

2014 NOSDA

2014 NOSDA RESOLUTIONS

SAULT STE MARIE, ONTARIO

Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association

2014 Annual General Meeting

Sault Ste Marie, Ontario—April 8, 9 and 10, 2014

Resolution # 2014- 1

Originator: Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board

Report/Background: Surplus Properties

Date: April 9, 2014

Moved By: _____ Seconded By: _____

WHEREAS the disposition of surplus property by School Boards is governed by regulation 444/98 of the Education Act, which provides for a list of bodies to receive notice for proposals that include a Municipality in which the property is located, an upper-tier Municipality and Local Service Boards; and

WHEREAS DSSABs/CMSMs have not been specifically identified in the regulation, resulting in inconsistent interpretation of DSSABs/CMSMs as either a Municipality or Local Service Board; and

WHEREAS CMSM/DSSABs in Northern Ontario are being excluded even though CMSMs in all other areas of the Province are recognized under regulation 444/98; and

WHEREAS DSSABs/CMSMs are Northern Ontario entities, created to encompass Unincorporated Territories as well as Municipalities and as per the DSSAB Act have all the powers, authority and duties of a Municipality for the purpose of Social Services; and

WHEREAS DSSABs/CMSMs, as Municipal Service Managers are responsible for service system planning as the municipal partner with the Ministry of Education for Children's Services; and

WHEREAS DSSABs/CMSMs, as Municipal Service Managers are responsible for service system planning for housing and homelessness and well positioned in our Northern Communities to work with local stakeholders in assisting to redevelop surplus community schools; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ministry of Education be requested to acknowledge and take all steps necessary, including amending existing regulations, to

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guarantee that DSSABs be formally included in the list of bodies receiving notice for surplus property disposals under Regulation 444/98 of the Education Act.

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2014 Annual General Meeting

Sault Ste Marie, Ontario—April 8, 9 and 10, 2014

Resolution # 2014- 2

Originator: Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board

Report/Background: PSSSAB Approved this Child Care Resolution on Feb 13, 2014

Date: April 9, 2014

Moved By:

Seconded By:

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education has proceeded to build on the Early Years Policy Framework by integrating Early Years programs into Best Start Child and Family Centres; and

WHEREAS CMSMs and DSSABs are key municipal partners in child care service system management; and

WHEREAS the current administration and funding systems for Ontario Early Years Centres (OEYC) were established along provincial ridings and not along municipal service management areas;

BE IT RESOLVED that, the Ministry of Education be requested to recognize CMSMs and DSSABs as the lead municipal partner for child care service system management for OEYCs and Best Start Child and Family Centres; and

AND THAT OEYCs be realigned according to CMSMs/DSSABs regions and that the service management for OEYC be transferred to CMSMs and DSSABS, including Data Analysis Coordinators and Early Literacy Specialists.

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2014 Annual General Meeting

Sault Ste Marie, Ontario—April 8, 9 and 10, 2014

Resolution # 2014- 3

Originator: Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board

Report/Background: PSSSAB Approved this Child Care Resolution of Feb 13, 2014

Date: April 9, 2014

Moved By:

Seconded By:

Whereas the recently introduced Child Care Modernization Act provides for extended day care programming for 6-12 year olds in schools that meet minimum enrolment thresholds; and

And whereas access to extended day care programming continues to be a challenge in small rural schools because small schools and their third party operators are permitted to opt out of extended day care;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA requests the Ministry of Education to amend the CCMA agreement to require that smaller schools and their third party operators provide extended day care programming for children ages 4-12 in all schools, regardless of minimum numbers of students so that parents and families have equal access to services in line with the Ministry's vision for a seamless education experience for 4-12 year olds across Ontario.

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Resolution # 2014- 4

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Originator: Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board – February 13, 2014

Report/Background: Second NOSDA Request to Align DSSAB and Municipal Council Terms

Date: April 9, 2014

Moved By:

Seconded By:

WHEREAS there remains a major inconsistency between the Municipal Act and the DSSAB Act and in the definition of the end of a municipal council term; and

WHEREAS the inconsistent definition results in a pronounced gap between the end of a Municipal Council term and the December 31st end of term for DSSAB Board members; and

WHEREAS Municipal and DSSAB terms ought to coincide to ensure a smooth transition in representation and to avoid the dilemma and resulting confusion of having DSSAB Board members whose term continues for two-and-one-half months even though they may no longer be on the municipal Council that appointed them to their Board position; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA requests that MCSS amend the Regulation 278/98 made pursuant to the DSSAB Act to align DSSAB Board terms with Municipal Council terms as set out in the Municipal Act in time for the upcoming 2014 Municipal Election;

And that copies of this resolution be distributed to all DSSABs and the Ministers of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Community and Social Services.

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Originator: Leo DeLoyde, NOSDA CAO Housing Lead

Report/Background: "DIGGING DEEP: HOW MINING CAN SUPPORT NORTHERN ONTARIO HOUSING INITIATIVES" September 2013

Date: April 9, 2014

Moved By:

Seconded By:

Whereas Ontario's rich mineral landscape generates considerable wealth of over \$9 billion per year and employs over 23,000 people;

And whereas mining's socio-economic and environmental costs and benefits are unevenly distributed;

And whereas Northern Ontario municipalities have to pay for supporting road, hard services, social services and affordable and emergency housing services;

And whereas booming mining communities are often subject to sudden population surges that trigger severe shortages in affordable ownership and rental housing;

Therefore be it RESOLVED that the Northern Ontario Service Deliverer's Association accepts the findings and recommendations in the paper prepared by Housing Services Corporation entitled "DIGGING DEEP: HOW MINING CAN SUPPORT NORTHERN ONTARIO HOUSING INITIATIVES" dated September 2013;

And that the NOSDA Executive and CAO Table be tasked to analyze this valuable paper, share it with the Northern Policy Institute and investigate the engagement of other stakeholders into the dialogue on social infrastructure in resource-based communities.

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Originator: Timiskaming District Social Services Administration Board

Report/Background: Non Emergent Patient Transfers

Date: April 9, 2014

Moved By:

Seconded By:

WHEREAS non-urgent patient transportation for many rural Northern Ontario centers has become and continues to be the exclusive responsibility of the local Emergency Medical Services providers with demand reaching a critical level;

WHEREAS Emergency Medical Services providers continue to struggle to meet the emergency medical needs of the citizens of their communities due to aging-in-place populations and increased emergency demands for service;

WHEREAS Emergency Medical Services in Northern Ontario has traditionally provided non-urgent patient transportation which is a service not specifically outlined within the Ambulance Act;

WHEREAS in many rural Northern Ontario communities there is only one ambulance available, if any, at any given time and when that ambulance leaves its community to perform a non-urgent patient transfer, it is often gone for hours at a time leaving the community with no direct emergency coverage;

WHEREAS the distance to referral hospitals and diagnostic imaging equipment can be several hours away making the use of EMS very uneconomically and inefficient for these non-urgent purposes;

WHEREAS EMS cannot guarantee that they will arrive on time to pick up the patient for a scheduled appointment, nor can they guarantee that they can bring the patient or nurse escorts back to the home facility which leaves patients and nurse escorts stranded;

WHEREAS municipalities are paying highly trained professionals to perform a service that does not require their level of skill; and

WHEREAS larger hospitals in many areas of the province are paying out of their more "global" budgets for private Medical Transportation Services to supply this service, but smaller northern hospitals do not have this luxury;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NOSDA requests that the government of Ontario, and more specifically the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, work with NOSDA to

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place a high degree of importance on this topic with the aim of providing a made in the North solution; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA representatives meet with the MOHLTC and North East and North West Local Health Integration Networks, the Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs (OAPC) the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) and other key stakeholders to put in place a 'Made in the North' solution to the Non Urgent Patient Transfer issue; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Health and Long Term Care, North East LHIN, Northwest LHIN, AMO, NOMA, FONOM, OAPC and Northern Ontario EMS providers

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Resolution # 2014- 8

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Originator: NOSDA CAOs

Report/Background: Provincial Announcement of Social services SAMS Software Delays

Date: April 9, 2014

Moved By:

Seconded By:

WHEREAS the Ministry of Community and Social Services has launched a multi-year Social Services Solutions Modernization Project (SSSMP) to enhance the delivery of social assistance through technology and business renewal; and

WHEREAS the stated objectives of the project are to improve customer service through adopting new technology, streamlining business processes, implementing policy and program changes, better manage client data and enhancing audit capacity; and

WHEREAS CMSM/DSSAB's have worked MCSS to ensure the successful implementation of the new Social Assistance Maintenance System; and

WHEREAS the project has faced significant challenges and the tentatively planned go-live date for this new technology has now been re-scheduled again as a result of delays in data conversion; and

WHEREAS the municipal service managers (CMSM's/DSSAB's) have gone to considerable expense and time to train staff, review business processes thus incurring unexpected costs associated with the recurring delays.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA requests the Honourable Ted McMeekin, Minister of Community & Social Services to provide enhanced funding to cover 100% of the cost of the additional staff and related costs associated with recurring delays in SAMS implementation.

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Resolution # 2014- 10

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Originator: Manitoulin Sudbury Social Services Administration Board – February 27, 2014

Report/Background: Need for Federal Funding For Social and Affordable Housing in Canada

Date: April 9, 2014

Moved By:

Seconded By:

WHEREAS there was a significant capital shortfall at the time of social housing devolution in 2001; and

WHEREAS there is an urgent need for the federal government to return to the table as a partner with the Provinces and Territories in funding long-term social and affordable housing for our most vulnerable residents; and

WHEREAS The Northern Ontario Service Deliverer's Association (NOSDA) is very concerned that federal funding for social and affordable housing is declining and that the federal government appears to be exiting its previous long-term commitment to addressing the social housing needs of the country; and

WHEREAS all Canadian governments should collaborate on the creation of a national housing strategy that includes the creation of new social and affordable housing and maintains existing social housing; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northern Ontario Service Deliverer's Association communicates to the Honourable Jason Kenney, Minister of Employment and Social Development stressing the need for a national housing strategy and requesting that the federal government return to the table and collaborate with Provincial/Territorial housing Ministers to develop a long-term plan that addresses the need for social and affordable housing across the country; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution and letter be shared with Honourable Bill Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, all Northern Ontario MPs and MPPs, FCM, FONOM, NOSDA, OMSSA and DSB member municipalities.

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Originator: Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board – March 20, 2014

Report/Background: RGI vs Utilizing Maximum Social Assistance Rates– OW & ODSP

Date: April 9, 2014

Moved By:

Seconded By:

Whereas Service Managers are bound by the Housing Services Act, 2011, O. Reg.298/01, Determination of Geared-to-income Rent under Section 50 of the Act, in the calculation of rent for Social Housing Tenants;

And whereas these tables have not been adjusted since devolution of Social Housing in 2000;

And whereas utilizing these tables prevent the Social Housing Portfolio from realizing potential revenue and reducing any annual shortfall in the Social Housing budget which is 100% municipally funded;

And whereas by not allowing Service Managers to utilize maximum shelter rates for Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program recipients' (ODSP) rent calculation contributes to the loss of potential revenue;

Be it Resolved that the Province of Ontario make amendments to the current tables within the Housing Services Act, 2011, O. Reg.298/01, Determination of Geared-to-income Rent under Section 50 of the Act, to permit Service Managers to utilize the maximum allowable shelter rates for recipients of Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program when calculating rent charges for these Social Housing Tenants.

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Resolution # 2014-

Originator: Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board – March 20, 2014

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Report/Background: Utility Scale

Date: April 9, 2014

Moved By:

Seconded By:

Whereas Housing Services Act, 2011, O. Reg. 298/01, Determination of Geared-to-income Rent Under Section 50 of the Act, sets tables to be used by Service Managers for utility costs;

And whereas these tables have been not been updated to reflect true economic increases in utility costs since devolution in 2000;

And whereas utility costs in Northern Ontario have increased dramatically since the devolution of Social Housing;

And whereas the variance in costs between the utility tables and the true cost of utilities are borne by local municipalities and the municipal taxpayer;

Be it Resolved that the Province of Ontario, immediately adjust the utility tables within the Housing Services Act, O. Reg. 298/01, to reflect the true cost of utilities in Northern Ontario;

And Further Be It Resolved that the Province of Ontario, provide a mechanism within the tables, to annually adjust the tables relative to true economic costs to ensure local municipalities are not disadvantaged in future years.

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