



Report To:	Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB Board
From:	Donna Moroso, Director of Integrated Social Services and Rhonda McCauley, Social Housing Program Supervisor
Date:	May 24, 2012
Re:	10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the DSB Board Members with information on the development of the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan for the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board. The DSB will contract the services of the Social Planning Council of Sudbury to coordinate, design and develop the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan.

Background

Through the Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy (LTAHS) and with the passing of the Housing Services Act (HSA), 2011, the Province has completed the devolution of Ontario's affordable housing to municipalities. The Province now requires the development of a 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan that must reflect certain principles or 'interests' that the government has prescribed in addition to considering and responding to local needs. The Province has outlined some basic requirements for the content:

- plans must identify current and future housing needs;
- set objectives and targets related to identified needs;
- describe actions to meet these goals; and
- indicate how process will be measured.

Scope

Under the [Ontario Housing Policy Statement](#) (OHPS), the Province has outlined a broad scope for local housing and homeless plans. Ontario's vision for affordable housing "is to improve access to adequate, suitable and affordable housing, and provide a solid foundation on which to secure employment, raise families and build strong communities" and Service Managers are directed to address the housing and

homelessness services system across the continuum of need from those who are literally homeless on the street to those who can afford ownership housing.

Objectives

Under the Housing Services Act, Service Managers are required to create, implement and monitor local housing and homelessness plans and respond to identified local needs while taking into account the provincial interests and policy directions outlined in the HSA and the OHPS. These plans must be in place by January 1st, 2014, a deadline which will approach quickly given that the planning process must include community consultation, a review by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and DSB board approval.

Local housing and homelessness plans will guide the development and administration of housing programs and have the potential to change the face of affordable housing in Ontario. The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB will face some challenges in creating the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan however we do have the [Housing Needs, Supply, and Affordability Study](#) that was completed by SHS Consulting in September 2009 as a resource to develop the plan.

To meet the Provincial requirements, Service Managers are required to reach out into their communities to better understand local needs. There is value in doing consultations as a means of community engagement and relationship-building, and as a source of knowledge about the community.

Service Managers must also describe in the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan the measures which will be used to track progress toward meeting the goals and targets outlines in the plan.

The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB will contract the services of the Social Planning Council of Sudbury to coordinate, design and develop the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan. The table below sets out the work plan for the completion of the plan.

ACTION	TIMELINE
Provide skeleton work-plan to DSB	May 2012
Have status updates on plan with DSB regularly	Bi-Weekly
Gathering information/data	June/July 2012
Preparing for consultations	August 2012
Conduct consultations	September/October 2012
Creation of Housing & Homelessness Plan	November/December 2012
Draft of plan to DSB	February 2013
Plan finalized	April 2013
Final Plan to the DSB	May 2013
Final Plan to the DSB Board	June 2013
Final Plan submission to Ministry	October 2013
Plan in place	January 2014

Conclusion

Invariably, 47 unique plans will emerge, each reflecting the diverse needs of Ontario communities that will guide investment in local affordable housing. The province has rightfully placed the onus to plan for local solutions within the hands of the local government. With vision, capacity and proper supports, local housing and homelessness plans will help to move Ontario closer to the provision of proper affordable housing for all.