

Ministry of Municipal Affairs
and Housing

Municipal and Housing
Operations Division

777 Bay Street, 16th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Telephone: 416-585-7257

Ministère des Affaires municipales
du Logement

Division des politiques et de la planification en
matière de logement

777, rue Bay, 16^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Téléphone: 416-585-7257



March 10, 2026

Board Chair Jim Vezina
Thunder Bay DSSAB
Board.chair@tbdssab.ca

Dear Board Chair Vezina,

RE: Priority Projects for Municipalities – Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) Residual Allocation for 2025-26

Thank you for submitting your business case in response to the Ministry's call for priority project proposals dated December 23, 2025, for consideration of funding under the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) Residual Allocation for 2025-26.

The Ministry has completed its evaluation of the business cases submitted by Service Managers and Indigenous Program Administrators in response to this request.

The Ministry received a large number of high-calibre submissions from Service Managers and Indigenous Program Administrators, far exceeding the available funding envelope. The volume and overall quality of submissions reflect the strong commitment across the province to advancing affordable housing and addressing local housing needs.

All submissions were assessed by the Ministry using a comprehensive, objective evidence-based evaluation process based on COCHI program requirements, value for money and anticipated housing outcomes.

After careful review, I regret to inform you that your business case submission was not selected for funding under the 2025–26 Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) Residual Allocation.

While your business case submission was not identified to receive funding at this time, there may be future funding opportunities for which you could consider resubmitting your proposal or an updated proposal. Should you have questions or wish to obtain feedback on how to strengthen future funding submissions ministry staff would be pleased to debrief with you and your team. Please reach out to Jessica Vail, your

Regional Housing Team Lead at jessica.vail@ontario.ca, if you are interested in arranging a follow-up.

I sincerely appreciate your partnership as we continue to work together to deliver affordable housing programs and strengthen community housing across Ontario.

Regards,



Sean Fraser
Assistant Deputy Minister
Municipal and Housing Operations Division
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Enclosures

c.

Ken Ranta, Chief Executive Officer, Thunder Bay DSSAB
Crystal Simeoni, Director, Integrated Social Services, Thunder Bay DSSAB
Tanisha Lewis, Director, Housing Programs Branch, Municipal and Housing
Operations Division, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Bridget Schulte-Hostedde, Regional Director, Municipal Services Office – MMAH
Jessica Vail, Team Lead, Regional Housing Services,
Municipal Services Office – Northwestern, MMAH