



DISTRICT OF RAINY RIVER SERVICES BOARD

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• Children's Services • Paramedic Services • Ontario Works • Community Housing

Highlights

From the September 17, 2026 regular board meeting

In an effort to keep the community informed, we're pleased to share the key highlights from the regular board meeting held on September 17, 2026.

The Board received:

- an update from the chair of the Building and Service Review Committee who presented the draft minutes from their meeting on August 12, 2026.
- an update from Director of Community Services on DRRSB's Accelerated Early Childhood Education Program with Northern College, with Administration developing a strategy to maximize use of the remaining prepaid program seats.
- a report from the Director of Community Services on the implementation of the Child Care Directed Growth Plan. To date, 112 of the 149 new CWELCC child care spaces targeted for the district have been created, with work continuing to complete the remaining spaces by the provincial deadline of December 31, 2026.
- an update on paramedic workforce sustainability which noted that the RRDPS has reduced its estimated staffing vacancy rate by about 10%; however, staffing shortages continue to result in occasional reduced ambulance coverage.

The Board approved:

- Administration to proceed with Phase 2 of the NOSDA Housing Portfolio Project for the Fifth & Frenette redevelopment, to a maximum cost of \$731,940, funded from reserves and that the CAO be authorized to execute the agreements and take the administrative actions necessary to advance Phase 2. They also agreed that Administration will report back to the Board with a comprehensive business case before any commitment is made to long-term borrowing or final redevelopment of the property.
- awarding the Fotheringham Court Structural and Sanitary Repairs to M Builds if, in the opinion of Administration, it is in the best interest of the Board to do so, and if

the project cost can be funded using a combination of funding already set aside for the project, available COCHI funding and uncommitted 2026 capital funds.

- the RRDPS 2027 Response Time Standard Performance Plan, which will be submitted to the Ministry in compliance with regulatory requirements.
- a market rent increase of 1.9% for 2027 for all DRRSB-owned units.
- not committing to participate in the 2027 ROMA Conference and that decisions regarding attendance at the 2027 NOMA Conference and the 2027 AMO Conference be deferred to the incoming Board following its inauguration in January 2027.

Next Meeting - The next meeting of the District of Rainy River Services Board will be held on October 15, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Highlights from recent Committee Meetings held:

- **August 12, 2026 – Building & Service Review Committee**

The committee received information in camera for the purposes of:

- Financial information supplied in confidence
- A position, plan, procedure, criteria, or instruction to be applied to negotiations carried on, or to be carried on, by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.

CAO Charene Gillies presented a report on the Fifth & Frenette Redevelopment – NOSDA Housing Portfolio Project.