



**Social Services | Services Sociaux**  
**Zhawenimi-Anokiitaagewin**  
Sault Ste. Marie District

**Here to help.**  
**Ici Pour Aider.**

January 9th 2026

**Re: Support for Community Builders & EDF Funding**

To Mayor and Council:

As a Not-for-Profit Construction-based Social Enterprise in Simcoe County and Greater Sudbury, with new locations in Muskoka and Sault Ste. Marie, Community Builders provides an opportunity to create critical employment training and support our local trades workforce. We are pleased to write a letter of support recognizing that construction training and wrap-around supports for people who face barriers to employment is a crucial step along the path towards a meaningful career in the trades. Community Builders work helps tackle two of Canada's biggest issues: the Affordable Housing Crisis and the Skilled Labour Shortage, while also bringing people currently underrepresented in the construction industry into this workforce.

The DSSAB is proud to support Community Builders in their expansion to deliver their programming in our community. We are happy to support Community Builders' application to the Economic Development Fund as their work is fully aligned with the goals of the program.

This funding will allow Community Builders to continue to deliver on the impacts their work is having in Ontario:

- Approaching 200 positions available annually for paid Trades & Diversity Programming across their locations
- Building or maintaining hundreds of affordable housing units annually
- More than 1000 people apply for the program - a great demand exists!
- ~90% of CB graduates move into meaningful employment in the trades sector after graduation

We would strongly recommend Community Builders' application funding and look forward to working with them in our community.

Sincerely,

Mike Nadeau,  
CEO, DSSMSSAB