



Report To: Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB Program Planning Committee

From: Donna Moroso, Director of Integrated Social Services and  
Rhonda McCauley, Social Housing Program Supervisor

Date: February 26, 2014

Re: **10-Year Housing & Homelessness Plan Revisions**

### **Report:**

#### **Purpose**

To advise the Board of recommended revisions to the approved 10-Year Housing & Homelessness Plan upon received correspondence from Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

#### **Background**

The DSB Board approved the 10-Year Housing & Homelessness Plan on September 26, 2013 and the document was submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) on September 27, 2013.

Per the guidelines, the Ministry has 90-days to review the Plan and the Minister has the opportunity to respond with recommendations.

On December 17, 2013 the [Minister's letter](#), addressed to the Board Chair was received and reviewed as to the recommendations contained within.

There were three areas of which MMAH recommended changes to the document.

1. Describing how progress towards meeting the objectives and targets will be measured with respect to the elimination of the Community Start-up and Maintenance Benefit (CSUMB).
2. Describing how progress towards meeting the needs of victims of family violence will be measured.
3. Describing how progress towards meeting the housing needs for persons with disabilities will be measured.

## Objectives

As a result of the recommendations from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB has revised the [10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan](#).

In order to address the progress towards meeting the objectives and targets with respect to the elimination of the Community Start-up and Maintenance Benefit, the DSB staff have added the following: (ref. pages 15 & 75)

### **#12 Increase Program Evaluations**

Closely monitor and track the use of the Healthy Communities Fund (HCF) to determine the number of individuals and families applying for CSUMB like benefits in 2014 versus previous years.

In order to address the progress towards meeting the needs of victims of family violence, the DSB staff have added the following: (ref. pages 15 & 75)

### **#12 Increase Program Evaluations**

In an effort to decrease wait-times for victims of family violence, we will undertake to offer approved applicants the opportunity to accept any vacancy within the DSB catchment area as soon as their application is approved. We will monitor the uptake of this initiative to determine if wait-times are affected by this initiative.

In order to address the progress towards meeting the housing needs for persons with disabilities, the DSB staff have added the following:

### **#12 Increase Program Evaluations**

Develop better strategies to monitor the number of individuals declaring a disability and better assist in placement of these individuals by offering the first available modified unit within the full catchment area.

### **#3 Implement Strategies to Support Overlooked Populations, Aboriginals, Youth, Non-Senior Persons with Disabilities, and Individuals who are Homeless (ref. pages 9 & 52)**

- Dependent on available resources and structural limitations, consideration for refurbishment of a percentage of existing units, to fully modified units across the portfolio is an option to increase the availability for persons with disabilities. Additional policies may need to be developed to ensure that adding such units will not result vacancy revenue losses.

## **Conclusion**

DSSAB/CMSM's Service Managers are required to report annually to the public on the progress of our 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan starting in 2015 based on previous calendar year activities.

The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB staff are committed to ensuring that these targets are met. Staff are recommending that the Program Planning Committee and Board approve the revised 10-Year Housing & Homelessness Plan.