Communiqué

Issue 2018-2

February 6th, 2018

The Requirements, Recommendations and Guidelines in this Communiqué are applicable to the social housing providers administered by the City of Hamilton.

- Providers Under Housing Services Act, 2011
- Providers Under a Federal Operating Agreement
- For Information Purposes Only

SUBJECT:

Ontario’s Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy Update- Webinar and Consultations

BACKGROUND:

In 2016, Ontario released the Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy (LTAHS) Update to reflect new research and best practices related to housing and homelessness. The LTAHS Update lays the groundwork for the long-term transformation required to change Ontario’s housing and homelessness system into an outcomes-focussed system that better meets the housing needs of Ontarians.

In November, the Minister of Housing announced that the Ministry would be holding regional consultations on social housing modernization. The Ministry will be undertaking these consultations, in order to gather feedback on the evolving nature of our social housing system and the development of a modern framework for social housing in Ontario.

Hamilton has recently been realigned from the Western Region to the Central Region. This better coordinates and aligns municipal service managers from the Greater Toronto Hamilton Area with other service areas, such as land use planning.

Housing Providers were to receive notification of the consultations and many of you did. This Communiqué will confirm the location to which you should register based on Hamilton’s realignment in the Central Region. We encourage you to attend the in-person session.

The sessions will include:

- An update on the Ministry’s social housing modernization initiatives and progress to date;
An introduction to the idea of a modern framework for social housing, and how it would operate;
Consultation questions and discussion on the functions and responsibilities that should be included within the modern framework; and,
Discussion on new and existing resources and emerging opportunities to support the sector’s transition to a modern framework for social housing in Ontario.

Who Should Attend?
- Housing providers (senior staff and/or a Board Member)
- Service Manager staff
- Housing sector organizations

Please note that event space is limited. With this in mind, the Ministry has asked that each organization send a maximum of two representatives to attend the session in their regional area.

Session Dates and Locations
Seven regional consultation sessions are taking place across Ontario. Each of the sessions is a full day, beginning at approximately 9:30 a.m. and concluding at 4:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

The Ministry of Housing staff will be coordinating attendance and managing any accessibility and accommodation requirements (e.g. parking, dietary restrictions) for attendees. To attend a session, please RSVP to the Ministry’s Municipal Services Office staff at your earliest convenience.

Central Municipal Services Area Session (Halton)
Date: Friday, March 2, 2018
Location: Halton Regional Centre- 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, Ontario

RSVP: Ian Russell, 416-585-6965 ian.russell@ontario.ca

Webinar
In addition to the in-person consultations, the Ministry will host an online webinar to solicit feedback on social housing modernization. The webinar will be held on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 from 10:00 am to 11:00 am to hear about social housing modernization, including an overview of its key components and next steps.

If you would like to participate, please visit the following website to register and access the webinar: http://bespokeav.gowebcasting.com/8401. If you experience any technical difficulties during the webinar or during registration, please email the technical support team at Webcast@bespokeav.ca

If you are unable to take part in the webinar, it will be archived and available online after the event. The webinar will be conducted live in English. Following the event, a French transcript will be posted alongside the webinar.