



Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board

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• Children's Services • Land Ambulance • Ontario Works • Social Housing

By Email to SOLGEN.Correspondence@ontario.ca

June 29, 2021

Hon. Sylvia Jones,
Solicitor General
Province of Ontario
18th Floor
25 Grosvenor St.
Toronto, ON
M7A 1Y6

Dear Hon. Sylvia Jones,

RE: Community Safety & Wellbeing Plans

The Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board (RRDSSAB) is the Service System Manager for Ontario Works, Children's Services, Community Housing and Paramedic Services in the Rainy River District, which consists of approximately 15,000 sq. kms. With a population of ~20,000. The RRDSSAB represents ten district municipalities which include the:

Town of Atikokan
Township of Alberton
Township of Emo
Township of Chapple
Township of Lake of the Woods

Town of Fort Frances
Township of LaVallee
Township of Morley
Township of Dawson
Town of Rainy River

These communities approached the RRDSSAB with a request to create a Rainy River District Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan for the entire District, with notations on specific communities where a variance from the global plan exists. Given our vast geography, limited population and similarities across the district it was felt that this would keep our community plans consistent as well as reducing costs of development and refreshing of the plan in future years. With a global plan various aspects of the social determinants of health and an across government approach may be utilized to meet the needs of our residents and visitors to the Rainy River District. Our board agreed by resolution to take on the development of the plan and our staff have been steadily working with the communities and the general public to complete the plan. Unfortunately, many of the consultations have been restricted to digital measures due to Provincial lockdowns and Public Health Guidelines. COVID -19 has extended our timelines and as such we will be unable to meet the Ministry's requirement for submission of July 1st, 2021.

We therefore request an extension to October 31st, 2021. The RRDSSAB expects to have a first draft to the municipalities by the end of July 2021. In order to approve the plan each municipality will be required to pass a resolution endorsing the plan prior to submission. In our district, some municipalities do not meet in August and therefore will be unable to pass a resolution until September of this year, notwithstanding any amendments.

Thank you for consideration of this request. We look forward to your response.

Best regards,



Dan McCormick, CAO
Rainy River DSSAB

cc: RRDSSAB Board
Rainy River District Municipalities Clerks/Treasurers/CAOs
File