



TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING ON DECEMBER 17, 2012
FROM:	LYNNE LIVINGSTONE MANAGING DIRECTOR, NEIGHBOURHOOD, CHILDREN & FIRE SERVICES
SUBJECT:	PROVINCIAL INCREASE TO MAXIMUM PER DIEM RATE FOR EMERGENCY SHELTERS

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Neighbourhood, Children & Fire Services, the proposed by-law attached as Appendix A **BE INTRODUCED** at the Municipal Council meeting of January 15, 2013 to increase the maximum per diem rate payable to emergency shelter operators for costs of board and lodging pursuant to an "Emergency Hostel Services Agreement" from the rate of \$43.50 to \$44.00 in accordance with the provincially approved maximum cost sharable rate, effective December 1, 2012 and concluding December 31, 2012.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

Municipal Council regularly reviews and has approved emergency shelter rate increases based on the recommendation of the Executive Director of Community Services and periodic revisions to the Provincial maximum cost sharable amount.

BACKGROUND

On July 24, 2012 and confirmed on November 30, 2012, the Province announced a 1% rate increase through Ontario Works to the maximum emergency shelter per diem effective December 1, 2012 and concluding December 31, 2012. A per diem rate is provided to the shelter operator on a per person per day basis for residents who have satisfied eligibility criteria.

Effective January 1, 2013, emergency hostel services will be removed from Ontario Works financial assistance for Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSMs). Emergency shelter solutions may now be provided through the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI).


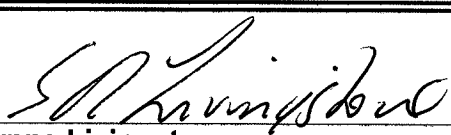
FINANCIAL IMPACT

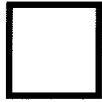
There will be no financial impact in 2012 as the Province is committed to funding 100% of the increase.

Conclusions

We acknowledge the support from Financial and Business Services in the preparation of this report.

We continue to work with all our emergency shelter providers and homelessness service partners in an effort to minimize reliance on emergency shelters and maximize available supports to London's most vulnerable individuals and families.

SUBMITTED BY:	RECOMMENDED BY:
	
Jan Richardson Manager, Homelessness Neighbourhood, Children & Fire Services	Lynne Livingstone Managing Director Neighbourhood, Children & Fire Services



Appendix A

Bill No.
2012

By-law No.

A By-law to approve an increase in the maximum per diem rate for board and lodging paid to emergency shelters for emergency hostel services.

WHEREAS section 5(3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* S.O. 2001, c.25, provides that a municipal power shall be exercised by by-law;

AND WHEREAS section 6 of Ontario Regulation 135/98 under the *Ontario Works Act, 1997* provides that a delivery agent may contract with a person or organization for the provision of emergency hostel services;

AND WHEREAS the City of London has contracted with various operators of emergency hostels that provide emergency hostel services;

AND WHEREAS "emergency hostel services" is defined in Ontario Regulation 134/98 to mean "the provision of board, lodging and personal needs to homeless persons on a short term, infrequent basis, but does not include the provision of services to residents of interval or transition homes for abused women";

AND WHEREAS subsection 43(2) of Ontario Regulation 134/98 provides that the budgetary requirements for an applicant or recipient of emergency hostel services shall be an amount approved by the Director for providing the benefit unit with board, lodging and personal needs;

AND WHEREAS section 8.4 of Ontario Regulation 135/98 provides that Ontario shall pay 100 per cent of the increase in the assistance costs that result from an increase, commencing in December 2012, in an amount approved by the Director for emergency hostel services in accordance with subsection 43(2) of Ontario Regulation 134/98;

AND WHEREAS the Director of Ontario Works has issued a Memorandum dated November 30, 2012 that provides: "Effective December 1, 2012, per diem amounts will increase by one per cent to \$44.00 per day for board and lodging, and concluding December 31, 2012."

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London enacts as follows:

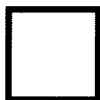
1. The maximum per diem rate payable to emergency shelter operators for costs of board and lodging pursuant to an "Emergency Hostel Services Agreement" in accordance with the provincially approved maximum cost sharable rate is \$44.00, effective December 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012.
2. This by-law shall come into force and effect on January 15, 2013.

PASSED in Open Council on _____, 2013.

Joe Fontana
Mayor

Catharine Saunders
City Clerk

First Reading -
Second Reading -
Third Reading -



Ministry of Community and Social Services

Ministère des Services Sociaux et Communautaires



Social Policy Development Division
Ontario Disability Support Program Branch
3rd Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1E9
Tel # 416-326-1880
Fax # 416-326-1735
Website: cfc.gov.on.ca/CFCS/en/programs

Social Policy Development Division
Ontario Works Branch
4th Floor, 880 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1E9
Tel # 416-326-8205
Fax # 416-326-9777

July 24, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO:

Ontario Works Administrators
- Municipalities and DSSABs
- First Nations

Regional Directors
Regional Program Managers, ODSP
Municipal Services Managers
Municipal Program Supervisors

FROM:

Jeff Butler
A/Director
Ontario Works

Patti Redmond
Director
Ontario Disability Support Program

RE:

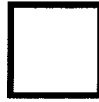
One Percent Increase to Social Assistance Rates

As you are aware, the 2012 Ontario Budget included a one percent increase to social assistance rates.

To support this commitment, regulations were approved to increase social assistance rates and Ontario Works asset limits. These changes will be effective November 1, 2012 (ODSP) and December 1, 2012 (Ontario Works). The following rates will increase by one percent:

Ontario Disability Support Program and Ontario Works

- Basic Needs Allowance
- Maximum Shelter Allowance
- Northern Allowance (for basic needs and board and lodging)
- Board and Lodging Allowance



– 2 –

- Board and Lodging amounts for dependents
- Special Boarder Allowance
- The amount for each member residing in a nursing home or an interval or transition home for abused women
- The amount used to calculate the income charge for sponsored persons living with their sponsors
- Guide Dog Benefit

Ontario Works

- Temporary Care Assistance (TCA) (including the amount payable for a child in temporary care who lives north of the 50th parallel and is without year-round road access)
- Budgetary requirements for dependants of dependants
- Financially independent members of a benefit unit (“living with parents”), including the Special Boarder Allowance
- Advanced Age Item for recipients 65 and over

Ontario Disability Support Program

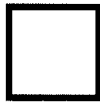
- The amount for each member residing in an institution (Personal Needs amount and institution rate)
- The double-disabled maximum amount (spouse and recipient values only)
- The double-disabled additional amount for shelter

In addition, the maximum monthly financial assistance under the Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities (ACSD) program will also be increased to \$455.

Please note that the sole support supplement (OW and ODSP) and age-related supplement (ODSP) that are included in the following amounts did not increase: basic needs amount for renters and owners; applicants/recipients living with parents; and the amount used to calculate the income charge for sponsored immigrants.

Under the *Ontario Works Act, 1997*, the Director of Ontario Works has the authority to increase emergency hostel per diems. Effective December 1, 2012, per diem amounts will increase by one percent to \$44.00 per day for board and lodging, and up to a maximum of \$48.50 per day, where emergency hostel operators provide personal items and/or money in addition to board and lodging. However, Emergency Hostel Services for municipalities will be removed from social assistance as of January 1, 2013 as part of the first phase of consolidation under the Long-Term Affordable Housing strategy. The per diem rate will remain in effect for First Nations.

Please note that the province will pay 100% of the cost of the Ontario Works one percent increase in rates for the 2012 calendar year. As of January 1, 2013, delivery agents will be required to share Ontario Works costs per the usual provincial/municipal cost-sharing arrangements (14.2 % for 2013).



- 3 -

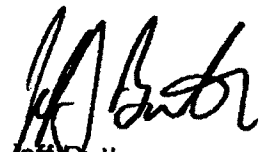
A package containing updated tables, Q&A and Fact Sheet will be provided to Ontario Works Administrators as of December 1, 2012. Revised Ontario Works policy directives will also be available December 1, 2012.

A Transition Directive with updated tables, Q&A and Fact Sheet will be issued to ODSP staff by November 1, 2012.

In the interim, a copy of the amending Regulations will be available under "Regulations as Filed" under "Source Law" at www.e-laws.gov.on.ca.

A cheque insert will be sent to recipients with their cheque/direct bank deposit (DBD) statements in November for ODSP and Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities (ACSD) recipients, and December for Ontario Works and TCA recipients to inform them of the increase.

Please ensure that this information is shared with all staff. If you have any questions related to Ontario Works, please contact Chandra Lamb at chandra.lamb@ontario.ca. For ODSP questions, please contact Sonia Muñoz at sonia.munoz@ontario.ca.



Jeff Butler
A/Director



Patti Redmond
Director

- c. Maxine Daley, Director, Social Assistance and Municipal Operations Branch
Susan Capling, Director, Specialized Support Services Branch, MCYS
Gurpreet Sidhu-Dhanoa, Team Lead, Ontario Works Branch
Darlene MacDonald Forsyth, Manager, Ontario Disability Support Program Branch