

NORTHWESTERN HEALTH UNIT

BOARD OF HEALTH

No. 59-2004

MOTION

Moved by Charles Viddal

Seconded by Kathy Robinson

WHEREAS the Northwestern Health Unit is mandated to reduce disability, morbidity and mortality caused by alcohol;

WHEREAS alcohol is a drug with attendant physiological effects;

WHEREAS alcohol has widespread health and economic consequences for individuals and communities;

WHEREAS high-risk drinking practices are strong predictors of alcohol-related problems;

WHEREAS comprehensive controls on alcohol availability, complemented by targeted injury prevention and harm reduction strategies, are effective in minimizing alcohol-related harm to individuals and society;

AND WHEREAS there is considerable and credible research evidence that privatizing the LCBO would likely lead to increased access to alcohol, increased consumption and, therefore, more alcohol-related costs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northwestern Board of Health write to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, and the Minister of Finance to strongly express public health concerns about recent government discussions involving the possible sale of the LCBO;

AND THAT copies of this letter be sent to the Ontario Public Health Association, local Ministers of Provincial Parliament (MPP), Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA), Union of Ontario Indians, and all Ontario Boards of Health.

Date April 22, 2004

Chair John Alsbauer

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

Date May 10/04

[Signature]
Medical Officer of Health
and Chief Executive Officer