



Notice

No: 08-04

APPLICABLE TO:

DATE: April 7, 2008

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Municipal & Private Non Profit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Co-operatives
<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal Non Profits
<input type="checkbox"/>	OCHAP/CSHP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rent Supplement

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mandatory
<input type="checkbox"/>	For Information

SUBJECT: Amendment to SHRA Regulations 298/01 & 339/01 – Areas of Flexibility

Background

New regulations amending Ontario Regulations 298/01 and 339/01 under the *Social Housing Reform Act 2000* took effect on August 1, 2007. The regulation changes provide for more local discretion, greater clarity, consistency and ease in administrative requirements. The majority of changes affect the rules for the centralized waiting list as well as the rules regarding the Special Priority Policy for victims of family violence, and as such, have greater impact on NRH than on housing providers.

NRH decided to implement the changes in two phases. The first phase was regulation changes that did not allow for local discretion or rules. On October 8, 2007, NRH issued *NRH Notice 07-16* detailing these regulation changes. Housing providers were advised to revise their internal policies and procedures accordingly.

The second phase was regulation changes that allowed for local discretion. NRH used a stakeholder consultative approach to develop rules for the local areas of flexibility noted in the regulation amendments. NRH consulted with the Provider Advisory Group, Tenant Advisory Group and all affected NRH staff. All groups generally agreed on the recommendations in each area of flexibility. The local rules are listed on Appendix "A" attached.

Implementation

The local rules for the areas of flexibility noted in the regulation amendments are effective April 1, 2008.

Service Manager's Role

NRH will review housing provider compliance during the operational review process.

Housing Provider's Role

Housing providers are required to make the necessary changes to their internal policies, procedures, forms and correspondence to ensure compliance with the local rules.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact your Housing Administrator at (905) 682-9201.

Lora Beckwith, General Manager

Attachment: Appendix "A"