

# Professional Declaration Form Special Priority Due to Abuse or Trafficking

## Who can provide verification of abuse or trafficking:

Professionals who are eligible to provide verification of abuse or trafficking include:

Doctor/Nurse Practitioner	Victim Services staff
Nurse	Housing Provider
Community Health Care Worker	Teacher
Lawyer	Mental Health Therapist
Member of Clergy	Law Enforcement
Social Worker	Indigenous Elder
Community Legal staff	Registered Early Childhood Educator
Midwife	Settlement Services Worker
Shelter staff	Guidance Counsellor

## Information for Professionals Verifying Abuse or Trafficking

Special Priority Placement (SPP) status places applicants on the Rent-Geared-to-Income waiting list ahead of other applicants without SPP status. They may be housed faster than other people. It is reserved for housing applicants whose personal safety, or safety of family members is at risk because of abuse from an individual they live with or who are or have been victims of trafficking; it is not meant for applicants who want to separate from a relationship for another reason. Housing Access Peterborough relies on documentation from verifying professionals to ensure that Special Priority Placement (SPP) is only given to those who qualify.

### For the purpose of Special Priority, abuse means:

- One or more incidents of physical or sexual violence, controlling behaviour, intentional destruction or intentional injury to property, words/actions/gestures that threaten an individual or lead an individual to fear for his or her safety.

### For the purpose of Special Priority, the abuser must be:

- The abused person's partner, spouse, parent, child or other relative.
- The abused person's immigration sponsor.
- A person on whom the abused person is emotionally, physically or financially dependant.

### To qualify the applicant must:

- Be eligible for Rent-Geared-to-Income housing assistance.
- Intend to live permanently apart from the abuser.
- Provide documentation confirming that they or someone in their household has been abused by someone they live with.
- Provide a record or referral prepared by a professional which describes the circumstances that indicate the member is being abused.

**For the purpose of Special Priority, trafficking means:**

- One or more incidents of recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of the member 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.

**To qualify the applicant must:**

- Be eligible for Rent-Geared-to-Income housing assistance.
- Provide a record or referral prepared by a professional which describes the circumstances that indicate the member is being trafficked.

**Applicant Information – to be completed by the Applicant**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have applied for Special Priority Placement (SPP) status on Housing Access Peterborough’s Rent-Geared-to-Income (RGI) waiting list.

I hereby authorize and consent to the completion of this form and to the disclosure of any supporting information to Housing Access Peterborough, to be used for the purpose of verifying and determining eligibility for Special Priority Placement (SPP) status.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Information and Declaration – completed by professional**

Professional’s Name:																
Position/Title																
Organization																
Mailing Address:	(street/unit number, street name)															
City:											Postal code:					
Phone number:				-												
Email Address:																

**Professional’s Release**

I hereby certify that this information represents my best professional judgment and is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I have attached a letter that verifies that the applicant is eligible for Special Priority Placement (SPP) status based on the description provided on this form.

Professional’s Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Professional’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The personal health information disclosed in this form will be used only for the purpose of evaluating the household's eligibility for Special Priority Placement (SPP) status. The use and disclosure by Housing Access Peterborough of the personal health information in this form will be subject to the **Housing Service Act, 2011**, the **Personal Health Information Protection Act** as applicable, and the **Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act**.

**Please return form in one of the following ways:**

**Email:** [hapinfo@peterborough.ca](mailto:hapinfo@peterborough.ca).

**Fax:** 705-742-0542

**Mail:** 178 Charlotte Street (in the Charlotte Mews) PO Box 4138 Peterborough, ON K9J 8S1