



# **MEDIA RELEASE**

The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board and Union Gas Celebrate \$1.8 Mil in Future Energy Savings from Affordable Housing Efficiency Upgrades

June 20, 2017 – Representatives from The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) and Union Gas gathered today to celebrate the major cost savings that will be achieved through a series of energy-efficiency upgrades to natural gas equipment at social housing facilities throughout the District. The upgrades, which include the installation of new high-efficiency boilers, water heaters and more, are expected to reduce TBDSSAB's operating costs by almost \$1.8 million over the lifetime of the equipment.

At the event, Union Gas presented TBDSSAB with a cheque for \$566,250 courtesy of its Energy-Efficiency Incentives Program, which offers municipal, commercial and industrial customers incentives to implement projects that will use natural gas more efficiently, reducing energy costs and emissions.

"I would like to acknowledge and thank Union Gas for the opportunity for TBDSSAB to participate in the Energy-Efficiency Incentives Program," said TBDSSAB Chair Bob Katajamaki. "TBDSSAB continues to meet its strategic direction and practical vision of providing green, environmentally friendly housing. Our ongoing commitment to seek out efficiencies in energy consumption, while maintaining the quality of life of tenants, has resulted in the responsible provision of quality housing."

To counter the continual increase in utility costs, TBDSSAB has implemented significant energy related capital projects in an effort to reduce energy consumption. Replacing high energy consumption products (lighting, mechanical systems, appliances) with more energy efficient products is an effective way to reduce consumption. Where possible, these projects were supported by energy savings incentive programs like the one from Union Gas.

"Bottom line, the high-efficiency natural gas equipment upgrades are significant, and allow TBDSSAB and other municipal partners to lower their energy use and manage costs efficiently," said Nick Klip, Union Gas Northwest District Manager.

"Union Gas believes that efforts like this will shape the energy future in Ontario. Our purpose is to ensure the energy we deliver enhances the quality of life of our customers," added Klip.

# **About The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Board**

The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) delivers Child Care, Housing and Ontario Works services to people living in the District of Thunder Bay. TBDSSAB was established on April 1, 1999, through the enactment of the District Social Services Administration Board Act. We are one of 47 service managers in Ontario that is mandated by the Province of Ontario to deliver social services. Our District includes 15 member municipalities who are represented on our Board of Directors by 14 Municipally appointed representatives.

# **About Union Gas**

Union Gas Limited, an Enbridge company, is a major Canadian natural gas storage, transmission and distribution company based in Ontario with 100 years of experience and service to customers, assets of over \$8.2 billion and approximately 2300 employees. The distribution business serves about 1.4 million residential, commercial and industrial customers in more than 400 communities across Ontario. Union Gas is one of Canada's Top 100 Employers for 2017. For more information, visit uniongas.com or find us on Twitter: <a href="twitter.com/uniongas">twitter.com/uniongas</a>, Facebook: facebook.com/uniongas and YouTube: youtube.com/user/uniongas.

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