



January 22, 2009

The Honourable Dalton McGuinty
Premier and Minister of Research and Innovation
Hepburn Block
Room 281, Main Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier McGuinty:

Re: Support of Extending 100% Ministry Funding for the Small Drinking Water Systems program.

On January 16, 2009, at a regular Board of Health meeting for Grey Bruce Health Unit, the Board considered the attached resolution from Porcupine Health Unit which advocates support of extending 100% ministry funding for the small drinking water systems program to the health units. The following resolution 2009-007 was passed:

***THAT*, the Board of Health support the resolution made by Porcupine Health Unit regarding the recent transfer of responsibility for Small Drinking Water Systems from the Ministry of the Environment to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care; and further**

***THAT*, it be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Ministry of Environment, Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, ALPHA, local Members of Provincial and Federal Parliament, and all Ontario Boards of Health for their support.**

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hazel Lynn". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a large loop at the beginning and a wavy tail.

Hazel Lynn, MD, FCFP, MHSc
Medical Officer of Health

HL/se

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Copies to:

The Honourable David Caplan, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
The Honourable John Gerretsen, Minister of the Environment
Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health (Acting)
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa)
Larry J. Miller, MP Grey-Bruce-Owen Sound
Ben Lobb, MP Huron-Bruce
Bill Murdoch, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
Carol Mitchell, MPP Huron-Bruce
Jim Wilson, MPP Simcoe-Grey
Ontario Boards of Health

Attachment

DEC 22 2008

December 15, 2008



Honourable David Caplan
Minister of Health & Long-Term Care
Hepburn Block, 10th Floor
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Minister Caplan,

RE: SMALL DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS

Please find enclosed a resolution passed by the Board of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit at its meeting held December 12, 2008 regarding the recent transfer of responsibility for Small Drinking Water Systems from the Ministry of the Environment to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, and the resulting implications for Public Health Units.

The Board of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit is particularly concerned with the eventual shifting of 25% of the financial burden, of this program, to our member municipalities, following the two-year window of provincial funding related to the initial site assessments. The potential downloading of this cost to the municipal tax base is further exacerbated in the Porcupine Health Unit area due to the fact that we are the largest Health Unit in terms of area in the Province of Ontario, and many of our small drinking water systems are located in Unorganized Territories. As you are aware, funding for services on Unorganized Territories is a provincial responsibility. We are concerned that when it comes to northern Ontario, this fact of life has not been taken into consideration when the initial funding decisions were made.

We therefore respectfully request that the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care seriously consider extending 100% funding for this program, on an on-going basis, throughout the Province of Ontario and if that is not possible, at least for those Health Units in northern Ontario with significant areas of Unorganized Territories.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. West".

Donald W. West, BMath., C.A.
Business Administrator/CAO

DW:mc

Encl.

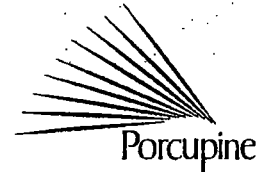
pc: Ontario Boards of Health

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Hornepayne, Iroquois Falls,
Kapusking, Matheson,
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Health Unit • Bureau de santé

Date: 08 / 12 / 12
y m d

MOVED BY: M. Milobovich

SECONDED BY: K. Caneva

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WHEREAS, the government of Ontario has transferred legislative responsibility for five categories of non-residential and seasonal residential drinking water systems from the Ministry of the Environment to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care; and

WHEREAS, provincial funding is to be provided on a 100% basis for start-up activities, including an initial planning period followed by a 2 year period of conducting the initial site assessments; and

WHEREAS, following the initial implementation period the funding is expected to be on a cost shared basis representing a financial burden for local municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care commit to 100% funding of the Small Drinking Water Systems program on an ongoing basis; and

FURTHER THAT, a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care and all Ontario Boards of Health.

(circle as appropriate)

CARRIED DEFEATED

Gayle Scrimshaw
Chair - Board of Health

Branch Offices: Cobbrane, Hearst,
Hornepayne, Iroquois Falls,
Kapuskasing, Matheson,
Moosonee, Smooth Rock Falls