

RRDSSAB NEWS



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Children's Services Update

Rainy River Best Start Hub and Child Care Services

Renovations at the new site for consolidated Children's Services in Rainy River commenced in January 2009. Rainy River Playschool Inc. will be moving into their new location at 310 Government Road in 2009 and the facility will house the Best Start HUB/Resource Centre, Toy Lending and full Child Care Services (Learn, Laugh & Play Children's Centre). Estimated completion date of the project is currently May/09. For information with regards to Child Care Services in Rainy River, pending the move to their new location, please contact Gabrielle Langlais, Supervisor at 807-852-4204. Fee Subsidy is available for those parents/families who qualify.

~Mildred Beck, Children's Services Manager



Land Ambulance News

We have picked up some extra help for the next couple months at the Fort Frances base! Eight paramedic students from Confederation College are joining our paramedics as part of their college program. Each student will work with a paramedic crew for one twelve hour day and one twelve hour night shift as part of a familiarization into the ambulance field. Since the students have only completed one year of college, at this point they are only allowed to observe patient care. The time spent with our dedicated paramedics, provides the students with valuable experience and the opportunity to see hands-on patient care.

Starting in March, we will have another Confederation College Paramedic student working with our paramedic crews. This student has completed the two year Paramedic program and is required to mentor with a qualified paramedic for 288 hours. Once a student successfully completes the 288 hours, they receive their diploma and are eligible to write the Provincial Ministry of Health exam. If successful on the exam, 80% pass, they are eligible for employment as a paramedic in Ontario. This student may only provide basic patient care under the

direct supervision of one of our qualified paramedics. Advanced care continues to be provided by Rainy River District Emergency Medical Services paramedics. The learning experience is invaluable to the student, as it provides the opportunity for the student to participate in direct patient care, knowing that a fully qualified paramedic is ready and willing to assist.

~ Dan McCormick, Health Services Manager



CPR Awareness



The Heart & Stroke Foundation of Ontario will be hosting a CPR-AED Awareness event on Thursday, February 19, 2009 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Memorial Sports Centre, Fort Frances, ON. Please RSVP to Shelley VanUden at 274-6952, ext. 10, if you are able to attend.

RRDSSAB Board Members

Alberton:	Barb Cournoyer
Atikokan:	Dennis Brown
Chapple:	Peter Van Heyst
Dawson:	Linda Armstrong
Emo:	Gary Judson
Fort Frances:	Sharon Tibbs (Vice-Chair)
Lake of the Woods:	Valarie Pizey
LaVallee:	Ross Donaldson
Morley:	Gary Gamsby
Rainy River:	Debbie Ewald
Rainy River East:	Michael Lewis (Chair)
Rainy River Central:	John Callan
Rainy River West:	Wade Desserre

excellence in Governance

Thought for the Day...

"I hear babies crying, I watch them grow.
They'll learn more than I'll ever know, And I think to myself, What a Wonderful World!"

~ Louis Armstrong



Ontario Works Update

Effective January 1, 2009, the province assumes responsibility for 100% of the administrative costs for Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP).



Municipalities will no longer be billed for the following administrative costs:

1. Provincial cost of administration;
2. Direct delivery of ODSP;
3. Program and policy supports for ODSP and Ontario Works;
4. Technology costs, including the Service Delivery Model Technology (SDMT); and
5. ODSP Benefits Administration (e.g. dental benefits & doctor's fees).

The Ontario Works Employment Resource Centre will be running the following seminars for the months of February and March:

- Life Skills (running twice a week with the focus on employer-employee expectations in the work force)
- WHMIS
- Smart Serve
- Job Club
- Resume Development
- Interviewing Skills
- Budgeting

~ Shelley Shute, Ontario Works Manager

Management Vision Statement

Over the past year, DSSAB staff have been working together to develop Vision Statements for their respective Programs or Departments. As part of that process, our Management Team met most recently and developed the following Vision Statement and description of the Fundamental values upon which they base their decision making and work ethic.

Vision Statement:

Ambassadors & Advocates for Our District

Fundamental Values:

- Focus on Clients
- Fairness: Meeting the Needs of All Communities in Our District
- Compassion: Improved Quality of Life for the Most Vulnerable Among Us
- Positive Attitude: Emphasis on the Positive
- Knowledge: Well Informed
- Leadership by Example
- Forward Thinking: Visionaries
- Accountability & Transparency
- Trustworthiness

~Donna Dittaro, Chief Administrative Officer

Housing Update

The Rainy River District Social Services



Administration Board



(RRDSSAB) is seeking all

low income households in

the Rainy River District needing repairs to their principal residence.

Interested homeowners should apply to take advantage of the Northern component of the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program (AHP).

Qualifying homeowners will receive funding from RRDSSAB to undertake repairs of modest and affordable ownership housing.

*The
RRDSSAB is
seeking all
low income
households*

The Northern component of the AHP aims to maintain the affordable housing stock in northern Ontario.

Applications and additional information are available from Metis Nation of Ontario, Housing Branch, 226 South May Street, Thunder Bay, ON P7E 1B4, acting as delivery agent for RRDSSAB. Business hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Eastern Time).

For more information contact:

Robynn Maluga
Metis Nation of Ontario
Housing Branch
226 South May Street
Thunder Bay, ON P7E 1B4
Phone # 1 (800) 891-5882

~Dianne Faragher, RRDSSAB Housing Manager

Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing



The 2008 Provincial Budget announced \$100m in capital repair funding for social housing units. The RRDSSAB is pleased to announce that they have received one time funding in the amount of \$248,320.00 from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. This commitment is intended to respond to urgent capital repair needs, including energy efficiency improvements. The primary project selection criteria is health and safety, and the provision of habitable, clean, and safe housing that meet municipal, provincial and federal standards, codes, regulations and legislation. These dollars have been distributed to all Non-Profit Housing Providers and DSSAB Housing Sites throughout the Rainy River District.

~Sandra Weir, Non-Profit Housing Manager