

**NORTHERN ONTARIO
SERVICE DELIVERERS
ASSOCIATION**

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

May 25, 2010

**Hon Leona Dombrowsky
Ministry of Education
22nd Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1L2**

Dear Minister:

RE: Funding of Northern Ontario Child Care Providers

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 regarding the Child Care system in Ontario.

One such resolution dealt with the Ministry of Education's unilateral decision that before school and afterschool childcare in schools must be provided by employees of the Boards of Education, and the resolution follows below:

WHEREAS Northern Ontario Child Care Service Providers have been struggling with financial viability for many years, this being driven by the declining child populations, distances between population centres and the economic volatility of Northern communities; and

WHEREAS the provision of the before school and after school care would help to ensure the financial viability of the Child Care Service Providers in the North; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education has unilaterally decided that before and after school care must be provided by employees of the Boards of Education, based on a minimum number of 11-13 children; and

WHEREAS this minimum number is driven by the need for cost recovery and not by the needs of the local community;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ministry of Education rescind the decision and enter into a constructive dialogue with DSSABs and CMSMs concerning this important issue; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ministry of Education create a policy forum in which School Boards, DSSABs/CMSMs and Child Care Service Providers can develop a before and after school program which meets the needs of Northern communities.

A second resolution was passed after discussion of the long-term viability of the childcare sector and the work that the Northern childcare managers have put into generating principles for sustainable funding. The resolution is as follows:

WHEREAS there is a clear and recognized need for reliable long term funding for child care; and

WHEREAS the Province has committed to funding Early Learning and Child Care to replace the funding gap caused by the end of Federal funding; and

WHEREAS the current funding mechanism for child care services is a myriad of unnecessarily complex and inflexible rules; and

WHEREAS the continued use of these funding rules threaten the viability of licensed child care programs across Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Province's Pascal Report on Early Learning identifies Municipal authorities as best positioned to lead the development of community Early Years Service Planning and emphasizes efficiencies and funding shifts to allow for improved programming within existing allocations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NOSDA requests a collaborative consultation and review with Ministry of Education to develop a funding formula that is sustainable and viable for licensed child care that:

- **Is consistent, stable, equitable and indexed multi year based on the true local cost of a licensed child care centre,**
- **Reflects appropriate wage rates for Early Childhood Educators,**
- **Responds to the objectives within the Provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy, "Breaking the Cycle" by increasing access to quality child care and early learning services in our Northern Communities;**

And

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA requests that Ministry of Education transfers the Ontario Early Years Centre funding envelopes to the CMSM/DSSAB Municipal Service Managers according to their respective geographic boundaries.

Madam Minister, NOSDA supports the implementation of the Early Learning Program however we believe this cannot be successfully accomplished by the Ministry of Education without proper consideration of the impact that decisions have on communities. DSSABs and CMSMs are uniquely positioned to provide your Ministry

with advice and guidance as you move forward with the implementation of the Early Learning Program. We are part of the local fabric and we understand how these decisions affect Child Care Providers, Families and Children. We want to continue to work with you as you move forward but we need to ensure that our voice is heard and our advice is given serious consideration by your Ministry.

Madam Minister, we look forward to meaningful dialogue with officials from your Ministry and others as appropriate to address this resolution.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Scripnick!". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. The first name "Gary" is written in a smaller, more compact script, while "Scripnick!" is written in a larger, more flowing script with a prominent flourish at the end.

Gary Scripnick, Chair

- cc. **Hon. Laurel Broten, Minister of Youth and Children's Services**
Northern Ontario MPPs
Pat Vanini, Executive Director, AMO
Kira Heineck, Executive Director, OMSSA
Lynne Reynolds, Executive Director, 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 # 2010-7

ORIGINATOR: Manitoulin Sudbury DSSAB

REPORT/BACKGROUND: Board resolutions from Manitoulin Sudbury DSSAB

DATE: APRIL 29, 2010

MOVED BY: ROGER SIGOUIN

SECONDED BY: LORRAIN AELICK

WHEREAS Northern Ontario Child Care Service Providers have been struggling with financial viability for many years, this being driven by the declining child populations, distances between population centres and the economic volatility of Northern communities; and

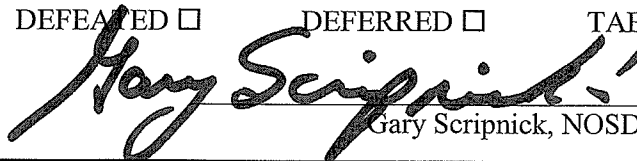
WHEREAS the provision of the before school and after school care would help to ensure the financial viability of the Child Care Service Providers in the North; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education has unilaterally decided that before and after school care must be provided by employees of the Boards of Education, based on a minimum number of 11-13 children; and

WHEREAS this minimum number is driven by the need for cost recovery and not by the needs of the local community;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ministry of Education rescind the decision and enter into a constructive dialogue with DSSABs and CMSMs concerning this important issue; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ministry of Education create a policy forum in which School Boards, DSSABs/CMSMs and Child Care Service Providers can develop a before and after school program which meets the needs of Northern communities.

CARRIED DEFEATED DEFERRED TABLED


Gary Scripnick, NOSDA Chair

 All NOSDA Members FONOM NOMA AMO MCSS/MCYS MNDM MOHLTC MMAH OMSSA Other Northern MPPs Other _____

NORTHERN ONTARIO SERVICE DELIVERERS ASSOCIATION

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

Resolution #2010-6

ORIGINATOR: District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board
REPORT/BACKGROUND: Funding discussion Paper submitted from the Children’s Service Managers.
District of Parry Sound Board resolution on realignment of Early Years
Funding

DATE: APRIL 29, 2010

MOVED BY: LORAINÉ AELICK

SECONDED BY: TOM WELLS

Whereas there is a clear and recognized need for reliable long term funding for child care; and

Whereas the Province has committed to funding Early Learning and Child Care to replace the funding gap caused by the end of Federal funding; and

Whereas the current funding mechanism for child care services is a myriad of unnecessarily complex and inflexible rules; and

Whereas the continued use of these funding rules threaten the viability of licensed child care programs across Northern Ontario; and

Whereas the Province’s Pascal Report on Early Learning identifies Municipal authorities as best positioned to lead the development of community Early Years Service Planning and emphasizes efficiencies and funding shifts to allow for improved programming within existing allocations;

Therefore Be It Resolved that NOSDA requests a collaborative consultation and review with Ministry of Education to develop a funding formula that is sustainable and viable for licensed child care that:

- Is consistent, stable, equitable and indexed multi year based on the true local cost of a licensed child care centre,
- Reflects appropriate wage rates for Early Childhood Educators,
- Responds to the objectives within the Provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy, “Breaking the Cycle” by increasing access to quality child care and early learning services in our Northern Communities;

And

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All NOSDA Members | <input type="checkbox"/> FONOM | <input type="checkbox"/> NOMA | <input type="checkbox"/> AMO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MCSS/MCYS | <input type="checkbox"/> MNDM | <input type="checkbox"/> MOHLTC | <input type="checkbox"/> MMAH |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OMSSA | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

Further Be It Resolved that NOSDA requests that Ministry of Education transfers the Ontario Early Years Centre funding envelopes to the CMSM/DSSAB Municipal Service Managers according to their respective geographic boundaries.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

DEFERRED

TABLED


Gary Scripneck, NOSDA Chair

All NOSDA Members

FONOM

NOMA

AMO

MCSS/MCYS

MNDM

MOHLTC

MMAH

OMSSA

Other Northern MPPs

Other _____