

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wow! 55-plus never looked so good

To the editor,

Thanks to two wonderful friends who had recently moved into the Grandview Villa in Kenora, I was given the opportunity to talk to the president of the Board of Directors, Terry White about the impressive facility.

This facility is the new age, it is a "Non-Profit Life Lease" retirement project that provides a sense of community and fellowship with your neighbours.

I was advised that due to this venture being Not For Profit the financial benefits for the tenants were: lower capital costs, lower operating costs, lower bulk financing and because of the bulk amenities the costs were lowered and in some cases the amenities were increased for the same monetary value.

The tour started at the front door where on the wall was a panel with only last names. This security measure is so that people

don't know whether the resident is male female, single or married.

Once though the doors we entered the lobby, using a security door to the heated garage as well as the elevator and mailboxes for the complex.

The following floors housed suites ranging from 840 to 1,370 square feet excluding balconies as well as five appliances, en-suite laundry and individual heat and air conditioning. They are also handicap accessible so that if the case should ever arise there would be no further cost or inconvenience to the tenant if required.

Your monthly rent provides for building security, fire protection, maintenance for the building, grounds upkeep, appliance repairs, building insurance, property taxes, custodian services to all public areas and also all your utilities except cable and telephone. I was also advised

that the rent is in some cases, lower than the expenses we are now paying to remain in our present homes. Therefore, if you are still quite capable of living on your own but are just unable to keep up the demands that your house requires this would give you an alternative. This also leaves the tenants with the peace of mind that, whether they are at home or traveling, everything is being taken care of. Thus allowing you a choice at remaining independent longer before having to reside in a minimal care facility. This I know for a fact, that my grandmother had paid more for her apartment at the minimal care facility than what she would have paid for her own condo, where the square footage between the two, there is no comparison.

This has been such a success to the Kenora area that they only have one condo left to sell in this amazing

33-suite retirement complex.

I feel a building such as this would greatly benefit Dryden. I went to Kenora to get the facts even though I am not yet ready to participate in Pine Ridge. I support the concept and the city's involvement in assisting the project to go forward, as this venture will bring in extra funds for the Dryden area. The city will also receive approximately \$65,000 in taxes per year from the complex, which it is presently not receiving now, as the land is presently vacant. The city will also receive \$300,000 from sale of this land to the complex. I feel a place like Pine Ridge needs all the support it can get, as it will give us options. We are living longer and healthier than our ancestors and I myself would prefer to remain as independent as possible for as long as possible.

Sincerely
Nola Hill