



SENIORS FOR SOCIAL ACTION (ONTARIO)

INFORMATION BULLETIN

INNOVATIVE SUPPORTIVE HOUSING IN THUNDER BAY!

September 2, 2026

If Ontario is ever to get out from under the dominance of long-term care institutions, municipalities will need to step up and embrace more innovative, cost-effective, and elder-friendly housing initiatives with support services built in.

While other municipalities in southern Ontario think they are being innovative employing Butterfly Models in their institutions, the Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board is way ahead of them.

JASPER PLACE – A MODEL OF WHAT MUNICIPALITIES NEED TO BUILD

Jasper Place is a highly accredited seniors' supportive housing building with a twenty-four hour on-site Support Services Program supported by the City of Thunder Bay. <https://www.thunderbay.ca/en/city-services/jasper-place.aspx>

Support workers provide personal care, and a partnership with the North West Local Health Integration Network System provides allied health support such as nursing or physiotherapy and physician referrals.

A nurse practitioner is available on-site attached to the Nurse lead Outreach Team based in the Thunder Bay Regional Health Science Centre.

Tenants can opt to pay support services fees of under \$400 per person a month in addition to rent and receive:

- 24 hour on-site staff to respond to emergency situations and emergency call systems in each apartment
- 15 noon meals per month per tenant served in the dining room
- a system of daily checks if needed
- social and recreational activities
- homemaking services
- personal support
- hygiene support
- medication monitoring
- meal support

- light housekeeping and laundry when available
- assistance with mobility

A lot less expensive than paying \$5000 to \$8000+ monthly in a retirement home!



Way to go Thunder Bay!

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO GET SUPPORTIVE HOUSING WITH SUPPORT SERVICES IN YOUR MUNICIPALITY

Candidates are currently running for re-election or election in your town, city, and region.

Now is the time to show them this Information Bulletin and ask why your area has not created a sufficient amount of supportive housing with support services for seniors built in like this.

Get their commitment to work with Ontario Health and Build Canada Homes to make it happen in your community.

Ontario Health is willing to work with municipalities wishing to build seniors' housing by funding staffing and related operational costs. Get them to the table with elected representatives and housing planners in your area.

Build Canada Homes is offering \$10 billion, including \$4 billion in fixed-rate financing and \$6 billion towards rapidly building deeply affordable housing, supportive housing etc and is earmarking \$2 billion for new housing targeting seniors and students. <https://chra-achru.ca/build-canada-homes/> Time to get housing staff in your areas working with Build Canada Homes to create the capital to build supportive housing in your town, city, or region.

TIME FOR ACTION!

So what's the hold up? Our municipalities need to step up and build supportive housing, partnering with Ontario Health to attach the necessary support services for older adults and people with disabilities.

Comments on this and other SSAO Information Bulletins is welcome at seniorsactionontario@gmail.com