

HOUSING PROVIDER BULLETIN

Ontario Child Benefit (OCB)

The OCB was announced in the 2007 budget. In July 2007, eligible families received a one-time down payment of up to \$250.00 per dependent child under the age of 18. Effective July 1, 2008, eligible families will receive a monthly OCB payment of up to \$50.00 per child. This amount will increase annually through 2011.

The Province has made Regulatory changes to both the Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program Act (ODSP). Both OW and ODSP will be restructured. In July 2008, the portion of the basic needs allowance that families currently receive for their dependent children will no longer be provided through OW or ODSP. It, in addition to the back-to-school and winter clothing allowances and the Ontario Child Care Supplement (OCCS) will be consolidated within the OCB.

The OCB is administered by the Canada Revenue Agency and will be delivered along with the Canada Child Tax Benefit payment. The OCB is a non-taxable benefit and will not affect RGI rent calculation. Families on OW and ODSP will continue to receive shelter allowances, health and dental benefits and child care supports for their children.

Although families on OW or ODSP should not receive less income with the introduction of the OCB, they will receive the income differently and it may take some time for them to adjust to the new system.

Further information will be provided as it becomes available.

Please contact your Program Co-ordinator if you have questions.