

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **NEWEST PHASE OF NORTHERN PINES WELCOMES TENANTS NOVEMBER 15**

**North Bay, ON:** Northern Pines, the innovative transitional housing complex on Chippewa Street, welcomes its first six residents to the recently completed Phase 2. Intended as the final step in the transitional housing process, this phase offers minimal supports as people move toward independent living. This phase offers a total of 20 spaces; the 14 remaining units will be filled over the coming weeks.

Phase 1 of Northern Pines has a total of 16 units and is fully occupied. This phase opened in 2021, offering moderate supports. Phase 3, which offers the highest level of supports and stabilizes individuals that have been experiencing chronic homelessness, and provides health, housing and life skills supports. The 24 units of Phase 3 are expected to be opened in 2024.

People can enter Northern Pines at whichever phase is best suited to their needs. As they move through the different levels of support, vacancies are filled.

"It is very exciting to see such a big project move towards completion, with more and more of the District's most vulnerable people moving out of homelessness into a place that is safe and meets their health and social service needs, where and when they are needed", says Mark King, DNSSAB Chairperson.

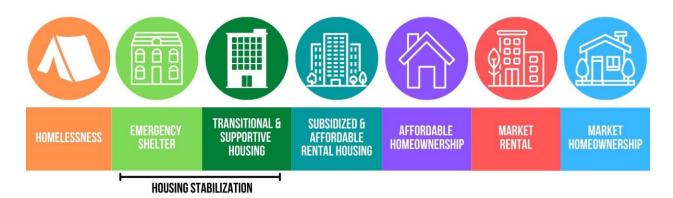
Northern Pines is unique in that it brings together the expertise of the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB), Crisis Centre North Bay (CCNB) and North Bay Regional Health Centre (NBRHC), with wrap-around services on-site to help break the chronic homelessness cycle. Northern Pines is at the provincial leading edge, integrating Health Quality Standards, based on established scientific methods and best available evidence, with supportive housing best practices and offers well-defined pathways to care, including on-site treatment for mental health and addictions.

"We are pleased to be opening these units before the winter sets in. Offering housing with individualized onsite supports allows residents to work towards overcoming trauma and become stable in their housing. We have already seen so many successes in Phase 1, we are excited to see what more opportunities will present themselves for the residents of Northern Pines with this new phase opening", says Sue Rinneard, Executive Director Crisis Centre North Bay, and operator of Northern Pines.

People experiencing chronic homelessness can apply to Northern Pines by calling 705-474-2151 ext. 45589 or by emailing HousingAccess@dnssab.ca.

## **About Northern Pines**

There are three distinct, secure living quarters within Northern Pines, designed to accommodate a total of 60 people according to the level of support and care required. People can progress from high to low supports, and then through the community housing continuum. More information on Northern Pines can be found on the <u>DNSSAB website</u>.



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