



REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Healthy, Sustainable Communities

Date: Wednesday, February 23, 2022

Time: Regular DNSSAB Board Meeting at 12:30 PM

Location: By video conference while pandemic protocols are in place

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89603062042?pwd=QVM4SHh0WjRlSVNDZi85TGU0RTc2QT09>

Meeting ID: 896 0306 2042

Passcode: 73481658

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Members: Councillor Mark King (Chair), Councillor Dan Roveda (Vice-Chair), Mayor Dean Backer, Councillor Mac Bain, Mayor Jane Dumas, Councillor Terry Kelly, Councillor Chris Mayne, Councillor Dave Mendicino, Mayor Dan O'Mara, Councillor Scott Robertson, Representative Amanda Smith, Councillor Bill Vrebosch.

Item	Topic
1.0	1.1 Call to Order MOTION: #2022-11 <i>Resolved</i> THAT the Board of Directors accepts the Roll Call as read by the Recording Secretary for the Regular Board meeting of February 23, 2022 at ____ PM. 1.2 Declaration of Conflict of Interest
2.0	Opening remarks by the Chair

Item	Topic
3.0	<p>Approval of Agenda for February 23, 2022</p> <p>MOTION: #2022-12 THAT Board members accept the Agenda as presented.</p>
4.0	<p>Approval of Minutes</p> <p>4.1 MOTION: #2022-13-A THAT the Board adopt the minutes of the proceedings of the Regular Board meeting of January 26, 2022.</p> <p>4.2 MOTION: #2022-13-B THAT the Board adopt the minutes of the proceedings of the Community Services Committee meeting of January 26, 2022.</p>
5.0	<p>Delegations- None at this time.</p>
6.0	<p>6.1 CAO VERBAL UPDATE:</p> <p>MOTION: #2022-14 THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) receives the CAO Verbal Report for February 23, 2022.</p>
7.0	<p>CONSENT AGENDA – All items in the consent agenda are voted on collectively. The Chair will call out each item for consideration of discussion. Any item can be singled out for separate vote; then, only the remaining items will be voted on collectively.</p> <p>MOTION: #2022-15 THAT the Board receives for information, Consent Agenda items 7.1 to 7.3.</p> <p>7.1 HS07-22 Northern Policy Institute Report on Homelessness - details of the Northern Policy Institute’s paper entitled “Solving the Homelessness, Addiction and Mental Health Crisis in the North”, for information purposes.</p> <p>7.2 HS09-22 Information on NDHC Deep Energy Retrofit Plan - information on a proposal to create a plan to conduct deep energy retrofits on the Nipissing District Housing Corporation’s portfolio.</p> <p>7.3 B08-22 COVID-19 Pandemic Update - an update to the Board on the DNSSAB workplace pandemic response.</p>
8.0	<p>MANAGERS REPORTS</p>

Item	Topic
	<p>8.1 HS06-22 North Bay Warming Centre Update Report HS06-22 provides an update on the North Bay Warming Centre for information purposes.</p>
	<p>8.2 HS10-22 Gateway Campus Name Change Options</p> <p>MOTION: #2022-16 THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) receive the HS10-22 report Gateway Campus Name Change Options, recommending Option ____, for approval.</p>
	<p>8.3 HS11-22 2022/23 Reaching Home Allocation</p> <p>MOTION: #2022-17 THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board receive, for approval, the recommendations for the allocation of the 2022-2023 Reaching Home Funding as set out in report HS11 - 22.</p>
	<p>8.4 Move in Camera</p> <p>MOTION: #2022-18 THAT the Board (DNSSAB) move in-camera at _____ to discuss legal, negotiation and property matters.</p>
	<p>8.5 Adjourn In Camera</p> <p>MOTION: #2022-19 THAT the Board (DNSSAB) adjourns in-camera at _____ PM.</p>
	<p>8.6 Approve In Camera</p> <p>MOTION: #2022-20 THAT the Board (DNSSAB) approves the direction/action agreed to in the in-camera session.</p>
9.0	OTHER/NEW BUSINESS
10.0	<p>NEXT MEETING DATE Wednesday, March 23, 2022</p>
11.0	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p> <p>MOTION: #2022-21 <i>Resolved</i> THAT the Board meeting be adjourned at _____.</p>



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

REGULAR BOARD MEETING – JANUARY 26, 2022

1:54 PM

Virtually via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Terry Kelly (East Ferris)

Councillor Mark King - Chair (North Bay)

Councillor Dave Mendicino (North Bay)

Mayor Dan O'Mara (Temagami)

Councillor Dan Roveda Vice Chair (West Nipissing)

Councillor Bill Vrebosch (North Bay)

Mayor Dean Backer (East Nipissing)

Representative Amanda Smith (Unincorporated)

Councillor Mac Bain – (North Bay)

Councillor Chris Mayne (North Bay)

Mayor Jane Dumas (South Algonquin)

Councillor Scott Robertson (North Bay)

STAFF ATTENDANCE:

Catherine Matheson, CAO

Marianne Zadra, Executive Coordinator and Communications

Melanie Shaye, Director of Corporate Services

David Plumstead – Manager Planning, Outcomes & Analytics

Justin Avery, Manager of Finance

Stacey Cyopeck, Director, Housing Programs

Tracy Bethune, Manager, Housing Operations

Lynn Demore-Pitre, Director, Children's Services

Michelle Glabb, Director, Social Services and Employment

Tyler Venable, Community Projects Planner
Dawn Carlyle, Project Manager
Donna Mayer, Manager of Project Development

1.1 CALL TO ORDER
Resolution No. 2022-01

Moved by: Dan Roveda
Seconded by: Bill Vrebosch

Resolved THAT the Board of Directors accept the Roll Call as read by the Recording Secretary for the Regular Board meeting of January 26, 2022 at 1:54 PM.

The regular Board Meeting was called to order at 1:54 PM by Chair Mark King.

Carried.

1.2 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts were declared.

2.0 CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair welcomed thanked everyone to the first Board meeting of 2022 and for attending the last Board meeting of 2021. He indicated that the higher transmission of the Omicron variant is creating staffing challenges everywhere, including agencies trying to set up a warming centre. DNSSAB continues to work with partners to find a solution. CCNB is mitigating the situation by keeping the low barrier shelter open until noon on days when extreme cold weather staffing permits.

The Chair updated members on the ROMA delegations which he attended as DNSSAB Chair and as an executive member of NOSDA, adding he is hopeful for funding from the Ministry of Health for the Chippewa Campus, and that an appeal was also made to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for sustainable housing and health funding. He indicated that NOSDA's delegations mirrored DNSSAB's positions and concerns. He talked about a multi-ministry meeting also attended by fellow Board member and FONOM Executive Director, Mac Bain, NOSDA and NOMA, providing a united voice for Northern Ontario.

He briefly talked about the Strategic Plan being brought forward for approval and how the 20-year plan can be updated at every new elections cycle to reflect priorities of the day.

3.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Resolution No. 2022-02

Moved by: Mac Bain

Seconded by: Dave Mendicino

Resolved THAT the Board accepts the agenda as presented.

Carried.

4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Resolution No. 2022-03-A

Moved by: Jane Dumas

Seconded by: Amanda Smith

Resolved THAT the Board adopts the minutes of the proceedings of the Regular Board meeting of December 15, 2021.

Carried.

4.2 Resolution No. 2022-03-B

Moved by: Dean Backer

Seconded by: Scott Robertson

Resolved THAT the Board adopt the minutes of the proceedings of the Finance and Administration Committee meeting of December 15, 2021.

Carried.

5.0 DELEGATIONS

5.1 Resolution No. 2022-04

Moved by: Dan Roveda

Seconded by: Terry Kelly

THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board accepts and approves the 2022-2042 strategic plan.

David Plumstead, Manager Planning, Outcomes & Analytics and Tyler Venable, Community Projects Planner presented the strategic plan. They reviewed the process used to develop the plan, the planning framework, stretch goals (Maximize impact, Remove barriers, Seamless

access, Learn and Grow) and priorities. David indicated there will be Board updates on how departments are working towards aligning with the goals and will build this into a Board reporting cycle. Strategic priorities can be reviewed with each new election cycle.

Carried.

5.2 Performance Management System

Dave Plumstead, along with the Directors of each program area, used the Business Intelligence system to update Board members on the performance of each area over the last several months.

[Scott Robertson left the meeting at 2:47 PM]

6.0 CAO VERBAL UPDATE

Resolution No. 2022-05

Moved by: Mac Bain

Seconded by: Bill Vrebosch

Resolved THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) receives the CAO Report for January 26, 2022.

CAO Catherine Matheson provided the Board with the following updates:

- Emergency child care was delivered from January 6th to January 14th. DNSSAB received 344 applications and 199 families with 280 children received this service. As Schools returned to in-person learning on January 17th, regular child care for school age children resumed. She thanked the staff for responding to the situation so effectively.
- Staff have been working to implement the direction received from the Board to transition EMS from to direct delivery. This change was communicated to all contractors, and their paramedic staff. As well, a virtual town hall meeting was held with paramedics. A transition communication table that includes each of the contractors, labour representation, Ministry of Health representation, and senior DNSSAB staff has begun meeting. The transition process has begun.

The CAO also introduced Donna Mayer, hired to develop community housing in the District. She reviewed Donna's 30 years of experience in all sectors of community housing. The Board welcomed Donna.

Carried.

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION: #2022-06

Moved by: Amanda Smith

Seconded by: Dan O'Mara

THAT the Board receives for approval or information, Consent Agenda items 7.1 to 7.5.

7.1 FA2022-01 Municipal Apportionment - 2022 municipal apportionment figures for each municipality in the Nipissing district.

Manager of Finance, Justin Avery explained how the municipal apportionment is calculated through the weighted assessment method.

7.2 B01-22 Accessibility Plan 2021-2025 - information on the legislatively required 2021-2025 Accessibility Plan.

7.3 B02-22 Approval of NDHC By-Law #1 Amendments

THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) approve the NDHC Board By-law #1 amendments by resolution; as Service Manager and Shareholder of the Nipissing District Housing Corporation (NDHC).

7.4 B03-22 Draft Revisions to the Travel Meal and Hospitality Policy

THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board approve the changes to the draft Travel, Meal and Hospitality Policy as presented.

7.5 B07-22 Resolution to Municipalities Regarding Federal Funding

Whereas the 2021 Point in Time Count showed 300 people in the District identified as homeless, indicating a steady increase from previous counts; and,

THAT while Government funding has provided capital dollars throughout the pandemic for the development of the Gateway Campus to provide emergency and transitional housing to the District's most vulnerable, there is no health and housing funding to support operations, and;

THAT while DNSSAB continues to advocate for housing and health funding with the Province to staff and meet the needs of the District's most vulnerable;

Be it resolved THAT area municipalities be encouraged to advocate for housing and health staffing support funding for the District's transitional housing development known as Gateway House with the provincial government.

Carried.

8.0 MANAGER'S REPORTS

8.1 In Camera

RESOLUTION: #2022-07

Moved by: Dean Backer

Seconded by: Dan O'Mara

THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) move in-camera at 3:06 PM to a discuss matter of negotiation.

Carried

[In-camera minutes are filed separately.]

8.2 Adjourn In Camera

RESOLUTION: #2022-08

Moved by: Amanda Smith

Seconded by: MacBain

THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) adjourns in-camera at 3:18 PM.

Carried

8.3 Approve In Camera

RESOLUTION: #2022-09

Moved by: Mac Bain

Seconded by: Terry Kelly

THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) approves the direction/action agreed to in the in-camera session.

Carried.

9. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business brought forward.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday, February 23, 2022.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. 2022-10

Moved by: Dean Backer

Seconded by: Dan Roveda

Resolved THAT the Board meeting be adjourned at 3:19 PM.

Carried.

MARK KING
CHAIR OF THE BOARD

CATHERINE MATHESON
SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Minutes of Proceedings Recorder: Marianne Zadra, Executive Coordinator

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2022 12:00 PM – VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Dean Backer (East Nipissing)
Councillor Mac Bain – (North Bay)
Mayor Jane Dumas (South Algonquin)
Councillor Terry Kelly – (East Ferris)
Councillor Mark King – (North Bay)
Councillor Dave Mendicino - Vice Chair (North Bay)
Mayor Dan O'Mara (Temagami)
Councillor Scott Robertson (North Bay)
Councillor Dan Roveda - Chair (West Nipissing)
Representative Amanda Smith (Unincorporated)
Councillor Bill Vrebosch (North Bay)

REGRETS:

Councillor Chris Mayne (North Bay)

STAFF ATTENDANCE:

Catherine Matheson, CAO
Marianne Zadra, Executive Coordinator and Communications
Melanie Shaye, Director of Corporate Services
Michelle Glabb, Director of Social Services and Employment
Lynn Demore-Pitre, Director Children's Services
Stacey Cyopeck, Director, Housing Programs
Tracy Bethune, Manager, Housing Operations
Robert Smith, EMS Chief
Justin Avery, Manager of Finance
Dawn Carlyle, Project Manager

David Plumstead, Manager Planning, Outcomes & Analytics
Donna Mayer, Manager of Project Development

1.1 CALL TO ORDER

The Community Services Committee was called to order at 12:02 PM by Chair Dan Roveda.

1.2 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Amanda Smith noted a conflict with item 5.6 in the Consent Agenda as this report involves her employer.

2.0 CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair welcomed members, staff and guests, indicating he expects a busy final term for this board. He noted he has enjoyed this work and credited the Board with some remarkable work.

3.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

RESOLUTION: #CSC01-2022

MOVED BY: Bill Vrebosch

SECONDED BY: Dan O'Mara

That the agenda for the Community Services Committee is accepted as presented.

Carried.

4.0 DELEGATIONS - there were no delegations.

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION: #CSC34-21

MOVED BY: Scott Robertson

SECONDED BY: Mac Bain

THAT the Committee receives for information Consent Agenda items 5.1 to 5.7.

5.1 CSC01-22 Child Care and Early Years Workforce Funding - information related to the Child Care and Early Years Workforce Funding and Strategy.

There was discussion about attracting more Early Child Educators to staff spaces. Children's Services Director Lynn Démoré-Pitre explained a marketing campaign will help with attracting people to the profession but the concern for retention is about wages. There is funding to support apprenticeship programs. Child Care is working NOSDA counterparts to partner in a campaign to help marketing costs go further. A draft plan will be brought to the Board when completed.

5.2 CSC02-22 Early Years and Child Care Sector Update – actions taken by the Children's Services Department in response to recent time-limited measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic and emergency child care services for essential workers, and an update regarding the operations of EarlyON Child and Family Centres.

5.3 HS02-22 Gateway House Phase 1 and Low Barrier Shelter Update: details on the current Emergency Shelter system, including an update on Gateway House Phase 1.

Housing Programs Director Stacey Cyopeck updated the Board on shelter usage, which has been high due to the cold weather. There has been staggered occupancy at the campus's first floor of the transitional housing section since November, and the second floor is about to be opened. There was discussion and concern about the lack of a warming centre. Stacey indicated DNSSAB is working with community partners and that while they are willing, staffing is an issue due to illnesses and isolation requirements of the pandemic. It is expected a warming centre will be opened soon and in the meantime, Crisis Centre is trying to keep the Low Barrier Shelter open until noon on extreme cold weather days when staffing permits and the transit terminal has been provided with extra security for the winter months.

There was also discussion about renaming Gateway House as this is currently being used by another service in North Bay and causing some confusion.

5.4 HS03-22 Coordinated Access Nipissing Update: By Name List, Data Sharing Agreement, HIFIS 4.0 - an update on the implementation of Coordinated Access Nipissing.

5.5 HS01-22 Canada – Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB) - an update regarding the implementation of the COHB rent subsidy program for the 2022/23 fiscal year.

Stacey explained how this program works and that this program is portable to any location in the province. She also indicated that due to the past success of the program, this year's allocation of \$318K is significantly higher than previous allocations.

5.6 HS04-22 Social Services Relief Fund Phase 3 (SSRF P3) - Rent Relief Pilot Project Update - details on the Rent Relief Pilot Project funded through the SSRF Phase 3.

Stacey provided an update on this pilot proposed by two community partners last

Spring. Up to December 31, this program experience a surplus, and funds will be shifted to areas where funding is needed, such as the Global Emergency Homelessness Fund, to March 31.

5.7 Resolution 2022-14 from East Ferris Council – for information. A report on DNSSAB’s position on the Affordable Child Care Strategy will be brought forward to the next Community Services Committee meeting.

There was discussion on the need for \$10/day childcare and how some municipalities have shared a motion to push for this. A notice of motion was given to have DNSSAB do something similar if the Province hasn’t made a deal with the Federal government by next month.

Carried.

6.0 MANAGERS’ REPORTS

6.1 Move In Camera

RESOLUTION: #CSC03-22

MOVED BY: Bill Vrebosch
SECONDED BY: Dan O’Mara

THAT the Committee move in-camera at 12:57 PM to discuss matters of labour and negotiation.

Carried.

Bill Vrebosch did not participate in the labour related item, noting a conflict with his daughter employed by DNSSAB.

6.2 Adjourn In Camera

RESOLUTION: #CSC04-22

MOVED BY: Dean Backer
SECONDED BY: Dave Mendicino

THAT the Committee adjourns in-camera at 1:41 PM.

Carried.

6.3 Approve In Camera

RESOLUTION: #CSC05-22

MOVED BY: Jane Dumas
SECONDED BY: Terry Kelly

THAT the Committee approves the direction/action agreed to in the in-camera session.

Carried.

7.0 OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

8.0 NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION: #CSC06-22

MOVED BY: Chris Mayne
SECONDED BY: Mac Bain

***Resolved* That the Community Services Committee meeting be adjourned at 1:42 PM.**

Carried.

DAN ROVEDA
CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE

CATHERINE MATHESON
SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Minutes of Proceedings Recorder: Marianne Zadra, Executive Coordinator

BRIEFING NOTE HS07-22

For Information or For Approval

Date: February 23, 2022

Purpose: Northern Policy Institute's Report on Homelessness

Prepared by: Stacey Cyopeck, Director, Housing Services

Reviewed by: Justin Avery, Manager of Finance

Approved by: Catherine Matheson, Chief Administrative Officer

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Healthy, Sustainable Communities

Maximize Impact Remove Barriers Seamless Access Learn & Grow

Report HS07-22 provides details of the Northern Policy Institute's paper entitled "Solving the Homelessness, Addiction and Mental Health Crisis in the North", for information purposes.

BACKGROUND:

- In January 2022, the Northern Policy Institute released a paper in response to growing concerns with homelessness, addiction, and mental health in Northern Ontario.
- The trends highlighted in the paper are particularly concerning as they relate specifically to homelessness, addiction, and mental health in North Bay and Nipissing District:
 - Sault Ste. Marie and the Districts of Kenora, Nipissing, and Cochrane have higher homeless populations per capita than the five largest municipalities in Ontario.
 - Between 2016 and 2020, opioid-related Emergency Department visits increased by 616% in the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit region. This is the second-largest increase in Northern Ontario.
 - Opioid-related deaths in 2020 compared to 2019 increased by 168% in the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit region. This is the second-largest increase in Northern Ontario.
 - 64% of homeless individuals in the Nipissing District suffer from mental health issues while 69% suffer from addiction issues.

CURRENT STATUS/STEPS TAKEN TO DATE:

A total of eight strategies were identified for governments to improve the homelessness, addiction, and mental health crisis in Northern Ontario. The strategies are as follows:

1. Provide long-term funding for capital repairs on community-housing units
2. Amend the *Health Protection and Promotion Act, 1990* to define a 'Northern Service Hub' and provide additional funding to these hubs
3. Establish a joint taskforce to collect data and intelligence on the underlying and systematic retention issues of healthcare professionals in Northern Ontario
4. Support new and existing 'Housing First' programs
5. Support new and existing Indigenous culturally sensitive community-housing facilities
6. Establish a 'Northern Mental Health and Addictions Centre of Excellence' to address the unique challenges of service and program delivery in Northern Ontario
7. Contract a third-party operator for interfacility patient transfers to relieve the workload of paramedics
8. Establish mandated Mobile Crisis Intervention Teams (MCIT) in municipalities throughout Northern Ontario

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

The paper acknowledges the funding pressures placed on municipal governments to solve homelessness, addiction, and mental health issues. As such, the paper seeks a collaborative approach that involves federal, provincial, and municipal governments to solve the issues.

RISK IDENTIFICATION AND MITIGATION:

Local data and information, including the information contained in the paper, illustrate concerning trends in homelessness, addiction, and mental health across Northern Ontario. The eight strategies identified in the paper along with a collaborative approach are being proposed to solve these issues.

CONCLUSION:

The data contained in the paper illustrates the current homelessness, addiction, and mental health crisis in Northern Ontario. The data trends indicate that the current efforts made by governments are not keeping up with the growing vulnerable population, and that further investments are needed to address the crisis.

The strategies identified in the paper are evidence-based solutions for homelessness, addiction, and mental health. Action, therefore, should be made by all levels of government to implement the strategies and assist Northern Ontario communities.

BRIEFING NOTE HS09-22

For Information or **For Approval**

Date: February 23, 2022

Purpose: **Information on NDHC Deep Energy Retrofit Plan**

Prepared by: Donna Mayer, Manager of Project Development

Reviewed by: Justin Avery, Manager of Finance

Approved by: Catherine Matheson, Chief Administrative Officer

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Healthy, Sustainable Communities

Maximize Impact **Remove Barriers** **Seamless Access** **Learn & Grow**

This report provides information on a proposal to create a plan to conduct deep energy retrofits on the Nipissing District Housing Corporation's portfolio.

BACKGROUND:

The proposal seeks approval of the Nipissing District Housing Corporation (NDHC) to have staff develop a plan to explore opportunities to generate savings through deep energy retrofits of the NDHC portfolio. This is consistent with the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board's (DNSSAB) Strategic Plan 2022-2042.

The plan will assess the ways and means to implement this new technology, deep energy retrofits, to increase productivity, operating performance and outcome data and measurement, and enhance service delivery.

The anticipated outcomes of plan implementation are a reduction in the total cost of building ownership, improved resident comfort, reduction in energy poverty, decreased green-house gas emissions, and increased operating performance.

The proposal to revitalize public housing is a pro-active approach that will capitalize on the existing program and funding environment and leverage NDHC funds and assets, in accordance with the DNSSAB Homelessness Action Plan 2021.

The timing is right for these types of projects due to the convergence of a number of factors:

- availability of funding, financing, and technical resources
- aging condition of the housing stock
- end of operating agreements and mortgages
- rising energy costs
- climate emergency

This convergence is the opportunity for NDHC to accelerate the implementation of much needed capital repairs, improve and extend building performance, while reducing operating costs, energy consumption and GHG emissions.

Defined principles will be applied to the planning process. The principles reflect the requirement to develop a plan that is financially viable and relies largely on federal funding and financing.

While the proposed plan is intended to perform deep energy retrofits on the NDHC portfolio, the planning process will also seek to identify opportunities to influence deep energy retrofits in other community housing and local communities.

The proposed plan offers the opportunity to create social, environmental and economic value in the community. This may be an occasion for the DNSSAB to build on and expand partnerships and collaboration, act as a catalyst for further deep energy retrofits in Nipissing, and promote its work and leadership in advancing housing solutions.

CURRENT STATUS/STEPS TAKEN TO DATE:

The NDHC Board will consider the proposal at its February meeting. Staff are currently gathering information resources to help build internal knowledge, buy-in and capacity.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

No additional resources are required at this time. Existing staff resources will be utilized to develop the plan. The plan will be founded on available federal funding and financing, as indicated in the report to NDHC.

Once developed, the plan will be brought to NDHC for approval. At that time, funding requirements will be identified. There may be some projects that require an equity contribution from the Board in order to leverage financing. Land value can be considered as equity.

RISK IDENTIFICATION AND MITIGATION:

There is minimal risk at this stage of planning. There is a risk that implementing some capital repairs scheduled for the near future may impair a project's chance of success in receiving funding. Capital improvements that reduce energy consumption, such as furnace and window replacements, reduce the amount of green house gas emissions that can be saved and counted for achieving the emissions reduction target for funding.

CONCLUSION:

The time is right to consider deep energy retrofits to the NDHC portfolio in order to leverage financing and funding, revitalize the housing stock, and improve operational savings over the life of the buildings.

When implemented, the proposed plan promises to reduce energy costs to both NDHC and the residents who live in community housing. Similarly, improved energy performance will increase home comfort for residents.

The proposed plan will also contribute to Canada's international commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

BRIEFING NOTE B08-22

For Information or For Approval

Date: February 23, 2022
Purpose: COVID-19 **Pandemic Update**
Prepared by: Melanie Shaye, Director of Corporate Services
Reviewed by: Justin Avery, Manager of Finance
Approved by: Catherine Matheson, Chief Administrative Officer

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Healthy, Sustainable Communities

Maximize Impact Remove Barriers Seamless Access Learn & Grow

Briefing note B08-22 provides an update to the Board on the DNSSAB workplace pandemic response.

BACKGROUND

Since March 2, 2020, the DNSSAB has followed the guidance of the Provincial and Federal government, as well as the North Bay and Parry Sound District Health Unit, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Pandemic Plan and COVID-19 Workplace Safety Plan updated most recently in briefing note B14-21, and Vaccination Protocol presented in briefing note B20-21, have been DNSSAB's guiding documents for pandemic response.

The workplace pandemic response has been agile, as the circumstances related to the pandemic and the associated risks have changed. The DNSSAB has chosen a cautious approach, whereby employees have worked remotely as much as possible to avoid frequent closures, which lead to confusion for clients and tenants. The DNSSAB has worked collaboratively with the City of North Bay at City Hall to ensure consistent safety measures are in place for staff in the office.

The pandemic response has also led to an evaluation of the DNSSAB's business model. Through briefing note B11-21, a new business model for operations was adopted which includes an element of remote work. This came about after the sale of a building in North Bay and consolidation of all DNSSAB and NDHC services into one

location at City Hall. The new business model focuses on seamless access to services for clients and tenants, and decisions are rooted in consistent decision making across the organization.

CURRENT STATUS/STEPS TAKEN TO DATE

Current Pandemic Response

As of January 31, 2022, the Province began to ease public health measures under Step 3 of the Province's Roadmap to Reopen Plan, and DNSSAB continues to maintain all health and safety protocols, consistent with the province's plan. Employees continue to receive regular updates on the workplace COVID-19 response and on January 27, 2022, all staff received a presentation from the local Health Unit that provided the most current COVID-19 pandemic information.

Return to Office for Public Facing Staff

The DNSSAB intends to begin the return of public facing staff to their office on March 14, 2022, including satellite offices in Sturgeon Falls, Mattawa and South Algonquin. This is subject to any future changes in pandemic restrictions.

With a transparent and fair method of decision-making, based firmly on operational requirements and the commitment to providing clients and tenants with seamless access to services, the new business model will have a portion of staff working strictly in-office, a portion working a hybrid of in-office and remote work, and a portion of staff working primarily remotely. The organization will continue to be required to be agile and adjust to needs both in the office and remotely as service needs change. The new business model adopted by the Board enables adjustment as required.

COVID-19 Vaccinations

All DNSSAB employees, including full-time, part-time, temporary, relief and students are required under policy to be fully vaccinated, meaning they have received their first and second dose. This policy has been implemented. The DNSSAB's COVID-19 Vaccination Policy allows for booster dose vaccination requirements if the Provincial definition of fully vaccinated changes.

As the Province continues to ease COVID-19 measures the DNSSAB will be reviewing the policies of other DSSAB's and municipalities to determine if any changes are required to the DNSSAB's vaccination policy.

Additional COVID-19 Safety Measures

Employees who enter Nipissing District Housing Corporation (NDHC) housing units, including but not limited to Building Custodians and Maintenance Repair employees, are

now provided with rapid antigen tests to complete twice weekly, prior to attending work. This provides an additional safety measure when maintaining physical distancing can be difficult when entering a unit, and measures such as lexan barriers are not possible.

All employees who will work in-office or on-site are required to complete the Provincial on-line screening prior to attending work, and follow all Provincial direction around self-isolation.

Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC)

The JHSC co-chairs (representing all management and union employees) review all COVID-19 safety protocol related changes, and they have the opportunity to provide input and suggestions.

Employee Mental Health

In December 2021, all supervisor and management employees were offered participation on a Workplace Mental health Leadership certificate program offered through Queen's University Faculty of Health Sciences and delivered by Morneau Shepell, the DNSSAB's Employee Assistance Program provider. This training provides employees in positions of leadership with approaches to better support employees who may be facing mental health challenges, and was very well received.

The employee-driven Health and Wellness Committee continues to create initiatives geared towards providing positive ways to engage and support employees during this particularly challenging time.

Additionally, the regular email communication issued to all staff related to the COVID-19 pandemic includes a focus on mental health, so that employees have easy access to resources available to them.

RISK IDENTIFICATION AND MITIGATION

In accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act, all employees have a duty to take responsibility for their personal health and safety, which means they must:

- act in compliance with the Act and workplace safety policies,
- use equipment and protective devices required by the worker,
- report any known workplace hazards or violation of the act,
- not remove or make ineffective any protective device required by the employer or regulations.

The employer has implemented the following controls:

1. Engineering Controls: including physical distancing, floor markings and lexan barriers.
2. Administrative Controls: including policies and procedures to reduce risk as well as physical signage and room capacity limit signage.
3. Personal Protective Controls: including personal protective equipment such as face coverings, face shields and gloves.
4. Worksite-specific health and safety procedures: must be reviewed and shared with employees on or before their first day of returning to the workplace.

CONCLUSION

Due to the nature of the pandemic and the frequent adjustments required to respond to it, the DNSSAB is continuing to evaluate the pandemic plan, COVID-19 workplace safety plan, and vaccination protocol. Additionally, the full implementation of the new business model will undergo ongoing evaluation to ensure health and safety is prioritized and the needs of clients and tenants are met.

BRIEFING NOTE HS06-22

For Information or For Approval

Date: February 23, 2022

Purpose: North Bay Warming Centre Update

Prepared by: Stacey Cyopeck, Director, Housing Services

Reviewed by: Justin Avery, Manager of Finance

Approved by: Catherine Matheson, Chief Administrative Officer

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Healthy, Sustainable Communities

Maximize Impact Remove Barriers Seamless Access Learn & Grow

Report HS06-22 provides an update on the North Bay Warming Centre for information purposes.

BACKGROUND:

In October 2021, the Province of Ontario began to lift the pandemic restrictions for access to public spaces. The lessening of restrictions made it possible for homeless individuals to access public spaces, including malls and restaurants, also providing opportunity to shelter from extreme weather. The Day Programming at the Chippewa site was also expected to open at the beginning of November, however, staffing challenges prevented program implementation. On November 28, the Province announced that restrictions would be re-introduced and access for many public spaces would only be available with proof of vaccination, a barrier for many vulnerable homeless individuals.

CURRENT STATUS/STEPS TAKEN TO DATE:

December 2021 – At the December Homelessness Community Advisory Board (CAB) meeting, a discussion about daytime options for vulnerable populations identified that many of the options that were believed to be available for the community's homeless population were not accessible. Many specialized programs were restricting access to members only or by appointment only and were structured such that they were not open for individuals to come in and rest or seek shelter from the elements. A smaller task group met after the CAB meeting to discuss options. Greater risks were identified as a result of the onset of colder weather, the delay of the opening of the Day Programming at the Chippewa Site due to

staffing shortages and the expected re-instatement of pandemic restrictions in public spaces. The availability of staffing for a warming centre continued to be identified as a significant challenge. The owner of the former Health Unit site on Commercial Street, offered the building free of charge to be used for the warming centre.

A budget was created by utilizing funding that was originally set aside for the opening of the Chippewa Day Program.

Over the holiday season, staffing shortages and increased capacity challenges, combined with the newly increased pandemic protocols meant that no one community agency had the capacity to take the lead on the implementation of a warming centre.

January 2022 - The North Bay Transit Terminal continued to be available as an interim option for individuals to come out of the cold. The costs for extra security at the bus terminal will be covered as part of the warming centre funding.

The Gathering Place agreed to take the lead in the planning and opening of the site and work in collaboration with other community partners.

February 2022 – The Gathering Place opened the new daytime warming centre on February 7, 2022 at the former Health Unit site on Commercial Street, staffing the site with Gathering Place staff and volunteers in the morning and with community agency staff and students in the afternoons. To begin, the centre will be open Monday to Friday in the mornings, and some afternoons where community staffing supports are available. The Gathering Place hopes to add services on weekends before the end of the month. The centre will be open until March or until the extreme weather risk is mitigated.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

The funding for the warming centre and for the extra security for the transit station will be met by a reallocation of Social Services Relief Funding that was originally allocated for the Day Programming at the Chippewa Campus.

RISK IDENTIFICATION AND MITIGATION:

The pandemic restrictions and winter weather have created significant risks for vulnerable, unsheltered individuals. The creation of a temporary warming centre with leadership from the Gathering Place and support from community agencies will help mitigate those risks.

CONCLUSION:

Although the lessening of pandemic restrictions will open other options for vulnerable, unsheltered individuals, the need for ongoing daytime spaces and programming continues to be an identified need within the District. The DNSSAB will work with community partners to proactively plan and implement solutions before the next winter season.

Option 2: Chippewa Street Campus

This option would be tied to the actual address of the campus with the individual housing phases and sites being called “Chippewa House 1”, “Chippewa House 2” and “Chippewa House 3”.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

Once the new name is chosen, a communication plan will be implemented, which will include notification to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and to community partners. New signage will be created and posted on site and resource lists such as 211.ca and the Nipissing Service Navigation Guide will be updated.

RISK IDENTIFICATION AND MITIGATION:

The name change should be undertaken as soon as possible in an effort to ensure the name is in place before the official announcement of the Campus model and opening of the housing programs to mitigate costs for signage and confusion.

CONCLUSION:

Whichever option is chosen, the name change for the Chippewa Campus will provide a recognizable and unique identity within the community, allowing for seamless service delivery, and reducing barriers to access.

BRIEFING NOTE HS11-22

For Information or For Approval

Date: February 23, 2022

Purpose: Reaching Home 2022-23 Funding

Prepared by: Stacey Cyopeck, Director, Housing Services

Reviewed by: Justin Avery, Manager of Finance

Approved by: Catherine Matheson, Chief Administrative Officer

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Healthy, Sustainable Communities

Maximize Impact Remove Barriers Seamless Access Learn & Grow

RECOMMENDATION:

That the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board receive, for approval, the recommendations for the allocation of the 2022-2023 Reaching Home Funding as set out in report HS11 - 22.

BACKGROUND:

In February 2021, the Government of Canada announced additional incremental funding of \$299.4 million to be added to the base Reaching Home funding of designated communities. In March 2021, the DNSSAB received confirmation that the incremental funding being added to the base funding for the community would be \$603,000. The new Funding Agreement between Canada and the DNSSAB as the Community Entity was completed in November 2021. The Agreement confirmed the change in the way the funding would flow from progress payments to advance payments and also added the \$603,000 to the 2021-22 funding within the 5 year, 2019-2024 budget. There was, however, no confirmed increase in the Agreement for the last two fiscal years of Reaching Home, 2022-23 or 2023-24.

Currently, the confirmed 2022-23 base funding amount is \$160,910. Two community projects have been identified by the CAB as core homelessness services and have been funded continuously since the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (the precursor to Reaching Home) funding began. Crisis Centre North Bay's *Shelter Supports: Rehousing*, provides workers who work with the individuals in Overflow to get them housed and *Supporting Youth in Transitional Housing* funds a worker at the Futures Transitional Youth Residence that provides life skills and stability to prepare youth experiencing homelessness for independent living in the community.

CURRENT STATUS/STEPS TAKEN TO DATE:

At the February 9th, 2022 Community Advisory Board (CAB) meeting, the CAB members brought forward a recommendation to prioritize the two Crisis Centre North Bay projects for the available 2022-23 base Reaching Home funding. The following proposed recommendation and funding reports were sent out to the CAB by email on Thursday February 10, 2022 for an email vote and the recommendation was approved by majority on Friday February 11, 2022.

2022 PROPOSAL (To December 31 st)				
Service Provider	Sub-Project	Funded Service(s)	Cost per Month	Cost to December 31st
Crisis Centre North Bay	Shelter Supports: Rehousing	2 Full-time (40hrs/week each) (\$32.32/hr) Overflow employees	\$10,341.00	\$93,069.00
Crisis Centre North Bay	Supporting Youth in Transitional Housing	1 Full-time (40hrs/week each) Employee	\$6,044.20	\$54,397.80
TOTALS			\$16,385.20	\$147,466.80
2022-23 RH FUNDS REMAINING			\$ 13,443.20	

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION:

Crisis Centre North Bay Shelter Supports: Rehousing and Supporting Youth in Transitional Housing sub-projects will be fully funded at a cost of **\$16,385.20 per month** for a term of **9 months** from April 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022 for a total of **\$147,466.80**. The allocation of the balance of the 2022-23 Reaching Home funds (**\$13,443.20**) will be decided at a later date. Should additional funding become available, further decisions regarding the continued financial support of the CCNB sub-projects beyond December 31, 2022 can be made at that time.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

\$147,466.80 of the 2022-23 funding allocation will be used for the two Crisis Centre programs. The allocation for the remaining balance of funds, \$13,443.20, would be decided at a later date.

RISK IDENTIFICATION AND MITIGATION:

The recommended funding allocation will only provide funding for the two sub-projects to December 31, 2022. Additional funding will be required for January to March 2023.

CONCLUSION:

This Reaching Home funding allocation will provide stability for the CCNB programs to December 31, 2022. The Federal Government has indicated that further increases to the Reaching Home base budgets for 2022-23 and 2023-24 are still being planned. Any future increase to this year’s funding will be assessed at that time.