

COUNTY OF RENFREW



9 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE  
PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA  
K8A 6W5  
(613) 735-7784  
Toll Free: 1-800-273-0183  
FAX: (613) 735-2081  
[www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca](http://www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca)

May 6, 2013

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Dear Service Provider:

This letter is to advise you of some significant changes to the County of Renfrew's Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP), effective immediately. The Homelessness Prevention Program is open to all low-income households, and recipients of the Ontario Works program or the Ontario Disability Support Program.

A brief overview of the Homelessness Prevention Program is outlined below:

The benefit is provided for:

- victims of domestic violence
- persons who are homeless
- persons who reside in uninhabitable premises (where the uninhabitable conditions are not clearly evident, verification is sought from a third party, e.g., a building or health inspector or physician)
- persons leaving a residence due to; incapacity or death of a supporting caregiver/family member(s); overcrowding within the premises; documented need for children and sole-support parents to relocate; eviction from the premises
- employment or training relocation
- a move to more affordable accommodations, where the applicant or recipient was experiencing undue hardship because of extreme shelter costs

- persons being discharged from institutions such as: correctional facilities; or interval and transition homes.

Eligible Expenses:

- All utility charges - security deposits, deposits for utility hook-up, hydro arrears, heating (gas, propane, electrical, oil) arrears, other fuel costs (wood), reconnection charges etc.
- Last month's rent
- Rental arrears
- Moving costs; if using a friend's truck – maximum of \$250
- Transients

In addition to the above-noted eligible expenses, the following items have been added:

- beds, cribs
- furnace/oil tank repairs (maximum \$1000)
- water/sewer requests/disconnections (applicant will need to agree to make monthly payments if the bill is not paid in full)
- Appliances – fridge, stove, washer, dryer (to the max of \$1,200 combined)
- Other costs may be considered under extenuating or catastrophic circumstances on a case-to-case basis

Ineligible Expenses:

- Clothing, home repairs, mortgage arrears, property taxes, household furnishings/equipment, capital expenses (furnace, oil tank, hot water heater/tank replacements, foundation repairs, well drilling, replacing a roof or windows and doors)

Individuals/Families who meet the eligibility criteria are eligible to receive funds through Homelessness Prevention Program once every 36 months (3 years) at a maximum of:

- Up to \$1,000.00/rolling 36 month period for single recipients and couples with no children
- Up to \$1,500.00/rolling 36 month period for families (sole support parents with children and couples with children)

Determination for eligibility will be made using Statistics Canada's Low-Income Cut Off (LICO) before tax table as opposed to the Household Income Limits (HILS) chart.

For inquiries and applications for the Homelessness Prevention Program, please contact the following individuals:

Sheila Wishart 613-732-2601 ext. 116 – for Pembroke, Petawawa, Deep River area

Ghyslaine Turgeon 613-433-9846 or 1-888-281-7526 ext 115 – for Renfrew, Arnprior,

Killaloe area

Sincerely,



Carol Neill, General Manager

Renfrew County Housing Corporation



Chery Leigh

Ontario Works Manager

copy David Anderson, Social Services Director

