

## MEDIA RELEASE

## **TBDSSAB Promoting Ontario Renovates Funding for Homeowners**

**July 9, 2020** –The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) has funds available under the Ontario Renovates program, in the form of forgivable loans, for low- and middle-income families, individuals or seniors to fix up their home.

"Ontario Renovates is part of the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative that is made possible by funding from the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The renovation program helps low-income families make vital repairs and modifications that they may otherwise be unable to do," says Bill Bradica, Chief Administrative Officer. "TBDSSAB still has funding available for this year and people are encouraged to apply."

According to Ken Ranta, Director - Integrated Social Services, "Eligible client groups for Ontario Renovates include low to moderate income homeowners residing in the District of Thunder Bay. Some seniors, who may have equity in their home but not sufficient income, may not be able to undertake necessary repairs. Without this type of funding they would likely have to enter into a reverse mortgage or sell the home and move into an apartment. Ontario Renovates allows them to stay safely in their home. The types of repairs and modifications that qualify for the program include roofing and exterior envelope repairs, removal of old oil tanks and replacement of furnaces, insulation and weatherproofing, as well as accessibility modifications like adding entrance ramps, bathroom renovations and making the home walker or wheelchair accessible."

To apply to the Ontario Renovates Program please visit the TBDSSAB website and click the following link to download the application: <u>Ontario Renovates Application</u>. Application forms are also available at TBDSSAB's main site at 231 May Street South, Thunder Bay or at TBDSSAB satellite office locations.

Call TBDSSAB's main line at 807-766-2111 or toll-free at 877-281-2958 for more information.

For media information contact: media@tbdssab.ca or 807-766-4219