

**2001 alpha RESOLUTION NO. A01-19**

**TITLE: Ontario Works Allowances and Adequate Nutrition**

**SPONSOR: Regional Municipality of Durham**

**WHEREAS** boards of health are required to monitor the cost of a nutritious food basket according to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) Monitoring the Cost of a Nutritious Food Basket Protocol; and

**WHEREAS** boards of health submit the cost of a nutritious food basket to the MOHLTC annually; and

**WHEREAS** in 1995, Ontario's social assistance allowances were reduced by over 21%; and

**WHEREAS** these allowances have not been increased since then despite inflation ranging from 0.9% to 2.9% between 1995 and 2000; and

**WHEREAS** the Basic Allowance portion of the Ontario Works Financial Assistance may not pay for adequate nutrition for families after shelter costs are taken into account; and

**WHEREAS** social assistance recipients and their families should be able to meet their basic nutritional needs;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Government of Ontario is urged to review and ensure that the Basic Allowance portion of Ontario Works Financial Assistance allows for adequate nutrition;

**AND FURTHER** that the Premier of Ontario, the Ministers of Community and Social Services and Health and Long-Term Care and the Chief Medical Officer of Health are so advised.

***Status of Resolution:* Endorsed by the alpha membership June 12, 2001**