

**APPENDIX A CCSSJSSC13-004
PROPOSED FUNDING DISTRIBUTION FOR MCSS ONE TIME GRANT AND
REVISED MUNICIPAL HOMELESSNESS BUDGET**

Col	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
		Approved 2013 Budget			Proposed 2013 Budget				
	Program	CHPI	Municipal	Total	Approved CHPI	Municipal	Transfer to Discretionary Benefits	One Time MCSS Funding	Total
	CHPI Programs								
	Emergency Shelters - operating	884,632	365,914	884,632	884,632	365,914	241,914	241,914	884,632
	Emergency Shelters - municipal			365,914					365,914
	Dom Hostel - per diem	8,518		8,518	8,518				8,518
	Dom Hostel - municipal		7,421	7,421		7,421		7,421	7,421
	Coordinated Homelessness Response	145,780	16,220	162,000	145,780	16,220	16,220	16,220	162,000
	County Connect	26,500		26,500	26,500				26,500
	Housing Stability Benefit - Low income *	76,885		76,885	76,885			179,000	255,885
	Housing Stability Benefit - OW/ODSP	597,597	350,000	947,597	576,107	350,000		768,664	1,694,771
	Subtotal of CHPI Programs	1,739,912	739,555	2,479,467	1,718,422	739,555	265,555	1,213,219	3,405,641
	Other Homelessness Programs								
	Drop In Centre		160,000	160,000		160,000			160,000
	Other Municipal Programs **		101,992	101,992		101,992	84,445		17,547
	Total 2013 Homelessness Budget	1,739,912	1,001,547	2,741,459	1,718,422	1,001,547	350,000	1,213,219	3,583,188
	One time funding for Jan-Mar 2014							300,000	
	Total One Time MCSS Funding							1,513,219	

*10% of program costs can go toward the cost of staffing in order to administer the program

** Other Municipal Programs includes: Service Resolution Protocol, Shelter enhancement, Trustee Services

Peterborough Interim Housing Stability Benefit Effective January 1, 2013 – April 30, 2013

Eligibility Criteria	<p>Review calendar year Review patterns/sustainability Review affordability (shelter costs less than 75% of income)</p>
Fund Allocation OW & ODSP clients only	<p>\$700 for singles/couples without dependent children per calendar year</p> <p>\$1300 for families with dependent children</p>
Last Month's Rent (where LMR cannot be waived with landlord)	<p>Move of Necessity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • moving to permanent housing from the shelter or street or imminent risk of homelessness • moving due to a clear indication of domestic abuse <p style="text-align: center;">Help Promote a Positive Move</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help promote a positive move or retain current housing - within the above allocations per calendar year
Arrears for heat/hydro/rent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cost of service paid directly to the service provider or landlord after the first request for help with arrears • explore other community options
Other Essential Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to \$200 per item within the above calendar year limits • Payments for emergency home repairs for home owners, pending approval by Peterborough Renovates (i.e. burst pipe, broken well pump, clogged toilet/sink) • Complete application and agreement to reimburse • Bed and essential appliances connected to a move (within 30 days) • Replacement of essential appliances (fridge and stove) not connected to a move • Bed Bugs – cost of mattress covers only

What's now excluded that may previously been covered under Community Start-Up and Maintenance Benefit: moving costs, beds and furnishing due to bed bug infestations, household furnishings, clothing, hydro deposits, gas deposits and associated account fees.

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January 30, 2013

Mr. Brian Horton
Chief Administrative Officer
The Corporation of the City of Peterborough
500 George Street North
Peterborough, Ontario
K9H 3R5

RE: One-time Funding for Transition to the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI)

Dear Mr. Horton,

Further to the December 27, 2012 memo from David Carter-Whitney (Assistant Deputy Minister, Social Policy Development Division), please find enclosed a grant letter for \$1,513,219 in one-time transition funding to The Corporation of the City of Peterborough. This funding is part of the \$42 million fund being provided by the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) to eligible service managers to support the transition to the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI).

Service managers are to use the transition funds to assist vulnerable Ontarians – including social assistance recipients – who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The transition funding is supplemental to CHPI funding and is to be used for the types of housing and homelessness-related supports that can be provided through CHPI.

The grant period is from January 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014, and the funding will be issued as one lump sum payment in the current provincial fiscal year.

The grant letter contains the parameters of the transition fund, including the description of services and the following reporting requirements:

- a written outline of how the funds will be spent;
- a midterm expenditures report; and
- an audited financial statement following the end of the grant period.

The grant letter does not need to be signed and returned to MCSS. Receipt of the funds, once flowed by the MCSS Regional Office, signifies that the service manager accepts the terms and conditions outlined in the grant letter. Regional Offices will be responsible for monitoring the use of the transition fund during the grant period.

As this funding is supplementary to CHPI funding and intended to support the transition, please keep in mind that this is one-time MCSS funding and that will not be available beyond the transition period.

Should you have any questions regarding the grant, please contact your MCSS Regional Office representative Elizabeth Moore, Program Supervisor at 905-952-1923 or by email to Elizabeth.f.moore@ontario.ca

Sincerely,

Claudine Cousins
Regional Director
Central East Region

Attachment (1)

c. Lianne Raymond, Regional Program Manager, Social Assistance
Elizabeth Moore, Program Supervisor
MMAH Municipal Service Office

CSSSJSSC13-004

Appendix D

>>> "Martha MacFie (PETE)" <MacfieM@lao.on.ca> 2013-02-19 10:38 AM >>>

Dear Linda, I am writing on behalf of the Discretionary Benefits/Housing Benefits subcommittee of PPRN's Income Security Work Group. Thank you for meeting with us on February 7, 2013. The purpose of the meeting was for us to hear your proposal regarding expenditure of the \$1.5M transitional funds, and for you to receive input from the members of our subcommittee.

As you know, in March 2012 the Provincial government announced that it was capping funding for discretionary benefits effective July 1, 2012 and eliminating the CSUMB effective January 1, 2013. Since the cuts were announced, our subcommittee has committed considerable time and effort in four areas. We have: 1. informed the community of the changes; 2. received feedback from people with lived experience and from agencies who provide services to people affected by the cuts; 3. pressed the provincial government to reverse the cuts, and: 4. pressed our municipal government to develop a sustainable plan to fund discretionary and housing benefits.

At our meeting with you on February 7, 2013 you provided us with a document titled "CHPI and One-time Grant Discussion Guide" (January 30, 2013). You explained the following possible expenditures of the \$1.5M transitional funds:

- the Housing Stability Fund (2013) will receive total funds of between \$1.1M and \$1.2M from all sources, including provincial CHPI funding of \$.9M, transitional provincial funding of \$1.5M, and municipal contributions;
- that \$300,000 of the transitional dollars be reserved for the first quarter of 2014;
- use approximately \$100,000 of the transitional dollars for administration type costs (hiring a consultant to do research etc.) and seed funding;
- use the funds in such a way that other municipal dollars currently allocated for housing can be redirected to fund discretionary benefits after April 2013.

We provided you with our "Finding the Solution for 2013 and Beyond" report (October 1, 2012) and a copy of the letter signed by 27 local agencies asking that the City and County make it a high priority to adequately fund these benefits a priority. We told you that in our view the transitional funding (\$1.5M) is a reprieve. With this additional funding the municipality can continue to provide critical CSUMB-like housing benefits at close to 2012 levels (\$2.8M). Furthermore, it gives the municipality time to develop a **sustainable budget plan** for both discretionary and housing benefits. In our view such a plan must include a combination of: future municipal budget allocations at similar levels to those approved in the 2012 budget prior to the provincial cuts (ie. \$370,000 for discretionary benefits and \$270,000 for housing benefits); continued upload savings; allocations from reserves. **Again, we urge staff to recommend to Joint Services and City Council that social services upload savings**

(approximately \$1M a year, for each year from 2014 to 2018, representing significant savings going forward after 2018) be reallocated to the social services budget and used to fund discretionary benefits items/services and housing benefits.

We would like to emphasize the following points:

1. The \$1.5M in transitional funding is intended to compensate for the loss of critical housing benefits (CSUMB). ALL of these dollars should be allocated for that purpose. In particular, they should be placed in the Housing Stability Benefit (HSB) fund, and be utilized for direct benefits for singles and families on OW and ODSP and with low incomes (for deposits, moving costs, arrears etc.).
2. The full amount of funding provided by the province to date in lieu of CSUMB (\$.9M for CHPI) should be allocated to the Housing Stability Benefit, and be utilized for direct benefits for singles and families on OW and ODSP and with low incomes (for deposits, moving costs, arrears). This should be a permanent line in the City's budget going forward in 2014. We disagree with the recommendation by staff for budget 2013 (Report C55S1SSC12-010 dated December 3, 2012), which was adopted by Council, to allocate only \$.58M of the provincial funding to the HSB fund, and to top this up with \$350,000, \$290,000 of which from the City's social services reserve fund.
3. The municipality must establish a permanent budget line to supplement provincial funding of discretionary benefits. In 2013 any shortfall in funding of discretionary benefits at 2012 levels should be taken from social services reserves. As we have stated before, the ongoing upload of OW and ODSP caseload costs to the province greatly reduces the municipal risk in the event of a caseload increase, and for this reason there is no need for the municipality to maintain reserves at current levels. Funding for discretionary benefits in 2014 and beyond should come from municipal savings flowing from the ongoing upload.

In addition:

- We oppose the imposition of pay-direct as a precondition for accessing the HSB fund. We oppose this for many reasons (too lengthy to enumerate here) and we have concerns about the legality of such a policy.
- The City reports that in the month of January 2013, HSB was issued in 195 instances (totalling \$100,000) and was denied in 65 cases, primarily due to a determination by the municipality that the housing option was not sustainable. The City should track the impact of any decision it makes to deny HSB. This could be accomplished in large part if the person denied were provided with a decision letter and referred to the Legal Centre for assistance with an internal review.
- We expect that there are many instances where people are told that they are not eligible for the HSB and that, as a result, a full application for HSB is not made, and the denial is not recorded as such. The City should take steps to make sure that these instances are minimized.

- In our view the bus pass subsidy should not be part of the discretionary benefit budget line. Rather, the City should provide a tiered bus pass rate, based on level of income, such that the rate is lower for all low-income residents.

Please note that PPRN's Basic Needs Work Group has worked closely with us on these issues and endorses the recommendations that we outline in this email.

Thank you again for meeting with us. We will continue our work on this important issue.

Yours truly,

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