



Memorandum

Date: June 3, 2005

To: Community Social Services
Supervisors - EIA.
EIA Rural Program Managers

From: Pam Goulet, Executive Director,
Adult and Children's Programs, and

John Petersen, Executive Director,
Employment and Income Assistance
Programs

Telephone:

Subject: **Manitoba Health – Possible Fee Waiver of Residential/Authorized Charges**

According to directive 2000-35, Manitoba Health has a policy, which allows for a full or partial waiver of the daily minimum rate charged to long-term care participants. It has come to our attention that staff may not be considering this Manitoba Health policy when assessing eligibility for income assistance, where a family is applying to income assistance to help defray the cost of these residential charges. These charges would apply to situations where one member of the family is: residing in a personal care home; has been paneled in hospital awaiting placement to a personal care home; is a chronic care patient in a hospital or as a long-term care patient in a psychiatric facility.

According to Manitoba Health's policy a full or partial waiver may be requested if:

- The participant has a spouse/common-law partner residing in the community **and**;
- The participant or their spouse/common-law partner are not eligible for Old Age Security, Guaranteed Income Supplement and;
- The combined income of the participant and their spouse/common-law partner is less than *\$24,063 or;
- The combined income of the participant and their spouse/common-law partner is less than *\$24,063 plus an amount of *\$7,200 for each dependant child (i.e. a combined income less than \$31, 263 if there is one dependant child).

*These income rates are for the period of August 1, 2004 to July 31, 2005, and Manitoba Health reviews rates annually.

If a participant's circumstances change and they are found ineligible for income assistance, they may apply to Manitoba Health to request a fee waiver. All submissions for a fee waiver review must be submitted to Manitoba Health within 30 days of a rate change, (which occurs on August 1st of each year). If the request for review cannot be made within 30 days of the rate change, an explanation for the late request must be included with the submission.

The EIA Administrative Manual has been amended to reference Manitoba Health's policy. A copy of Section 20.1.4 Per Diem Charges in Personal Care Homes, Chronic Care Facilities and Mental Health Centres is attached for your reference.