



Sudbury & District

Health Unit

Service de
santé publique

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*Visez Santé
dès
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March 29, 2005

Via Electronic Mail

The Honourable Dalton McGuinty
Premier of Ontario
Room 281, Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier:

RE: Safe and Reliable Source of Drinking Water

Please be advised that at its March 24, 2005 meeting, the Sudbury & District Board of Health passed the following motion #23-05:

WHEREAS it is recognized by all levels of government that safe and reliable sources of drinking water are essential to the well being of the communities that we serve; and

WHEREAS in Part Two of the Report of the Walkerton Inquiry, Commissioner Dennis O'Connor recommended that the Ontario government enact a Safe Drinking Water Act to deal with matters related to the treatment and distribution of drinking water; and

WHEREAS Ontario Regulation 170/03 made under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 addresses responsibilities related to safe drinking water; and

WHEREAS drinking water system owners and operators are required under Regulation 170/03 to ensure that their drinking water systems meet prescribed drinking-water quality standards, are operated in accordance with the Act and regulations and are kept in a good state of repair, are appropriately staffed and supervised and that all sampling, testing and monitoring and reporting requirements are complied with; and

WHEREAS complying with Regulation 170/03 creates a significant resource and financial burden; and

WHEREAS many owners and operators of regulated water systems are challenged to meet the demands of the legislation and are struggling with continuing operation of drinking water systems; and

WHEREAS enforcement of the legislation is an essential and critical component to the provision of safe drinking water;

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Sudbury & District Board of Health requests the Government of Ontario seek mechanisms to financially support owners, operators and regulators of regulated water systems to ensure initial and continued compliance with Regulation 170/03;

AND FURTHER THAT this Board of Health requests other Ontario Boards of Health and municipalities to advocate for similar funding.

The Sudbury & District Board of Health seeks your attention and support in this matter to ensure the well being of Ontarians.

Yours sincerely,

Original signed by

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

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c: Dr. Sheela Basrur, Chief Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Deputy Minister
Ontario Boards of Health
Reeves/Mayors of Constituent Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario