



March 9, 2012

Mr. Colin Wilson
Community Economic Development Officer
Town of Espanola
100 Tudhope Street,
Espanola, ON
P5E-1S6

Dear Colin,

Re: Community Improvement Plan

Thank you for meeting with the DSB to discuss the Town of Espanola interest in creating a Community Improvement Plan. The purpose of this letter is to indicate the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB support to the Town of Espanola in developing their plan.

In 2009, the DSB contracted SHS Consulting to develop a Housing Needs, Supply and Affordability Study. The final report along with the executive summary is available on the DSB website at www.msdsb.net.

This report clearly indicates that the DSB should encourage expansion of seniors housing options, primarily in the form of increasing the supply of affordable supportive housing units and encouraging private investors to increase the supply of private retirement housing.

Given the projected proportion of senior's population in 2031 by area, the report recommends the expansion of 200 units over 25 years in order to supply affordable supportive housing units for seniors in the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB jurisdiction. For the LaCoche area the report recommends the addition of 53 units.

The report further recommends that the private sector invest in retirement housing by creating 250 units in the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB jurisdiction. For the LaCoche area the report recommends the creation of 65 private sector retirement housing units.

The Housing Study also recommends that DSB maintain close communication with housing stakeholders across the DSB jurisdiction and consult with them on key local housing issues that arise over time.

With the requirement of 118 housing units over the next 25 years in the LaCoche area, the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB wants to lend its support to the Town of Espanola in the development of a Community Improvement Plan that recognizes the need for affordable housing.

The DSB looks forward to working with the Town of Espanola in the development and implementation of the Community Improvement Plan.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Les Gamble".

Les Gamble, Chair

cc. Mike Lehoux, Mayor
DSB Board