communities having an adequate supply of housing. Through the updated plan, the KDSB will continue to work hard with our communities, partners and all levels of government to address the affordable housing crisis in the District of Kenora," says Barry Baltessen, Board Chair of the KDSB.

... Page 2

For Immediate Release

February 15, 2021

KDSB releases updated 10-year housing and homelessness plan

Page 2

“The updated 10-year plan establishes nine priorities for the District that will have set goals and outcomes. These priorities strive to end homelessness; address the affordable housing crisis for families and employers; ensure that our seniors and elders can age in place and create purpose-built housing for our community members that need accessible housing or are struggling with developmental disabilities,” says Henry Wall, Chief Administrative Officer of the KDSB.

The plan sets a new path forward through new and continued partnerships, with the cornerstone being inclusion and collaboration. To view the renewed plan, please visit KDSB’s website: <http://kdsb.on.ca/>.

~30~

Media Contact:

Roberta Lappage
Communications Officer
Kenora District Services Board
(807) 223-2100 ext. 2474
rlappage@kdsb.on.ca