



City of Kawartha Lakes
Human Services
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Application for Special Priority Housing City of Kawartha Lakes or the County of Haliburton

In order to apply for Special Priority status on the centralized waiting list, you must complete both parts of the Special Priority Application. These are the:

Declaration of Abuse or Trafficking

Verification Record

This Application must be completed in addition to the:

Application for Community Housing

What is Special Priority Status?

Households that are eligible to apply for community housing are generally placed on the centralized waiting list in the order that they apply. This means that the earliest applicants will normally be offered housing first.

However, you may be moved to a higher place on the centralized waiting list if you are a victim of domestic violence or a victim of human trafficking. While there are circumstances where a household may experience both types of abuse - domestic violence and trafficking, for the purposes of special priority eligibility, a household can only apply for special priority under one stream.

Victims of Domestic Violence:

Special priority status is intended to help you separate permanently from someone who is abusing you. It is given to applicants whose personal or family's safety is at risk, and does not apply to applicants who simply want to separate from someone because the relationship is not working.

Domestic violence is defined as one or more incidents of physical or sexual violence, controlling behaviour, or intentional destruction of or intentional injury to property, or words, actions or gestures that threaten the member or lead the member to fear for his or her safety.

Victims of Human Trafficking:

Special priority status is intended to ensure that housing is not a barrier to the household to leave a situation where they are victims of human trafficking in circumstances where they cannot afford private market accommodation.

Trafficking is defined as: one or more incidents of recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of an individual by improper means, including force, abduction, fraud, coercion, deception and repeated provision of a controlled substance, for an illegal purpose, including sexual exploitation or forced labour.

Who is Eligible for Special Priority Status Victims of Domestic Violence?

In order to qualify for special priority status, you must first be eligible for community housing. If you are eligible for community housing, you may also be given Special Priority status on the waiting list if:

- You are currently living with someone that is abusing you or another person in your household
- You used to live with someone who was abusing you or another person in your household, and stopped living with them three months ago or less. In some circumstances, you may still be considered for Special Priority status if you have been separated for longer than three (3) months.
- You are a sponsored immigrant, and your sponsor is abusing you or another person in your household.

Who is Eligible for Special Priority Status-Victim of Human Trafficking?

In order to qualify for special priority status -victim of human trafficking, you must first be eligible for financially assisted housing. If you are eligible for community housing, you may also be given Special Priority status on the waiting list if:

- You are currently being trafficked or if the trafficking has stopped within three months of the date of your request for special priority. In some circumstances, you may still be considered for Special Priority status if it has been more than three (3) months since you were trafficked

Declaration of abuse or trafficking

to be completed by the applicant requesting special priority status

I'm applying for Special Priority under the following circumstances (only choose one):

- Victim of domestic violence (complete section A and C) Victim of trafficking (complete section B and C)

Section A:

This section to be completed by a victim of domestic violence:

I Declare that I have been abused by:

Name of person (abuser):

Relationship to applicant:

I declare that I intend to permanently live apart from this person and that (choose one (1));;

- I am currently living with this person
- I have not lived with this person since
- I have never lived with this person
- This person is my Canada Immigration sponsor

If you have not lived with this person within the last three months, please indicate why you have not applied for Special Priority Status until now:

Date you stopped living with person?

Proof of residence

- I have attached proof that I live with or have lived with this person (e.g. copy of lease, rent receipts, utility bills)

Section B:

This section is to be completed by a victim of human trafficking:

- I Declare that I am or have been a victim of human trafficking within the last three (3) months.

If you have not been involved in human trafficking within the last three months, please indicate why you have not applied for Special Priority Status until now:

Section C:

This section to be completed by victims of domestic violence and victims of human trafficking:

I REQUEST Special Priority on the centralized waiting list for community housing.

I CONSENT to the destruction of the Verification Record and all supporting documentation if I become ineligible for community housing or become housed.

I CONSENT to the disclosure to the City of Kawartha Lakes of the Verification Record and any other information or documents it may request to verify this Declaration in order to determine my eligibility for Special Priority status.

Personal information contained on this form is collected under the authority of the Housing Services Act, 2011, c. 6 and subject to Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, S.O. 1990, c. M.56. The information will be used to determine current/or inclusion in the Special Priority Household category.

Applicant's Name:

Date of Birth

Applicant's Signature:

Date:

Please provide us with a phone number, alternate phone number and address below that we can **safely** contact you:

Phone Number:

Alternate Phone Number and name (if applicable):

Safe Mailing Address:

If the applicant for Special Priority status is under the age of 16 and you are signing this form on their behalf as their parent, guardian or power of attorney, please provide the following:

Your Name:

Relationship to applicant:

Verification record of abuse or trafficking:

To be completed by a person who knows the applicant for special priority and can confirm their declaration of abuse or trafficking

Name of special priority applicant:

Name of person completing verification record:

Organization:

Telephone Number:

Address:

Declaration:

I Declare that I know the applicant in my professional role as a (please check one):

doctor

lawyer

teacher

registered nurse/practical nurse

law enforcement officer

member of the clergy

guidance counsellor

social housing provider

registered social worker

registered social service worker

registered early childhood educator

member of College of Midwives of Ontario

aboriginal person who provides traditional midwifery services

psychotherapist, registered psychotherapist or registered mental health therapist

Indigenous Elder, Traditional Person or Knowledge Keeper

OR

I Declare that I know the applicant in my professional role as a person employed by an agency or organization that provides social support services.*

OR

I Declare that I am not working in one of the above roles, but that I have direct knowledge that the applicant has been subject to abuse. (You must also supply a supporting letter that has been sworn in front of a commissioner for taking affidavits)

Declaration:

I Declare that I have reviewed the information in Part A of this application, and (please check all that apply):

- My professional assessment is the applicant is a victim of human trafficking
- My professional assessment is that the applicant has experienced one or more incidents of physical or sexual violence by the person named in Part A.
- My professional assessment is that the applicant has experienced one or more incidents of abuse, controlling behaviour by the person named in Part A.
- My professional assessment is that the person in Part A has intentionally destroyed or injured the applicant's property.
- My professional assessment is that the words, actions or gestures of the person in Part A have treated the applicant or made them fear for their safety.

I have attached as verification:

- a letter supporting the above noted statements (mandatory for anyone completing this verification record)
- a declaration of the truth of this record as administered by a commissioner for taking affidavits (required only if you do not work in a professional capacity with the applicant)

I declare that the information that I have provided in this form and any supporting documentation is an accurate account of the applicant's situation.

Signature of person completing the verification record:

Date:

*If this form was completed by a person employed by an agency or organization that provides social support services (see page 5), the following has to be completed:

Name: (please print) - I/We have the authority to bind the Corporation:

Name of Agency:

Signature:

Date: