

## **WHAT IS THE HOUSING STABILITY FUND?**

The Housing Stability Fund assists:

- NL Housing tenants to maintain housing;
- To support those at risk of homelessness to remain housed;
- To support those who are homeless to obtain housing.

## **EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE ITEMS:**

- Utility Arrears (NL Power and oil heating);
- First month rent / damage deposit;
- Obtain IDs;
- Tenant insurance;
- Damages.

## **BENEFIT AMOUNTS:**

1. The maximum Housing Stability Benefit that may be issued within a 24 month period is up to:
  - \$1000.00 per household

## **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA?**

1. Must be a tenant of one of the following: in rental housing with NL Housing, currently supported by NL Housing emergency shelter or in jeopardy of losing current housing due to financial circumstances;
2. Applicants must demonstrate that they are under threat of utility service disconnection, eviction, or are homeless or living in a temporary shelter.
3. Applicants accepted as tenants of NL Housing and are unable to have NL Power services connected due to past NL Power arrears;
4. Utility bill must be in the leaseholders name;
5. Tenant(s) whose utilities are at a crisis point with high utility arrears that could lead to disconnection;
6. Tenant(s) who have exhausted their fuel supply and do not have the means to replenish it;
7. Tenant(s) who has exhausted all other options such as negotiating a repayment agreement with NL Power, assistance from Income Support, or assistance from other community organizations;
8. Applicants in receipt of ISL Income Support must explore the possibility of a re-direct payment from CSSD to NL Power to address current and/or past arrears. (NL Housing may provide support to Income support recipients in exceptional circumstances);
9. All required verification must be provided by clients in order to assess eligibility for the fund;
10. Reimbursements will not be issued for items paid for prior to the request;
11. Tenants must not have accessed the maximum amount of funding available in the current calendar year.

Available cash-on-hand and upcoming expenses will be considered when calculating eligible benefit amount.

Completed applications and documentation can be forwarded to:

**Mike Jacobs**, Eviction Prevention Coordinator, [rmjacobs@nlhc.nl.ca](mailto:rmjacobs@nlhc.nl.ca)

**Hayley Hillier**, Supportive Living Coordinator, [hmillier@nlhc.nl.ca](mailto:hmillier@nlhc.nl.ca)

Or faxed to either Hayley or Mike's attention to 709-724-3029



SOURCE OF INCOME:	TOTAL MONTHLY INCOME	\$
<b>DECLARATION AND CONSENT</b>		
<p>1. I/We declare the above information provided in this application to be complete and true.</p> <p>2. I/We understand that the information provided in this application is being collected for the purpose of administering NLHC programs. This information will only be disclosed to NLHC personnel who need the information to carry out the responsibilities of their job, and to other organizations who may need to be contacted in order to process the application. Statistics on NLHC programs will be reported at the provincial/regional level and will not personally identify individuals. Section 61(c) of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015 (ATIPPA, 2015) authorizes NLHC to collect personal information that "... relates directly to and is necessary for an operating program or activity of the public body." Questions about NLHC's collection of personal information may be directed to NLHC's ATIPPA Coordinator by telephone (709) 724-3004 or by mail P.O. Box 220, 2 Canada Drive, St. John's NL A1C 5J2.</p> <p>3. I/We hereby grant NLHC, or its agents, permission to carry out necessary inquiries for the purpose of determining my/eligibility for this program.</p> <p>4. I/We agree to comply with all requirements of any governing legislations applicable to the program.</p> <p>5. I/We authorize NLHC to investigate any or all of the statements made herein, being fully aware that discovery of any false statements will cancel this application. I/We further agree that such action by NLHC will be without penalty or liability for damages.</p> <p>6. I/We understand that this application does not constitute an agreement by NLHC or its representatives to grant assistance.</p> <p>7. I/We further acknowledge the right of NLHC or its agent(s), at any time prior to the execution and delivery to me/us for housing programs hereby applied for, to withdraw, revoke, or cancel, without penalty or liability for damages or otherwise, any acceptance or approval of this application made or given.</p> <p>Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____</p> <p>Co-Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____</p>		
<b>DOCUMENTATION CHECKLIST</b>		
<b>Copies of relevant notices</b> – NL Power disconnection, NL Power final notice, Eviction Notice, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Rental agreement/lease</b> – if requesting assistance with rent, rental arrears, damage deposits	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Indication of sustainability plan</b> – if financial support is provided, how will the client sustain their housing moving forward? For example, NL Power redirect, NL Power equal payment plan, approved for a Canada Housing Benefit (CBH), moving to more affordable accommodations, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	

All completed applications will be accepted, reviewed and approved on a first come basis until funds are exhausted. Newfoundland and Labrador Housing is committed to administering this fund in a timely, transparent and consistent manner that is responsive to client circumstances.

General Principles:

- To meet the utility needs of NL Housing tenants (applicants) so that they are able to obtain or retain housing.
- To ensure the policy and procedures for issuing the benefit to clients are transparent, consistent, streamlined and simple.
- To refer tenants to both internal and external social supports that will assist them in stabilizing their housing.
- The fund provides a valuable financial support for those who need to establish or retain their housing but it is acknowledged that it may not address all of the complex needs of tenants. Tenants are encouraged to speak to their housing officer or social worker about other housing related issues they may need support with.

The applicant must provide a reasonable plan for becoming sustainable moving forward. The Housing Stability Fund is intended to be a one-time support of last resort. You are strongly encouraged to explore other funding sources and/or approach other agencies for assistance before applying to the Housing Stability Fund.

<b>Total Requested:</b> <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	<b>Total Approved:</b> <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
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