



## Approved Meeting minutes

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RE: *Emergency Financial Assistance Working Group - Meeting 3*

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Date: July 21, 2009 Time: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Location: OEB Office, 2300 Yonge St., 27th floor

Attendees: **Emergency Financial Assistance Working Group (FAWG)**

- Julie Girvan, Consumers Council of Canada (CCC);
- Gord Eamer, Cornerstone Hydro Electric Concepts (CHEC);
- Jack Lenartowicz, Coalition of Large Distributors (CLD);
- Manny Sousa, Enbridge Gas Distribution (Enbridge);
- Mary Anne Rowlands, Housing Help of Ontario;
- Barb Allen, Hydro One Networks (Hydro One);
- Sarah Blackstock, Low Income Energy Network (LIEN);
- Jennifer Lopinski, Low Income Energy Network (LIEN);
- Chris Goethel, Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure (MEI);
- Gladys Wong, Neighbourhood Information Post (NIP);
- John Bagnall, Neighbourhood Information Post (NIP);
- David Whitehouse, Peterborough Distribution Inc. (PDI);
- Debra Johnston, Salvation Army Centre of Hope;
- Jackie Caille, Union Gas (Union);
- Steve Lavery, United Way;
- William Harper, Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition/Energy Probe (VECC)

**Board Staff**

- Takis Plagiannakos,
- Guy Halpern,
- Rachel Anderson

**IndEco Staff**

- Judy Simon,
- Patti Campbell,
- Katie Fotheringham

Regrets: 

- Chantelle Bramley, Direct Energy;
- Svetlana Diomin, Direct Energy;
- Patricia Phillips, Union Gas (Union)

Next scheduled meeting: August 4, 2009

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## **Welcome - All**

- Board staff welcomed the group to the third meeting of the emergency Financial Assistance Working Group (FAWG)

## **Review of the meeting agenda – Judy Simon, Facilitator**

- Reviewed the meeting agenda to ensure that participants understood the information and activities taking place over the course of the day

## **Review and approval of meeting 2 minutes- Judy Simon, Facilitator**

- Group adopted minutes of meeting 2 (July 7) subject to noted corrections
- Materials (or oral information was provided) related to the action items of meeting 2 were handed out (statistics from LDCs and from social service agencies). Board Staff provided a Stats Can table from 2007 related to dwelling characteristics and household equipment by household income quintile<sup>1</sup>

## **Review and adoption of guiding principles – Judy Simon, Facilitator**

- Reviewed the revised guiding principles for the emergency financial assistance framework and reached agreement on proposed principles subject to noted revisions

## **Coordination with CWG - Judy Simon, Facilitator**

- Updated working group on the CWG eligibility criteria which will be based on the eligibility criteria used by the OPA in its Low-Income Single Family Homes pilot of August 2006 to December 2007

## **External presentation on Ontario Municipal Social Services Association - Rick Williams**

- Presentation via conference call by Rick Williams, Commissioner Community Services for the District of Muskoka on behalf of the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association on their role and services provided

## **Presentation of revised framework elements - Judy Simon, Facilitator**

- Reviewed the elements of the framework
- Reviewed and agreed to the eligibility criteria
- Reviewed and discussed in detail the intake and administration and outreach and promotion framework elements, along with general discussion on the remaining elements of the framework

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Survey of Household spending 2007; Dwelling characteristics and household equipment by household income quintile, Ontario 2007. Statistic Canada, Income Statistics Division, Custom Tabulation (February 25, 2009)



### *Action Items*

The following actions were identified throughout the FAWG meeting:

- Board Staff to provide formal confirmation that funding for LEAP is coming from all ratepayers through cost allocation across all rate classes, and explain on what basis the cost allocation is being determined
- Hydro One to prepare presentation on challenges of serving population within the large geographic area of their service territory
- Board staff to provide information on the Winter Warmth program and a map listing the communities where the program is offered
- Utilities and social service agencies to provide franchise maps and service area maps to Board staff who will compile the information and present to the group at meeting 4
- Board staff to provide update on related OEB code amendments
- Working group members to complete the framework template and present recommendations for meeting 4 on August 4, 2009.