

Sent Electronically



February 7, 2005

The Honourable Dalton McGuinty
Premier of Ontario
Room 281, Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier McGuinty:

At a regular Board of Health meeting for the Grey Bruce Health Unit, held January 28, 2005 the following resolution was passed:

Call to Action: Creating a Healthy School Nutrition Environment

Date: January 28, 2005

Moved By: Glenn Sutton

Resolution # 2005-11

Seconded By: Don Lewis

Whereas adequate nutrition is essential for the optimal growth and development of both children and youth, and for avoiding nutrient deficiencies, and

Whereas under-nourishment has impacts on children's behaviour, school performance and their ability to concentrate and perform complex tasks, and

Whereas a majority of children do not eat nutritionally balanced or adequate diets, and

Whereas the risk of developing childhood obesity, malnutrition, type 2 diabetes, iron deficiency anemia, or dental caries all increase as a result of poor eating habits, and

Whereas childhood obesity is a risk factor for adult obesity and a precursor to several chronic diseases (e.g., type 2 diabetes, heart disease) and one out of three children is considered either overweight or obese, and

Whereas the current school nutrition environment is a significant public health issue that requires urgent action at both the local and provincial levels,

Now therefore be it resolved that the Board of Health of the Grey Bruce Health Unit endorse the Call to Action: Creating a Healthy School Nutrition Environment, Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health, March 2004, and

Furthermore be it resolved that the Board of Health of the Grey Bruce Health Unit write to the

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OWEN SOUND
519-376-9420
1-800-263-3456
Fax 519-376-0605

WALKERTON
519-881-1920
1-800-821-7714
Fax 519-881-3920



Premier of Ontario, to request the government implement the proposed Call to Action recommendations for achieving a Healthy School Nutrition Environment, including implementing mandatory Food Standards for all Ontario elementary and secondary schools, and

Furthermore be it resolved that copies of this letter be forwarded to our local Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), the Minister of Education, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, the Ontario Public Health Association, all Medical Officers of Health, and all Board of Health Chairpersons, and

Furthermore be it resolved a copy of this letter be forwarded to local Boards of Education to seek collaboration for implementation of the Call to Action recommendations.

Your immediate attention to this matter is requested.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

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

HL/st

cc: The Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
The Honourable Gerard Kennedy, Minister of Education
Bill Murdoch, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
Ernie Eves, MPP Dufferin-Peel-Wellington-Grey
Carol Mitchell, MPP Huron-Bruce
Jim Wilson, MPP Simcoe-Grey
Dr. Sheela Basrur, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Ontario Boards of Health
Ontario Medical Officers of Health
Association of Local Public Health Agencies
Ontario Public Health Association
David Armstrong, Director of Education, Bluewater District School Board
Bruce McPherson, Director of Education, Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board