

## For Information Only

### Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) Update

Presented To: Community Services Committee

Presented: Monday, Apr 15, 2013

Report Date: Wednesday, Apr 03, 2013

Type: Managers' Reports

### Recommendation

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### Finance Implications

There is no new financial commitment or cost sharing requirement for the City as a result of these changes, this is 100% Provincial funding.

## Background

Under the Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy the Ontario Provincial government has consolidated five homelessness funding programs into one funding program entitled the Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI). As well, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 the Province has discontinued the Community Start Up and Maintenance Benefit (CSUMB) through the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program.

The City of Greater Sudbury was advised that it would receive an annualized allocation of \$1,564,267 for the fiscal year 2013-2014 under the CHPI funding. In a report to the Community Services Committee on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012 it was projected that the impact of these changes would result in a \$1.6 Million funding loss to our community.

At Council meeting December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Council signed a resolution that stated that:

*"The City of Greater Sudbury request that the Ontario Provincial Government maintain the 2012 level of funding for homelessness programs and benefits and retain the Community Start Up and Maintenance Benefit within the Ministry of Community and Social Services with these changes reflected in the new CHPI funding allocation."*

### Signed By

#### Report Prepared By

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Director of Social Services  
*Digitally Signed Apr 3, 13*

#### Division Review

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#### Recommended by the Department

Catherine Matheson  
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#### Recommended by the C.A.O.

Doug Nadorozny  
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# Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) Program

On December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012, the Province through the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) announced:

- A “One-time Grant Funding to Support the Transition to the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI)
- The additional funding was intended to support municipalities in transitioning to the new consolidated Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI)
- The funding is based on each municipality’s change in total funding for housing and homelessness supports in 2013-2014
- The funding is intended to complement CHPI allocation funding
- Municipal Service Managers have been given the flexibility to use the funds for a range of CHPI housing and homelessness-related supports based on local priorities
- The City of Greater Sudbury’s allocation is \$1,058,261 for January 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014 (fifteen month period)
- The City of Greater Sudbury will be required to report to the Province on the expenditures of the funding in 2014.

The CHPI program is administered through the Social Services Division of the Community Development Department. Two outcome based measures are required by the Province:

1. People who are homeless obtain and retain housing
2. People at risk of homelessness remain housed

Within broad provincially-prescribed program parameters, Service Managers will have increased flexibility to use the consolidated funding in any of the following service categories:

- Emergency Shelter Solutions (i.e. emergency homeless shelters and/or safe beds)
- Housing with Related Supports (i.e. supported permanent housing, transitional housing)
- Other Services and Supports (i.e. street and housing outreach, food banks, housing searches)
- Homelessness Prevention (i.e. payment of rent or utility arrears).

For the year 2013 a portion of the CHPI funding will be used to fund the operation of Emergency Shelter Programs within the City of Greater Sudbury. Prior to January 1, 2013 the funding for the shelter program was received by the Ministry of Community Social Services through per diem funding based on the occupancy of clients. The funding for the program was rolled into the new consolidated program (CHPI) funded by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

The balance of the CHPI allocation will be used to provide immediate financial assistance to low-income households to prevent homelessness for:

- Paying utility arrears for persons facing eviction
- Paying utility arrears for persons facing disconnection of utilities
- Paying a utility connection fee for persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness
- Providing a last month’s rent deposit for persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness
- Assisting individuals/couples/families with various supports for those experiencing homelessness and/or preventing homelessness

Eligibility for the current program will require that the applicant(s) are currently homeless or at risk of homelessness and:

- is in receipt of social assistance or;
- has an income below the Household Income Limits (HILS) determined by the Provincial government, and;
- has provided supporting documentation as required.

Currently, the amount of CHPI assistance available for eligible persons is as follows:

<b>Family Size</b>	<b>Funding amount</b>	<b>Time frame</b>
Single person or a couple with no children	Up to \$800	Up to maximum amount every 24 months
Family with children	Up to \$1500	Up to maximum amount every 24 months

2013 is considered to be a transitional year during which a long-term strategic plan for the CHPI program will be developed. The local program will be reviewed by the Social Services Division throughout the current year to determine the final program criteria.