

December 21, 2006

Via Electronic Mail

The Honourable George Smitherman
Minister – Minister's Office
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
Hepburn Block, 10th Floor
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Minister Smitherman:

Subject: North Bay Parry Sound District Board of Health Supports a Three-Year Rolling Forecast Budgeting Process in Support of Recommendation No. 24 of the Capacity Review Committee's Final Report

At the Regular Board of Health Meeting of November 22, 2006, the North Bay Parry Sound District Board of Health discussed the need for policy direction in respect to Recommendation No. 24 of the Capacity Review Committee's final report. The following resolution (#BOH/2006/11/03) was supported by the Board of Health:

Whereas, The Joint Finance and Property Committee and Planning and Priorities Committee recognizes that multi-year funding allows for the most efficient long-term program and resource planning; and

Whereas, The Joint Finance and Property and Planning and Priorities Committee recognizes that recruitment, retention and succession planning would be improved with multi-year funding; and

Whereas, The Capacity Review Committee's final report, "Revitalizing Ontario's Public Health Capacity" tabled in May of 2006, states in Recommendation No. 24 that "The Ministry should establish a budget process that allows for the approval of annual budgets with three year rolling forecasts to ensure that the boards of health and municipalities operate in a predictable financial environment"; and

Whereas, The Joint Finance and Property and Planning and Priorities Committee recognizes adopting such a budget process would also greatly assist the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, the Ministry of Health Promotion, and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services in their long-term planning exercise; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That on the recommendation of the Joint Finance and Property and Planning and Priorities Committee the Board of Health supports a three-year rolling forecast budgeting process as recommended by the Capacity Review Committee; and furthermore

That letters be sent to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Minister of Health Promotion, and the Minister of Children and Youth Services, in support of Recommendation No. 24 of the Capacity Review Committee's final report; and furthermore

That the above letters be copied to the Chief Medical Officer of Health, local Members of Provincial Parliament, Federal Minister of Health, Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA), Ontario Boards of Health, and member municipalities for their support and action.

The Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit looks forward to your response to this recommendation.

Yours sincerely,

Original signed by

Bill Russell, Chairperson
North Bay Parry Sound District Board of Health

Copied to:

Dr. George Pasut, Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, Public Health Division, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Ruth Hawkins, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Health Division, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

The Honourable Tony Clement, Minister of Health, Health Canada

Monique Smith, M.P.P., Nipissing Constituency Office

David Ramsey, M.P.P., Timiskaming – Cochrane Constituency Office

Norm Miller, M.P.P., Parry Sound/Muskoka Constituency Office

Linda Stewart, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies

Ontario Boards of Health

Member Municipalities (31)