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<input type="checkbox"/>	Rent Supplement

DATE: May 25, 2006

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

SUBJECT: Clarification on Minimum Rent/Housing Charge

BACKGROUND:

O. Reg. 298/01 s.47(2)(a) states that the minimum amount of rent/housing charge for a rent-geared-to-income (RGI) household is \$85.00. The *Guide to Rent-Geared-to-Income Assistance (Oct 2003)* incorrectly states that utility charges are added to the minimum rent/housing charge for the unit (i.e. \$85.00 plus utilities for the unit).

REPORT:

Minimum rent/housing charge is determined after all RGI calculations for the household are completed, ***including*** any utility adjustments.

Minimum rent/housing charge applies to the entire household – not to individual family units or benefit units within the household. In determining the RGI amount for a household, the housing provider must:

- Determine the charge attributable to each family unit or benefit unit within the household;
- Total the charges attributable to all family units or benefit units within the household; and,
- Apply any utility adjustments to the household.

If the total RGI payable by the household is less than \$85.00 (including the utility adjustment), the RGI will be increased to the minimum rent/housing charge of \$85.00.

The following examples illustrate the calculation:

- a. 30% of income +/- utility adjustment = \$75.00 Rent/housing charge is \$85.00 with no further adjustments
- b. 30% of income +/- utility adjustment = \$121.00 Rent/housing charge is \$121.00

Implementation

This policy is effective June 1st, 2006.

Service Manager's Role

NRH will review compliance with this legislative requirement during the operational review process.

Housing Provider's Role

Housing providers are to review all minimum rent/housing charge using the corrected information.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice, please contact your Housing Administrator.

(Original signed by Lora Beckwith)

Lora Beckwith, General Manager