



**NORTHERN ONTARIO
SERVICE DELIVERERS
ASSOCIATION**

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

May 17, 2010

Hon. Madeleine Meilleur
Minister of Community and Social Services
6th Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street, Toronto ON
M7A 1E9

Dear Minister:

POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY

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 our concerns about the diminishing impact Ontario Works is having on Poverty Reduction and the Provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy. Our Resolution concerning Poverty Reduction is as follows:

WHEREAS a nutritious diet is a basic requirement for health while poor nutrition leads to an increased risk for chronic and infectious diseases, pregnancy outcomes with greater risk for low birth weight, and has a negative impact on the growth and development of children; and

WHEREAS Boards of Health annually monitor food affordability in their jurisdictions in accordance with the Nutritious Food Basket Protocol, 2008, and the Population Health Assessment and Surveillance Protocol, 2008, as outlined in the Ontario Public Health Standards; and

WHEREAS the 2009 Nutritious Food Basket Report demonstrates that local households on social assistance or earning minimum wage cannot afford a nutritious diet after paying for housing costs and other necessities; and

WHEREAS the 2008 Ontario Hunger Report revealed that food bank use increased across Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Analysis of Ontario Sample in Cycle 2.2 of the Canadian Community Health Survey (2004) revealed that 9.7% of households in the Northern Ontario Health Region are food insecure and that those households most vulnerable to food insecurity are those on a low income, especially those relying on social assistance;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association call on the provincial government to renew their efforts to ensure that the Poverty Reduction Strategy for Ontario remains a high priority; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the provincial government review increases to social programs, such as an increase to Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Programs, by providing a monthly \$100 Healthy Food Supplement to all adults receiving social assistance; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT in addition to addressing Ontarians' ability to meet their basic food requirements, the provincial government is asked to establish a broad-based rent/housing allowance/assistance program for all low-income persons.

We would be pleased to work with you and your staff to collectively address these important matters, and look forward to discussing them with you.

Yours sincerely,


Gary Scribnick, Chair

cc. Northern Ontario MPPs
Peter Hume, President, 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 # 2010-3

ORIGINATOR: Manitoulin Sudbury DSSAB

REPORT/BACKGROUND:

DATE: APRIL 29, 2010

MOVED BY: RAY CHENIER

SECONDED BY: LORRAINE AELICK

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All NOSDA Members

FONOM

NOMA

AMO

MCSS/MCYS

MNDM

MOHLTC

MMAH

OMSSA

Other _____

Other _____

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CARRIED

DEFEATED

DEFERRED

TABLED

Gary Scipnick!
Gary Scipnick, NOSDA Chair

All NOSDA Members

FONOM

NOMA

AMO

MCSS/MCYS

MNDM

MOHLTC

MMAH

OMSSA

Other Northern MPPs

Other _____