

Ministry of Housing

Ministère du Logement

Assistant Deputy Minister's Office

Bureau du sous-ministre adjoint

Housing Division

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June 22, 2016

Mr. Patrick Wittman  
Supervisor, Infrastructure and Asset Management  
Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board  
210 Mead Boulevard  
Espanola, ON P5E 1R9

Dear Mr. Wittman:

**Re: 2016 Social Infrastructure Fund (SIF)**

The province and federal government have announced housing investments under the 2016 Social Infrastructure Fund (SIF). The 2016 SIF will provide over \$641 million in funding over three years to improve the quality and increase the supply of affordable housing while also stimulating economic growth. Initiatives under the 2016 SIF include:

- Doubling of the current Investment in Affordable Housing for Ontario (IAH) (2014 Extension) for two years fully cost matched by the province over three years
- Funding for the construction and renovation of affordable housing for seniors
- Funding for the renovation and retrofit of social housing
- Funding for the construction and renovation of shelters and transitional housing for survivors of domestic violence.

The Minister of Housing has already informed you of your funding allocations under the 2016 SIF which are comprised of your combined allocation for the IAH doubling and Seniors initiatives (to be delivered as one program) and your allocation for the Social Housing Improvement Program (SHIP). The survivors of domestic violence initiative is being administered and delivered separately by the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

Participation in the 2016 SIF is subject to the Service Manager and the Province entering into an Administration Agreement. The Administration Agreement template is enclosed. A customized agreement will be sent to you in the coming days.

Similar to the IAH (2014 Extension), a Program Delivery and Fiscal Plan (PDFP) must be completed and submitted for the 2016 SIF program identifying how the annual funding allocations will be used over the two-year funding period (2016-17 and 2017-18). The Ministry requires the PDFP to support the goals and address the needs outlined in the Service Manager's Housing and Homelessness Plans, and be consistent with the provincial priorities identified in the Minister's letter. Approval of the PDFP by council or delegated authority is required.

The Ministry expects the Administration Agreements and PDFP to be submitted by September 1, 2016 to provide sufficient time to commit all funding allocated in the current program year. Consistent with the parameters of the federal-provincial agreement, any funding not committed by the required timelines may be re-allocated to other Service Managers. As well, funding cannot be reallocated between the IAH

Doubling/Seniors initiative and SHIP. While the 2016 SIF is based largely on the current IAH (2014 Extension), I would like to highlight some of the changes to the program design.

Given the significant additional investment of federal-provincial funds over the next two years, Service Managers are asked to give priority in allocating their additional IAH funding to supporting affordability for tenants in social housing buildings with expired or expiring operating agreements and/or federal subsidies.

Service Managers will be required to demonstrate their plan to fund projects that meet identified priorities. In addition to the priority referenced above, these include:

- Seniors
- Persons with disabilities, including adults with developmental disabilities
- Four provincial homelessness prevention priorities – Indigenous persons, the chronically homeless, youth, and homelessness following transitions from provincially-funded institutions and service systems (e.g. correctional facilities, hospitals, child welfare system)
- Projects which support transit corridor intensification and/or community hubs.

Service Managers who are unable to demonstrate their ability to significantly meet the needs of the provincial priorities may have funding reallocated.

Given a renewed focus on economic stimulus in the short term, for capital projects, construction or repair activities must begin within three months of funding commitment. As well, construction must be completed within two years of the funding commitment.

The Ministry recognizes the 2016 SIF is a significant investment over a short period of time and is committed to working with you to ensure successful implementation of the program.

Enclosed please find some Questions and Answers on the 2016 SIF program initiatives. The Ministry will be hosting two teleconferences, on June 27th and June 28th from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., to provide further program details and clarify any questions. An e-mail with the teleconference number will be sent to you shortly through your MSO Team Lead.

Also enclosed, please find a Supplier Registration and Application for Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer form. Please use this form to provide your account information for SHIP, and update (if necessary) your account information for the 2016 SIF IAH program components. This form should be completed and returned to the Ministry – along with a void cheque or bank letter – through your Regional Housing Services Team Lead.

I appreciate your partnership as we work together to deliver on this important initiative.

Yours sincerely,

*[Original Signed By]*

Janet Hope  
Assistant Deputy Minister

Enclosures: Service Manager Administration Agreement template  
Program Delivery and Fiscal Plan  
2016 SIF Program Guidelines  
Questions and Answers – 2016 SIF  
Supplier Registration and Application for Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer

c: Cindy Couillard, Team Lead, Regional Housing Services, MSO-Northeastern