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London
CANADA

Housing Division Notice

Date: April 28, 2015

HDN# 2015 - 210

This applicable legislation/policy is to be implemented by the housing provider(s) under the following programs:

Please note if your program is **not checked**, this change is **not applicable** to your project.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Federal Non-Profit Housing Program
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Private Non-Profit Housing Program
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Co-operative Non-Profit Housing Program
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Municipal Non-Profit Housing Program (Pre-1986)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Local Housing Corporation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rent Supplement Program

Subject: NEW EXCLUDED INCOME FOR RENT-GEARED-TO-INCOME (RGI) CALCULATION

The Federal Government recently announced a financial assistance package to help cover the urgent and ongoing needs of thalidomide survivors. The package includes:

- An immediate tax-free, lump sum payment of \$125,000 to each survivor to help cover urgent needs;
- A commitment of ongoing support to survivors in the form of tax-free, annual payments; and
- A commitment of a separate medical assistance fund to help cover the costs of health support related to thalidomide injuries.

For the purpose of rent-geared-to-income (RGI) calculation under the *Housing Services Act, 2011*, the lump sum payments should be excluded from the income calculation in accordance with paragraph 35 of s. 50(3) of O.Reg. 298/01. As the City of London does not have a local asset limit, there is no implication regarding initial or continued eligibility for RGI with regard to these payments.

The details of the latter two components of the package have not yet been announced. The Ministry will consider whether further clarification is required when the full details of these components are known.

Should you have any questions, please contact our office at 519-661-5900.

Action: Housing Provider must ensure that they are compliant with the new requirements for the treatment financial assistance to help cover the urgent and ongoing needs of thalidomide survivors when calculating RGI assistance.



Louise Stevens
Director of Housing