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The Land, The People, The Future

## SENIORS MINOR REPAIR GRANT POLICY

### **Purpose:**

The Nipissing First Nation Council established a *Seniors Minor Repair Grant Program* to ensure that seniors reside in homes that meet their health and safety needs.

### **Definitions:**

“Applicant” means the registered Nipissing First Nation member and owner of the home with the highest income.”

“Contractor” is the individual / company responsible to carry out the repair.

“Essential Repairs” means improvements that are needed and meet the physical health and safety needs of the senior.

“Grant” is the amount that is given to the band member to assist with essential repairs to the home.

“Medical Requirement” means unforeseen and immediate change in the registered member’s health.

### **1. Criteria:**

Applicant who have received a grant under this program will not be eligible for grants for the same type of repair that was approved in a previous year(s), and will only be permitted a grant under this same program after a two (2) year time-frame providing they meet the following criteria:

- (a) The applicant must be a registered member of Nipissing First Nation.
- (b) The applicant must be sixty (60) years of age and have an income less than \$52,500.00. Proof of income must be provided at the time of application.
- (c) The applicant must own the house and the house must be situated on Nipissing First Nation lands.
- (d) The applicant must be residing in the home to qualify for this program.

### **2. Medical / Health Related Grant:**

- (a) Grants may only be considered within the two (2) year time-frame when there is a change in the applicant’s health and the repair is a medical requirement.
- (b) Applicant must meet criteria in Section 1 (above) and must provide a doctor’s note.
- (c) Grants under this section are not meant for short-term medical needs.
- (d) Grants under this section will not be subject to the income threshold criteria.

**3. Eligible Repairs / Modifications:**

The applicant may apply for a grant under this policy for the following type of repairs or home modifications:

- (a) Repair must improve the physical safety of the homeowner.
- (b) Repair must improve access to basic facilities within the home.
- (c) Repair must be permanently installed or fixed to the dwelling.
- (d) Repair or replacement of roof.
- (e) Air conditioning.

**4. Application:**

- (a) Applications for the grant must be made in writing to the Housing Department to the attention of the Housing Manager.
- (b) Application will be reviewed in the order that they are received. Funding for this program made available with Enhancement Funds therefore grants under this program will be made available until the budget is depleted.
- (c) The amount of grant under this program may not exceed \$8,000.00. If the member does not use the maximum allowable grant, they may be able to access the remainder of the grant providing it is within the same year and meets the health and safety requirement.
- (d) When the cost of the repair is more than the eligible grant under this program, it may be necessary for the applicant to access a loan from another program to complete the work.
- (e) Applications must be accompanied by estimates for the repair from a qualified contractor and must meet the codes and standards required for the repair.
- (f) Contracts under this policy will be between Nipissing First Nation Housing Department and the contractor therefore must have reports and final inspection. Funds will be released as follows:

- 50% of the estimate will be given to the contractor.
- 25% when the repair is 75% completed based on inspection.
- Remaining balance (25%) will be paid based on final inspection.

- (g) The Nipissing First Nation Housing Manager and Chief Executive Officer will approve grants under this policy.

*Approved this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2013.*

*Amended and approved this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019.*

*Amended and approved this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2019.*

*Amended and approved this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.*