

**NORTHERN ONTARIO
SERVICE DELIVERERS
ASSOCIATION**

180 Brock Street
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 3B7
www.nosda.net

May 18, 2010

Hon. Dalton McGuinty
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier:

**NORTHERN ONTARIO SERVICE DELIVERERS ASSOCIATION (NOSDA) ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING: RESOLUTIONS BASED ON NOSDA'S EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICE CONCERNS DISCUSSION PAPER**

I am pleased to inform you that NOSDA's 2010 Annual General Meeting was a great success. We had a variety of presentations, had informative discussions and made a number of important resolutions on Emergency Medical and Land Ambulance Services that we would like to share with you.

At our meeting, we were fortunate enough to have Dr. Tony Campeau from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care address us regarding issues identified in our Discussion Paper. We look forward to continuing our dialogue with Dr. Campeau and other senior officials from the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Finance and others as appropriate to successfully address and resolve our concerns.

In this letter, we wanted to present to you our Resolutions concerning Emergency Medical Services in our Northern jurisdictions:

1. NON-EMERGENCY PATIENT TRANSFERS

The following Resolution was passed in relation to a long-standing problem of a lack of transportation alternatives in Northern Ontario.

Whereas the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA) is very concerned about the escalating use of land ambulance vehicles and highly trained personnel for inter-facility transfers of non-emergency patients which is not a mandated service under the Ambulance Act; and

Whereas the use of land ambulance services by the medical community as a means to transfer non-emergency patients has created serious response time problems for DDA's in providing emergency service coverage; and

Whereas the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) has commissioned studies on this issue but has failed to put forward any solutions to this escalating problem.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the MOHLTC place a high priority on resolving the non-emergency patient transfer (transportation) issue as soon as possible by creating a Task Force consisting of Ministry staff and representatives of DDA's who are representative of NOSDA, AMO and other organizations directly involved in patient transfers to provide recommendations to the Minister in a timely manner.

Premier, we look forward to working with MOHLTC staff to coordinate discussions to move forward in addressing this pressing problem.

2. HARMONIZED PAYMENT FOR LAND AMBULANCE SERVICES IN TERRITORIES WITHOUT MUNICIPAL ORGANIZATION (TWOMO)

This second Resolution was formulated to address the need for improved harmonization of the timing of payments for EMS, due to our NOSDA members from the MOHLTC, the Ministry of Finance and other Ministries dealing with Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association members, on behalf of Territories without Municipal Organization (TWOMO).

Whereas the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) through the Ministry of Finance (MOF) has failed to provide funding for Territories without Municipal Organization (TWOMO) as required under Ontario Regulation 129/99 of the Ambulance Act by designating TWOMO funding as a 'grant' rather than an amount allocated as a local share, subject to adjustments as required; and

Whereas the MOHLTC and MOF continuously fail to provide adequate notice of the funding streams (TWOMO, First Nation's and 50/50) allocated to Designated Delivery Agents (DDAs) annually, with such notice coming very late in the fiscal period of the DDAs; and

Whereas a change made by the Ministries in one funding stream will affect the other funding streams but is not acknowledged or adjusted by the Ministries;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That NOSDA requests the funding formula for land ambulance services, with respect to the TWOMO share, be harmonized with those of the Ministries of Community and Social Services, Children and Youth Services and Municipal Affairs and Housing, each of which properly considers TWOMO funding as a local share; and

Finally Be It Resolved That the Ministries commit to providing notice of the funding streams in the First Quarter of the DDAs fiscal period each year and that the flow of funding coincides with the fiscal year of the DDAs.

This is a timing problem that we trust can be resolved in consultation between our CAOs, Finance Officers, MOHLTC staff and that of the Ministry of Finance.

3. FIFTY PERCENT FUNDING FROM THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LONG-TERM CARE

Funding for Land Ambulance is falling behind. The following Resolution clearly addresses this issue.

Whereas the cost of providing land ambulance services is escalating at a significant rate across the Province far in excess of the approved costs the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (the Ministry) allows for 50% cost sharing; and

Whereas the local property taxpayer is forced to pay a disproportionate amount of such costs; and

Whereas the Ministry has failed to provide adequate funding for the continuous operations of land ambulance services since the transfer of services to Designated Delivery Agents (DDA's);

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That NOSDA petitions the Ministry to immediately proceed to fund 50% of land ambulance costs net of funding for First Nations and Territories Without Municipal Organization.

Premier, we look forward to meaningful dialogue with officials from your Government's Ministries and others as appropriate to address these Resolutions that were designed to reduce and/or eliminate the problems these matters cause for our members.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Scribnick!". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Gary Scribnick, Chair

**cc: Hon Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
Hon. Dwight Duncan, Minister of Finance
Northern Ontario MPPs
Dr. Tony Campeau
Peter Hume, President, AMO
Mac Bain, President, FONOM
Charla Robinson, Executive Director, NOMA**

NORTHERN ONTARIO SERVICE DELIVERERS ASSOCIATION

2010 NOSDA Annual General Meeting

Meeting held in Huntsville, Ontario – April 28, 29 & 30, 2010

Resolution #2010-10

ORIGINATOR: Kenora District Services Board

REPORT/BACKGROUND: *Discussion Paper – Emergency Medical Service Concerns in Northern Ontario*

DATE: APRIL 29, 2010

MOVED BY: GILBERT PETERS

SECONDED BY: BILL BLOWER

Whereas the cost of providing land ambulance services is escalating at a significant rate across the Province far in excess of the approved costs the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (the Ministry) allows for 50% cost sharing; and

Whereas the local property taxpayer is forced to pay a disproportionate amount of such costs; and

Whereas the Ministry has failed to provide adequate funding for the continuous operations of land ambulance services since the transfer of services to Designated Delivery Agents (DDA's);

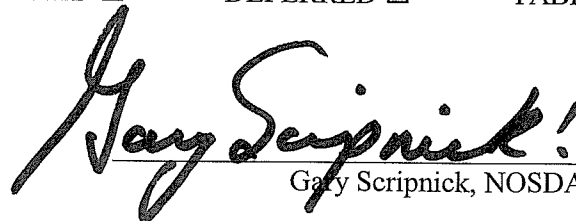
Now Therefore Be It Resolved That NOSDA petitions the Ministry to immediately proceed to fund 50% of land ambulance costs net of funding for First Nations and Territories Without Municipal Organization.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

DEFERRED

TABLED



Gary Scripnick, NOSDA Chair

All NOSDA Members

FONOM

NOMA

AMO

MCSS/MCYS

MNDM

MOHLTC

MMAH

OMSSA

Other Min. of Finance Other Northern MPPs

NORTHERN ONTARIO SERVICE DELIVERERS ASSOCIATION

2010 NOSDA Annual General Meeting

Meeting held in Huntsville, Ontario – April 28, 29 & 30, 2010

Resolution # 2010-11

ORIGINATOR: Kenora District Services Board

REPORT/BACKGROUND: *Discussion Paper – Emergency Medical Service Concerns in Northern Ontario*

DATE: APRIL 29, 2010

MOVED BY: LORRAINE AELICK

SECONDED BY: GARY SCRIPNICK

Whereas the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) through the Ministry of Finance (MOF) has failed to provide funding for Territories without Municipal Organization (TWOMO) as required under Ontario Regulation 129/99 of the Ambulance Act by designating TWOMO funding as a 'grant' rather than an amount allocated as a local share, subject to adjustments as required; and

Whereas the MOHLTC and MOF continuously fail to provide adequate notice of the funding streams (TWOMO, First Nation's and 50/50) allocated to Designated Delivery Agents (DDAs) annually, with such notice coming very late in the fiscal period of the DDAs; and

Whereas a change made by the Ministries in one funding stream will affect the other funding streams but is not acknowledged or adjusted by the Ministries;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That NOSDA requests the funding formula for land ambulance services, with respect to the TWOMO share, be harmonized with those of the Ministries of Community and Social Services, Children and Youth Services and Municipal Affairs and Housing, each of which properly considers TWOMO funding as a local share; and

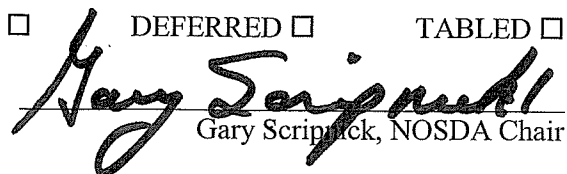
Finally Be It Resolved That the Ministries commit to providing notice of the funding streams in the First Quarter of the DDAs fiscal period each year and that the flow of funding coincides with the fiscal year of the DDAs.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

DEFERRED

TABLED


Gary Scripnick, NOSDA Chair

All NOSDA Members

FONOM

NOMA

AMO

MCSS/MCYS

MNDM

MOHLTC

MMAH

OMSSA

Other Min. of Finance

Other Northern MPPs

NORTHERN ONTARIO SERVICE DELIVERERS ASSOCIATION

2010 NOSDA Annual General Meeting

Meeting held in Huntsville, Ontario – April 28, 29 & 30, 2010

Resolution # 2010-12

ORIGINATOR: Kenora District Services Board

REPORT/BACKGROUND: *Discussion Paper - Emergency Medical Service Concerns in Northern Ontario*

DATE: APRIL 29, 2010

MOVED BY: GARY PARKES

SECONDED BY: DAVE EDGAR

Whereas the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA) is very concerned about the escalating use of land ambulance vehicles and highly trained personnel for inter-facility transfers of non-emergency patients which is not a mandated service under the Ambulance Act; and

Whereas the use of land ambulance services by the medical community as a means to transfer non-emergency patients has created serious response time problems for DDA's in providing emergency service coverage; and

Whereas the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) has commissioned studies on this issue but has failed to put forward any solutions to this escalating problem.

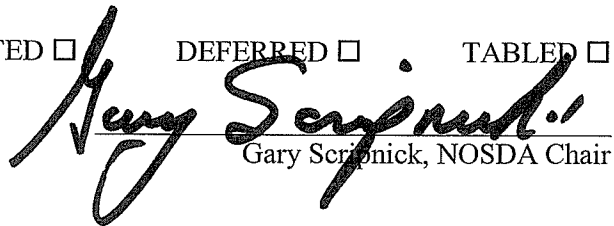
Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the MOHLTC place a high priority on resolving the non-emergency patient transfer (transportation) issue as soon as possible by creating a Task Force consisting of Ministry staff and representatives of DDA's who are representative of NOSDA, AMO and other organizations directly involved in patient transfers to provide recommendations to the Minister in a timely manner.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

DEFERRED

TABLED


Gary Scribnick, NOSDA Chair

All NOSDA Members

FONOM

NOMA

AMO

MCSS/MCYS

MNDM

MOHLTC

MMAH

OMSSA

Other Min. of Financa

Other Northern MPPs