Housing Division Notice

Date: August 10, 2006  HDN# 2006 - 108

This applicable legislation/policy is to be implemented by the housing provider(s) under the following programs:

Please note, if your program is not checked, this change is not applicable to your project.

- Federal Non-Profit Housing Program
- Private Non-Profit Housing Program
- Co-operative Non-Profit Housing Program
- Municipal Non-Profit Housing Program (Pre-1986)
- Local Housing Corporation

Subject: Federal Universal Child Care Benefit

Background:

The Universal Child Care Benefit (UCCB) is a new federal initiative that provides direct financial assistance to parents on behalf of children under the age of six. The benefit is paid in installments of $100 per month per child ($1,200 per year).

This is to advise that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing recommends that payments the federal UCCB be considered as excluded from income for the purposes of rent-geared-to-income calculations.

The Government of Ontario has announced the payment should not be considered as income for major provincial income-tested programs including rent-geared-to-income assistance.
The UCCB payments will be made on or about the 20th of each month starting July 2006 and will automatically be paid to families in receipt of the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB). Other parents will need to apply.

The payment is authorized under new federal legislation – the Universal Child Care Benefit Act. As a result, it does not fall under any of the current list of exclusions to income.

The ministry intends to pursue an amendment to Ontario Regulation 298/01 to add payments under the Universal Child Care Benefit Act to the list of prescribed exclusions.

Further information on the UCCB can be found at: http://www.universalchildcare.ca.

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