

Reconciliatory Review of Housing NWT's Collection Approach

WHEREAS clients of Housing NWT fall into arrears for a variety of reasons, and many clients are unable to get out of arrears in their lifetime;

AND WHEREAS opportunities for employment and to generate income are limited, especially in smaller communities;

AND WHEREAS many clients live on fixed and limited sources of income;

AND WHEREAS it is a mandate item of this Government to support seniors to age in place by increasing supports for seniors to stay in their homes and communities;

AND WHEREAS it is a mandate item of the Government to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

AND WHEREAS there are Elders and Indian Residential School survivors in the Northwest Territories with pensions that are being garnished to pay back Housing NWT arrears;

AND WHEREAS the garnishment of a pension to pay off a debt to Housing NWT is unreasonable and unjust;

AND WHEREAS section 62 of the *Financial Administration Act* provides the authority for the Financial Management Board to forgive a debt or obligation owed to Housing NWT if it is considered unreasonable or unjust;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Great Slave, that this Legislative Assembly calls upon the Government of the Northwest Territories to pause the garnishment of Elders and Indian Residential School survivors' pensions to pay for Housing NWT arrears immediately;

AND FURTHER, Housing NWT identify all Elders, age 60 and over, and consenting Indian Residential School survivors in public housing who currently owe arrears or who are having their pensions garnished; .../2

Date of Notice: March 6, 2023
Date de l'avis : 6 mars 2023

Date of Introduction: March 8, 2023
Date de presentation : 8 mars 2023

Disposition: CARRIED RV
Disposition : ADOPTÉ VN

Carried: March 8, 2023
Adoptée : 8 mars 2023

Moved by: Ms. Weyallon Armstrong
Proposé par : M^{me} Weyallon Armstrong

Seconded by: Ms. Nokleby
Appuyée par : M^{me} Nokleby

Ruled Out of Order:
Déclarée irrecevable :

AND FURTHER, Housing NWT implement the principles of the Collections Policy and develop a strategy by the 2023-2024 fiscal year to determine the feasibility and reasonableness of collecting arrears from Elders and Indian Residential School survivors;

AND FURTHER, in an act of reconciliation, Housing NWT forgive arrears that cannot be collected despite demonstrated effort for Elders and Indian Residential School survivors;

AND FURTHER, the Government of the Northwest Territories provide a response to this motion within 120 days.

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