

Z01/16- Emergency Shelter Staff Findings Report

Adam Smith, Special Projects and Research Officer
Melissa Shaw, Planning Assistant

2016



Amendment to Zoning By-law 101-2015

Z01/16- Emergency Shelter, Findings Report

April 26th, 2016

Introduction

What does homeless mean to you? Yes, it is true; many people in our community are homeless as a result of the difficulties faced in affording basic needs for food, water and shelter. Additionally, life circumstances, not limited to social, behavioural, judicial and medical reasons, result in people ending up on the streets. However, many of these who are deemed homeless have homes elsewhere, *Homeless* does not appropriately identify all of the people who are impoverished and on the streets of Kenora. This reality is a unique challenge of homelessness within the City. Our status as a service hub to surrounding communities for medical and judicial purposes, draws people into our community, while making it very difficult for them return back home. The City's goal is to remain as a service hub, and program delivery centre for those in need, while striving to build a healthier and safer community and change the way people see homelessness on our streets.

The Kenora Zoning By-law (101-2015) is a legal mechanism to promote orderly development, regulating how land and buildings are used, the location of buildings, lot coverage, building heights and other provisions necessary to ensure proper development.

In December, 2015 the Ne' Chee Friendship Centre brought forward a proposal to the City of Kenora Planning Department to establish an emergency shelter, in the General Commercial (GC) Zone. The proposal from the Friendship Centre caused the City to revisit the circumstances under which an emergency shelter is permitted, as such a report was brought forward to Committee of the Whole, providing council with options should Council wish to re-examine the proposed provisions of the zoning by-law. The staff report and council direction can be found in Appendix A.

Z01/16- Emergency Shelter, the City-initiated amendment to the Zoning By-law 101-2015, which would allow an emergency shelter to be additionally located in the GC- General Commercial and I – Institutional zone, accessory uses to offices, clinics, places of assembly and recreation facilities alongside the current permitted Residential zones. The amendment would be applied City-wide, in the applicable zones.

At the public statutory meeting held on Tuesday February 16th, 2016, the Council of the City of Kenora deferred a decision with respect to making a decision on Zoning By-law Amendment Z01/16- Emergency Shelter. Council tabled the motion to allow time to obtain a better understanding of the potential impacts of locating an emergency shelter within the General Commercial Institutional zones, and the effects on Harbourn Centre.

Service Providers

Kenora District Services Board

The KDSB is responsible for the delivery and management of Ontario Works (OW), Social Housing, Emergency Medical Services (EMS – Land Ambulance) and Early Learning and Child Care services in the District of Kenora. The programs are paid for by both area Municipalities and the Province. The Municipal share of total costs is paid for and apportioned among the nine Municipalities and Unincorporated Territories according to their percentage of total assessment values within the district.

In 2015, the KDSB only had \$753,100 in available funding for emergency shelters across its area of jurisdiction and over 1,187 users. The emergency shelter operated by the Kenora Fellowship Centre receives a portion of this funding however, limited resources and high demand for emergency shelter services, creates pressure on other programs funded by the KDSB including the Street Patrol. The Ne’Chee Friendship Centre’s proposal to move all of its services downtown and open an emergency shelter is seen as a way to continue to fund both the emergency shelter and Street Patrol. It may also have the potential to offer accessible programming and acquire more funding from other levels of government.

The Fellowship Centre

The Kenora Fellowship Centre, owned by the Presbyterian Church of Canada, offers shelter, programming and comfort to the vulnerable, disadvantaged and displaced. A place which once functioned as a drop-in home for families has shifted to a place giving refuge from the streets to the marginalized citizens of Kenora.

The Emergency Shelter hosts between 14 and 23 homeless people a night, who are in need a safe place to keep out of the weather. The Kenora shelter is a “dry” shelter meaning that those individuals who are intoxicated cannot access the services of the shelter for the night.

As a result of insufficient funding, the Fellowship Centre will close its emergency shelter in the fall of 2016. As of today’s date, the plan is that the Centre will continue to offer their daytime programming as well as their transitional housing project out of their facility on Water Street. When the Fellowship Centre closes its doors next fall, there will no longer be a formal emergency shelter in the City of Kenora – unless another service provider and location can be found.

Ne’Chee Friendship Centre

The Ne’Chee Friendship Centre is part of a support system to the community, providing programs to improve the quality of life for the urban aboriginal people. Friendship Centres began in order to assist Aboriginal people with their adjustment and integration as they migrated into the urban environment.

Across the country, Friendship Centres provide culturally appropriate services for Aboriginal people living in urban centres and have become a place for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to come together, to share traditions and to learn from one another.

With the imminent closure of the Fellowship Centre, Ne’Chee came forward with a proposal to co-locate the services of their Friendship Centre with an emergency shelter, in a centralized location. The Ne’Chee Centre's plan is to relocate all of their services to a downtown site.

The Ne’Chee Friendship Centre’s business plan would provide 20 beds for overnight shelter, with separate accommodations for men and women. The Ne’Chee emergency shelter would likely operate on a daily basis. Onsite staff will ensure the safety and security of users through a video monitoring admittance system.

The Public Consultation Process

Following the Council decision on Tuesday February 16th, 2016 to table the motion regarding the Zoning By-law amendment Z01/16- Emergency Shelter, internal City Staff collaborated on a public consultation process to obtain a better understanding of the potential impacts of locating an emergency shelter within the General Commercial and Institutional zones, and the effects on Harbourtown Centre.

In an effort to identify key issues and to gain a better understanding of the various positions regarding the amendment to the zoning by-law. Staff agreed that the process would include focus group roundtable discussions including a wide range of selected stakeholders. Material gathered from the roundtable discussions would be presented through infographics at the public open house to guide and educate the open forum discussion.

Stakeholder Interviews and Focus Group Roundtables

Select stakeholders were identified through a review of Council deputations, email and telephone inquiries, community business representatives, service providers, and City of Kenora residents. Roundtable participants were contacted via telephone to confirm their participation, as well, a follow-up email invitation was sent to each participant which included a report entitled “Emergency Shelter Backgrounder” which is provided within Appendix B. The email also included a list of three questions, in which participants were asked to complete prior to the meeting to set the basis for an informed discussion. Participants were reminded that participation was to be treated as confidential, and that the backgrounder was to serve as a resource for the stakeholders when developing their answers. The backgrounder served as a resource for the stakeholders when developing their answers.

The three questions asked were as follows:

1. Pros/cons of the amendment itself. (To add “emergency shelter” as a use in the GC – General Commercial and I – Institutional zones and that when permitted in the GC and I zone, an emergency shelter shall only be permitted as an accessory use to an office, clinic, place of assembly, or recreation facility use.)
2. Where should an emergency shelter be located, and why?
3. Other comments – did you learn anything through the process, so far?

Alongside gaining a better perspective on community interests, the intention behind the focus groups was to find common links among stakeholders. The roundtable interviews were scheduled on Wednesday April 6th, 2016 at the City of Kenora Operations Centre, Second floor boardroom, 60 Fourteenth Street North. Interviews were scheduled at 8:15 am, 11:30 am, and 1:15 p.m. The roundtable discussion lasted approximately 90 minutes, and included between eight and twelve (8- 12) participants in each group.

There were a few stakeholders whom were identified as participants in the round table discussions, who were either unable to attend, or chose not to attend in public as to maintain their confidentiality. Some sent in their written correspondence while others simply chose not participate.

The results of the stakeholder interviews and roundtable discussion are provided within the infographics found in Appendix C, as well, these infographics were presented to the general public on April 14th, 2016 at the emergency shelter public open house and have been included as part of this findings report.

Emergency Shelter Client interviews

As a recommendation from stakeholder roundtables held on Wednesday April 6th, 2016, City Staff conducted interviews and hosted a roundtable discussion with approximately fifteen (15) clients of the emergency shelter at the Fellowship Centre on Thursday April 7th. Staff reviewed the planning report as provided to Council regarding the City initiated amendment to the zoning by-law and the questions provided at the previous roundtable discussions.

The results of the emergency shelter client interviews and roundtable discussion are provided within the infographics found in Appendix C, as well, these infographics were presented to the general public on April 14th, 2016 at the emergency shelter public open house and have been included as part of this findings report.

Emergency Shelter Public Open House

On April 14th, 2016 the community was invited to attend a City of Kenora hosted public open house regarding the Zoning By-law amendment Z01/16- Emergency Shelter. The notice of the open house was advertised in the April 7th, 2016 Municipal Memo section of the Daily Miner and News, on the City of Kenora website, and emailed to Committees of Council and to City Staff who were encouraged to share with their contacts.

The public open house was held at the Kenora Recreation Centre, lower level Rotary Room at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday April 14th, 2016. The agenda for the public open house included four presentations by City staff members and invited agencies.

Initial Findings, Stakeholder Interviews and Focus Group Roundtables

Adam Smith, Melissa Shaw

The public consultation was facilitated by City Staff Members, Adam Smith and Melissa Shaw; staff presented initial findings from stakeholder interviews and roundtable discussions. As a result of an analysis of those responses, Staff acknowledged the very apparent need for improved service integration, and the ability of service providers to offer multiple supportive programs and co-ordinate with other providers in the near vicinity. Stakeholders expressed the need for a shelter which remains

within walkable distance for most users and that there is easy access for those with limitations, and beyond the proximity to other social service providers, the amendment could potentially ensure that people remain close to sources of food and popular social gathering sites.

Staff recognized the perception among stakeholders that there has been lack of transparency regarding the amendment process and subject matter which limits support for the amendment in the community. Stakeholders identified the Harbourtown Centre, and Downtown Revitalization as key factors to consider in the determination of a location of the Emergency Shelter, and some stakeholders suggested that since retail space is limited in this area of downtown, that commercial development could be restricted in the future.

Many of the stakeholders interviewed, were concerned that the amendment does not address long-term issues which drive homelessness and supports only one component of the housing continuum. There is a level of uncertainty, referring to not only the uncertainty surrounding the placement of a new shelter, but also the future of operations at the Fellowship Centre. Regardless of where a new emergency shelter may end up being located, stakeholders identified that users and clients to the emergency shelter will have to adjust to issues related to transportation and accessibility, and establishing relationships and trust with the new service provider.

Staff presented findings with respect to recommended locations where they thought an emergency shelter could be located within the City of Kenora. Stakeholders segmented the City of Kenora into three distinct areas. First, they identified “Outlying Urban Areas”, locations predominately residential in use; parcels that offer recreation opportunities and green space. Concerns with outlying areas include displacement, accessibility, and safety of vulnerable clients. Stakeholders suggested maintaining accessibility through a transit system and improved sidewalks.

Secondly, stakeholders recommended locations within the “Harbourtown Centre” the City hub for retail, commerce and entertainment. Central locations that offer accessibility and walkability, urban lifestyle influence. Clustering of centrally located programs and services is important, and stakeholders described a historical connection to the downtown area.

Lastly, “Established Area”, which includes lands within a close proximity to the downtown, with a mixed use of residential commercial, industrial and institutional lands. Locations that offer the benefit of redeveloped vacant lands and/or older buildings, and the benefit in clustering of centrally located programs and services. Once again stakeholders identified concern with displacement and accessibility, however, they also recommended excluding the Harbourtown Centre.

Also as a result of the stakeholder interviews and roundtable discussion, City staff heard of a variety of recommendations on new ways to deliver services for the homelessness. Many of them focused on the importance of building life skills and an emphasis on rehabilitation.

Stakeholders acknowledged the difficulty of existing conditions, negative influences within our community and the easy access to those factors that facilitate substances abuse and or behavioral issues. Stakeholders identified that, until these conditions are alleviated, “homelessness”, and people on the streets in general, will continue to be a challenge.

Stakeholders maintained the need for awareness around the fact that there are many groups of people from many walks of life which are dependent on an emergency shelter. Furthermore, any decision that is to be made cannot be made on the basis of zoning the homeless population out of a certain area but rather, around policies in place regulating the land use.

Stakeholders recommended that the concern, from the public, surrounding an emergency shelter might be eased by building familiarity with best practices from around the country and the thought process related to establishing an emergency shelter. At large, stakeholders requested community input and engagement from initial planning to through to execution, to ensure that proponents are responding to and meeting the needs of all community members. Stakeholders requested the City to act as a liaison in the development of programs and long-term policy solutions such as changes in the housing system, the building of more affordable homes, and ensuring that a wider cross-section of society benefits from the fruits of economic growth to not only resolve the broader issues surrounding homelessness, but as a prevention measure for the future health and well-being of the City of Kenora.

Planning and ZBA Z01/16

Tara Rickaby

Tara Rickaby, Planning Administrator with the City of Kenora highlighted the city initiated amendment to the zoning by-law. She reviewed the provisions of the current by-law pertaining to emergency shelters, and compared that to the recommendation before council; to allow an emergency shelter to be located in the General Commercial and I – Institutional zone, accessory uses to offices, clinics, places of assembly and recreation facilities. She stated that it meets the general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law. Tara reminded the community that the purpose of the General Commercial Zone is to allow for a wide range of uses and services to meet the needs of residents, businesses and tourists. In addition, the rezoning meets the general intent and purpose of the Institutional Zone, which allows for the development of public and privately owned facilities of an institutional or community service nature. Highlighting that adding the use, as an accessory to offices, clinics, places of assembly and recreation facilities provides the foundation for the co-location of public services, which are supportive of the emergency shelter use.

The Kenora Substance Abuse and Mental Health Task Force

Jen Carlson, Co-Chair, Craig Bryant, Co-Chair

Inspector, Dave Lucas, OPP

The Kenora Substance Abuse and Mental Health Task Force, co-chairs Jen Carlton and Craig Bryant along with a collaborative presentation on behalf of Inspector Dave Lucas of the Ontario Provincial Police highlighted the Kenora Community Safety & Well-being Plan and the strategic priorities which it entails. The plan is a roadmap to fulfill the vision of a transformed community, and a healthier and safer place to live. It's a collaborative approach which requires the support of multi-agencies, businesses, community members all working together. The ultimate goal is to have a healthier, safer community for all to mitigate factors that feed into substance abuse and mental health illness. This includes developing a housing continuum model , in an effort to support and address a wide range of shelter and housing options , not limited to emergency, stabilization, temporary, transitional , supporting, permanent safe and affordable. Inspector Dave Lucas, profiled statistics surrounding arrests and public intoxication within the community, alcohol related deaths, and contributing risk factors within our community. His

recommendation moving forward was a transparent agency roundtable, to better define agency mandates and for all to work together and collaborate on an overall strategic community plan. A copy of their presentation has been provided in Appendix D.

Henry Wall, CEO, Kenora District Services Board (KDSB) concluded the formal presentations with an overview of emergency shelter funding, statistics on users, average length of client stay, and the lack of supportive transitional housing which contributes to community challenges of homelessness. Henry spoke about the importance of shelters in our community and the reality that a stronger shelter system with supportive programs achieves a more sustainable model which help clients prosper and make progress. A copy of Henry Walls presentation is provided in Appendix D.

The formal presentations that offered additional information to the public in attendance at the open house, informed input during the Q&A period. Members of the community directed questions to the panel of presenters, and openly expressed concern, support and suggested solutions and opportunities for the location of an emergency shelter.

Concluding Comments

In summary, there appears to be a reluctance among the community to separate the rationale for the proposed zoning by-law amendment from the need to address underlying social and economic drivers of homelessness in Kenora. Despite the debate surrounding the commercial focus of the Harbourn town Centre area and emphasis on improved public engagement in the planning process, the criteria that served as the basis for the planning recommendation was not the primary concern. Community members were concerned about the ineffectiveness of the current response to homelessness and specific properties that may be impacted by the amendment. As important as these considerations are to the development of policies and programs in the future, they are not within the scope of the proposed by-law amendment.

Moving forward the feedback received will undoubtedly be a valuable resource for the City as it continues to collaborate with service providers to ensure adequate supports are in place for vulnerable members of the community. The process has clearly emphasized the need for improved communication between all stakeholders. In order to maintain transparency, the City should engage with businesses, service providers and the broader community. Although the City cannot choose the specific site of an emergency shelter, the zoning by-law amendment creates the foundation for a site to be determined and the degree of flexibility a service provider has in selecting a site.

Emergency Shelter - Consolidated summary of Community and Stakeholder comments

The following report provides a summary of the key results from the stakeholder interviews, roundtable discussions, and public open house. The summaries have been organized in similar comment themes. Results of the stakeholder interviews and focus group roundtables have been depicted within the infographics found in Appendix C, and are also identified within this report. A record of all comments received at the public open house are provided in the Appendix E.

Existing Location

- Currently location is on a low traffic street, users are free to wander throughout the street, and the new location should have regard for amenity space and address access for emergency services.
- Risk Factors
 - o Waterways
 - o Cold Weather
 - o Train Tracks
 - o Easy Access to alcohol and alcohol derivatives
- By removing the shelter, the outcome wouldn't be what the community thinks it would be
- Fellowship Centre cannot continue to operate as it does, the result would be they either go bankrupt or the shelter will close. If the fellowship centre goes bankrupt, not only is the transitional housing going to be gone, but the drop in centre, the meal programs and all the other services, who will take over?
- No place to go or no home.
- Reasons for poor living conditions on the reserves should be addressed
- The current emergency shelter does not accommodate children
- The current zoning by-law permits an emergency shelter in residential zones. Finding residential land for development would be a challenge
- Downtown conditions are a contributing factor such as the LCBO and Beer Store
- Amending the zoning by-law would bring the existing location into compliance, and allow for more flexibility in a new site selection.

Funding

- Federal and provincial funding
- If Council can commit to a \$30 M dollar ice rink why can't they commit to a shelter
- Sustainable funding for a collaborative long term approach to housing.
- Through the Ontario government, the federal government and communities the individuals come from.
- Federal government is willing to give millions of dollars to Northern reserves however; the Government ceases to fund those that leave the reserve, and venture into urban communities whereby placing burden on the local taxpayer.
- Look beyond traditional mandates to leverage financial support
- Would the City be willing to provide capital funding
- Would the business community be willing to contribute to a capital fund if the site selected, addressed their concerns?
- Council priority should be meeting the needs of vulnerable community members and not committing to a new ice rink
- Leverage Casino Rama revenue to support off-reserve Aboriginals

Harbourtown Centre Revitalization

- Concern with the number of users of the shelter having grown over the past twenty years, increase in needle, broken glass and garbage along water street
- The Official Plan and the Planning Report on Z01/16 speak to what the Harbourtown Centre should be- which is, a tourist centre and boating capital.
- A downtown location will be a disaster for all those people who have put money into the community and invested in downtown real-estate.
- The shelter should not be downtown because the presence of homelessness is bad for business
- If the amendment passes there is fear that an Emergency shelter can be located next to any business and this is concerning for those with considerable investment of time and money
- Emergency shelter should be downtown, however maintain Main Street and Second Street as tourist destination corridors
- Locate one block off Main or Second
- Retail space in the Harbourtown Centre is scarce and if an emergency shelter was established there is would further restrict future commercial development and lost commercial tax base revenues to the City
- Should be located outside corridors between licensed establishments. Could be a toxic environment as people who may be intoxicated leave to go to another establishment. Could be dangerous for all people on the street.

Historical Significance

- Many of the users have lived in Kenora longer than much of the current population.
- Aboriginal displacement has been occurring for centuries, they have been migrating to urban environments to escape third-world conditions on reserves.
- The Fellowship Centre has been supported by the Presbyterian Church for 40 years, however, it cannot afford to operate longer

Importance of Transparency, Planning and Public Engagement

- Engage those who access emergency shelters to ensure it is what they need.
- Request that location selection include public consultation
- Open community session where questions and concerns could be addressed
- The City should call together all relevant stakeholders to discuss homelessness and identify participants willing to take action on the issue.
- The site selection process needs to become more transparent. A public forum could inform the populace about Kenora's site approval process while broadening citizen consultation on an important community resource.
- Perception that the process regarding the emergency shelter has been a secret, needs to be opportunity for the public to comment on conceptual design
- Land Use Planning should strategically determine a location for an emergency shelter and the proximity of services to one another

Location:

- Accessible and walkable
 - o Handi-transit system
 - o Improved sidewalks

- A suitable location shall be determined by:
 - o Who is in need of the shelter?
 - o Why these individuals need the shelter
- The City needs to consider human rights when making its decision. Cannot zone for people
- The City should endorse the recommendations made by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- We need people to say where they want to live
- Evidence based best practise
- A location which offers traditional lifestyle opportunities
- Amenity space and green space for recreation and leisure
- Until such time as there is enough housing to accommodate transient and or homeless people there will continue to be concerns and ongoing problem. The problem is twofold, housing and an emergency shelter.
- Within the available capital and operating budgets provided
- Structurally viable
- Close to client supports
- Is the current location which has been identified the best site, or is it simply the best site available with the limited funding? Could there be a better location if funds weren't a limiting factor?
- Are there agencies looking to expand that the KDSB could partner with
- Close proximity to centrally located programs.
- Downtown offers a sources of food, entertainment and popular social gathering sites
- Currently location is on a low traffic street, users are free to wander throughout the street, and the new location should have regard for amenity space and address access for emergency services.
- Shelter should be in the best location supported by services to ensure alignment
- Suggested locations:
 - o Former C.J. School Complex
 - o Expand Ne'Chee Centre on Railway Street
 - o Seven Generations on Veterans Drive
 - o Anicinabe Park
 - o St. Joseph's health centre
 - o Kenora Shoppers Mall surplus lands
 - o Royal Canadian Legion Branch 12
 - o Morning Star Detox Centre
 - o Current location on Water Street, operated by the Ne'Chee at the Fellowship Centre

Quality of Life and Stakeholder Well-Being

- In 2015, 569 individuals stayed at the emergency shelter in Kenora. On average an individual will stay 3.9 nights; over 80% of users use it for less than 7 nights thus shelters are used for the purpose intended.
- Kenora individuals experience homelessness:
 - o Judicial system (38%-40%)
 - o Medical Services (included with judicial)

- missed transportation
- violence
- kicked out
- No place to go or no home
- The community has a responsibility to care for those within its boundaries who cannot take care of themselves on a permanent or temporary basis.
- Without an emergency shelter there would be fatalities
- An emergency shelter is a symbol of a compassionate community
- Inclusive to all and highly visible for those in need
- If not centrally located and easily accessible, threat to personal well-being to those who have to travel significant distances
- Displaced location will add pressure on emergency services
- The Emergency Shelter is an alternative to the Morningstar Centre or the Kenora Jail when in need of shelter.
- Without an emergency shelter, there would be a proliferation of smaller shelters
- Adapting to change, big migration of First Nations peoples relocating to urban areas and relocating from what some consider third world conditions
- The amendment should be passed to help assist with this segment of the population and that concern should be directed towards the privately owned slums which are contributing to the problem.

Service Integration, Service Delivery Models

- Collaborative approach to service integration
- Collaborate with Managed Alcohol Program
- Change requires a new vision, a common ground approach
- Services cannot survive independently, need a collaborative approach, a sustainable approach to an emergency shelter
- 1950 comments and thinking needs to stop so that we can move forwards. There are homeless people in every community, need to ask why these people are on the streets and history can show you why.
 - Agencies work in silos, need for an agency roundtable to define agency mandates and how they can collaborate for an overall strategic plan
 - As strong shelter system with supports with structures programs to go with it, a sustainable model, so that individuals feel like they have purpose while they are here.

Short-term Solution

- We are missing supportive transitional housing within our community, challenges that shelter might contribute to our community is that users have nowhere else to go
- Need for a needle drop off centre
- Why are we closing down one, when we haven't got one in place? We should be making it right...we should be funding the Fellowship Centre until we can make it right.
- Can funds be raised to support the Fellowship Centre throughout the winter to allow for more time to identify sites that meet the suitability criteria, and explore additional funding opportunities?
- The amendment to the zoning by-law does not address the long-term issues driving homelessness. Emergency shelter is only one piece of the housing continuum

- Does not support the need to move away from crisis management

Useful Links:

[2016 Zoning Bylaw Amendments: Z01-16 City Initiated Emergency Shelter - Minutes](#)

[Homelessness & Behavioural Issues Task Force Work Plan](#)

[Kenora Community Safety & Well-Being Plan](#)

[Zoning and Ontario's Human Rights Code](#)

[Moving forward on Affordable Housing and Homeless in Northern Ontario](#)

Appendix A



December 7, 2015

City Council Committee Report

To: Mayor and Council

Fr: Tara Rickaby, Planning Administrator

Re: City of Kenora Zoning By-law No. 101-2015 – Emergency Shelters

Options:

Council has the following options with regards to the Friendship Centre's proposal:

1. Retain the current provisions in the proposed Zoning By-law and require the Friendship Centre to apply for a zoning by-law amendment to permit an emergency shelter in the GC Zone.
2. Revise Section 3.14 of the proposed Zoning By-law to permit emergency shelters in the GC and I Zones.

Option 1 - Analysis:

Should Council be of the opinion that the proposed change to Section 3.14 requires further public consultation or research, or should Council feel that adjacent property owners and residents will have a specific interest in the proposed change, it is recommended that Council retain the existing provisions and require the Friendship Centre to proceed by way of a zoning by-law amendment, or alternatively, that the City undertake a comprehensive zoning by-law amendment to review the proposed changes separately.

Option 2 – Analysis:

Should Council be of the opinion that a proposed change to Section 3.14 is in the public interest and does not constitute a change to the Zoning By-law that requires additional consultation or analysis, it is recommended that amend Section 3.14 as noted above.

Background:

Recently the NeChee Friendship Centre brought forward a proposal to establish an emergency shelter at the Centre at 326 Second Street South, in the General Commercial (CG) Zone. The current and proposed Zoning By-law do not permit emergency shelters in the GC Zone, only the R1, R2, R3, RR, and RU Zones. The proposal from the Friendship Centre has caused the City to revisit the circumstances under which an emergency shelter is permitted, and to provide options should Council wish to re-examine the proposed provisions.

Proposed Change:

Should Council wish to consider a change to Section 3.14 of the Zoning By-law it is recommended that the following changes be considered

3.14 Group Homes and Emergency Shelters

Group homes and emergency shelters are permitted in the R2, R3, RU, GC, and I zones subject to the following provisions:

- a) A group home or emergency shelter shall occupy a dwelling unit that is permitted in the zone;
- b) When a residential use building is converted to a group home or emergency shelter, the group home or emergency shelter must occupy the whole of the building including all attached units within the building;
- c) When permitted in the GC Zone, an emergency shelter shall only be permitted as an accessory use to an office, clinic, place of assembly, or recreation facility use.

Rationale:

Emergency shelters commonly locate within commercial areas which are easily accessible by patrons and are often located in buildings that also contain the support services needed to assist patrons (typically office / commercial buildings). As such, permitting emergency shelters within the GC Zone would recognize the normal circumstances under which these uses often occur. Additionally, it is recommended that this use also be permitted in the I-Institutional Zone, to recognize that emergency shelters are often co-located with institutional facilities such as places of worship, such as churches, or recreational facilities, like the YMCA. Again this change would recognize that the normal circumstances under which an emergency shelter is most likely to occur. Conversely, it is recommended that emergency shelters be removed from the R1 and RR Zones, as these uses would not be in keeping with the character of low density residential areas.

In order to maintain the predominance of commercial uses in the GC Zone and to ensure that emergency shelters are accompanied by required support services, it is recommended that they only be permitted as an accessory use to an office, clinic, place of assembly, or recreation facility use in the GC Zone.

It is noted that in cases where an emergency shelter is permitted in commercial or institutional development, it is subject to the site plan control process. In addition, any new or re-development is subject to the provisions of the Ontario Building Code and Ontario Fire Code.

Budget:

Operating Budget – Planning and Property

Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:

COW and Council agenda/minutes, Notice by-law and regulations of the Ontario Planning Act, Planning Administrator, Managers, Keewatin CIP Working Group, Kenora PAC, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Strategic Plan or other Guiding Document:

City of Kenora Official Plan

Ontario Planning Act

Provincial Policy Statement, 2014

Kenora Substance Abuse and Mental Health Task Force Community Safety and Well-being Plan

Appendix B

March 18, 2016



Re: Backgrounder—Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment Z106/16 Emergency Shelters

Context:

At the public statutory meeting held on Tuesday February 16th, 2016, the Council of the City of Kenora deferred a decision with respect to making a decision on Zoning By-law Amendment Z01/16- Emergency Shelter. Council tabled the motion to allow time to obtain a better understanding of the potential impacts of locating an emergency shelter on commercial or institutional properties to the GC- General Commercial and I-Institutional zones, and well as the Harbourn town Centre. The Kenora Zoning By-law is a legal mechanism to promote orderly development, regulating how land and buildings are used, the location of buildings, lot coverage, building heights and other provisions necessary to ensure proper development.

Kenora is facing issues and challenges surrounding "homelessness". Different life circumstances, not limited to social, behavioural, judicial and medical reasons often result in people ending up on our streets, many of whom have homes elsewhere. Kenora's status as a service 'hub' to surrounding communities often brings people into our community, while offering no opportunity to return back home. The reality is a unique challenge to the City of Kenora; to remain as a service hub while building a healthier and safer community.

Present Status: Emergency Shelters in Kenora

The Kenora Fellowship Centre, owned by the Presbyterian Church of Canada, offers shelter, programming and comfort to the vulnerable, disadvantaged and displaced. A place which once functioned as a drop-in home for families has shifted to a place giving refuge from the streets to the marginalized citizens of Kenora. The centre offers programming, food, transitional beds and an emergency shelter. Due to a reduction in funding, the Fellowship Centre will close its emergency shelter in the fall of 2016. The Centre will continue to operate as a drop-in during the day, and offer transitional beds overnight.

There may also be other agencies offering similar services to an emergency shelter. When the Fellowship Centre closes its doors next fall, there will no longer be an emergency shelter in the City of Kenora – unless there is another service provider.

The Ne'Chee Friendship Centre acts as a support system to the community, providing programs to improve the quality of life for the urban aboriginal people. With the imminent closure of the Fellowship Centre, Ne'Chee came forward with a proposal to co-locate the services of their Friendship Centre with an emergency shelter, in a centralized location. The Ne'Chee Friendship Centre's business plan would provide 20 beds for overnight shelter, with separate accommodations for men and women. The Ne'Chee emergency shelter would likely operate on a daily basis. Onsite staff will ensure the safety and security of users through a video monitoring admittance system.

Proposed Change:

To accommodate the centralized location of a new emergency shelter and bring the existing shelter at the Fellowship Centre into compliance with the zoning by-law. The City has proposed to amend its zoning by-law to permit emergency shelters within General Commercial and Institutional zones and only as an accessory use to an office, clinic, place of assembly or recreation facility, concurrently.

Considerations:

The application Z01/16 for amendment to the City of Kenora Zoning By-law 101-2015, has regard for the Provincial Policy Statement (2014), supports the City of Kenora Official Plan (2015) and the City of Kenora Strategic Plan 2015-2020. The City acknowledges the special provisions within the Plan for the Harbourtown Centre area and has determined that an emergency shelter can comply with those provisions. Furthermore, the application does not infringe upon Ontario's Human Rights Code, 'people zoning as opposed to zoning the use of land.'

The Official Plan policies also acknowledge the need to promote the Harbourtown Centre as a regional commercial, cultural, recreational, entertainment, business and tourism centre, while reinforcing the area as a vibrant and vigorous commercial area offering a full, balanced and diversified commercial land use mix.

Community stakeholders have expressed concern regarding an amendment to the zoning by-law to allow emergency shelter within the general commercial and institutional zones. It has been suggested that a centralized location would increase the occurrence of crime and diminish the Harbourtown Centre as a tourist destination and hub for retail, commerce and entertainment. Meanwhile, proponents maintain that an accessible emergency shelter, offering centralized services may decrease the perceived presence of homelessness on our streets, and better correspond with community and district initiatives to address the existing needs.

Useful Links:

Listed below are a number of links that provide additional information related to the subjects discussed:

[2016 Zoning Bylaw Amendments: Z01-16 City Initiated Emergency Shelter - Minutes](#)

[Homelessness & Behavioural Issues Task Force Work Plan](#)

[Kenora Community Safety & Well-Being Plan](#)

[Zoning and Ontario's Human Rights Code](#)

Appendix C

Zoning By-law Amendment, Z01/16: Emergency Shelter

Where should an Emergency Shelter be located within the City of Kenora?



Outlying Urban Areas

Locations that offer recreation opportunities and green space. Concerns with displacement, accessibility, and safety of vulnerable clients. Maintain accessibility through a transit system and improved sidewalks.

Harbourtown Centre

Locations that offer accessibility and walkability, urban lifestyle influence, clustering of centrally located programs and services. Users have a historical connection to the area.

Established Area

(Excluding the Harbourtown Centre)

Co-located services and the benefit of redeveloped vacant lands or older buildings. Concerns with displacement, accessibility, and vulnerability of clients. Maintain accessibility through a transit system and improved sidewalks.

Zoning By-law Amendment Z01/16: Emergency Shelter What We've Heard

Benefits

Service Integration

Flexibility

Historical Significance

Compassion and Personal
Well-Being

Accessibility and Walkability

Proximity to Amenities

Concerns

Transparency

Harbourtown Centre
Revitalization

Short-Term Solution

Uncertainty

Adapting to Change

VS

Zoning By-law Amendment: Z01/16: Emergency Shelter The Path Forward



New Service Delivery Models
(ex. life skills and rehabilitation)



Human Rights
(ex. zoning for people vs.
zoning for land use)



**Difficulty of Existing
Conditions**
(ex. behavioural issues)

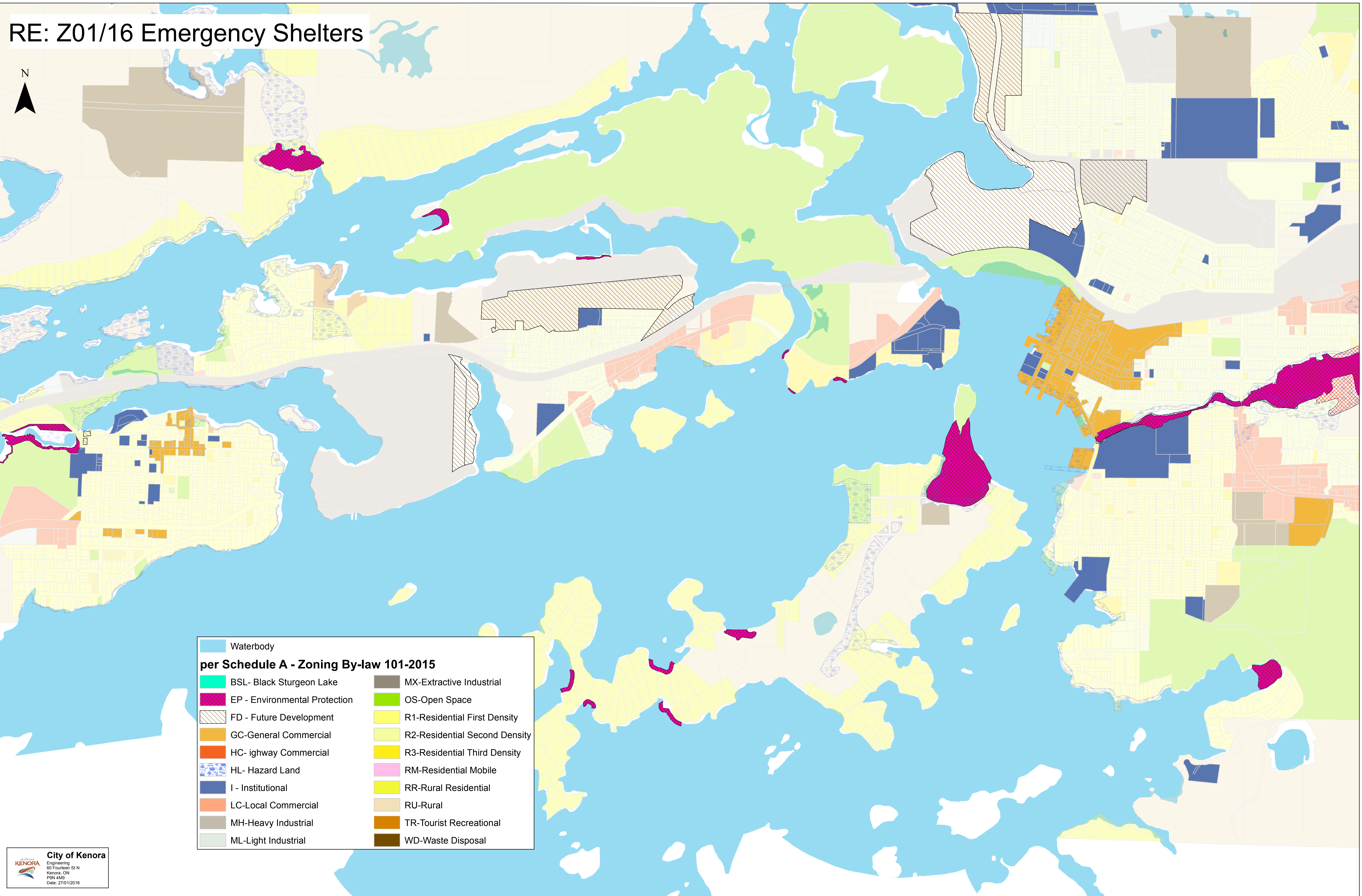




















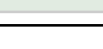

**Importance of Planning and Public
Engagement**
(ex. awareness around best
practices)



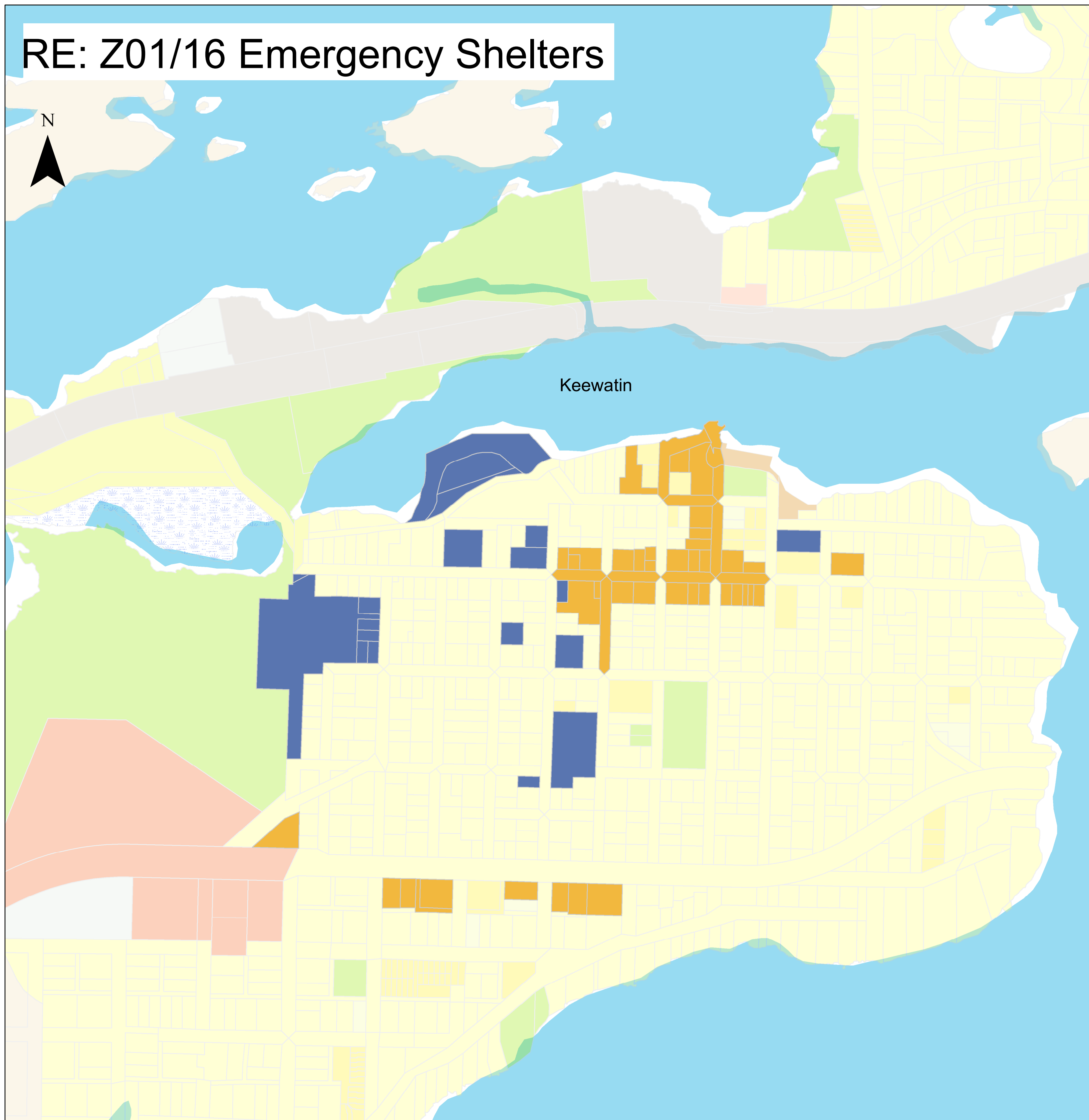
Progress


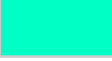

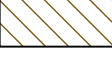

















RE: Z01/16 Emergency Shelters



per Schedule A - Zoning By-law 101-2015	
 Waterbody	 MX-Extractive Industrial
 EP - Environmental Protection	 OS-Open Space
 FD - Future Development	 R1-Residential First Density
 GC-General Commercial	 R2-Residential Second Density
 HC- ighway Commercial	 R3-Residential Third Density
 HL- Hazard Land	 RM-Residential Mobile
 I - Institutional	 RR-Rural Residential
 LC-Local Commercial	 RU-Rural
 MH-Heavy Industrial	 TR-Tourist Recreational
 ML-Light Industrial	 WD-Waste Disposal

RE: Z01/16 Emergency Shelters

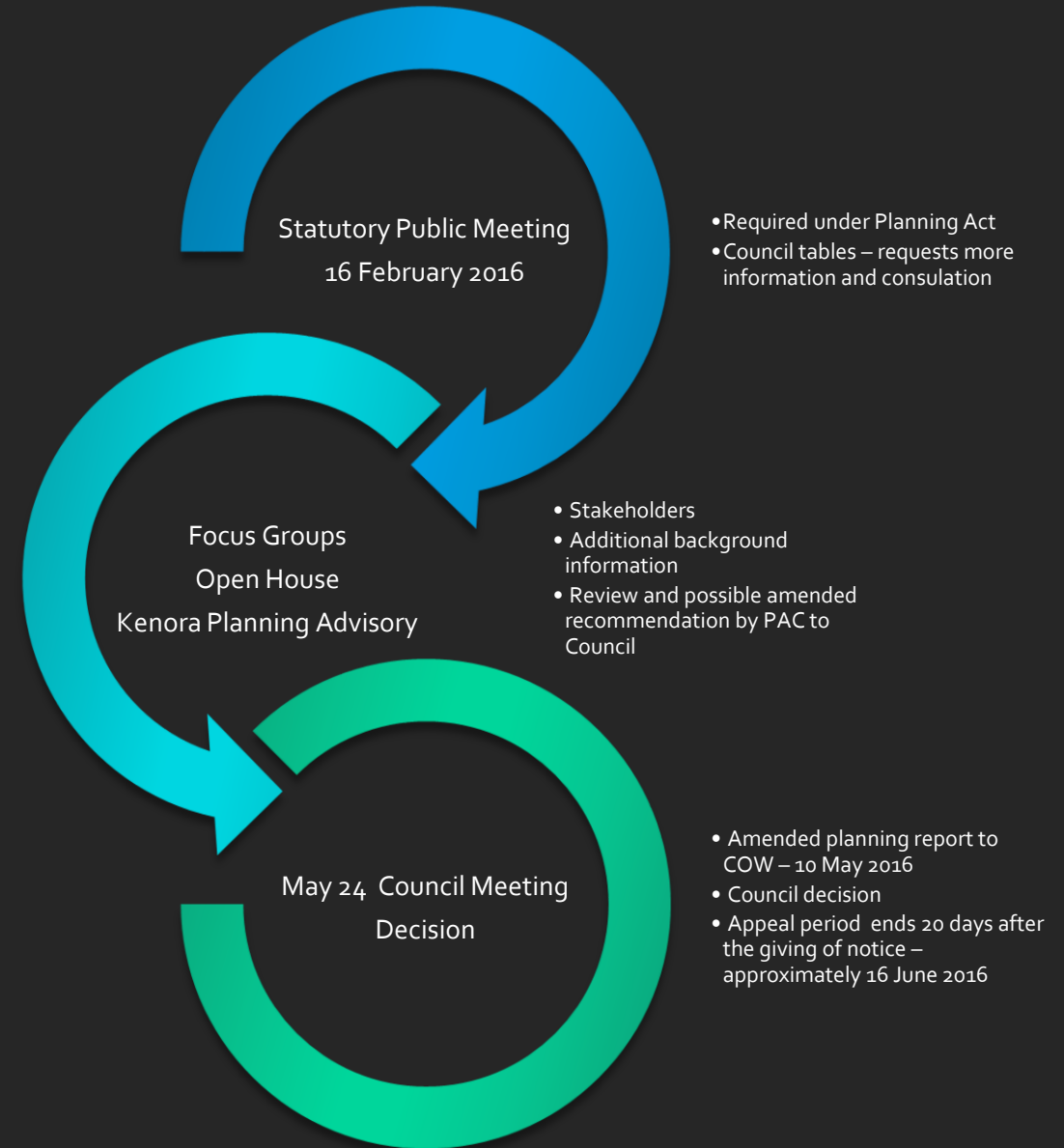


per Schedule A - Zoning By-law 101-2015	
	Waterbody
	BSL - Black Sturgeon Lake
	EP - Environmental Protection
	FD - Future Development
	GC-General Commercial
	HC- ighway Commercial
	HL- Hazard Land
	I - Institutional
	LC-Local Commercial
	MH-Heavy Industrial
	ML-Light Industrial
	MX-Extractive Industrial
	OS-Open Space
	R1-Residential First Density
	R2-Residential Second Density
	R3-Residential Third Density
	RM-Residential Mobile
	RR-Rural Residential
	RU-Rural
	TR-Tourist Recreational
	WD-Waste Disposal

Appendix D

ZBA 01/16 Emergency Shelters

What's next in
the process?



KENORA SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE

Emergency Shelter – Open Consultation Session

Thursday, April 14, 2016

BROUGHT TO YOU BY **KENORA**
SUBSTANCE ABUSE &
MENTAL HEALTH



TASK FORCE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The ***Community Safety and Well-Being Plan*** for Kenora has been made possible through a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The Kenora Substance Abuse and Mental Health Task Force gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation.



An agency of the Government of Ontario.
Relève du gouvernement de l'Ontario.

VISION

A transformed community; a healthier and safer place to live.

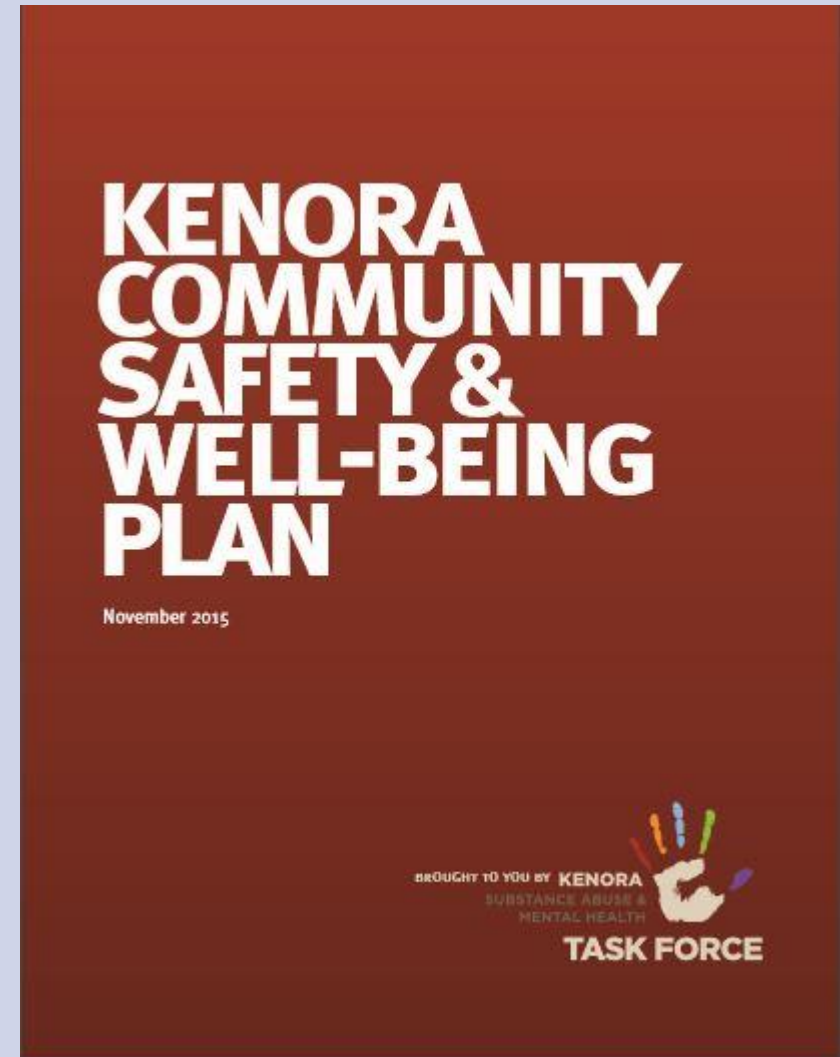
MISSION

Enhance community well-being and safety for all through leadership, engagement and collaboration.

**Have you had an
opportunity to look at
our plan:**

**KENORA
COMMUNITY SAFETY
& WELL-BEING PLAN**

www.ksamhtf.ca



KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY & WELL-BEING PLAN

November 2015

View plan at
ksamhtf.ca

BROUGHT TO YOU BY **KENORA**
SUBSTANCE ABUSE &
MENTAL HEALTH



TASK FORCE

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

OUTLINE

- **WHAT IS IT?**
- **HOW WAS THE PLAN DEVELOPED?**
- **WHY IS THERE A NEED FOR THIS PLAN?**
- **COMMUNITY BENEFITS OF HAVING A
COORDINATED PLAN**
- **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

WHAT IS IT?

- Roadmap to fulfill the vision of a transformed community, a healthier and safer place to live.
- Multi-agencies, businesses, community members all working together.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

WHAT IS IT?

- The goal is to have a healthier, safer community for all to mitigate factors that feed into substance abuse and mental health illness.
- The plan is a living document that adapts to the needs of the community.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

HOW WAS THE PLAN DEVELOPED?

- Data was collected through community consultations and through a community survey.
- 193 responses on community issues helped inform the plan.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

WHY IS THERE A NEED FOR THIS PLAN?

- Every community organization or social service have different mandates.
- There was a need to coordinate and integrate work for a synergistic outcome.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

WHY IS THERE A NEED FOR THIS PLAN?

- This plan identifies and coordinates work into a set of collective goals.
- Also will help to identify service gaps and advocate for additional resources.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

COMMUNITY BENEFITS OF HAVING A COORDINATED PLAN

- Decrease in overlapping services.
- A more efficient use of finite resources.
- A safe community compliments a strong economy.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

COMMUNITY BENEFITS OF HAVING A COORDINATED PLAN

Since the plan was created priorities have been put in motion

- MAP
- Situation Table
- Drug Court
- Service Mapping (system navigation)
- Strengthening Families for the Future, & many more

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

HOW WAS THE PLAN DEVELOPED?

- Community responses were naturally identified into six Strategic Priorities:
 1. **A Safe Community**
 2. **Community Collaboration**
 3. **Supporting Those in Need**
 4. **Our Youth**
 5. **Stigma**
 6. **Sustainability**

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1. A SAFE COMMUNITY

GOAL:

- Address the criminal behaviour that affects the safety of community members.
- Safeguard community space.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1. A SAFE COMMUNITY

OBJECTIVES:

- Develop a plan to reduce the homelessness and vagrancy that can be linked to criminal behaviour and substance abuse.
- Increase public awareness of dangers, safe practices and safeguards (protection) in place.

(cont'd)

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1. A SAFE COMMUNITY

OBJECTIVES:

- Review strategic location and proximity of services that create an enabling environment and explore options for change.
- Enhance existing linkages and create new ones between service organizations.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

2. COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

GOAL:

- Be the catalyst for positive collaboration between agencies, resources and partners.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

2. COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

OBJECTIVES:

- Enhance collaboration and integration between service organizations.
- Nurture business and resident involvement.
- Strengthen and develop working relationship with all levels of government; Foster active City of Kenora involvement.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

3. SUPPORTING THOSE IN NEED

GOAL:

- Ensure inclusive provision of basic needs to all members of the community.
- Aid the most vulnerable with accessible and timely resources and support.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

3. SUPPORTING THOSE IN NEED

OBJECTIVES:

- Coordination of resources and programs to provide access to shelter that meets the needs of all members of the community.
- Shelter options include: emergency, stabilization, temporary, transitional, supporting, permanent safe and affordable housing.

(cont'd)

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

3. SUPPORTING THOSE IN NEED

OBJECTIVES:

- Inclusive provision of access to healthcare and continuity of care.
- Advocate for a 24/7 mobilized outreach program, which includes a mobilized crisis team.
- Launch Managed Alcohol Program (MAP).

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

4. OUR YOUTH

GOAL:

- Assist in the continued development, education and support of our youth.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

4. OUR YOUTH

OBJECTIVES:

- Support at-risk youth.
- Establish a youth centre.
- Create programs where youth can participate with community.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

5. STIGMA

GOAL:

- Create hope and credibility; increase awareness and knowledge to diminish stigma and fear.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

5. STIGMA

OBJECTIVES:

- Be a community leader in events, awareness and public education.
- Address systemic stigma.
- Work with the City of Kenora to have the ***Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan*** incorporated into the City's Strategic Plan.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

6. SUSTAINABILITY

GOAL:

- Achieve long-term organizational sustainability.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

6. SUSTAINABILITY

OBJECTIVES:

- Maintain a working plan that is action based, results driven.
- Develop a long-term business case.
- Establish model and process for collaborative funding.
- Advocate with partnering agencies and all government.

KENORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELLBEING PLAN

Please visit our website to access the plan and learn more about the committee

www.ksamhtf.ca

ANY QUESTIONS?

Thank you for your time



BROUGHT TO YOU BY **KENORA**
SUBSTANCE ABUSE &
MENTAL HEALTH



TASK FORCE



KDSB

KENORA DISTRICT SERVICES BOARD

Caring | People | Community | Support

City of Kenora Emergency Shelter: Open House

April 14, 2016



City of Kenora: Emergency Shelter

- Current Funding for Emergency Shelters in the Kenora District
- Homelessness and Emergency Shelter usages in Kenora
- Factors causing Homelessness in the Kenora District
- Emergency Shelter location



Current Funding of the Emergency Shelters & Services

- **Kenora District Services Board** – Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative Program
- **Kenora District Services Board** – Ontario Works Programs
- Episodic and/or Project Specific **Provincial Funding**
- Temporary Homelessness Partnering Strategy Funding (**Federal Funding**).
- **Local Fundraising**
- **Local Municipalities**
- **Donations** (Public and Private)



Current Funding of the Emergency Shelters & Services

Total 2015 KDSB Funding: \$753,100

TOTAL CHPI SPENDING BY COMMUNITY	
Kenora	384,492.00
Red Lake	38,508.00
Sioux Lookout	120,996.00
	543,996.00
District Wide Homeless Prevention	209,104.00
Total Community Homelessness Funding	753,100.00



Homelessness & Shelter Usages: Kenora District

In 2015 there were **over 1,187 individuals** that experienced homelessness and stayed at the Emergency Shelter.

Age distribution of Individuals experiencing homelessness:

Community	% of Individuals by Age				
	25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56+
All Communities	17.9%	34.5%	22.3%	16.2%	9.2%



Homelessness & Shelter Usages: City of Kenora

2015 Kenora Fellowship Statistics

Quarter	# of Unique Individuals Served	Total Night Stays for transients	Avg Length of Stay
1 st Quarter	131	480	3.66
2 nd Quarter	159	729	4.58
3 rd Quarter	146	536	3.67
4 th Quarter	133	437	3.29
2015 Total Annual	569	2182	3.80



Homelessness & Shelter Usages: Sioux Lookout

Out of the Cold Emergency Shelter – Sioux Lookout

Emergency Shelter Usages

	No. of Individuals	Avg. Length of Stay	Total Night Stays	No. of Individuals					
				1 Night		7 nights or less		> 50 Nights	
2014	518	9.50	4,923	265	51%	411	79%	20	
2013	532	7.45	3,965	288	54%	444	83%	11	
2012	518	8.00	4,156	241	47%	434	84%	14	
2011	543	8.25	4,480	252	46%	441	81%	15	
2010	436	8.20	3,571	201	46%	357	82%	14	

Summary between 2011 and 2014

No. of Individuals	Avg. Length of Stay	Total Night Stays	No. of Individuals					
			1 Night		7 nights or less		> 50 Nights	
1,428	12.27	17,524	675	47%	1,161	81%	61	



Homelessness & Shelter Usages: Red Lake

2015 Red Lake Area Emergency Shelter Statistics

	Average Stays/Month	% Chronic (10 or more stays/month)
January	16.7	64.7
February	12.8	50.0
March	8.9	30.0
April	15.9	62.6
May	8.6	35.0
June	9.5	44.0
July	7.7	26.0
August	5.3	21.0
September	9.3	33.0
October	10.6	36.0
November	10.7	37.0
December	12.0	53.9
Total Number of Clients: 100 +		

- In 2015 the shelter had 2,555 nightly stays
- Approximately 90% of RLAES clients are on Government assistance.
- 80% of those are on ODSP



Factors Causing Homelessness in the Kenora District



Factors Causing Homelessness in the Kenora District

2015 had 1,187 + individuals experiencing homelessness and staying at a Emergency Shelter

Common Reason for individual needing to use the emergency shelter:

Judicial System (Court, Release from Jail)

Medical Services

Missed Transportation

Violence

Kicked Out

No place to go or home



Factors Causing Homelessness in the Kenora District

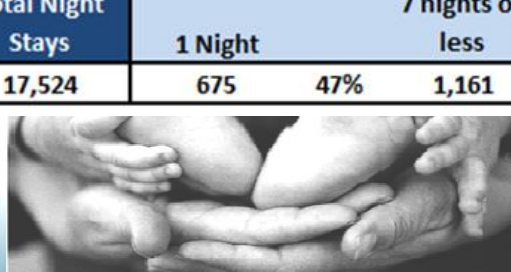
2015 had 1,187 + individuals experiencing homelessness and staying at a Emergency Shelter

Common Reason for individual needing to use the emergency shelter:

- Judicial System (Court, Release from Jail) } 38%-40%
- Medical Services
- Missed Transportation
- Violence
- Kicked Out
- No place to go or home

Summary between 2011 and 2014

No. of Individuals	Avg. Length of Stay	Total Night Stays	No. of Individuals				
			1 Night	7 nights or less	> 50 Nights		
1,428	12.27	17,524	675	47%	1,161	81%	61



Factors Causing Homelessness in the Kenora District

Judicial System Impact:

Year	# of Clients	# of Months of Assistance	Avg. length (months) of active case	Median Length (months) of active case	Notes
2012	98	271	2.77	2.00	Full Year
2013	109	323	2.96	2.00	Full Year
2014	85	266	3.13	3.00	Up to End of October
2015	93	264	2.81	2.23	Up to End of October
Total:	385				

Community	No. of Individuals by Age					Total
	25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56 +	
All Communities	97	122	60	28	8	315



Importance Emergency Shelters





KDSB

KENORA DISTRICT SERVICES BOARD

Caring | People | Community | Support

Importance Emergency Shelters

NON-MARKET

MARKET



Questions?



Appendix E



The City of Kenora thanks you for attending our Public Open House
Zoning By-law Amendment Z01/16 Emergency Shelter

“We welcome your Comments”

Why are we putting more money
and tax-payers dollars into creating
a new rink, or adding a new Rink
when we need a shelter?

Priorities for ~~com~~ vulnerable community
members should be met first!!



The City of Kenora thanks you for attending our Public Open House
Zoning By-law Amendment Z01/16 Emergency Shelter

“We welcome your Comments”

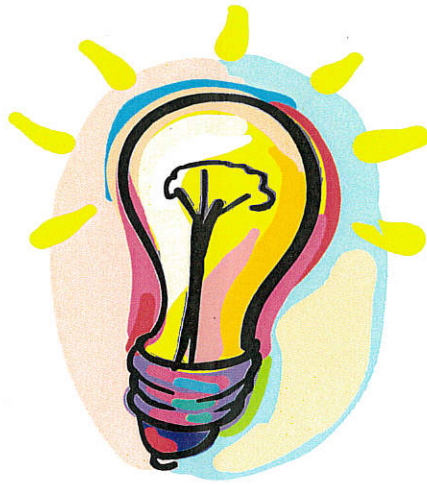
Q & A TIME WAS WAY TOO SHORT



The City of Kenora thanks you for attending our Public Open House
Zoning By-law Amendment Z01/16 Emergency Shelter

“We welcome your Comments”

*If Council can commit to a 30 M ice rink
why can't we solve the problem of the shelter*



The City of Kenora thanks you for attending our Public Open House
Zoning By-law Amendment Z01/16 Emergency Shelter

“We welcome your Comments”

I think that the 1950 comments and thinking needs to stop. So that we can move forward. I understand that taxpayers need to be more open minded. We have abnormal taxpayers here too that helps this community survive all year round. We need to backhedge them too
P.S. ~~Not~~ all needle users are homeless and ^{there is} homeless people in every community we need to think about why they are ~~out~~ on the street and history can ^{show} ~~us~~ why



The City of Kenora thanks you for attending our Public Open House
Zoning By-law Amendment Z01/16 Emergency Shelter

“We welcome your Comments”

Sustainable funding for a
collaborative long-term approach
to housing.

BUT A short term plan needs to
happen now.

- Engage those who access emergency shelter to make sure its what they need (not transitional housing)
↳ another issue.



The City of Kenora thanks you for attending our Public Open House
Zoning By-law Amendment Z01/16 Emergency Shelter

“We welcome your Comments”

Dear Mayor & Council please consider the following:

① What does it mean if the bylaw is not passed?
How does that limit the community to implement
shelter location based on evidence based best
practice?

② If the Bylaw is passed would part of the
location selection include public
consultation?



The City of Kenora thanks you for attending our Public Open House
Zoning By-law Amendment Z01/16 Emergency Shelter

“We welcome your Comments”

I think it would benefit to
have an open community session
where people are able to voice
address concerns.

→



The City of Kenora thanks you for attending our Public Open House
Zoning By-law Amendment Z01/16 Emergency Shelter

“We welcome your Comments”

Does the Task Force have
a specific agenda or direction as to
an Emergency Shelter? or is
it broad and directed more to
the root of
the issue homelessness?



The City of Kenora thanks you for attending our Public Open House
Zoning By-law Amendment Z01/16 Emergency Shelter

“We welcome your Comments”

Can we have an Open House
supported by the town on the
issue of Emergency Shelter - to
collaborate abroad and cause more
awareness of the current issue?
(not that the town has to collect on or
dictate the Emergency Shelter - as we do
know that they cannot "run" it).

Tara Rickaby

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, April 16, 2016 5:10 PM
To: Tara Rickaby
Subject: Homeless

Hi Tara

The homeless problem should be funded by the Ontario government, the federal government and communities the individuals come from. Why should KDSB be accountable for criminals and drug addicts. The shelter should not be downtown because the presence of the homeless is bad for business.

As for Richard Green's comments, as far as I know and I worked on some northern reserves, there were water treatment plants built, band members trained to operate them. Why are they boiling water?

For example and Again Attiwapiscat is in the news because of attempted suicides. Over the last 10 years they have received almost \$1 billion from DeBeers and both governments but 82% is not accounted for. Sadly a story from many reserves with a housing problem.

il 16, 2016

Ms. Tara Rickaby
Planning Administrator
City of Kenora
One Main Street South
Kenora, ON P9N 3X2

Dear Ms. Rickaby:

Re: Zoning By-law Amendment Z01-16 Emergency Shelter

I am writing to support the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment Z01-16 to allow for an emergency shelter to be located on commercial or institutional properties in the GC-General Commercial and I-Institutional zones, as well as the Harbourtown Centre.

I would like to be informed of any decisions made regarding the proposed amendment. Thank you.

Yours truly,

Melissa Shaw

From: Adam Smith
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2016 10:12 AM
To: Melissa Shaw
Subject: FW: Comments

From: Karen Brown
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2016 8:07 AM
To: Tara Rickaby; Melissa Shaw; Adam Smith
Subject: Comments

All,

At the public meeting last Thursday, I had promised I would forward her verbal comments to me (made before the meeting) with regards to the Emergency Shelter to the group.

She had indicated to me that she felt Kenora had lots of land and that we need to get on building stuff. Specific to the Emergency Shelter, I recall that she felt that it should be constructed by the Round Lake housing development, and that the City should provide 24/7 bus service to ensure individuals are able to readily access this service.

The rest of our conversation was not related to the emergency shelter matter, so I have not included it here.

You are welcome to share these comments with the appropriate group, and have them form part of the record with regards to the process the City is moving through.

Please let me know if questions. Thanks to all,

Karen

Kenora is a City of choice, renowned as a sustainable, lifestyle community supported by a Municipality committed to excellence.
Our Mission is to deliver quality, cost-effective Municipal services.

Melissa Shaw

From: Adam Smith
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2016 10:11 AM
To: Melissa Shaw
Subject: FW: Emergency Shelter Focus Group Results RESPONSE

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2016 1:21 PM
To: Adam Smith
Subject: FW: Emergency Shelter Focus Group Results RESPONSE

-----Original Message-----

Sent: 19-Apr-16 1:16 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Emergency Shelter Focus Group Results RESPONSE

Hi Adam:

An interesting meeting on Thursday with an excellent turnout.

One of the presenters mentioned that all of the stakeholders, including the government agencies, should be meeting together to get the ball rolling. There has been a committee in place for some time now but they do not seem to be making too much progress. Maybe the city should call such a meeting and get the players together. The only problem with this situation is that there is obviously an overlapping in services, and no doubt some will want to protect their turf.

A meeting of all stakeholders, including representatives from the reserves, government and the public, should weed out the non-active participants so that progress can be made on this issue.

Only a united front with the backing of the public will make governments sit up and take notice.

I understand some interim funding has become available, but it was not clearly explained on Thursday. Why are these two groups wanting to merge, other than for economic reasons? Where they are presently located seems to have been satisfactory for a long period of time.

The decision of the Planning Committee will be a difficult one and as I have already stated, careful consideration must be given to the wording of any change to the zoning by-law.

The only location for this facility is downtown where the services and easy access are located.

As you heard Commander Lucas say, the OPP spend most of their time and resources downtown. If the location is changed to any residential area, major problems would occur for residents, thereby adding to the police services budget, which is already too high.

I hear the Bergman Building is being considered. This location is too close to the theatre and any teens or youngsters who may frequent the movies.

If there is no rush to make a decision on this situation, then maybe it should be set aside until such time as permanent funding is in place for an ongoing operation of a facility of this nature.

Kenora is a City of choice, renowned as a sustainable, lifestyle community supported by a Municipality committed to excellence.

Our Mission is to deliver quality, cost-effective Municipal services.

Zoning Amendment to Allow Emergency Shelters

Having attended the Public Meeting of April 14th, 2016 on behalf of Making Kenora Home, I commend council and the planning department for their effort to work with the community on an important resource issue. I personally found the meeting very informative and thought provoking, which is to say, it got me thinking about possible solutions to problems.

Opposition to this zoning amendment was minimal until the rumour began to circulate that the Bergman Building was the site being considered. What I took from the meeting was that the people opposed to stopping this amendment aren't opposed to an emergency shelter. They are concerned about where it is located. If the amendment is passed they fear, realistically or not, that there is little to stop anyone from putting an emergency shelter next to any business they like and that concerns people with considerable investments of time and money at stake. They feel that stopping the amendment is the only way they can have any influence over where an emergency shelter will, or perhaps more important to them, will not be located. It seems that there is little understanding of the overall planning process. A common objection to changing the zoning seems to be site specific locations within the Harbourn Centre. Although Site Plan Control By-law No. 189-2010 does offer protection through the municipal approval process, some citizens do not appear to know about the need for site approval within Kenora.

I suggest that the site selection needs to become a more transparent process than it has been to date. A public forum could inform the populace about Kenora's site approval process while broadening citizen consultation on an important community resource.

From Making Kenora Home's perspective, a suitable site must be:

1. Within the available capital and operating budgets.
2. Structurally viable (sufficient space, structurally sound, capable of affordable renovation if required).
3. Close to client supports.
4. Accessible to the people who will need it.
5. Acceptable to the community.

Henry Wall made it clear that there is no funding available for a new facility build. It is obvious that Mr. Wall has diligently looked at current government funding lines and KDSB budget allocations. Perhaps we can look beyond traditional mandates to leverage financial support. There are many in our community who will benefit from a more effective emergency shelter operation and collaboration is required to ensure that we develop the right plan within the required time frame. The following are some questions that could contribute to this crucial collaboration:

- a) If the Bergman Building is being looked at, is it the best site available or is it simply the best site available with the funds presently on hand and could there be a better location if funds weren't a limiting factor?
- b) Are there any existing agencies that are looking for expanded facilities that the KDSB could partner with to access further funding in a joint venture?
- c) Would the City be willing to provide top up capital funding if the KDSB (and a partner agency if one can be found) needed it to either renovate an existing building or build new?
- d) What about the business community? Many have been very generous in the past. Would they contribute capital funding if the site selected addressed their concerns? Likewise the Community Foundation.
- e) Once a shelter was established, what would the operating costs be and could they likewise be shared between the partners to ensure sustainability?
- f) With regard to the immediate crisis, can funds be raised as in the past and the Fellowship Centre staff persuaded to operate for another winter? That would buy time to identify one or more sites that meet the suitability criteria, explore additional funding possibilities, amend the bylaw and develop the best site.

It has been said, "There, but for the grace of God, go I." The community has a responsibility to care for those within its boundaries who for one reason or another aren't able to care for themselves on a permanent or temporary basis. For a caring and compassionate community, it is simply the right thing to do.

Respectfully submitted,

[REDACTED]

The most salient
point made tonight
was Dan Jorgensen's
statement about the
bylaw amendment!

Specifically regarding
the 'hospital' property.

Amend the bylaw
to give everyone more
options.

Melissa Shaw

Subject: FW: emergency shelter zoning amendment

From: ;
Sent: Wednesday, April 27, 2016 4:24 PM
To: Tara Rickaby <trickaby@kenora.ca>
Subject: emergency shelter zoning amendment

Re: the forthcoming closure of the "overnight shelter " currently operating at the Fellowship Center on Water st. and proposed emergency shelter zoning amendment.

In conversations with the -Director of Nechee Friendship Center,Patti Fairfield
Director(kenora) 7 Gens, Wayne Zimmer
President Kenora Legion, Jerry Lava
Director community planning and real estate- Kelowna, BC. , Doug Gilchrist
Street involved persons in Kenora and other interested parties :

We, at Kar Harbourfront Services ,submit the following for City of Kenora planners,administrators,mayor and council to consider :

- That the City of Kenora needs to facilitate a forum, to establish a long view plan to address the homeless and street involved persons issue in Kenora ,by bringing as many social service providers and agencies,including landlords, as possible together.

- That cooperative involvement of several agencies is required for the eventual plan, whatever form it may take, to be cost effective and have positive outcomes.

- To promote establishing a community hub "Sobriety Center" in the present Kenora Legion location, operated by two lead agencies - Nechee FC managing the emergency shelter and street patrol programs as well as other programs as may be practical.

- 7 Gens operating a managed alcohol program

These two groups together in this location, near Morningstar and NW Health , in an accessible building with existing food service facilities on two levels, may be an affordable option that may gain public support for the proposed zoning amendment.

Kenora is a City of choice, renowned as a sustainable, lifestyle community supported by a Municipality committed to excellence.

Our Mission is to deliver quality, cost-effective Municipal services.

To the City of Kenora Mayor and Council April 29th 2016

This letter is about the proposed Zoning change at 326-Second Street South Kenora

Having this facility in this location couldn't be in a worse situation for down town Kenora merchants ,the citizens of Kenora , the provincial police and our build up of tourists in the summer.

Having 25 to 30 street people move to second street and close to the area where the Detox Centre run by our Kenora Hospital has 45-50 street people every day coming out to the downtown streets we will now have a different looking down town. Most of the 75 street people drinking and or using drugs will be using private property to try to be hidden from the police and property owners.This story doesn't include many people walking to town and trying to get back home at night when on drugs or alcohol and most don't make it back so they are in town for a night and cause problems for the police just like some of the street people.

I went to the forum at the recreation center as a lot of other people did as well. David Lucas gave us the best presentation in talking about policing the city. His overview of the city is that it in a mess. Hard to police the drug and alcohol trade and he considered Kenora to be the worst community in Northwestern Ontario to police .I had an opportunity to talk to Jerry Lucas who you all know and he said the town was not only bad but the police who look after the town are getting burned out. Drugs , alcohol and violence are all around us and we cannot have a blind eye and say the police will look after the problem. Moving the Fellowship Center people into the core of the city will compound the problems we already have and policing will be tougher to do.

The feeling I have and a lot of the buisnesses stakeholders in downtown Kenora feel like we are going backwards. This Kenora Area Board ; to my knowledge hasn't contacted any stakeholders and are hoping to ram the zoning change through by having new tenants move into the offices so it would be dual use. After hearing a board member after the presentation say the town council has to change the zoning now and can't say no to the change. You can say no to this change and every one involved from the police to our business taxpayers would be relieved.

The Area Board has a lot of money ; enough to fund the present fellow ship center for at least eighteen months so the town can consult with the stakeholders ,see and hear from communities that are going through the same situation , and look at when and where a facility could be built to satisfy the board who want to service the homeless. The tenants in these shelters go out every morning and try to do the things they did yesterday and as David Lucas said theft of goods from stores,cars and homes has never been worse in recent memory.The money they get from theft feeds the habit One of the things that Mayor and Council agree to when in office is to protect the community and the taxpayers who pay to have a great city that they can brag about and put money up to build business that works. Having the present population of street people added to second street where there isn't anywhere to hide and

will add more to policing and present a community to all that live here and come here that we don't care about what we look like. It doesn't have to be that way !

Our retail stores have a lot of competition not only in Kenora but leakage to Winnipeg and a new shopping center being built within walking distance for customers looking to buy their goods. The push to put a emergency shelter on second street shows that the board that wants this to happen could care less about the store owners and their staff . The mess that will be made from syringes .wine bottles , clothing and human waste , cigarette butts and people passed out on the streets and private property will be our demise. There are more people coming from aboriginal reserves in the future and they will want to be in our northwestern communities . Kenora needs a well thought out plan that can work for our Kenora citizens and businesses alike. We are counting on you to part of the leadership in making a plan with other stakeholders to continue to be the city that all of us want to live in and includes all the tourists that we want to attract so our downtown can feel safe and a great place to spend some money on a meal, a hotel room or a ride on the M.S Kenora or the Museum and our murals are some of the attractions. A lot of people have spent their lives working and contributing to our community and this rezoning move is the last thing they want to see in the core of our city. Please give yourselves time to think this through and end up with a plan Kenora can live with . Saying no to the zoning change and not be pushed into something we all will regret.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Pearce".

David Pearce WITHOUT PREJUDICE
Hagesy Investments Inc.