

SAGKEENG FIRST NATION



BOX 3
FORT ALEXANDER, MANITOBA
R0E 0P0



FILE NO. _____

March 2, 2015

Sagkeeng First Nation membership:

RE: Sagkeeng First Nation Housing Authority Inc.

The purpose of this letter is to provide Sagkeeng First Nation with background information and provide an update with respect to the housing units located at 2339-2639 Pembina Highway and 25 Gaylene Place, Winnipeg, Manitoba, managed by the Sagkeeng First Nation Housing Authority Inc.

On January 20, 2011, Sagkeeng Chief and Council established the Sagkeeng Off-Reserve Housing Authority and its membership via an Order of Sagkeeng First Nation Government ("BCR"). This Authority later incorporated to become the Sagkeeng First Nation Housing Authority Inc. (SFNHA).

On February 4, 2011, the Manitoba Housing Renewal Corporation (MHRC) and the SFNHA entered into a 'Sponsorship Management Agreement for Operating a MHRC Project' (Agreement) to allow SFNHA Inc. to manage the housing units at 2339-2639 Pembina Highway, and 25 Gaylene Place, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

At a public meeting in Sagkeeng on September 18, 2014, the issue of the effectiveness of the SFNHA in managing the housing units was brought to the attention of the Council by Sagkeeng members. Shortly thereafter, the MHRC began an operational review to assess SFNHA's management of the housing units;

On February 2, 2015, the Council were provided a copy of the draft "Operational Review Report for Sagkeeng First Nation Housing Authority Inc." (Review) and were notified by Minister Kerri Irvin-Ross and Carolyn Ryan, Executive Director, MHRC, of MHRC's intention to terminate the Agreement with cause and take back control and management of the housing units effective February 16, 2015.

In a letter dated January 26, 2015, (received February 2, 2015), Manitoba Housing stated, among other things, that "financial controls within SFNHA are lacking, putting both the SFNHA and Manitoba Housing at risk for financial loss." The January 26, 2015 letter, Executive Summary, Key Recommendations, and the Summary of Recommendations can be found on the Sagkeeng First Nation website.

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It should be understood that these units were solely managed by the SFNHA and its employees, and at no time were Sagkeeng Chief and Council or its administration involved in their daily operations or management of the housing units.

In terms of next steps, Minister Kerri Irvin-Ross and Manitoba Housing have committed to enter into discussions with Sagkeeng First Nation to implement the spirit and intent of the Declaration of Intent that was signed by both Province and Sagkeeng First Nation to address the housing needs of our members living in Winnipeg.

On February 20, 2015, a joint letter by Manitoba Housing and Sagkeeng First Nation was provided to tenants of the housing units stating, among other things, that a meeting with tenants and both parties will occur shortly in mid-March to provide further information.

We hope this letter provides our membership with an understanding of the issue.

Sincerely,
SAGKEENG FIRST NATION



Chief



Councillor



Councillor

Councillor