



## BOARD REPORT #HS-2024-013

FOR INFORMATION                      or                       FOR APPROVAL

**Date:** April 24, 2024

**Purpose:** Homelessness System Review and Feasibility Study – Final Report and Delegation

**Department Head:** Stacey Cyopeck, Director of Housing Services

**Approver:** Melanie Shaye, Chief Administrative Officer

### RECOMMENDATION

THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board accepts Briefing Note HS-2024-013 and the corresponding final report and delegation from Vink Consulting concerning the results of the Homelessness System Review and Feasibility Study.

### RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN

#### Alignment with Strategic Plan 2022-2042: Healthy, Sustainable Communities

**Maximize Impact**                       **Remove Barriers**                       **Seamless Access**                       **Learn & Grow**

**Maximize Impact:** The Homelessness System Review and Feasibility Reports included focus groups and consultation designed to strengthen partnerships, collaboration, and opportunities for internal and external service integration.

**Remove System Barriers:** The reports will identify and offer recommendations to break down existing barriers within the homelessness service system.

**Seamless Access:** Recommendations will speak to the creation of a seamless homelessness service system.

**Continuous Improvement and Adaptation – Learning and Growth:** The reports will offer recommendations on how the District's may advance existing goals toward ending chronic homelessness.

## BACKGROUND

A Request for Proposals was issued in 2023 (HS05-23) for a Homelessness System Review and Feasibility Study. Vink Consulting was the successful proponent. The study began in August of 2023.

The Scope of the study included:

- Review the District's current homelessness service system including accessibility, cultural equity, gaps, barriers, and opportunities.
- Review and provide a detailed comparative analysis of best-practice homelessness service models existing in other communities.
- Provide an analysis of each model's alignment with Nipissing's goal of ending homelessness, and specifically, chronic homelessness.
- Use the review and comparative analysis to provide a Business Model for creating a 24/7, District-wide, continuum of homelessness services, including the feasibility of a "Homeless Hub":
- An analysis of the recommended model's alignment with Nipissing's goal of ending chronic homelessness.
- Detailed analysis of pathways to services, including emergency shelters, warming sites, food security and outreach services district wide.
- Full details of costs and resources needed for planning, implementation, and annualized operations.
- Recommendations on how to sustainably fund the ongoing operations.

A preliminary findings report was received, and these findings were presented to the Board in Report HS-2023-028.

## FINANCIAL AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The Financial and Risk considerations are outlined fully in the attached final report from Vink Consulting.

## OPTIONS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS

This report recommends the adoption of the final report and recommendations of the Homelessness System Review and Feasibility study.

## NEXT STEPS

Upon approval of the report by the Board, staff will begin planning the next steps to address the recommendations in the report, including bringing forward recommendations in relation to the topic of a "Homelessness Hub".

## **RESOURCES CITED**

Vink Consulting - Homelessness Hub Feasibility Study Report

### **AUTHOR:**

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