

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

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March 24, 2023

Marcus Ryan
Warden
County of Oxford
21 Reeve Street
P.O. Box 1614
Woodstock, ON N4S 7Y3

Dear Marcus Ryan:

**Re: Funding Allocation Updates for the Homelessness Prevention Program –
2023-24 to 2025-26**

I am pleased and excited to be writing to you today with important details regarding your funding allocations for the Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) for the next three years. I hope that the multi-year planning allocations will help you plan services and delivery approaches over the longer-term.

Please note that we are providing these details for planning purposes at this point and **the Ministry requires that all information set out in this letter regarding the Homelessness Prevention Program be held confidential until publicly announced by the province in the coming weeks.** The province will have sole responsibility for the initial public communication regarding the HPP funding described in this letter.

Our government is investing an additional **\$202 million** annually under the HPP and Indigenous Supportive Housing Program (ISHP) beginning in 2023-24. This ongoing investment in supportive housing and homelessness prevention services will help vulnerable Ontarians and demonstrates our commitment to serving the needs of diverse communities across Ontario. With this significant commitment, my ministry will be investing a total of over \$695 million per year to provide housing services to those most in need.

This new funding builds on the government's investment of nearly \$4.4 billion over the past three years to grow and enhance community and supportive housing, respond to COVID-19 and help address the needs of vulnerable people. We expect that this

additional funding will help get shovels in the ground on new supportive housing, which is widely considered a key element in preventing and addressing homelessness. This funding will also help you address increasing pressures in the emergency shelter sector including the complex needs of those experiencing homelessness and shelter capacity issues.

Meanwhile, we continue to advocate with the federal government to receive our fair share of federal homelessness funding. Currently, Ontario is underfunded by about \$90 million for homelessness over the term of the National Housing Strategy compared to its share of households in core housing need nationally, which is the highest in the country.

HPP Funding Allocations – County of Oxford

Program Fiscal Year	Allocation Amounts
2022-23 (for reference)	\$1,706,300
2023-24 (confirmed)	\$2,922,000*
2024-25 (planned)	\$2,922,000
2025-26 (planned)	\$2,922,000

Note: *The funding allocation amount for 2023-24 replaces the previous HPP allocation communicated through the Minister's letter dated February 3, 2023.

These allocations are based on a new funding allocation model that responds to the recommendations from the Office of the Auditor General of Ontario (OAGO) Value For Money Audit of Homelessness (2021) and feedback from consultations with Service Managers (SMs) and sector partners.

The allocation model has been refreshed to use indicators that better reflect the current need for homelessness services and supportive housing in each community compared to the previous model. The outdated historical spending indicator has been replaced with measures of homelessness and supportive housing and all indicators have been updated to use the latest available data.

As you are aware, SMs have the flexibility to choose how to best use the provincial funding for programs and services that address and prevent homelessness in your communities including rent supplements, homeless shelters and supportive housing.

To receive your HPP funding, you are required to complete and submit an Investment Plan (IP) to demonstrate how your funding allocation would be used to achieve the objectives of the program and to project program outcomes. You can access the IP

template and upload the completed IP in TPON. Further instructions on this will be provided by the Ministry's Housing Service Desk.

Please submit your IP in TPON by May 1, 2023. The Ministry has extended this timeline from the April 15 deadline found in the HPP Program Guidelines to allow for sufficient time to plan program related activities for 2023-24.

The HPP requires all SMs to maintain a By-Name List that meets provincial standards. By-Name Lists help SMs understand the needs of people experiencing homelessness in their communities, track changes in service needs over time, and prioritize and coordinate housing services and supports. **The By-Name List 2022 requirements under the HPP which were announced in April 2022 and are to be implemented by April 1, 2023**, build on earlier requirements, and support the goals of addressing and reducing homelessness. These new requirements include a more extensive set of data points and broader coverage and comprehensiveness that will help SMs connect more people to the services and supports they need.

To help support risk management, preparedness, and service capacity planning by the Ministry, **beginning in fiscal 2023-24, SMs will be required to update/verify, on a semi-annual basis, facility-level information about emergency shelters and congregate living supportive housing facilities, which are either wholly or in-part funded by MMAH.**

This information request is based on information previously collected from SMs as part of the COVID-19 risk management survey reporting and includes information such as facility name, address, and capacity. SMs must review and verify the facility-level information twice in each fiscal year, in July and January, to help account for seasonal changes in capacity and to align with regular Q1 and Q3 reporting deadlines (July 15th and January 15th) under HPP. Prior to the first reporting deadline, the ministry will share with each SM an Excel file containing pre-populated information and further instructions. Once reviewed and updated by SMs, the Excel file can be submitted to the ministry as an attachment using the Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON) system.

As always, we sincerely appreciate your efforts to assist vulnerable people in your communities and I look forward to continuing our work together as we move forward with delivery of this important program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Steve" and "Clark" being capitalized and prominent.

The Honourable Steve Clark
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

c. Ben Addley, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Kelly Black, Director of Human Services
Cynthia Cabral, Team Lead, Municipal Services Office