



Sudbury & District

Health Unit

Service de
santé publique

*Make it a
Healthy
Day!*

*Visez Santé
dès
aujourd'hui!*

**Main Office/Bureau
principal:**

1300 rue Paris Street
Sudbury, ON P3E 3A3
☎ (705) 522-9200
☎ (705) 522-5182

Branch Offices/Succursales:

101 rue Pine Street E
Box/Boîte 485
Chapleau ON P0M 1K0
☎ (705) 864-1610
☎ (705) 864-0820

Espanola Mall
800 rue Centre Street
Unit/Unité 100 C
Espanola ON P5E 1J3
☎ (705) 222-9202
☎ (705) 869-5583

6163 Highway/Route 542
Box/Boîte 87
Mindemoya ON P0P 1S0
☎ (705) 377-4774
☎ (705) 377-5580

1 rue King Street
Box/Boîte 58
St.-Charles ON P0M 2W0
☎ (705) 222-9201
☎ (705) 867-0474

Toll-free/Sans frais
(where long distance charges apply/
lorsque les frais d'interurbains
s'appliquent)

1-866-522-9200

www.sdh.u.com

June 29, 2007

Via Electronic Mail

The Honourable Jim Watson
Ministry of Health Promotion
777 Bay Street, 18th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A1S5

Dear Minister:

Re: Environmental Supports for Physical Activity

At its June 21, 2007 meeting, the Sudbury & District Board of Health received a presentation titled "Walking the Walk in Sudbury & Manitoulin Districts". The presentation addressed public health's role in shaping the built environment and highlighted local and provincial physical activity initiatives. Subsequent to the presentation, the board carried the following motion #36-07 related to environmental supports for physical activity:

WHEREAS the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion recognizes that effective health promotion must be inter-sectoral and include approaches that build supportive environments for individual healthy decision making; and

WHEREAS the World Health Organization identifies that the promotion of physical activity requires the action of local governments and municipalities to develop local legislation and policy to support physical activity; and

WHEREAS the Prevention Institute indicates that there are seven key aspects of the built environment that appear to be central to reducing health disparities: activity-promoting environments, nutrition-promotion environments, housing, transportation, environmental quality, product availability and aesthetic/ambiance; and

WHEREAS in May 2006, the Sudbury & District Board of Health motion #19 06 adopted the Municipal Pedestrian Charter that encourages the provision and maintenance of infrastructure that gives pedestrians safe and convenient passage; and

WHEREAS in May 2007, the Sudbury & District Board of Health assumed the lead role in 'championing' the Healthy Lifestyle/Active Living pillar of the City of Greater Sudbury's Healthy Community Strategy; and

*An Accredited Teaching Health Unit
Centre agréé d'enseignement en santé*

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Sudbury & District Board of Health endorses a supportive environment approach to physical activity promotion and directs the Medical Officer of Health to continue to seek opportunities to enhance public health programming in this area; and

FURTHER THAT the Sudbury & District Board of Health recognizes that coordinated action with other sectors, including local municipalities, is required in order to develop a comprehensive, community-based approach to address supportive environments for physical activity, and

FURTHER THAT the Sudbury & District Health Unit staff continue to educate the public and policy makers on the link between supportive environments and physical activity; and

FURTHER THAT copies of this motion be shared with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ministry of Health Promotion, Association of Local Public Health Agencies, Ontario Public Health Association, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and all Ontario Boards of Health.

This motion is being shared with you today as it supports the province's Healthy Eating and Active Living Strategy and the proposed Ontario Public Health Standards. We will be engaging in enhanced efforts locally to address supportive environment approaches to physical activity promotion. We would welcome opportunities to further engage with the Ministry of Health Promotion in this important area of public health programming.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

P. Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

rq

c.: Chief Medical Officer of Health
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA)
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
Ontario Boards of Health
Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA)