



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 1

Subject: **Call to Order & Agenda**

Date: June 22, 2022

Moved By: **John Curley**

Seconded By: **Penny Lucas**

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2022 NOSDA Business Meeting be called to order and the agenda be adopted as presented.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 2

Subject: **Approval of 2021 Proceeding Document**

Date: June 22, 2022

Moved By: **Norm Mann**

Seconded By: **Debbie Ewald**

BE IT RESOLVED that the [2021 NOSDA Proceeding Document](#) be approved as presented.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 3

Subject: **Minutes of NOSDA Chairs Meeting**

Date: June 22, 2022

Moved By: **John Curley**

Seconded By: **Andrew Hallikas**

BE IT RESOLVED that the [Minutes](#) of the April 26, 2022, NOSDA Chairs meeting be approved as presented.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 4

Subject: **Approval of 2021 Financial Statement**

Date: June 22, 2022

Moved By: **Derek Mundle**

Seconded By: **Kevin Burke**

BE IT RESOLVED that the [2021 NOSDA Financial Statement](#) be approved as presented.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 5

Subject: **NOSDA Strategic Alignment**

Date: June 22, 2022

Moved By: **Andrew Hallika**

Seconded By: **Denis Dorval**

WHEREAS NOSDA members employ over 1,600 staff who provide services to over 780,000 people who live across over 806,000 kilometres with an annual budget of over 640 million dollars of which 195 million are municipal funds; and

WHEREAS NOSDA has made great strides in collaborating with the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) and the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA); and

WHEREAS NOSDA, FONOM and NOMA have successfully held multi-ministry delegations at the AMO and ROMA conferences; and

WHEREAS the province has recognized that the NOSDA, FONOM and NOMA are speaking with one voice, and requesting to be heard and recognized as a vital part of the provincial economy; and

WHEREAS the North needs to ensure a strong consistent message to ensure resources in the north are equitable and that they meet the needs of Northerners.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA commits to working in collaboration and partnership with FONOM and NOMA wherever strategic priorities align; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA commits to working with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) to ensure our Northern priorities are front and centre and that the associations work in partnership to advance common goals; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA commit to collaborating with Indigenous people throughout Northern Ontario in the true spirit of Truth and Reconciliation.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 6

Subject: **Affordable Housing Crisis in the North**

Date: June 15, 2022

Moved By: **Debbie Ewald**

Seconded By: **Lucy Kloosterhuis**

WHEREAS Northern Ontario is in the middle of an Affordable Housing Crisis where there are 8,488 individuals/families on the Community Housing waiting list; and

WHEREAS the Federal budget contained little in terms of support for Affordable Housing specifically for Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS there has been very little provided to Northern Ontario through the CMHC Co-Investment Fund or the Rapid Housing Initiative; and

WHEREAS the province has failed to recognize the District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSAB) as eligible applicants allowed to borrow from Infrastructure Ontario and thereby disadvantaging 144 Northern municipalities; and

WHEREAS employers who want to expand or develop or relocate their business to Northern Ontario cannot find employees because of the lack of affordable housing in the North.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Premier to employ an 'all of government' approach to provide sufficient stable funding to Northern Ontario to address the Affordable Housing crisis and provide coordinated funding to support local Service Manager strategies; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Premier to make the required changes that would allow DSSAB's to have access to capital financing options through Infrastructure Ontario; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Premier to build on the Housing and Affordability Taskforce report by using the provincial revenues raised by land transfer tax to create a primarily grants-based Northern Ontario Affordable Housing Investment Fund that would enable Northern communities to grow their economy, create good-paying jobs and support the most vulnerable people with a safe affordable place to live.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 7

Subject: **Housing Affordability Crisis in the North**

Date: June 15, 2022

Moved By: **Andrew Hallikas**

Seconded By: **Kevin Burke**

WHEREAS Northern Ontario is experiencing an Affordable Housing Crisis wherein many singles, families, and seniors in addition to vulnerable populations cannot afford the market rents in many communities; and

WHEREAS the cost of construction for new residential and multi-residential housing has increased significantly over the years and developers are forced to charge market rents at much higher rates to cover their margins; and

WHEREAS new businesses looking to expand or setup in Northern Ontario are not able to find suitable housing for their employees; and

WHEREAS the health care sector is trying to recruit doctors, nurses, and other health care professionals to the North, but they are hampered by the lack of market housing for sale or rent in many Northern communities; and

WHEREAS the construction trades sector is unable to attract trained professionals to the North because of the lack of market housing for sale or rent; and

WHEREAS many seniors who are returning north to their hometowns or simply looking to move out of their current homes into more accessible homes are faced with skyrocketing market rents that are unaffordable.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Premier to work with NOSDA to address this Northern Ontario crisis and develop a strategy for Northern Ontario that would see market housing more affordable to middle-income individuals and families.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 8

Subject: **Mental Health and Addictions**

Date: June 15, 2022

Moved By: **Debbie Ewald**

Seconded By: **Denis Dorval**

WHEREAS the Northern Ontario region has significant access issues and waitlists for mental health and addictions services impacting our communities and clients; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members are left having to address impacts of the failing mental health and addiction sector without being given the capacity to address related issues facing their clients in Ontario Works, Community Housing and Paramedic Services; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members deliver services that are integral to the health service continuum and yet those services are limited in their efficacy due to the lack of integration with health service providers; and

WHEREAS the number of Ministries involved in the capital and operational funding of supportive housing is superfluous and causing a lack of coordination at the local level; and

WHEREAS the end of the Social Services Relief Fund and the creation of the Homelessness Prevention Program will leave large gaps in service as the annual allocations for the new Homelessness Prevention Program, although increased, do not match the demand in Northern Ontario communities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ministry of Health establish a partnership committee with the Ontario Health agency and NOSDA members, recognizing the Service System Manager role of the NOSDA members, to ensure direct operating funding is secured by the mental health and addictions service providers in Northern Ontario to provide the necessary supports to NOSDA members as required; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA members need to be considered full partners whenever any Ministry looks to develop new supportive housing to ensure that all new developments are coordinated at a local level; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the province take an 'all of government' approach to ensure stable funding is in place to build supportive and transitional housing for health, purpose-built housing for justice system programs and housing for those that live with physical disabilities; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA continue to advocate for mental health and addictions system capacity so that those Mental Health Associations and organizations can and will provide appropriate support to community housing residents that require service; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the province to make housing and health operating dollars directly available for both shelters and transitional/supportive housing.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting

Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 9

Subject: **Homelessness Crisis in the North**

Date: June 15, 2022

Moved By: **Andrew Hallikas**

Seconded By: **Kevin Burke**

WHEREAS the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) and the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA) jointly commissioned a study by the Northern Policy Institute (NPI) on the Homelessness, Addiction and Mental Health Crisis in the North; and

WHEREAS the report calls on for urgent action by the provincial and federal government to address the homelessness, addiction, and mental health crisis in Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS according to the NPI report, the 2021 homeless enumeration data shows the Districts of Sault Ste. Marie, Kenora, Nipissing, Thunder Bay and Cochrane have proportionately larger homeless populations than the five largest cities in Ontario; and

WHEREAS according the NPI report, the Districts of Thunder Bay and Cochrane have more than double the homelessness rates of Ottawa, Hamilton, and Waterloo; and

WHEREAS the homelessness shelter system is sparsely spread across 806,000 square kilometres in Northern Ontario and is predominantly only available in larger Northern cities; and

WHEREAS the numbers in the NPI report are based on data from Point-in-Time counts and the actual numbers would be much higher.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Premier to support and fund Housing First programs developed specifically by North for the North; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Premier to work with the Federal government to make capital grants available to NOSDA members so the North can properly care for its residents whether they need a shelter or affordable housing options; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the province provide long-term funding for capital repairs on existing community housing units to maintain the current affordable housing stock in the North; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Federal and Provincial governments to support new and existing Indigenous culturally appropriate community housing facilities.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 10

Subject: **Canada-Wide Early Learning and Childcare Agreement**

Date: June 15, 2022

Moved By: **Derek Mundle** Seconded By: **Lucy Kloosterhuis**

WHEREAS the province has signed the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement with the Federal government that will see childcare costs for children aged 0-6 reduced to an average of \$10 per day by 2026; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members applaud both levels of government for reaching an historic agreement which will support families with children to make life more affordable, increase employability of families and ensure children receive quality childcare; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated how essential childcare is for families, communities, and employers, and how precarious the current early learning and childcare system in Ontario is without sufficient and stable government funding; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members are concerned with their ability to meet the demand for childcare spaces created by this agreement as recruitment and retention of Early Childhood Educators (ECE) is jeopardized by the low rates of enrollment and graduation of ECEs in the North, particularly hampered by the wage gap between ECEs in childcare centres versus those in the education system; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members are concerned about their ability to create new spaces as many of our schools are at capacity and there is no capital funding available for the creation of community-based childcare centres; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members understand the Ministry of Education is looking to revise the current funding formula for childcare.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA commend the Premier and the Minister of Education for moving forward with the implementation of the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Childcare Agreement and request that the North is funded appropriately to meet the demand created by the new agreement; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Minister of Education to make capital funding available for the creation of community childcare spaces where existing community schools are at capacity; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the province work with NOSDA members to ensure any new funding formula meets the needs of the North to sustain a high-quality early learning and childcare system that allows for the recruitment and retention of Early Childhood Educators.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 11

Subject: **Impacts of Social Assistance Reform in the North**

Date: June 15, 2022

Moved By: **Debbie Ewald**

Seconded By: **Denis Dorval**

WHEREAS the province of Ontario has announced its vision for a renewed social assistance system; and

WHEREAS the vision, once realized, will provide for more effective people-centred services to improve client outcomes; and

WHEREAS NOSDA supports AMO's assertion that the changes must be implemented without an increase in municipal program delivery costs and that the changes do not alter the current provincial-municipal cost-sharing arrangements; and

WHEREAS the province has introduced Bill 276, the Supporting Recovery and Competitiveness Act, 2021 and the proposed changes therein do not deal with the over 800 rules within the Social Services Assistance System that require significant staff time to administer, nor do the proposed changes deal with the adequacy of allowances; and

WHEREAS Provincial–municipal collaboration has resulted in a social assistance framework based on helping people achieve stability in their lives. This means a system where caseworkers focus on the building blocks of greater independence and long-term employability, using their time with clients to understand people's needs; and

WHEREAS according to the 2021 Hunger Report food bank visits were 32 percent higher in September 2021 than the September average for 2017 – 2019 and the ability of food banks to keep up with the demand means in some cases Food Banks need to decrease quantity of food distributed per household or frequency of visits; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members are cautiously optimistic on the provincial vision as it makes important moves in the right direction and the province's willingness to co-design the new system with NOSDA members is encouraging; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA members call on the province to clearly define Stability Support as well as the outcome model framework to define success. Recognize that Stability Support activities can be intense, long-term, and non-linear; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Premier of Ontario to move forward with the vision for a renewed social assistance system and acknowledge that the vision cannot be accomplished unless the province deals with the simplification of over 800 rules within the system; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the adequacy of social assistance provided to the most vulnerable in our society needs to be adequate; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the new funding needs to recognize the work involved and the supports needed for both clients and staff.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 12

Subject: **Partnership with Ontario Health**

Date: June 15, 2022

Moved By: **Penny Lucas** Seconded By: **Lucy Kloosterhuis**

WHEREAS the province of Ontario has announced its vision for a renewed social assistance system which will see municipal Service System Managers responsible for Life Stabilization; and

WHEREAS the Province, Municipalities and the community at large must all work together to create a system that will achieve the goals of life stabilization and better outcomes for those who need help; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members have been recognized as the Municipal Service System Managers for Human Services for all municipalities in Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members are recognized as valued partners and key stakeholders by School Boards, Public Health Units, Hospitals, Non-Profit Housing Providers, Local Health Integration Networks, Community Agencies, and municipalities; and

WHEREAS access to financial assistance is not enough, it takes a lot of support in terms of mental health, addictions services, primary care, parenting, family supports, youth programs, affordable housing, and childcare, etc.; and

WHEREAS Ontario Health needs to be a key partner as the Municipal Service System Managers implement a Stability Support model that at its heart is intended to generate outcomes that cannot be achieved without a strong coordination with the Health Care System and local community agencies who provide health-related supports; and

WHEREAS true Stability Support for many individuals in the North cannot be achieved until the province deals with the lack of adequate, affordable, and supportive housing in Northern Ontario.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Premier of Ontario to move forward with the vision for a renewed social assistance system, and to direct the Ministry of Health and Ontario Health to develop a true partnership with Municipal Service System Managers to ensure the success of the renewed vision for social assistance in Ontario; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Premier to work with NOSDA to develop a stable funding model to build on opportunities to address the housing crisis for supportive and transitional housing for health, purpose-built housing for the justice system and housing for those that live with physical disabilities with Ontario Health at the table ensuring the appropriate health services are made available to support this purpose-built housing; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Premier to designate one board seat on the Ontario Health Board to NOSDA to ensure that the interests of NOSDA members and Northern Ontario are represented.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 13

Subject: **Employment Services Transformation**

Date: June 15, 2022

Moved By: **Kevin Burke**

Seconded By: **John Curley**

WHEREAS the province is transforming Ontario's employment services to make them more efficient, more streamlined, and outcomes focused; and

WHEREAS as part of Employment Services Transformation, a new service delivery model will integrate social assistance, employment services, as well as other government employment services, into Employment Ontario. This new system will be more responsive to the needs of job seekers, businesses, and local communities; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development is transforming the employment services system to reduce fragmentation and duplication between provincial employment systems to improve client service, increase accountability and achieve better outcomes for all job seekers and employers; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development is currently in the process of selecting the 15 Service System Managers to create a locally responsive employment services system that delivers sustained employment outcomes for all individuals and businesses, based on their needs; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development has designated two geographical regions in the North, being Northeastern Ontario and Northwestern Ontario; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members are concerned that the two Northern regions are too large and vast a geographic area for two Service System Managers to appropriately manage; and

WHEREAS it has also been acknowledged that other municipally delivered services including Housing Services and Children's Services are fundamental to assisting individuals along the continuum of employment; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members have been collaborating with Colleges in Northern Ontario to determine the best approach for an Employment Service System that truly meets the needs of job seekers and employers in the North.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA call on the Premier of Ontario to move forward with the transformation of the employment services system and more specifically that the province engage CMSM/DSSABs as full partners in managing and planning employment services in their communities; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, since the province did not pilot a Service System Manager in the North during phase one, the Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development work with NOSDA members to determine the best approach for Service System Management of Employment Services in the North.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 14

Subject: **Paramedic Services Modernization**

Date: June 15, 2022

Moved By: **Kevin Burke**

Seconded By: **Michael Leveque**

WHEREAS in the fall of 2019, the province as part of Ontario's comprehensive plan to end hallway health care, intended to modernize both public health and emergency health services to meet the evolving needs of communities across Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Minister of Health has clearly indicated an intent to proceed with modernizing emergency health services once the COVID-19 pandemic is over; and

WHEREAS Paramedic Services in Northern Ontario provide coverage for vast geographic areas; and many Paramedic Stations in the North are single vehicle stations staffed with one crew and in many cases operating on an on-call system in the evenings; and the next closest ambulance may be more than one hour away; and

WHEREAS Northern municipalities and the Designated Delivery Agent for Paramedic Services already struggle to maintain services and response times standards across the vast geographic areas; and

WHEREAS Northern municipalities are struggling to maintain appropriate funding to continue services, in both rural and urban areas, to the level and quality both expected and experienced in other parts of the province.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls upon the Minister of Health to work closely with NOSDA members as it proceeds with the modernizing of emergency health services; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT any modernization of Emergency Health Services ensures that the 144 municipalities across Northern Ontario have a say in the provision of services within their catchment area; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT any modernization of Emergency Health Services does not increase the current municipal share of Emergency Health Services.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 15

Subject: **Paramedic Services in the North**

Date: June 15, 2022

Moved By: **Penny Lucas**

Seconded By: **Lucy Kloosterhuis**

WHEREAS Paramedics in the North have been on the front lines in the fight against a global pandemic, where they provided their services for COVID-19 testing, vaccinations and worked in isolation centres to protect the most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS Paramedics were often the first to treat individuals and families who were affected by the global pandemic often transporting patients with COVID-19 over long distances in small, enclosed spaces in the back of an ambulance; and

WHEREAS NOSDA Paramedics Services responded to over 200,000 calls annually and there has been significant increase in call volumes partly due to the global pandemic but also due to the side effects of the pandemic such as an increase in patients suffering from mental health and addictions; and

WHEREAS the 915 Paramedics employed by NOSDA members in the North provide coverage for over 806,000 square kilometres; and many of the 88 Paramedic Stations in the North are single vehicle stations staffed with one crew and in many cases operating on an on-call system in the evenings; and the next closest ambulance may be more than one hour away; and

WHEREAS the expansion of Community Paramedicine to all Paramedics Services in Northern Ontario has been a remarkable enabling needed care for the elderly, and the most vulnerable in their own homes while coordinating care with the patient's primary care provider; and

WHEREAS Paramedic Services in Northern Ontario are concerned about the lack of people entering the Paramedic field and our ability to recruit and retain staff based on the numbers of Paramedics graduating compared to the current needs of the system.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls upon the Minister of Health to create a strategy around psychological health and well-being for paramedics.; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that NOSDA calls upon the Minister of Health to work with NOSDA to develop recruitment strategy specific to Northern Ontario.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 16

Subject: **Community Paramedicine Funding**

Date: June 22, 2022

Moved By: **Derek Mundle**

Seconded By: **Andrew Hallikas**

WHEREAS the province provides funding for High Intensity Supports and Community Paramedicine through the Ministry of Health's Ontario Health Teams (formerly the LHINs) to select Paramedic Services; and

WHEREAS the province has recently provided funding through the Ministry of Long-term Care for Community Paramedicine to divert patients from Long-Term Care waitlists; and

WHEREAS Community Paramedicine programs contribute to community health and well-being by providing health care assessment and service in individual homes versus acute care centres.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Premier to make the current time limited three-year funding allocations for Community Paramedicine be permanent and ongoing funding; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Minister of Health to amend the current certification requirements for Paramedics, so the Community Paramedicine Program does not impact the 911 emergency health services.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair



2022 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2022- 17

Subject: **Adjournment**

Date: June 22, 2022

Moved By: **John Curley**

Seconded By: **Denis Dorval**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn the 2022 NOSDA Annual General Meeting.

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Michelle Boileau, NOSDA Chair