

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

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**Ministère des
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12-58303

November 1, 2012

Ms. Leslie Gamble
Chair
Manitoulin–Sudbury District
Services Board
210 Mead Boulevard
Esplanada ON P5E 1R9

Dear Ms. Gamble:

Thank you for your letter and enclosed resolution regarding the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI), calling upon the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to re-evaluate the CHPI allocations – specifically the use of the “Deep-Core Housing-Need Information”.

The Deep-Core-Need Indicator is a measure collected by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. This indicator captures the proportion of all households that spend more than 50% of their income on shelter and also have issues related to suitability and adequacy. After careful evaluation of a number of indicators, it was determined that Deep-Core Housing Need is the indicator that most closely reflects households which are at risk of homelessness and that is available across all 47 consolidated municipal Service Managers and district social-services administration boards (DSSAB).

This ministry has worked closely with the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) as well as the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) to confirm the accuracy of information used to calculate the initial draft CHPI allocations. The Province provided each Service Manager and DSSAB with the final CHPI allocation on September 27, 2012.

I would also like to provide some information about the Community Start Up and Maintenance Benefit (CSUMB). The 2012 Ontario Budget announced the removal of CSUMB from social assistance as part of its efforts to address fiscal pressures. The budget also announced that the government would reinvest 50% of provincial CSUMB expenditures into what has become the CHPI, effective January 1, 2013.

Ms. Leslie Gamble

With this investment, municipalities will have additional funds available to meet local needs, since they will not have to share the cost of CSUMB. The purpose of the CHPI is to provide flexibility for municipalities to provide locally based solutions that address local homelessness-related needs. Service Managers will be able to provide programs similar to the former CSUMB as appropriate in their particular community. They will also have the ability to consider new and innovative ways to provide services that best meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless.

Once again, thank you for raising this matter with me. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Wynne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'K'.

Kathleen Wynne
Minister

c: The Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario
Mr. Michael Mantha, MPP, Algoma–Manitoulin
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Municipal Social-Services Association