KENORA DISTRICT SERVICES BOARD
Minutes of a Homeless Committee Meeting
Held at the KDSB Board Room
211 Princess Street, Suite 1
On Thursday, March 22, 2007
Commencing Immediately Following the KDSB Board Meeting

Present: Brian Larson
Joyce Timpson
Ray Leray
Toni Thurbide, Director of Finance
Sten Lif, Chief Administrative Officer

1. Call To Order

The CAO called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m.

2. Business

Election of Committee Chair

The CAO called for nominations for Chair of the Committee.

Moved by: Ray Leray
Seconded by: Joyce Timpson

THAT Brian Larson be nominated as Chair of the Homeless Committee.

Carried

There were no further nominations for Chair. Brian Larson accepted the nomination.

Review Homelessness Program

The CAO brought the Members up-to-date with respect to the 'new' Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Program (CHPP) that was put into effect by the Province on January 1, 2006. The CHPP is a consolidation of five provincially funded homelessness prevention programs, one of which was the Provincial Homelessness Initiative Fund (PHIF), the program administered by the KDSB in the five years prior to 2006.

The CAO advised that the CHPP is an 'outcomes' based program in that several outcome measures are required to be reported on. In addition the

Province is requiring that Service Managers undertake to develop policies and procedures and support services to connect people to community resources and to assist households experiencing or at risk of homelessness, to find and maintain stable housing. The Service Managers are to do all of this with virtually no increase in funding. The CAO advised that the previous Board advised the Province that it would not undertake to develop the support services, policies and procedures but would continue to seek proposals for funding from groups and organizations that provided direct assistance to the homeless and that the Board would continue to report on only 'one' outcome measure. The Province had agreed to that, at least for 2006 funding.

The CAO also advised that the Board approved a 10% administration fee being charged by KDSB in 2006 which had been proposed by administration for 2007 as well but was not approved by the new Board.

The CAO advised the Members of the process undertaken for seeking proposals from the groups and organizations. Proposals are usually sought out in September each year so the Committee has an opportunity to review same and make recommendations to the Board prior to the year end.

It was also pointed out to the Members that this program is not a mandatory service/program under the DSSAB Act and the Board could refuse to continue to be responsible for this provincial program.

Update re November 30/06 Funding Allocations (DOF)

The Director of Finance (DOF) updated the Members with respect to the proposals that were approved 'in-principle' last November. They were approved 'in-principle' because there was financial information that was not provided for two of the proposals at the time of approval and further information was required for one of the proposals based on the proposal provided. The DOF advised Members that the financial information had subsequently been provided from two of the organizations and it is being recommended that the final payment for those be processed.

Based on the additional information received from the third proponent it will be the recommendation of the Committee to reduce the funding from $40,000 to $24,000 as the original amount requested has been offset by some $16,000 through OW/ODSP client funding.

Other

The Members discussed the Administration Fee being funded from the Provincial grant and generally were not in favor of continuing this practice given that the amount of funding provided is quite small. It was the consensus of Members that this would need to be reviewed should the Province require the KDSB to take on additional work associated with this program.

Discussion on the availability of other funding for homelessness ensued and the CAO advised there may be additional funding through the Federal government forthcoming this year as that government is revising its SCPI program with further details to be released later this year. Once these details are known KDSB can provide further information to the communities.

3. Recommendations

Brian Larson advised that several provincial Ministers are to be in attendance at the upcoming NOMA conference and this would be a good opportunity to bring forward a discussion on the homeless program and funding. Joyce Timpson suggested that the Chair could contact David Gordon, a councilor from Sioux Lookout, who may be able to speak to this issue at the NOMA conference.

4. Next Meeting

To be determined.

5. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Confirmed this 14th day of February, A.D. 2008

By Resolution #: HC 2008-02

Joyce Timpson, Acting Chair