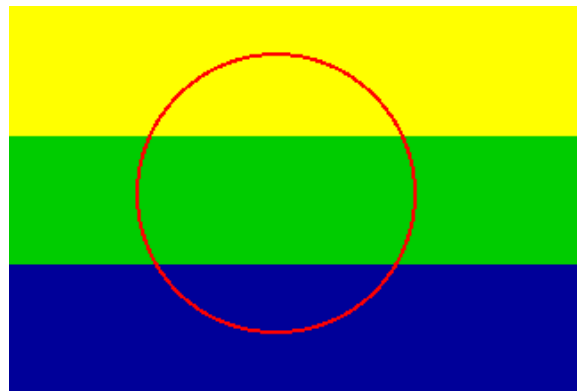


# **Social Assistance Policy**

**PEGUIS FIRST NATION**



**Adopted: August 24, 2009**

# PEGUIS FIRST NATION

## Social Development Policy

### INTRODUCTION

1 This policy serves to define a Peguis Social Development Policy.

### DEFINITIONS

2 The following definitions apply:

- (a) “**Chief and Council**” and “**council**” means the Peguis First Nation leadership consisting of one Chief and Councillors;
- (b) “**Manager**” means the Manager of the Peguis Social Development Program;

### BACKGROUND AND ASSUMPTIONS

- 3 The Peguis First Nation Social Development Department is a stand-alone program.
- 4 The Manager reports to the Chief Operating Officer (COO) for administrative issues.
- 5 Social Development is a program of last resort.
- 6 Social Development is a right, if and only if the applicant meets the eligibility criteria.
- 7 The INAC, Manitoba Region, First Nations Income Assistance Program, Policy and Procedures Guide define Social Assistance eligibility criteria and serve as the minimum standards and level of assistance in all areas.

### OPERATIONS

- 8 Issuing of Social Development will be semi-monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.
- 9 Exceptions to Paragraph 8 shall only be made in the case of extreme emergencies or exceptional circumstances. In such cases, a Purchase Order for the necessary supplies and food may be issued as an Emergency Food Allowance.
- 10 Where the 1<sup>st</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> of the month is a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, Social Development will be distributed on the last working day preceding the weekend and/or holiday.

### MANAGER’S ROLE

- 11 The Manager has full control of the program and must assure all components are administered in compliance with this policy.

- 12 The Manager has the responsibility of assuring all eligibility criteria are met.

**HOUSING AND USER FEES**

- 13 The Peguis Housing Authority is responsible for all aspects of housing including the setting of rental rates and the collection of rent.
- 14 Social Development shall pay rents in accordance with INAC, Manitoba Region, First Nations Income Assistance Program, Policy and Procedures Guide rental rates on behalf of clients directly to the Authority
- 15 User fees for garbage, piped water and sewer and septic tank pump-outs shall be paid directly to the Band.

**PRORATION**

- 16 All shelter related expenses (Hydro, CMHC, User Fees and Wood) shall be pro-rated for the number of individuals on Income Assistance divided by the total number of residents in the household.

**ENHANCEMENTS**

***Rates for Income Assistance***

- 17 Rates for Income Assistance (per month) are as follows. Any difference between the INAC rate and the Peguis rate is an Enhancement.

***Infant Formula***

- 18 The amount provided for infant formula under Social Development criteria shall be sufficient for the purchase of at least one (1) case per month.

***Pensioner Hydro Supplement***

- 19 Social Development shall pay
- (a) the full hydro bill for single pensioners; and
  - (b) the first \$100 during the months October through March for couple pensioners.