



# Notice

**No: 15-11**

**APPLICABLE TO:**

**DATE:** November 11, 2015

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

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

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**SUBJECT:** Ontario Electricity Support Program, Ontario Energy Board

## BACKGROUND

On March 26, 2015, the Ministry of Energy announced a proposed support program for low-income electricity consumers in Ontario. The Ontario Energy Board is in the process of implementing this program which is called the *Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP)*. The support program will provide ongoing rate assistance for low-income electricity customers in Ontario. Once qualified, consumers can stay on the program for two years before having to reapply. Those who qualify will see an OESP credit applied directly on their electricity bills.

## IMPLEMENTATION

Applications are now being accepted for the OESP program which will come into effect on January 1, 2016 and make electricity more affordable for low-income families. Eligible consumers will receive an on-bill credit of \$30 to \$50 per month, which will appear directly on their bill about six to eight weeks from the date of approval of their application. The credit amount will depend on the number of people living in the household and their combined household income.

Consumers are encouraged to apply online but those unable to apply online can contact a designated agency to assist with their application. To apply or for more information on how to apply and for a complete list of designated agencies, please visit [OntarioElectricitySupport.ca](http://OntarioElectricitySupport.ca) or call the OESP Call Centre at 1-855-831-8151 (toll-free within Ontario)

### **Service Manager's Role**

To provide this information to housing providers with low-income households who are responsible for paying their own electricity bills and may qualify for the OESP program.

### **Housing Provider's Role**

Staff are required to provide this Notice to their Board of Directors for information purposes; and

The Board of Directors and Staff are to share this information with their tenant/members who are responsible for their own electricity costs.

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



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Ellen Balmain, Chief Executive Officer